

The CEO's Ten Million Dollar Wife by R.C.BRIE

Chapter 51

Chapter 51 The Wrights

The day of the event has come and everyone was all scrambling on their feet even at the break of dawn. The previous day's tension was temporarily forgotten as everyone becomes focused on making the summer event successful.

"Today is your launch in Silhouettes Designs, right?" Lucien mumbles against her cheek.

"Yes," she replies with closed eyes, enjoying Lucien's kisses.

"Shine bright like a sun, my doll. I know you will blind them with your beauty and your talent. I'm so proud of you" he continues as he trails kisses all over her face.

"You haven't seen my designs, Lucien..." incredulous but amused, she retorted.

"I don't need to see, I know you are great in your craft. I believe in you" he firmly counters, gently biting her skin.

Giggling, she tightens her arms around his waist.

"Thank you for the faith, my love" she smiles and kisses him back. He enjoys her lips on his before moving away to cup her beautiful face.

"You are the sun of this summer, so shine brightly. Show them who is Alexzia Montes. My lovely doll. If only I could shout to the world you are my woman, I will, but I will wait till you and our boy were ready" he earnestly exclaims. His love for her shows in the way he stares at her.

"Thank you for being patient with us, Lucien. And I will do my best, this is for you and Lucy. I want to earn my spot beside you with my own hard work. I want to create my name without anyone's influence. And thank you for not intervening" she mumbles while also lovingly playing with his face.

"As I have said before, I will give you the pride for excelling in your craft without my influence. I truly respect the plans you have for your career, Zia. What I will do is stand nearby to watch you achieve your dream, my doll. Then if the right time comes, I will claim and introduce you to the world" he assures her before claiming her lips again.

Their morning bliss was just cut short when it was time for Lexie to prepare for the even. While Lucien went to their son's room to check on him.

Lexie left the penthouse with Ben driving her to the hotel while Lucien stays to attend to their boy before going to the office. It's been a good compromise to ensure one of them would be with

Lucy once he wakes up.

Donned in just a t-shirt and ripped jeans paired with white sneakers, Lexie enters the function room where everyone was starting to gather to

start the day.

Models were already on their spots to have their makeup and all the garments were already

waiting on the mannequins.

Later after lunch, all models were dressed and ready while Lexie is having her make up too. She

will model one of her designs and it is making her excited.

An hour before the start of the event, everyone was all ready and President Arvin visits the room.

“Good day everyone, so this is it, the annual most awaited event from Silhouettes Designs will be in an hour. Guests, composed of media personalities, celebrities, fashion critiques, fashion editors, socialites, and internationally well-known designers are starting to arrive.

Show all of them what Silhouettes Designs could offer. We are on the top and we will remain on the top, am I clear?” Arvin seriously announces and responded with forceful cheers from everyone.

“Yes, sir!”

Six teams will be showcasing their ten summer designs.

“Remember, they will judge you and will take everything you show on the runway, do your best. We are in a full house. We have well-known personalities in the fashion world and the elite members of society. This summer collection will be the talk of the country and will dominate the entire summer. Can we do that?!” he continues loudly.

“Yes, sir!” raving to the challenge, everyone cheerfully responded.

Satisfied, Arvin nodded and smiled at everyone, but his eyes lingers on one particular person, Lexie.

With her refreshing look in a mint halter strap backless floral dress, she looks the epitome of summer. By simply looking at her, he could almost smell the fresh scent of flowers and the soft breeze of summer.

Her long wavy brown luscious locks were set free but neatly arranged with the stem of a white tiger lily. She is the summer herself and Arvin could not agree more. Even Jason, who is vocal about his gay sexuality, has been admiringly glancing at her side.

The six-inch white strappy stiletto added to her

towering height. He is aware that Lexie has a perfect figure but seeing her in a decently revealing outfit still surprised him. Her supple cleavage peeking from the v-shape of skimpy cloth holding her mounts added to the sexiness of the dress. The clean sleek design and its color highlight her pale flawless skin. And the only accessory she has is a pair of sun design earrings and a matching bangle.

“She might melt with your gaze” Eve stood beside him and whisper.

“She is stunning” he whispers back.

“She had someone, Arvin” Eve softly reminded

him.

“Yes, I know and I respect it. I’m just admiring” he mumbles. He had already accepted that Lexie has no eyes for anyone. He has been outright in showing his admiration for her but she shows no sign of indulgence. Most of the time, she would dismiss whatever topic between her and him. Telling everyone she is with someone.

“She is absolutely gorgeous...no doubt about that” Eve stated.

“Have you talked to Miss Segovia?” he remembers.

“Yes, I did, but you know those kinds of brats, they won’t be placated. Let her be this time. I will deal with her after this event. She got a rich fiancée, adding to her haughtiness” Eve scoffs while watching Mariz swaggering her outfit together with her friends.

“She is entitled to that but I don’t fancy entitled brats” Arvin mutters before turning to look at Lexie again.

“Her man is so lucky to have her” he whispers that only Eve could hear.

“The right one will come Arvin. You’re still young” Eve pats his back.

“Come on, we have to welcome the guests” she added before turning away.

Before leaving the room, he spares a last sad glance at Lexie who looks like a real-life doll.

Sadly, he could only admire her from a distance. Since no matter what he would do, he could never have her. Someone already owns her heart and she was obviously set on spending her life with whoever is the man.

The venue is already packed with famous personalities in the country. It’s a gathering of the upper class and media companies are already set up to cover the entire event.

“President Deutche...” Arman Varce, the famous designer and brand owner of the leading brand of apparel in Europe extended his hand for a handshake.

“Mr. Varce, it is an honor to grace us with your presence and expertise. Thank you for accepting our invitation” Arvin, with his sincere smile, greeted the man.

“Oh, Arvin, you know I’m always looking forward to Silhouettes Designs’ summer collection. Your company has been producing a superb collection and I will never allow being left out. We all know the trend of the market when it comes to fashion design and you are the only company in this country who could keep up with its fast pace” Arman Varce seriously responded.

“And, I will be having a runway show in Paris two months from now. You could guess my second intention why I fly this far to attend” the man smirks while Arvin and Eve become immensely expectant.

“Don’t let me dwell longer with what came into my mind, Mr. Varce. I will be very expectant” Arvin earnestly mutters. His gaze was fixed on the man, gauging his intention.

“You’re a shrewd man President Arvin Deutche, I won’t dare mess with you. So yes, what came into your mind is correct. I will be choosing from your collection today to bring to my runway show in Paris” Arman Varce seriously announces.

“That would be great, Mr. Varce. Another market for Silhouettes Designs. I’m honored for such attention” this time Arvin shook hands with Mr. Varce. He was grateful for the designer’s interest.

“My honor to bring Silhouettes Designs’ great brand to a wider market” the man sincerely exclaims as they share a business understanding.

Fantastically elated by the outcome of their conversation with the famous designer, Arvin and Even brought Mr. Varce to his assigned seat before they continue to welcome notable guests. Most of their invites came and only those who are out of the country were not able to attend. SD’s annual summer show is a much-awaited event in the country but only prominent figures have the chance to get invites. Guests mostly from the fashion world, socialites, celebrities, and a few from the politics were the ones who grazes the event.

The outdoor event area of Wright Hotel and Resort is overflowing with famous personalities while waiters were busy serving cocktail food together with a wide collection of wine and champagne.

Arvin and Even were immensely appeased when they spotted the wealthiest family in the country, who just arrived.

“Madame Wright, thank you for having us here in this enormous grandeur. We are honored by your presence” Eve was the one who greeted the socialite.

“SD is close to my heart, you know that Eve. Hello President Arvin, you’re looking great with this beautiful lady beside you. I can see another success for SD” Levinia fondly smiles at the two while they shook hands.

“But no one could equal your beauty, Madame Anya...” Arvin playfully exclaims while tenderly kissing Levinia’s hand after their handshake.

“Please tell that to your uncle Daniel often, Arvin” she playfully retorted.

“Chairman Daniel already knows it, madame, no need to remind him of my favorite aunt’s beauty” he mumbles as he pecks a kiss on the woman’s cheek.

Levinia chuckles. And not long Samantha joined them.

“Hello Arvz, hello Eve” she immediately kissed Eve and Arvin. She does away with the formalities.

“Hello Sam, looking stunning as always” Arvin mumbles softly.

“No one in the family is ugly, Arvin” Sam seriously retorted but the man knows she is being playful.

“Of course...and I’m grateful” he smirks.

“I’m looking forward to this year’s collection. I’m already ogling at the designs and I have a dozen in mind” Sam exclaims as she looks at Eve and Arvin.

“Of course Sam, everything for my lovely cousin” Arvin exclaims.

“I have taken note of your choices, Sam” Even smiles sweetly.

“Oh thank you, Eve, you’re such a darling” she clasps her hands in glee.

“This year is quite packed with high profile

personalities, even Madame Corsino of Fashion Today is here. She doesn’t often attend events these days, her pregnancy is getting a toll on her health. Seeing all the invites, this launch is a success. Congratulations to SD for another successful year” Sam stated.

“Not to mention, two Wrights are here to grace the event” Arvin playfully retorted. More than anyone, the presence of any Wright at an event is enough to pull other members of the high society. Everyone seems to have a dream of being in one place with the Wright family.

“Oh, it’s not just us. Lucien will be coming” Levinia announces to the surprise of Arvin and Eve.

The CEO’s Ten Million Dollar Wife by R.C.BRIE

Chapter 52

Chapter 52 Interest

Just like what Levinia said, minutes before the start of the show, CEO Lucien Wright arrived.

Arvin and Eve rushed to meet the man amid the hushed surprise of every guest. And as the most famous among all famous guests, everyone stands to greet the CEO, though no one could come close to even shaking hands with him.

“Welcome to Silhouettes Designs summer launch, CEO Wright. We are greatly honored by your presence” Arvin firmly shook hands with Lucien and Eve followed.

“I have some spare time, President Arvin” he casually responded before turning to Eve with a smile.

“Welcome, CEO Wright” Eve smiles despite her nervous nerves. She hasn’t met the CEO this close aside from seeing him afar during events she accompanies Arvin.

Indeed, the CEO is dangerously handsome. His strong prominent profile is paired with piercing eyes, enough to intimidate with just a stare. His powerful intimidating aura fills the entire place and she bet

everyone had felt it.

Unlike Arvin who has a bright aura, Lucien Wright’s presence is rather fierce and imposing. Enough to dim everyone’s presence. His confidence is overflowing and no one has equaled

the kind of superiority he is emanating.

With his usual unremarkable expression, Lucien

acknowledges other guests with a casual nod. But he would approach some who are familiar with him. He also shook hands with the politicians and other businessmen he knew. Some of the guests and celebrities were admiringly watching from afar while he

was led to his seat beside his mother and sister. Noticing the familiar people, he greeted the owner and editor of Fashion Today, Madame Corsino, and the international designer,

Arman Varce.

"It's a very rare occasion you attended this kind of event, CEO Wright" Sandra Corsino spoke to him as they shake hands.

"A refreshment from a monotonous day, Madame" he casually replies, smiling at the gentle lady who is heavily pregnant with her firstborn.

Before taking his seat, he faces Mr. Arman Varce to shake his hand too.

"Nice meeting you again, Mr. Varce"

"Same here, CEO Wright. It's been an honor to be in the same place with the famous and handsome CEO" Mr. Varce playfully exclaims as he accepted his hand while Lucien chuckled.

The instant, CEO Lucien Wright took his seat, Eve gave the signal to start the show. While she and Arvin took their seats behind the Wright family, Mr. Arman Varce, and Madame Sandra Corsino. All were occupying the front row in front of the stage.

Accompanied by a lively runway song, the soft breeze of the afternoon wind, and the cool rays of the almost setting sun on the horizon, one by one, models came out in refreshing outfits of summer.

Applause and commendation fill the splendid ambiance of the poolside of Wright Hotel and Resort.

Gorgeous models showcase the summer collection of SD under the earnest scrutiny of experts in the fashion world. Flashes of cameras constantly strike like lightning while video cameras continue to roll to capture the entire show. It's a lively atmosphere stomping the adrenaline and the excitement of all the ramping models along the long runway.

"Superb!" Arman Varce turns to speak to Arvin behind him.

"Thank you" Arvin replies with a wide smile.

Sixty designs will be showcased by six designers. The show would only take twenty minutes but the impact of the event was projected to be until the next summer.

Annually, SD aims to exceed its previous shows and outdo the competitors. They are ensuring to rule the fashion market and they haven't failed. Every year SD has been sparing

high and maintains to be on the top.

Watching the response from the guests, Arvin and Eve share meaningful gazes. It's a success. Even the very meticulous Sandra Corsino looks bewildered by the designs and the two have seen her reactions to specific designs. Upon knowing who they belong to, Arvin frequently raises his brows to Eve. Silently telling her, he wasn't wrong about his choice.

The two were watching everyone's reaction more than the show, Arman Varce would constantly shift in his seat whenever he becomes interested. He would even lean closer

to scrutinize the materials used once the model stop in front of him. His small pad is always ready for jotting notes.

The Wright family has their usual expressionless faces, especially CEO Lucien Wright who remains unmoving. He watches the show without reaction, even the slightest. The models were all equally stunning but obviously, no one had captured his interest. Which is not new to everyone. His coldness has been his signature.

Every guest was gushing to every design onstage and it would usually be followed by hushed discussions. Nods of satisfaction and admiration reflect every face.

Satisfied by the reactions around them, Eve and Arvin smile at each other. This year's event has been more star-studded than last year and the collection is undeniably superb as Arman Varce announced earlier. 2

They are talking about the unspoken when he noticed Samantha was gesturing to him. Moving closer to her, he gave her his ear.

"I want that long sundress with the handpainted Tulips, Arvin. I want a customized design for any price. I don't want to have the same design as the others" Sam spoke.

"Of course, Sam, we will have it customized only for you" Arvin assures the heiress.

"And the handbag..." she added.

"Yes, and that too" he smiles.

Arvin has just straightened on his chair when the air seems to freeze around. Fixing his eyes on the stage, he openly gawks at the next model. Onstage is a doll who seemed to have come to life.

The mint-color flowing sundress she is wearing is softly dancing with her every move. Like slow-motion, the model's confident steps are in rhythm with the perfect sway of her willowy figure. While the relaxed swing of her slender arms is setting her graceful pace.

Gulping hard, he watches her refined walk. He never had imagined her presence could be this powerful on the runway. Like a professionally polished model.

Her light brown eyes were staring straight while a faint smile, intended to no one, adorns her beautiful face. She is perfection.

He was preoccupied following her when his eyes caught someone's movement. CEO Lucien Wright, for the first time, shifted in his seat. A sign of interest from the cold CEO.

Earnestly, he stares at the man. Though he could only see the side of his face, he could clearly see the attraction in him. Realizing what he has been thinking, he felt quite apprehensive. The CEO has never shown interest in any beautiful woman within the circle of the high society they were in, but seeing him take interest in the model and designer, he was bothered.

"Arvin" Eve whispers.

"I saw it..." he replies.

"Even Arman Varce is taking an interest...look at him. We cannot forego her for a modeling career" she continues in a whisper.

"We will discuss it later" conflicted and threatened by the attention towards his designer

and now model, Alexzia Montes, he facepalms himself. He has to think of a lucrative offer to make her stay. Looking at Arman Varce, he could easily tell what he has been thinking. The designer is more dangerous than the interest he saw from the CEO.

Arman Varce could pirate Lexie from him, which will be a threat to his company. While the CEO could only have the chance to woo her but she will stay as the designer of SD. Lucien Wright might

have his first broken heart, though.

If he has to choose between the two, he could easily deal with the CEO attraction than the well known designer of Europe.

Yes, he admires her as a woman but as a businessman, he needs her more than his attraction. He has to ensure she will stay.

His fear came early when Arman Varce turns to him after Lexie has turned away.

“I love this model and the design she is wearing”

Mr. Varce announced loudly.

“Thank you, Mr. Varce” he replies briefly with a reserved smile.

“I am not complimenting you, President Arvin. I am saying my intention” with pure seriousness,

Arman Varce counters.

“It’s for Miss Montes’ decision to make and the obligation she has to the company, Mr. Varce” with equal seriousness, he retorted. He becomes a businessman in a snap.

i

“I could pay for whatever contract she had signed, including the compromise agreement if existing. Name the price, Mr. President” the man smirks while their gazes lock.

Set on his way, Arman Varce tries to intimidate Arvin. But as the shrewd businessman he is, he was not intimidated. He may not bear the name of Wright, but he is the nephew of Levinia Deutche Wright. His influence is equally immeasurable.

“That should be discussed in an appropriate venue, Mr. Varce” he dismisses.

Thankfully, the man did not persist. They turn to the stage but neither of them has been paying attention to what they were watching. Both minds were busy formulating their arguments for

the impending negotiation.

This time, Arvin regretted that he allowed Alexzia to model her design. He put himself in a difficult predicament.

The CEO’s Ten Million Dollar Wife by R.C.BRIE

Chapter 53

Chapter 53 Entrance To Her Dream

The instant she steps outside of the stage, she felt his presence. She doesn’t need to see him to know he is watching

Looking straight ahead, she saw him directly afar, in front of the stage. Together with his family whom she saw subtle surprise reflects on their faces as they stare at her. But one of the things Wright was good at is maintaining their expressions controlled. No one had even noticed the surprise they have upon seeing Lexie onstage.

Discreetly, she spares them a fleeting glance, especially with Lucien. Too quick for anyone to notice their gazes lock. But the fleeting moment is all they need. They already understood the unspoken and it made her more confident. He is watching her and she will give him a perfect show.

During her previous modeling career, she had not been given the chance to model in an event as

huge as the summer event of SD, but she has been doing great in modeling even before. She just had no chance to showcase how she could own the runway as she used to during her university days. Her part-time modeling gave her extra allowance but she had no proper exposure to land her a great career in modeling, except today.

She had expected the Wright women but not him. He also hasn't mentioned he will be coming. If

it's his surprise for her, he succeeded.

Swaying her way through the entire runway, she bathes at the admiring eyes set on her. Flashes of camera lights were blinding but she maintains the faint smile on her lips. She is on the show so

she will put up a show, especially for him.

If only someone could take a peek inside her head, they will be incredulous. Her thoughts are filled with Lucien Wright who is now staring at her with a dangerously seductive gaze. The kind of seduction only her body knows, and now, it is deliciously responding to it.

Unaware of how she looked, she gave them a

show. Her body gently sways to the delicious sensation brought by Lucien's gaze as he makes love to her. Yes, he is making love to her while she is on stage, and him, seated meters away from her. Her arousal shows in her flushed cheeks with a deep pink tinge aside from her blush. Her body is seductively responding to the touch of his piercing gaze like how she responds to the touch of his demanding hands. O

Guests may see her notable gracefulness onstage but the man across her is seeing her writhing in pleasure. And every sway of her curvy hips is like bracing a deep thrust into her core. Lucien's fervent deep thrust.

No one had realized it yet, but Lucien has been setting a perimeter around her. His possessive aura has been engulfing her since she came out, which everyone mistook for her powerful stance onstage.

Added to her expert effort onstage is the pleasant sensation brought by Lucien's presence. And it was paid when Arman Varce and Sandra Corsino gave her the utmost respect a model could get

from notable guests, a standing ovation.

Surprised, she faces the front of the stage where she was met with satisfied applause

not only from the two standing fashion pillars, but also from the two Wright women, President Arvin Deutche, and Eve. They were standing while applauding her. Only Lucien remains seated but his eyes were intently fixed on her.

Until she went backstage, her head is full of what happened.

“You got a standing ovation from Arman Varce and Sandra Corsino!” Jason raves after rushing to her side. Still, in a daze, she faces Jason and Emily.

“Have you seen it too?” she whispers in disbelief.

“Everybody saw it, Lexie! Do you know who is Arman Varce? He is the most famous designer in Europe and owns the Varce brand!” Jason has been raving while she remains to be in trance, still in disbelief.

“That man is ruthless when it comes to dealing with models and fashion designers but he commends you” Emily added. She is also ecstatic for Lexie.

“You got his attention, Lexie. So be ready” Jason seriously warned her, earning him her attention.

“What do you mean?” he asks.

“He might negotiate to the President to have you as a model. And if he knows you design what you wore, then as a designer” Jason carefully explains. They are at the corner while everyone was still busy with the last designer’s show.

Staring at Jason, she becomes quiet. Her head is filled with what she just learned while the two

gave her the time to mull the situation.

“Just be ready, surely, after the show, Mr. Arman Varce will be meeting you in person” Jason added, whispering near her ear.

“Come, let’s get ready, after this batch, all designers will be out together with the President”

Emily pulls her towards the others.

Other models who are fully aware of what happened outside were following her with their earnest gazes. Everyone knows she is a newbie but she got the attention they have been aspiring

for for years.

Mariz Segovia has a contemptuous look on her face as she follows Lexie to join the other designers.

“She is still a thief no matter what prestige she got today” she snickers to her friends.

“Her beauty and her talent will just be put to waste once everyone knows who she really is. She may have fooled Jason and Emily or the President but not us. She is a scheming thief”

“Yeah a scheming bitch who is thirsty for attention”

A hushed exchange of sneers between Mariz and her friends kept them occupied while waiting for the show to end. They will be out for the final appearance together with

President Arvin
Deutche and Eve.

Before they got out for the final appearance, Lexie approaches her models.

“Thank you for your hard work and for giving your best to showcase my designs” sincerely, she shakes hands with each of the models who wore her designs.

“We are honored to wear these wonderful designs, Miss Lexie” one of the models smiles at her.

“Yes, Miss Lexie, your designs are cool. And very comfortable. Just what we need to wear in the heat of summer” chirpily, another one exclaims.

“You are not toying with me, right?” playfully, she glares at the models.

“Definitely not, Miss Lexie” everyone incredulously exclaims as they chuckle.

Hearing from them, she felt exhilarated by the fact. Gratified by their words, she sincerely smiles

at all of them. Emily and Jason hug her before they all hug the models.

They are quietly celebrating at one corner when President Arvin enters with Eve tailing behind.

“Congratulations everyone! Job well done. And now we will be out there for the finale. Thank you for all your great efforts for this event to be successful” Arvin announced with a satisfied smile and was responded by cheers and applause from everyone. It’s a success and they will be celebrating later at the after-party.

“Everyone, let’s get ready” Eve announced as she claps her hands for everyone to hustle.

Arvin had also given the designers bouquet as he thank them for their hard work. SD had a great team and he was grateful for all of them.

Lastly, he approaches Lexie to give her the bouquet.

“Thank you for your hard work, Lexie” he seriously mutters as he intensely stares at her beauty.

“You are welcome, sir Arvin. Thank you too for giving me this chance” sincerely, she responded to the man. She could see different emotions on his face other than what was spoken but she cast it aside. She doesn’t want to give him false hope. He may not have spoken of it, but his actions reveal what he feels towards her.

“You are great in this craft, Lexie. I’m grateful I have you on my team” he earnestly responded, earning him a bright smile from her.

“And I really hope you would choose to be with SD after this show” he added.

Something heavy is tugging his smile for her.

Staring at him, she smiles. She had an idea what he meant. He is troubled and it’s because of her. She may not need to pacify him, but she deemed to assure him of her

loyalty.

“No matter what choices I make, I would always consider those people who had given me the chance when others did not. I value those who saw my potential despite the incapacity I felt for myself. I am a loyal person, sir Arvin, as much as I value one” smiling at him, she keenly speaks.

“Thank you, Lexie. I believe you” he mutters with a keen smile.

“Arvin, it’s time” Eve interrupted.

“Come” leading her in front, he gently placed his hand on her waist. He placed Lexie beside him, making them look like a couple while Eve is on the other side of him. Everyone had seen how gentle the President’s attention was towards the newbie but no one say a word. Only Mariz’s group rolled their eyes in indignation but Lexie haven’t seen it. Jason and Emily did.

“This is it. Congratulations everyone, this is our success!” Arvin announced to everyone before they stepped onstage amid the cheers and applause of all guests.

“Valued guests... Please meet the creative and excellent team of Silhouettes Designs together

with our beloved president” the enthusiastic announcement filled the entire place as the team of designers with Arvin and Eve stepped on stage.

Behind the eight figures, all models line up. Standing proudly, they all wave at the audience

while they bask in their applause and cheers.

All designers, especially Lexie smiles brightly at everyone. It’s her first time and it’s an exhilarating experience. Her eyes were fixed on Lucien as their gazes locked. If someone had noticed, they don’t care. She is celebrating her success and it’s all for Lucien and their son.

She was immensely elated to see the pride in his eyes. It’s for her and she knows it. He may look cold and passive but his eyes spoke of words Lexie fully understand. How she wishes she could shout how much she loves him like how he is struggling not to declare his love to her.

She was only pulled to the present when she felt Arvin’s hand on her back. Turning to him, she looks at him.

“It’s your time to be introduced” he whispers, making her smile and focus.

“And last but not least, the new member of the SD family, our designer, and model, Miss Alexzia Montes. Miss Alexzia is wearing one of her designs and modeled it earlier.

Everyone, take another look at her collection” the emcee announced, also a queue for all the models of Lexie’s design to step forward while she was led by Arvin in front of all of them.

Smiling brightly, she bows at the audience together with her models. She did it. She made an entrance into the world she has been dreaming to be part of.

The CEO’s Ten Million Dollar Wife by R.C.BRIE

Chapter 54

Chapter 54 Turned Down

As expected, Lexie was called to be introduced to Arman Varce and Sandra Corsino together with the Wright family amid jealousy from the other models, especially Mariz and her circle of friends.

The after-party has started and everyone enjoys the overflowing drinks and sumptuous buffet dinner while enjoying the twilight. The dramatic indigo color showers the sky seeming to join the celebration of the success of Silhouettes Designs.

Led by Arvin, Lexie approaches the group with a reserved smile. Boring envious gazes from the others followed the two as they walk towards the most prominent group in the after-party.

“Lexie, meet Mr. Arman Varce, the owner and designer of Varce Designs” politely, she accepted his handshake.

“Nice meeting you sir” with a reserved smile she looks straight into his eyes.

“My pleasure is mine, Miss Montes” amicably, the man kisses her hand.

“And this is Madame Sandra Corsino, the owner and Editor of Fashion Today” offering her hand, the pregnant woman accepted it with a smile.

“Lexie, please meet, Madame Levinia and Samantha Wright” unaware of the subtle exchange of glances, Arvin introduces her.

“It’s my pleasure to meet you Madame” politely, she shakes hands with Levinia and Samantha while sharing a casual smile.

“And, meet CEO Lucien Wright of Wright Group of Companies” with his hand on her back, Arvin made her turn to face Lucien who is sporting an unremarkable expression. No one had noticed the man’s sharp look at Arvin’s hand pressed against Lexie’s back. But she noticed and she know she must pacify her man.

“Nice meeting you Mr. Wright” politely, and like real strangers, he offers his hand to her, which she readily accepted with a smile.

“My pleasure meeting you, Miss Montes” seriously, Lucien Wright greeted her while he subtly squeeze Lexie’s hand during the handshake.

Volts of electricity seem to surge between their clasped hands, creating a delicious sensation for both of them. Their gazes also lock for a quick moment before their hands part. But before they let go of each other’s hands, Lexie made sure to caress his palm. And the action made him relax.

If someone noticed the tension between them, no one mentioned it, especially Samantha who is subtly smirking at their casual interaction. Amusement is written in her eyes but she expertly hides it with her cold facade.

“I’ve been dying to meet such talented and not to mention the stunning lady who drowned me with fervent passion onstage” Mr. Varce raves at Lexie the instant the introduction and the greeting were over. Lexie faces the man like she was not

flustered by the quick interaction she had with Lucien

“Thank you so much, Mr. Varce. I’m flattered by the attention” she politely replies. A casual smile adorned her face.

“I had expressed this to President Arvin and I’m hoping to have his cooperation and yours” the man added while she listened together with the rest of their company.

“Pardon me for being straightforward. I’m not the kind of person to wait for the proper time. Chances are rare and they could vanish at any time. So I’m taking this chance to tell you I’m interested in having you as my model and designer at Varce” Mr. Varce seriously stated

while his earnest gaze was fixed on Lexie.

Hearing the man, she understood what Jason meant earlier. Also the apprehension she saw in Arvin.

“I am offering you to be the brand model and designer of Varce. I will open the doors of Europe to your career as a model and designer. You have great potential, Miss Montes and I want to give you an opportunity to widen your horizon in fashion design. It’s a once in a lifetime chance”

the man added, tempting her.

A man like Mr. Arman Varce indeed won’t waste time on the prospect of having another great investment. And he has been luring her to have her agreement.

Turning to look at Arvin Deutche, she saw how his face become serious and grim. Amid the tense atmosphere, she maintains her casual smile. She had known about the possible offer from the famous designer beforehand, but it has a different impact hearing it herself from the man.

Her gaze has also casually trailed to Samantha, Levinia, and lastly, Lucien to gather their sentiment towards the matter. But as what they always look, she was just met with expressionless faces with no hint of whatever in their minds. Realizing she is on her own, she faces Mr. Varce again.

“Varce Designs is the creme of the crop of the fashion world and I’m greatly honored for the attention to become part of it” she sincerely stated with a reserved smile.

Her words made Mr. Arman Varce’s smile widen while Arvin Deutche’s face become bleak. Aside from the two, she got no other reaction from the rest. Sandra Corsino has some interest in their topic while the others were simply unconcerned, or so others thought.

“I’m positively hoping, President Arvin would agree to a collaboration with your great company, Mr. Varce” she added with a smile. But her words earn him narrowed eyes from both men.

“You don’t understand, Miss Montes. I am offering you a contract to be legally part of Varce. Whatever contract you have signed with Silhouettes Designs will be settled by my company and I am willing to pay any amount as settlement incurred by the breach of your contract” Arman seriously muttered, to which she responded with a warm smile.

“A collaboration could provide immense opportunity for both companies, Mr. Varce. Varce Designs may be the top in the market today but you cannot deny Silhouettes Designs could compete with the market Varce is in, right now” Lexie smiles at the man.

And though she cannot see Arvin's face, she is fully aware he has been staring at her with full interest.

"Fashion design just like any other business is a rolling wheel. If one cannot maintain to be on top it might roll on the sides or worst... at the bottom" she added with a faint smile, locking her

calm gaze to the intense one of the designer.

"But collaboration could oftentimes benefit both contracting parties. There will be more doors opened for everyone. Connection is vital for this kind of business and Silhouettes Designs will be opening its door to Varce once collaboration has been materialized" she continues before turning to Arvin Deutche who has been nodding his head in agreement with her.

Turning back to Mr. Arman Varce, she fixed her eyes on the man who is staring at her with such

intensity. His gaze is intimidatingly gauging her but she was not deterred. She knows her worth and of SD.

"As you have said earlier, Mr. Varce, you have flown this far just to witness this event. Understandingly, you know the worth of SD. You are aware of the potential of Silhouettes Designs in the international market" for the first time since the discussion of Mr. Varce's offer towards

Lexie was brought up, Arvin spoke.

"Doors will easily open for Silhouettes Designs even without help from other companies but like Miss Montes said, a collaboration could benefit both contracting parties. As the president of SD, I'm striving to bring the company to the top but there will be a lot of circumstances that could possibly affect our success, which we are trying to overcome. Just like how you strive to bring Varce to the top. We are both thriving and the fittest will survive. But working together could strengthen the process. Two strong companies working together to remain on top will be a better option than pushing each other to own the spot.

The top may have only one slot but we could hold tight and maintain the balance so no one will fall. We could meet halfway from time to time while we work hand in hand to stay on our respective spots" Arvin zealously continues.

After the long speech coming from Arvin Deutche, they become quiet. While Mr. Varce becomes thoughtful.

"President Arvin Deutche is so lucky to have a brilliant mind like yours, Miss Montes.

Not to mention the fervent loyalty you have for

Silhouettes Designs" Mr. Varce exclaims as he set his eyes on her while she gave him a nod together

with a meaningful smile.

"Have you realized, you just subtly turned me down? No one would ever dare what you did but I become more challenged to know you further, Miss Montes. Every model will blindly jump to my offer but you made me feel trapped once I try to steal you away from Silhouettes Designs" though serious, Mr. Varce's tone has the hint of playfulness, which did not escape Lexie.

"I don't want to open my door to outside opportunities if it would make me be locked out from my own home, Mr. Varce. I value family so much. They are the ones who nurtured

me to become who I am today. They were there when I cannot even make a single step. They guided me until I can walk on my own until I'm capable to make decisions until I can be the person I want to be. Before the world saw my potential, they have seen it first. And they helped me develop it to its full potential. So please don't expect me to turn my back on my family, I will be shattered and no one could mend me but, them. I will just be a useless rug to anyone without them" she mysteriously smiles while looking straight at the man's earnest eyes.

"Nowadays it's rare to have such devotion like yours, Miss Montes. I admire the kind of outlook you have in life. President Arvin Deutche is very lucky to have you first. But as you have said, a collaboration could benefit us both, so, President Deutche, expect me at your doorstep from time to times the man fervently stated as he narrows his eyes to Lexie before he turns to smirk at Arvin.

"Silhouettes Designs will always open its door to you, Mr. Varce" Arvin sincerely smiles.

After the tensed discussion, a comfortable silence ruled. The three audiences remain quiet as they sip their drinks. During the whole time, Lucien remains in his unengaging manner.

"I'm happy for the amicable understanding. I don't want to write an article about the feud between the two biggest fashion companies"

Sandra Corsino exclaims in playful relief.

"Thank you, Mr. Varce for your understanding"

Lexie warmly smiles. O

"You might have used some potion on me, little miss. My pride is usually untamable but with you, I had conceded. Arman Varce just conceded, can you believe that?" he turns to rave at Arvin before turning to Levinia Wright.

"Your stubbornness will never win with Miss Montes. She has the charm to tame the untamable" Levinia smirks, earning her curious eyes. Her mysterious words piqued everyone's curiosity, except Lucien and Samantha.

"You seem to know her, Madame Wright" Arman mutters, his gauging eyes on her.

"I know a lot of things I choose not to say, you all know that. I can see beyond what everyone is seeing" she casually dismisses.

"Could I guess?" the man playfully asks Levinia who shrugs, encouraging him.

"President Deutche is your nephew and Miss Montes is a gorgeously stunning woman. Any family would love to have her contribute to the genes of future Deutche" Arman auspiciously mutters.

"Hahaha" Levinia laughs.

"Close but not close enough..." Sam spoke as she shrugs.

While the Wright women are indulging in the guessing game, Lexie started to fidget on

her feet upon seeing Lucien's jaw clenching from what he was hearing. She was surprised to know Arvin is Levinia Wright's nephew but she has no time to ponder with Lucien's dark disposition lurking around.

"But I would love to see them together. Undeniably, they look great. They will be a power couple to lead Silhouettes Designs" Arman's last words caused an unseen uproar.

Tension rises around and was felt by anyone near. Even Arman Varce and Sandra Corsino looks around to check what causes the unexplained constricting aura but saw nothing.

"What was that?" Arman mumbles confusingly.

Only three people know where it came from though they remain unaffected and calm. But Lexie almost dashed to his side if she haven't stopped herself on time. Subtly, she looks at Samantha who is also looking at her, for help.

"Let's all enjoy the food...Miss Montes, may I invite you to join us at our table?" Levinia Wright

casually announces, breaking the suffocating dark aura lingering around.

"I would love to, Madame" Lexie smiles sweetly and is secretly relieved by the diversion.

The CEO's Ten Million Dollar Wife by R.C.BRIE

Chapter 55

Chapter 55 Borderline

To pacify the situation, Levinia casually made Lexie sit beside Lucien while Samantha took her seat beside Lexie. They made sure Lexie will not be seated close to any man, especially Arvin who

is so obvious of his affection towards her.

Lucien has been very quiet, sporting a dark expression and Lexie could not do anything about it. She was relieved, she was made to sit next to him.

The dark aura, filling the air seems to have lessened but does not completely vanish.

Somehow, Lexie beside him pacified his possessiveness.

The meal has been comfortable for everyone while maintaining a relaxed conversation.

And Lexie had the chance to discreetly touch her legs to Lucien's knee when she turn towards his direction to reply to Sandra Corsino.

"I hope you don't mind me asking and you may not answer it if you are uncomfortable.

Are you in a relationship right now, Miss Montes?" the woman casually asks.

"Yes, Madame, I am" with a smile, she immediately replies.

"But President Arvin might have a chance, I see no ring around your finger, still. Your man is too lax in keeping you, he might have not realized every man is waiting to have a chance to snatch you away" Arman continues to tease the two, unaware of the tension.

As if by queue, Lexie turns to her empty ring finger, and not just her, but every eye around the table.

“Indeed, a ring is one of the symbolism of commitment but it doesn’t define the degree of devotion a relationship has. And I won’t be snatched away, that’s for sure, Mr. Varce. No other man could equal how my man values me” she earnestly counters.

“I really admire your outlook, Miss Montes. I’m quite curious about the man who holds your affection. I hope he deserves you. If I cannot snatch you away from Silhouettes Designs then I believe, Mr. Deutche could not also snatch you away from your man” he gently retorted.

“My man deserves me, Mr. Varce. And yes, nobody could easily snatch me away from him.

That would be bloody if it happens, I believe”

playfully, she agrees as she chuckles.

“Certainly, if I were him, I will behead every man who would try to” Arman amusingly retorted.

“Despite my admiration for Miss Montes, I am an honorable man to respect her and her relationship. But of course like what you have said Mr. Varce. Just like any other man, I will wait for the chance. Even if it’s the slimmest” Arvin, as the source of the topic, interjected with seriousness. ○

“There’s an equal chance in love and war” Sandra also added.

“Indeed” Arman exclaims, smiling at Lexie.

“I don’t hold the future, but as long as he will have me, I will stay by his side” she smiles, assuring Lucien more than anyone.

Arvin’s earnest interest was on Lexie but his eyes seem to pull him towards the man beside her. Lucien Wright’s dark disposition is uncalled for unless he was affected by the conversation about him and Lexie.

Earlier, he saw the CEO shows interest in Lexie, which is uncommon for him. No beauty had earned the CEO’s interest but he was sure of what he saw. Lucien Wright had a passionate reaction while intensely watching Lexie onstage. For a man, he could tell by the CEO’s expression. He is somewhat stripping Lexie by his seduction. He felt the sexual tension coming from the CEO and he become more confused when he felt the same

coming from Lexie.

Discreetly, he zealously stare at Lucien before his eyes drifted to Lexie. He has the inkling feeling, the CEO and Lexie has something between them.

Which is quite impossible...or maybe not.

His suspicion deepened upon seeing the subtle

touch the CEO made at Lexie’s hand. It was somewhat deliberate though discreet.

Too diligent in watching the two, he was late to notice Samantha had been watching him. Staring back at her, he saw her sympathetic smile. Then it dawned on him.

Averting his eyes towards Lucien, he was met with a calm yet intense gaze.

As their gazes lock, they had inferred what they both want to impart to each other. And despite the words being unspoken, he fully understood what Lucien meant.

Heaving a sigh, he nods and sadly smiles. He hasn’t seen it coming. He was unaware.

But he cannot blame Lexie if she chooses to be quiet about it. Being associated with the

Wright family could affect things differently. Just like how he strives to be distinct from his family name and from the powerful family his aunt belonged to.

He understood Lexie. She wanted to create her name without the Wright's influence. And getting

Arman Varce's attention is an achievement for her. It's a kind of seal for the spot she thrives to put herself in the fashion world.

Though he could attest to Lexie's gift in fashion, being with a Wright could create doubt. And as the owner of SD, his word could be incredible as the nephew of Levinia Wright. Lexie's capability will be doubted and the public will always gauge her.

After another round of pleasantries and farewells to several guests, including Madame Corsino and Arman Varce, Arvin was left with the Wright family. Even Eve did not approach their table, while Lexie had excused herself upon knowing Dom's arrival.

"I won't apologize for what I felt for her" Arvin mutters in his low voice. He doesn't want attention he cannot handle.

"You don't know anyway. You need not to"

Lucien calmly retorted.

"Honestly, I was still hopeful for the chance to woo her. But knowing who she belongs to, it

would be a dim plight" he bitterly chuckles.

"Someone out there is destined to be with you, Arvz" Levinia mumbles.

"Lexie... Lexie is way different from other women. It won't be easy to forget her but I respect her as much as I respect you, Lucien" Arvin stated wistfully before he turned to smile at his aunt.

"You will never have a chance with her" Lucien mutters.

"I know. But just make sure you take care of her. I won't hesitate to snatch her away from you once I saw her hurt. I also know she will endure just to stay by your side. She won't mind hurting herself in the process of loving you" he turned to intently stare at Lucien who clenched his jaw upon hearing him.

"You will never have a chance, Arv. She is my world, no one could hurt her even me. And I won't have a chance to hurt her, she won't allow it. You don't know her that much, Arvz, she is a kitten with a sleeping tiger inside her. You will just be amazed how she would growl at you when she is pissed" Lucien grimly countered before he smirks at the memory of Zia's brazen attitude towards him.

"You are so lucky to have her. How I wish I had known her first" he bitterly chuckles while looking afar at where Lexie was with her best friend, Dom. Jason had joined them and they were having fun.

"She is meant for me. And it doesn't matter who knows her first" Lucien counters with finality while glancing at Lexie but he didn't linger long.

"I'm not petty but a woman like her should be wearing your ring, Lucien. You must mark your perimeter. Not all rivals are like me. I yield just because it's you. The least in my

plan is to fight a family over a woman, regardless of how special she is” he remembered to point out.

“She will be. Soon, everyone will know she is a Wright. I’m just giving her time to enjoy her freedom and to achieve her peak without my influence. She despises the power I hold” he

SO

sounded disappointed by his last remark.

“She is strong-willed. Very independent. She deserves the spotlight without yours, Lucien. No one wanted to live in anyone’s shadow” he snickers.

“Yes, I know. That’s why I’m letting her on her own”

“A Wright woman could not be snatched away, Arvz, you know that” Sam smirks. Arvin chuckles. A Wright’s pride and ego are as enormous as the wealth they have. They all think they are invincible, which is partly true. No one would dare mess with the Wright.

“Yeah, I know Sam” he amusingly agrees.

“I was surprised to see her earlier onstage. I was not informed she is a designer and she models” Levinia interjected.

“The clothes from the spring collection you had fancy with, Lexie designed those” Arvin smiles at his aunt.

“Wow, indeed she is awesome. Her collection earlier is all exceptional” gushing with the information, Levinia turns to Lexie afar.

“Zia is gifted to see the beauty around her. I don’t need to meddle with her affairs to succeed. She is exceptional in her craft. You bought her designs because you love them, not because you know she was the one who design them” Lucien mumbles softly. Explaining his reason for not telling his family about what Zia has been doing.

“She has been working hard more than anyone. Now, I completely understand her. She has to earn her spot next to you” Arvin mutters.

“I kinda feel like getting drunk tonight” he added while he called for the waiter.

“You will just earn a hangover in the morning, Arvin. Even if you drown yourself with alcohol, it won’t change the fact that you cannot have the woman you adore. So, dismiss that plan” Levinia scolded her nephew.

“Auntie Anya, why are you so heartless?” acting hurt, he incredulously raves at her aunt.

“Don’t punish yourself for things beyond your control. That would be foolishness, Arvin. Enjoy tonight’s party without getting drunk. This is the time for a celebration not sulk in one corner as if you went bankrupt” she added with a glare, which is somewhat effective when Arvin pouted defeatedly. He only got a glass of champagne from the waiter who approached their table.

“So, cheers... For more years of Silhouettes Designs” Levinia initiated a toast, which was indulged by the three.

“For the further success of Silhouettes Designs,” Samantha also added before they

drink the content of their glasses in one go. The remaining guests watch from afar, too intimidated to join their circle or even approach for a greeting. There will always be an unseen borderline between the high society and the Wright. Even the media is reluctant to come close not just because of the several grim-looking security scattered near their table but also because they all know the boundary. The Wright values their privacy and those who don't know how to respect it will have a great price to pay. The unseen borderline is as strong and clear as the skyscrapers of the city. And it's a fact everyone acknowledges despite not being imposed by any Wright. Even in the circle of the wealthiest people in the country, the Wright family is capable to intimidate them all.

The CEO's Ten Million Dollar Wife by R.C.BRIE

Chapter 56

Chapter 56 Dom And Jason

"How's the show? He is here and I'm so happy for you, honey" Dom asks after they settled at one of the tables. The venue is in a festive mood with all the guests having the greatest time of their lives. Everyone is in a celebration mood for the success of Silhouettes Designs.

"It was great, Dom. And yes, I wasn't expecting him to come but I'm happy he made time. It's just awkward to act like we don't know each other, even with Sam and mom" she whispers as she leans close to him.

"He is so sweet, a darling. I bet you're tempted to devour him" he teased.

"Indeed he is. How I've been dying to squeeze his adorable face since earlier when we were introduced. Can you believe it, we shook hands like real strangers. And he is such a gentleman though he looks scary intimidating" she giggles though in a hush.

"Yes, he is a lot scary, Lex. He could kill with just a stare" he retorted.

"I don't wish to be killed by his gaze, but he could make you cum by just staring. If only you could see him every time he wants me...I could be wet without him doing anything yet" she playfully whispers.

"Naughty girl. I won't imagine that, I might try to steal him away from you" he counters, pinching her nose.

"You can't do that, though. Despite how delicious he looks and huge his dick is" she added, raising her brows in a playful wave.

"Of course, I won't. Silly girl. But I'm curious how humungous he is" he scoffs while he

teasingly

glares at her.

“Super huge...but he is only for me” sticking her tongue on him, she snorted.

Dom chuckles while pinching her chin.

“So what else happened during the show? How did guests receive your designs?” he remembers

to ask, he is almost done eating.

“Something unexpected happened. You’re familiar with Arman Varce and Sandra Corsino, right?” Lexie mumbles softly amid the noise.

“Yes of course. They are the fashion pillars. So what happened? Tell me...” he curiously urges

her.

Slow and detailed, she told Dom everything that have happened, including the standing ovation she got from guests and the offer she declined from Arman Varce.

“You already have exceptional opportunities with Silhouettes Designs. Varce Designs will just be a topping to the cake you have. You can do away with it if you choose to”

Dom started after his

diligent attention to what Lexie told him.

Others may think of Lexie as foolish to decline a once-in-a-lifetime chance to be with Varce Designs, but Dom saw what she saw with Silhouettes Designs. No doubt about their being

best friends.

“Silhouettes Designs can lead the market and even surpass Varce. Even Arman Varce had

recognized it” Dom added.

“Yes, Dom. I know he fully recognized the full potential of SD. And he was somewhat threatened by its presence” she mutters with a satisfied smile.

“You did great, honey. I’m so proud of you” Dom gently pinched her cheek.

“Thank you, Dom” smiling sweetly, she let him caress her face.

“If I didn’t know you are gay, I will be greatly jealous” Jason interrupted while making himself

comfortable beside Dom.

“Hello, Jason” Dom greeted him instead.

—

“Hello, Dominic. Why are you looking so hot while caressing Lexie’s face? You look like a boyfriend” Jason exclaims while sporting a cute pout.

DUPU! VU DUMITHU VUUUU

“I am her boyfriend...” Dom seriously retorted, earning him an intent gaze from Jason.

“Don’t tell me you are the person Lexie meant as her boyfriend. You are joking, right?” he playfully mumbles but anxiousness laced his voice.

Dom did not respond but faced the food he was eating while Lexie was surprised by the sudden change in his mood.

“Dom...” Jason softly called while touching his arm but the man did not even turn to him. Watching her friend, she was at loss about what happened. He was fine earlier.

“Dom?” she calls him too.

“I noticed President Arvin with the Wright at the other table” Dom whispers to her.

“They are cousins, Levinia Wright is his aunt” she whispers back while Dom gape at her.

“I just know during dinner. Madame Levinia invited me with the others. I heard from their conversation” she readily explains.

Dom nodded while he finishes his food.

“Dom can we talk, why are you ignoring me?” Jason persisted. Lexie heaves a sigh knowing something has been bothering Dom and surely it involves Jason.

“There is a private lounge not far from here, we could go there for some privacy” she whispers while pleading with Dom. She needs to help the two with whatever misunderstanding they have.

After waiting for Dom’s response, she heaves a relieved sigh upon seeing him stand up. Hurriedly she pulled Jason before gesturing to Dom the way. Amid the festive atmosphere and chattering of guests, they made their way through the crowd to have some privacy.

Reaching the secluded part of the resort, they got settled on the loveseat-style lounge chair. They made themselves fit in the chair which is supposed to be for two.

“Talk to me, Dom. What did I do?” Jason who looks so worried, immediately asks.

“You’re enjoying yourself too much with friends.

You haven’t noticed I arrived” Dom snickers.

“I saw you even before you enter the venue but I was talking to a client. I just can’t leave” exasperated, Jason explains but Dom looks away.

“Dom!” Jason raves.

“Dom, clients can’t wait to dig into the designs presented earlier, they could be pesky and persistent” Lexie interrupted after Jason looks at her for help

“Then, was it necessary to be overly touchy to clients?” Dom mutters seriously.

“Babe...please... Mr. Miller has been a valued client and we have known each other that we’ve become friends” Jason pleaded.

“Then, enjoy the friendship” Dom dismissed mockingly.

“Dominic Lint...” Jason warns but he was just ignored.

“Babe, if you are jealous, fine. But don’t push me away as if I’m nothing to you” hurt and disappointed, he mumbles while heaving several sighs.

“You two need to talk. I will leave you to patch up things” she was about to stand when Dom grab her hand.

“Stay... I’m sorry, I know I’m being

unreasonable” Dom mumbles softly.

“Jason was just doing his job, Dom. He is supposed to be enjoying the party but he entertains clients. Please don’t be unfair to him. We’ve been here before the sunrise and until now we are still hustling. We also need to smile despite being exhausted. He was excited to see you, even before the party started” she carefully explains while the two remain quiet, listening.

“I’m sorry...” Dom whispers while pulling Jason by the shoulder to hug him.

Silence rules after the two hug each other while she watches. It’s been a busy day for all of them but she doesn’t want her friends to be affected by the foul mood brought by exhaustion.

“I missed you the whole day we haven’t talked and I got jealous seeing you with some men” Dom whispers while his face was buried in Jason’s hair.

“You just don’t know how ecstatic I was when you arrive. But I cannot just leave. I have to make excuses”

“I’m sorry...I missed you...” Dom whispers as he tightens his hold around Jason, burying his face in his neck while inhaling his scent.

“I missed you too...” Jason muffled against Dom’s neck too.

Lexie remains quiet, contented in watching her friends get cozy. She let them with their intimate time while she enjoys the sparkling stars above the night sky. It’s serene and it calms her soul.

She is somewhat envious of the two. How she wishes she could have their kind of freedom. But thinking about it, it’s her choice. Lucien has never prohibited her to tell who she is to him. Heaving a sigh, she looks up at the brightest star. Like her dream, she will shine the brightest. Soon, it will be soon. She’s almost there. All their patience will be paid off. She will earn her spot next to Lucien and it will be the happiest time of her life.

“Thanks, Lex, and I’m sorry for dragging you into this” after a while, Dom spoke, pulling her from her deep thoughts.

“As if this is much. I don’t want you to hurt yourself. Sometimes all we need is just a little reminder from some nuisance around us” she playfully replies, winking at them both.

“You are not a nuisance. You are my gorgeous angel. I love you so much” Dom pulled her and

pressed a kiss on her temple.

“If I didn’t know you are gay and Lexie has someone, I will really be a green-eyed monster by now” Jason mumbles playfully.

“Oh, don’t be Jason. We are still casual with each other. Wait till you see us naked in bed and he is masturbating beside me...” Lexie exclaims teasingly but made Jason gape in shock.

“Don’t tease him, he will believe you” Dom glares at her, to which she responded with a giggle.

“I’m just joking, Jason. We had seen each other naked, but never did he masturbate beside me. He did in the bathroom while I’m waiting to pee, I tell you it’s immensely irritating” she incredulously exclaims but Jason was not appeased. He continues to gape at her.

"The more I cannot cum, you are so noisy from outside. You are distracting me" Dom glares but she just sticks her tongue to him.

"You two were so close. What things have you not done together?" Jason softly asks. No matter how she tries not to be jealous of Lexie, he becomes one.

"We haven't had sex, since I cannot make him hard no matter what I will do, that's for sure. I haven't tried either to make her hard, I just knew.

I've been naked several times in front of him but he was not even half hard. What an insult to my gorgeous goddess of a body. So throw that jealousy away Jason. I don't want to comfort you anyway once you get jealous of me. I'm the least person you will be threatened with Dom's affection. He loves me but not the kind of love you both shares" suddenly, Lexie becomes serious and even glares at Jason. The man was quite obvious in what he felt when he cannot meet Lexie straight in the eyes.

"But I'm somewhat curious how two men make love" with the mischievous smile on her lips, she winks at Jason.

"Don't ask to watch us, Lexie" Dom warns her, seeing the glint of mischief in her eyes.

"Why not?" she teased.

"Because it would be awkward" Dom glares at her.

"No it won't" she pouted.

"He won't allow it. You want me banned from even speaking to you?" Dom retorted.

"No, I don't want to" she sulked.

"Then, it's a no" he triumphantly smiles at her while Jason was shaking his head.

"I didn't know you are this crazy, Lexie" Jason was amused.

"I was just curious. Is it the same with a man and woman?" she persisted but Dom was not scandalized.

"Yes, it's just the same. Except it's in the ass" he even explains.

"Is it good? What I mean, inside the ass?" she curiously asks.

"It is, especially if your pleasure bud inside is hit" Jason was the one who replies.

"Really? Yeah, I remembered, Dom told me that. Though he hasn't experienced it yet. He has been a top since then" she casually said.

"Yes, but we will try soon. I want to top him"

Jason smiles, earning him a gentle pinch from Dom.

"You really want me to bottom for you" he mumbles.

"I want to own you. I want to do things your other lovers haven't done to you" Jason seriously mutters.

With what has been said, both men lock gazes while Lexie becomes quiet. He had witnessed so many instances Dom broke his heart and she was hoping Jason would be

the one. They were both have been deprived of the happiness they deserve.
“Of course, you will, babe...” Dom whispers before pulling Jason to hug.

The CEO’s Ten Million Dollar Wife by R.C.BRIE

Chapter 57

Chapter 57 Thief

Leaving the two men in their privacy and wanting to come back to the party, Lexie leisurely walks back to the venue. She felt exhausted but the night is still young. A lot of guests are still enjoying the after-party and it would be improper to leave.

She is almost by the Olympic size pool, she was blocked by several figures.

“Congratulations on the success of your modeling career, Miss Montes. Surely you will have a considerable chance to steal from now on” Mariz spoke of her insults.

Staying quiet, she looks at the woman in front of her. She doesn’t want to engage but she might: indulge.

“Haven’t we clear on that issue, Miss Segovia? I didn’t steal your ring and I don’t have any plans

of stealing anything” she seriously retorted.

“If you think you had convinced me with your

innocent act, think again. I’m not as gullible as the others” the model snickers, countering her Staring at the tipsy model, she understood the situation better.

“This is not about the ring anymore, Miss Segovia. This is already about envy and jealousy. Don’t subject me to your dirty games, I won’t be allowing it” she sneers. She was not threatened

by their presence.

“I will never be envious of you, Miss Montes. For a thief like you, no one would even be interested in being associated with you” mockingly, Mariz counters.

“Then, get out of my way. Why are you wasting your time with me?” she mutters with a clenched jaw. But she only got snickers from the group and they did not even step aside to give her way.

“I’m just plainly pissed by your face, isn’t it valid? I’m tempted to pluck your hair out of your head, isn’t it fun?” fearlessly, Mariz mocks her.

“Well, you could try” unbothered, she challenged.

“Brave girl. Just because President Arvin is into you. Unfortunately, it doesn’t scare us”

“I don’t need anyone to defend me, Miss Segovia.

I am my own hero” she sneers back.

“Let’s see if you could still say the same once I’m finished with you” the model stepped forward

and to her surprise, Lexie did the same.

“I can’t wait to know what you’re capable of. Don’t make the excuse of you being tipsy. You have planned this so I hope you are ready to face the consequences of your action. I’m not easy prey, Miss Segovia, and bear in mind, I won’t let this pass” Lexie warns as

she looks at Mariz

before her gaze averted to the others.

Standing close to each other, their intense gazes lock. Each one tried to intimidate the other but no one succeeded.

She is still wearing the dress she had modeled, the same with Mariz and the rest of her friends. They are all in high heels. And just by imagining what they could do to each other, she mentally grimaces.

"I'm tipsy but I know what I'm doing and that is to pluck that haughty smile away from your annoying face" Mariz angrily raves at her.

"As I have said, you could try but believe me, that would not be easy" she retorted and got ready seeing Mariz about to pounce on her.

"You, bitch! Scheming thief!" the model raves as she tries to pull her hair, which she had evaded. With her quick response, Mariz almost lost her balance if not for her friend's abrupt help.

"You bitch!" one of Mariz's friends snapped at her.

"As I have told you, I'm not an easy target. You okay, Miss Segovia?" smirking, she asks. The smirk fueled the model's anger as her eyes sharpened while staring at her. Mariz was about to charge toward her again when a man interrupted.

"What's happening here?"

Turning towards the one who spoke, they all straightened on their feet. The group had to shake their heads to clear their muddled minds from several glasses of wine they consumed. While Lexie remains watchful.

Not far from them, several Wright security has their attention on them. Their sharp eyes were staring at every figure until it reached her. If they recognized her, she has no way of knowing. What she was sure is they were Ben's men.

"This woman here is a thief. She stole my earrings in the dressing room. I tried to look for them but to no avail. My friend saw her put it in her purse. I'm just trying to get it back from her"

To Lexie's aghast, Mariz exclaims loudly. Loud enough to be heard by guests who had started to gather out of curiosity about their commotion.

"I did not steal anything from you!" raging with fury, she glares at Mariz who turns to her with her triumphant smirk.

"You have attempted to steal my five million worth of engagement ring the previous day, you were just caught so it was returned. You are a thief!" Mariz added while her voice quivered from fear. Lexie could clearly see her faking it but the crowd is believing her. Hateful gazes turn to her like she is already guilty of what the woman was accusing her.

ma
was

0

Adding to her misery are the flashes of lights from the camera of the reporters who had stayed to cover the whole event including the party.

“What nonsense were you talking about, Miss Segovia?” Eve demanded the instant she stepped out from the crowd.

“This time, she stole it, Miss Eve. She cannot deny it anymore. She stole my earrings” Mariz faces Eve to explain. Her eyes were already misty from her fake tears.

“Stop this, Miss Segovia! You are ruining the party with your nonsense claim. We’re you been drinking?” she scolded while clenching her jaw.

Surely, the commotion she had created will be the headline later for all news portals.

“I’m not drunk. I know what I’m doing. This trying-hard newbie here is a thief. It’s so obvious she needs money and she had been getting it from the things she was stealing. She is a social climbing whore. Can’t you see it, Miss Eve? She is not what you think she is. She is not an angel. She is a devil thief!” with a crazed glint in her eyes, she desperately convinces not only Eve but those who have already gathered nearby.

“Stop this, Miss Segovia, or I swear I will deal you myself and you won’t like it. Guests are still here.

So please calm down and we will talk this out. This should be pacified or we will all be in trouble” Eve glares at the model who shook her head in defiance.

“Believe us, Miss Eve. After the show, we search for the pair of earrings she was supposed to wear but it was nowhere. And we only saw Miss Montes going near Mariz’s dresser” one of her friends fervently explains.

“Everyone must know the real her. She is a scheming bitch. She has been manipulating all of you with her sweet facade” with the alcohol in her system, Mariz becomes bolder and more aggressive.

Lexie was aghast by everything the model was calling her but she remains quiet and trusted Eve to subdue the situation. She doesn’t want to add any more trouble. The model is enough for a night.

“Stop this nonsense right now, Miss Segovia” with another stern voice, all eyes turn to Arvin Deutche who looks dangerously grim while staring at Mariz.

“President Deutche, please believe me. That woman stole my earrings like she attempted to steal my engagement ring. See, I’m not wearing an earring, which I’m supposed to wear at the party. It was a gift from my boyfriend so I know it’s also expensive” desperate to make everyone believe, she shows her empty ear lobes.

“Stop” Arvin mutters with a clenched jaw. The lie is getting out of hand and it has to end.

“But...” Mariz attempted to continue but Arvin raise his hand to gesture to her to stop. Lexie felt someone from behind her and the scent caught by her nose was telling it was Dom and Jason. But she didn’t dare look back and it’s the same time she notice the three figures afar. Samantha, Madame Levinia, and Lucien. They are watching the commotion and though their expressions were devoid of anything, it made her want to hide from embarrassment. Her strength seems to have abandoned her whole being

under
their unaffected gazes.
More than the accusation Mariz was throwing on her, Lucien's calm gaze made her eyes brimming with unshed tears.
"Sir Arvin, I didn't steal anything. I swear" she tries to explain, not for herself but for the people who are watching afar.
"I know, Lexie...I believe you" Arvin assures her but Mariz together with her friends was all
incredulously disappointed.
"President Deutche, you can't just let go of this! I lost my earring and I can't believe no one cares! She is a thief and you still believe her more than me" exasperated, she confronted Arvin.
"I care, Miss Segovia, and it's the reason why you have to stop this nonsense. Lexie is not a thief. If you lost your earrings, you had misplaced them again and not because someone stole them" trying to be patient, he took several deep breaths.
The woman is so stubborn he is losing his patience. They have created enough uproar for a night. Media people are going crazy getting the footage of the scene and it would be ugly news, which he doesn't want.
"Then let's check her belongings, I'm certain my earrings are in her purse. She did it once, she can do it again, especially she knows you all believe her" Mariz challenged while her friends nods in full agreement.
Without a second thought, Lexie handed her purse to Eve.
"Check it" Lexie grimly mutters upon seeing Eve's hesitation.
"No need, Lexie..." Eve counters.
"To appease their minds...check it" gritting her teeth to a tight clench, Lexie mutters. Eve remains unmoving while she stares at Lexie who looks at her with chilling coldness. She was surprised by how Lexie looked, seeming to command her to do what she has been told. With reluctance and after taking a deep breath, she slowly opens the purse.
Pulling out the phone from inside, she gave it to Lexie. Without the phone, the purse is almost empty so Eve pours whatever contents were left inside.
Then to her surprise, a pair of diamond earrings fell into her palm, sparkling like shiny bright stars above the night sky.
"Those are my earrings!" Mariz exclaims with wide eyes while Lexie clenched her jaw in pure
rage.

The CEO's Ten Million Dollar Wife by R.C.BRIE

Chapter 58

Chapter 58 A Cheap Choice

Waves of murmurs erupted as everyone squinted towards Eve who looks stunned while

staring at
the sparkling thing on her palm.

“See! She is a thief! She stole my earrings!” Mariz raves to everyone, desperate to prove her point.

“It can’t be! Lexie will never steal anything. You put that inside her purse on purpose” Dom angrily exclaims.

“Can’t you still not believe me? It’s clear, it’s inside her purse. What evidence do you still need?” the model crazily raves at everyone, while Eve and Arvin were nailed on their feet.

“Have you realized what you are accusing me of?” Lexie mutters under her heavy breath.

“Yes I know...you are a thief! You stole my jewelry for the second time!” boldly facing her, Mariz throw her outburst.

Starting at the seeming to be insane woman, Lexie grot her teeth. She was enraged by the plot they put her in. Aggressively stepping forward, waves of murmur erupted. If looks could kill, Mariz will be lifeless by now.

“What!? You will hurt me too? You are not just a thief but also ill-mannered. No one knows where you came from. You’re just a nobody who has been desperately crawling her way to this world. You don’t belong here, bitch” Mariz faces her with disdain despite the fleeting fear that reflects

on her face after she advanced toward her.

“You are not the person to tell me where I belong. Retract what you are accusing me or I will erase your pretty face” she threatened as she continue to advance.

With his raging anger, she is no longer concerned about the murmurs around even the three figures watching from afar. Being accused as a thief is never in her dream and she will fight no matter how dim her chance to clear her name.

“Have you heard her? She is threatening me! She is an ill-mannered thief who had crawled her way to us... Arghh....”

Mariz had not finished the words she was about to say when Lexie’s palm forcibly landed on her cheek. Her head turns to the side before she wobbled backward and almost fell if not for Arvin who caught her on time.

“Lexie...” Dom and Jason dashed to her side and hold her by the arms. It’s to stop her and to protect her from anyone who might dare retaliate.

“Enough! No one... no one has the right to malign me... to call me a thief. I never stole anything from you, Miss Segovia. Your jealousy is consuming you, clouding your reasons. You dared to put me in this predicament to humiliate me. But you will never have the chance to ruin my name I have worked hard to create” she mutters with chilling coldness. Her sharp gaze bores at their shocked face of Mariz.

“You will pay for this...” Mariz mumbles angrily.

“No, Miss Segovia, I don’t owe you anything. If someone will pay for this, it will be you...” she counters with a clenched jaw.

“But her earrings are in your purse, Miss Montes” one of the reporters exclaims from the

crowd.

Clenching her jaw, she turns her chilling cold gaze to the woman.

"I didn't steal anything from her. If her earrings were inside my purse, she put them there on purpose. I won't steal just to have the things I want, I'm working hard for it" she counters the reporter, facing her and staring straight into her eyes. She even looks straight into the camera aimed at her.

"Then, you are saying, Miss Segovia is lying?" . another one interjected.

"Yes, she is" she replies, darting her eyes to the one who spoke.

"We have known Miss Segovia for so long. We've been covering events as huge as this but no such

circumstance as this until you came. She was known to have valuable jewelry during fashion shows but she never complained of anything lost from her belongings. This is the first time and it's

with you" another reporter candidly added.

"You may be great in your craft but if you have this kind of attitude, no one will want to work with you in the future, Miss Montes" one of the guests stated.

Lexie looks around the accusing eyes of everyone. Disdain and disappointment reflect on their faces, making her devastated. They are all believing the lies Mariz had set for her. With all the thoughts filling her head, her eyes brimmed with tears. She can't believe it would just be that easy to destroy a person. Yes, indeed she is not part of the society they are all in but she has good morals. She values her dignity so much it hurts being accused of something she will never be.

"I have known Miss Montes and I assure everyone that she will never steal as Miss Segovia is claiming" Arvin Deutche seriously announce

after the tension had tremendously elevated to a dangerous level. No one dared counter the serious man, even reporters who are so presumptuous earlier.

"The dressing room is equipped with CCTV cameras. I will deal with this situation in a legitimate way. An investigation will be conducted and whoever is fabricating lies will be stripped of the chance to be part of future events of Silhouettes Designs. I will never tolerate such behavior and I assure everyone, those who are involved in this dirty trick will be dealt with accordingly" he grimly added. His dangerously serious warning made Mariz and her friends gape

in worry.

Silence filled the entire place after Arvin Deutche issues his stern warning. Mariz subtly looks at her friends who all looked worried. While Lexie was relieved she had the chance to clear her name. But the wound caused by tonight will forever bear in her heart.

"Whatever the result of the investigation, you all saw it, my jewelry is inside her purse. Evidence

could be manipulated to someone's advantage. And you can't deny the fact that she hurt me" Mariz mumbles painfully but Arvin just looks at her without sympathy.

"Can I see the earrings?" all eyes turn to the one who spoke and people gave way to the serious looking Samantha Wright.

Though confused about what the heiress intends to do, they all watch in pure curiosity.

Her interest causes a wave of hushed murmurs. No one had expected the Wright heiress would take interest in the irrelevant situation.

Unconcerned about all the attention, Samantha Wright elegantly sways her way toward Eve to pick up the jewelry on her palm.

“4.5-carat diamond worth fifty thousand dollars” Samantha exclaims as she inspects them.

Raising it to the light.

Another round of hushed murmurs erupted from guests upon knowing the worth of the tiny

jewelry. It was quite expensive indeed.

Samantha Wright is a jeweler and owns S.W Jewelers under the Wright Group of Companies. She designs her own collection and her market is not the struggling rich but the highest high of high society.

“If I would steal a jewelry, I won’t be choosing this to steal” she sneers while callously returning

the pair to Eve.

Her eyes bore at Mariz who immediately fidgets on her feet. She was immensely intimidated by the presence of the Wright heiress.

“It’s a decent pair but not enough to ignite the interest of a thief. Thieves have an eye for valuables. They could easily spot what is expensive and not. And a thief won’t waste their time for just a fifty thousand dollars if they could have millions” Samantha added.

“But, I think, Miss Montes doesn’t know how to scrutinize jewelry, if indeed she stole it” she added amusingly.

Lexie doesn’t know what Samantha was trying to do but she remains quiet. While the others were

watching in confusion.

“But fifty thousand dollars is huge enough, giving reasonable motive for Miss Montes to steal them” the guest from the earlier counters.

“Is it?” Samantha span towards the one who spoke.

“Yes, Miss Wright. It is valuable enough for the kind of her” she added with a sneer as she turn to

look at Lexie.

“Oh, is that so? Would it be more valuable than millions of dollars?” Samantha fakes her innocence while she asks the woman.

“She had no other choice, Miss Wright, she could only have a grasp with that earrings. But if she will be given the chance for a more valuable one, I’m sure she would not let the chance pass” the woman snickers back, which also made some guests chuckle.

Several were agreeing with the woman as they look at Lexie with disdain.

“Yeah, I’m thinking the same. If given a chance, she could steal million-dollar earrings than fifty

thousand dollars. Right?” Sam smiles as she looks around. And everyone somewhat wanted to have the heiress’s appreciation as they all nodded in agreement.

“Then, you are an idiot, Miss Montes!” she raves exasperatedly, facing Lexie.

Everyone was surprised by her sudden outrage, especially Lexie who staggered backward. While gaping faces look at Samantha Wright like she

lost her mind.

"You're a fool for stealing fifty thousand dollar earrings, so cheap of you!" Sam continues to mock amid the stunned faces around her.

The CEO's Ten Million Dollar Wife by R.C.BRIE

Chapter 59

Chapter 59 His Woman

"There is a more expensive earring than this one, Miss Montes. You could have stolen them instead" Sam snickers amid the confusion and surprise of everyone.

"Madame Carusso, I know you are familiar with the most expensive pieces of jewelry. Let's enlighten, Miss Montes on the pieces she should be stealing" Samantha turns to one of the guests at the corner who smiles at her in response.

"Of course, Madame Wright" the elegant woman replies before averting her eyes to Alexzia. Her eyes squinted slightly before a mysterious smile carves her lips.

"Then, enlighten everyone, Madame Carusso". Samantha smiles at her. Whatever her eyes were saying only the older woman knew.

"Apollo diamond earrings are known as the most expensive piece of jewelry in the world. The only pair of earrings of the rarest blue diamond was sold for a little over forty million dollars three

years ago" the older woman carefully explains while everyone was attentively listening despite not knowing the relevance of what she was doing. Hearing the number of such pieces is enough to pique their curiosity.

"Last year, the Apollo aquamarine teardrop diamond earrings were released and were sold for sixty million dollars. Way more expensive than the blue one and the only one in the world" the woman added followed by gasps of bewilderment from the crowd. Such expensive jewelry only the richest among the rich could afford.

"It was said that the same anonymous person who had bought the Apollo blue diamond earrings

also bought the Apollo aquamarine. That person has immense wealth" Madame Carusso added

with a faint smile.

"It's a teardrop-shaped earring and its color, aquamarine, is perfect for a mint color dress. Whoever wears it has a great taste in the jewelry aside from the exemplary taste in fashion" she added with a mysterious smile. No one had noticed she was describing someone in front of

her. No one had got the queue of who she meant.

"How I wish to have owned them, unfortunately, I don't. It's the rarest kind in the world. Many could afford them but only a few are privileged to even have a glimpse, more so buy them. You need connection and immense power to acquire the pieces, not just a fortune" Samantha exclaims frustratedly but her smile is saying something beyond frustration.

Lexie has been carefully listening, and her heart suddenly thunders like a rolling drum. Adding to her apprehension is the kind of look Madame Carusso has been giving her.

She doesn't understand what Samantha was planning to do and she was even stunned when she insulted her. But hearing the older woman made her think deeply. They are divulging something about her, even she, wasn't aware of.

Slowly, she raises her hands to grasp the dangling earrings in her ears. The aquamarine teardrop shaped earrings she chooses among the several pieces of jewelry Lucien had given her are making her uneasy.

She was still mulling with the Madame's words when the woman's eyes turns to her followed by Samantha. Their kind of stare makes Lexie gulp in anxiousness.

"Like the aquamarine earrings, Miss Montes was wearing, Madame Carusso?"

Samantha suddenly exclaims to Lexie's aghast. Closing her eyes she prayed the older woman or anyone from the crowd did not hear Sam.

"Yes, Madame Wright. Like what Miss Montes was wearing. The teardrop Apollo aquamarine diamond earrings" the woman readily agrees, followed by gasps around while Lexie shut her eyes.

Afraid to open them, she remained unmoving. If she will only open them, she would see the stunned faces of everyone, including Dom and Jason who immediately turn to look at her earrings. Even Eve and Arvin turn to her though the latter was not so surprised as the others.

Mariz forgot the pain in her cheeks as she too, turn to stare at Lexie together with everyone who seem to have become interested in her ears.

"I have noticed it earlier this evening, but I thought it was just a replica but my gut has been right" Madame Carusso added with a gentle smile.

"No one knows who bought the earrings. It remains a mystery until today. Only the wealthy could afford such masterpieces and I'm particularly curious right now" her eyes were fixed on Lexie together with all the guests who have gathered around.

Eerie silence ruled after everyone squinted their eyes to take a peek at what Madame Carusso and

Samantha Wright has been talking about.

"Not to mention the aquamarine bangles around Miss Montes's wrist. Together with the aquamarine earrings, a necklace, and a very elegant bangle were also auctioned that same day. Exactly what Miss Montes was wearing, except for the necklace. But surely, who owns the earrings and the bangle also owns the necklace"

she continues, causing another uproar from others.

"I noticed everything earlier but I was not sure about it. I don't know Miss Montes and the power she holds to validate my assumption, but I can't be wrong with my eyes. I've been handling precious jewels even before I married Stephen Carusso. I know what I'm looking at" she added while bewildered silence ruled the entire place.

"The aquamarine diamond-studded bangle roughly cost thirty-five million dollars" she smiles seeing Lexie's reaction. It confirms her suspicion, Alexzia Montes doesn't know the worth of what she was wearing. But she cannot blame her or anyone if they haven't recognized such precious gems. Only the meticulous eyes of jewelers and collectors could roughly validate the worth of a piece of jewelry by the mere sight of them.

Madame Carusso almost burst to laugh upon seeing the lady who had been grasping

her ears quickly switched to the wrist where the bangle was placed. She is miserably trying to hide the huge jewelry around her wrist, which was impossible.

If she was surprised by the price of the earrings she was wearing, she was equally stunned by the new knowledge of her bangle.

“If I’m correct, Miss Alexzia Montes is wearing a whooping ninety-five million dollars tonight with just her earrings and bangle. I don’t think she will be interested in fifty thousand dollar earrings to steal” with a glint of amusement, Madame Carusso turns to Mariz Segovia who pales while gaping at Lexie.

“You could have robbed yourself instead, Miss Montes. Why would you steal a cheap item when you could have more” Samantha exclaims with a raised brow. Triumph adorned her beautiful face.

With her gaping mouth, she faces Samantha who just smirks at her. She looks lost while everyone was waiting for her reaction in silence. All of them were also trying to discern the situation.

“Where did you get those, Lexie?” Jason was the one who asks first. It’s the same question everyone wanted to know but was too stunned to speak. A newbie as they call her is unbelievably wearing almost a hundred million dollar jewelry tonight and no one had even noticed.

“I didn’t steal these, I swear” defensively, she abruptly explained in a whisper. Somewhat afraid of how she could explain her possession of the two most expensive pieces of jewelry in the world. She could be jailed for having such unexplainable fortune.

She chooses the jewelry on a whim, thinking it would look great in her mint floral dress. Never did she expect it’s worth millions of dollars. All she just knew is that they are expensive since Lucien had bought them for her but it never occurs in her innocent mind that they cost a fortune.

The several pieces of jewelry she had were already in her belongings together with all the clothes

Lucien had bought her. He told her he would buy her different stuff whenever he was on a business trip for four years although they were not together. She was tremendously happy with his thoughtfulness and she is not the kind to ask for the price tag. As long as she likes them, she would wear them. Now, her mind is busy recalling all her stuff since she become aware of their prices. She had a whole collection of different stone jewelry, including the necklace Madame Carusso had mentioned, and thinking about its prices makes her dizzy.

She has somewhat accustomed to the lavish life of Wright but she is still not ready for the reality of how wealthy Lucien is. She was not aware she was wearing multi-million jewelry since Lucien never mentioned their value to her.

Despite the confusion everywhere, the media personnel did not stop taking footage and photos of the scene. All earnest interest was focused on Lexie as they took her photo with the sparkling earrings and bangle around her wrist.

“Who are you?” it was Eve. She looks bewildered

by the mystery surrounding Lexie.

With nothing to say, Lexie remains to look lost while staring back at her. She has been scorching her head with what she could tell them but she got none. Her mind went blank.

“Who are you, Miss Alexzia Montes?” one of the reporters curiously asks but like Eve, she has nothing to say.

All eyes were on her, waiting for her to say something. All the inquisitiveness and suspicious gazes are making her uncomfortable.

“Lexie...” Dom clasps her hand, intertwining them with his. Squeezing it to comfort her as he

would always do.

“My woman deserves all the fortune in the world. And she doesn’t need to steal them from anyone.

I could afford to buy her anything”

A chilling cold voice spoke, making everyone gape in the direction where CEO Lucien Wright was walking toward the woman who had been subjected to several skepticisms.

His two hands

were casually inside his pockets while he trails his penetrating gaze around.

Standing a foot away from Lexie, Lucien Wright faces the crowd. His face has the usual unremarkable expression but his emanating dark aura is quite deadly. O

“Alexzia Montes is my woman and she owns the jewelry she has been wearing. Do we have any problem with it?” Lucien asks at no one while his piercing gaze is enough warning.

The CEO’s Ten Million Dollar Wife by R.C.BRIE

Chapter 60

Chapter 60 The CEO’s Woman

As eerie silence rules, confusion and disbelief reflect everyone’s faces. The only people who are not surprised by the CEO’s sudden claim of Lexie are those who already knew, including Arvin and Dom.

Jason and Eve were gaping in pure surprise upon dawning on them the whole situation. The sweet but mysterious girl they knew is connected to the Wrights. And CEO Lucien Wright’s woman.

“Now, tell me. Does Miss Montes need this cheap earring here?” Lucien continues while taking a step toward Eve. And with his earnest gaze, he stare at the earring he picked from her trembling hand.

“You want this earring?” turning to Lexie, he asks while holding a piece to her.

“No! Of course not!” she was incredulous that she glares at him.

“Then, why is this in your purse?” he casually asks, returning it to Eve who stood frozen with the closeness of the CEO.

“I don’t know! I just left my purse on my dresser and I haven’t even noticed it’s in there”

she casually retorted.

"If you badly want this, I could buy one for you"

Lucien insisted.

"I don't like them and I'm not interested in them. I don't know why it's in my purse" she was riled

up, unaware her voice was raised.

If Lexie was used to being haughty with the scary CEO, no one was ready to witness such an act.

"I could buy you a thousand pairs of this" he persisted calmly.

"But I don't want them! I have so many earrings I haven't worn, why would I need more? More so steal?" she was riled and Lucien is getting to her nerves.

"Exactly, why would you steal if you have more than a hundred pairs at home. More expensive than those" Lucien shrugs while he faces Lexie.

"Never will I steal to have what I want. And I've been working hard for whatever I have right now" she mutters under her clenched jaw. Unconcerned of the disbelief of everyone as she glares at the most powerful man in the country.

"Unless it's a mental condition" Lucien sneers, unaffected by Lexie's outrage.

"I am not a kleptomaniac, Lucien! How dare you!" her outburst was so loud it startled everyone. Aside from her rough tone, the fact that she shouted at the CEO appalled everyone, even Arvin Deutche. But Lucien and Samantha chuckled instead of being triggered.

"You are not? Are you sure?" he continues to taunt her to her aghast. He is gauging her with such intensity, making the crowd nervous, but Lexie looks pissed instead of being afraid.

"I am not! For goodness sake, Lucien, I am no such thing! I have everything I need and I only have to say what I want and everything will be given to me. You give me everything even those I no longer need" exasperated, she ranted at the persistent man.

"I love to spoil you, that's why" he casually mutters.

"Then I have no reason to steal and I'm definitely not a Klepto" she raves with a glare.

Silence rules after the CEO becomes quiet and Lexie waited for another round of his ridicule. But he contented himself to just stare at her, which gave her an uneasy feeling.

Lucien looks calm yet dangerous.

"You heard, Miss Montes. She didn't steal anything and she has no reason to steal" with his grim and serious tone, he spoke without looking at anyone.

"I've been watching my woman being humiliated for being a thief...for stealing a fifty thousand dollar earrings. I will excuse you for your ignorance of her capability to possess all the things you all could see in her body. But I cannot forgive those who put her in this

predicament. No one deserves to be subjected to this unfairness” his voice is gritted while the clenching of muscles on his face is divulging his contained anger.

“I promised her not to intervene in her affairs but I can’t just quietly watch while you all accused her of the deed she didn’t do, despite her efforts to explain herself. I don’t tolerate this kind of dirty trick and I’m not the kind to easily forgive” he calmly stated.

“I don’t mind my woman to be treated ordinarily, anyway, she doesn’t want special treatment. It’s the main reason she doesn’t want to be associated with me. She doesn’t want so much attention on herself. But subjecting her to unfair judgment is another story” looking around every face, his eyes scanned the entire crowd.

“She is a strong woman and several times she had proven she doesn’t need my influence to succeed. She survived this kind of world without me by her side. She doesn’t need me or any Wright to be recognized for her craft. She made it on her own and I’m proud of her” calmly he walks around before stopping at the reporter who was earlier so

assertive of her humiliation toward Lexie.

“She is an employee, though I can give her, her own company. She chooses to start from the bottom to understand every step of the process of success” he spoke while staring at the woman

who tries to avoid his intense gaze.

“I allow her to tire herself from working, though she can just sit at home and be comfortable. She is my queen. All she needs is to ask and all will be given to her. She doesn’t have to wait for the chance to steal as you all been implying earlier” he seriously mutters. If he intends to intimidate everyone, he is succeeding. The woman together with those in front of him cowers from his mere sight.

“Not just because a person did not seem to fill your cup of tea, gave you the right to mistreat them” Levinia interjected as she approach the scene.

“I’m so disappointed... This should be a celebration for Silhouettes Designs. This event should be festive and I’m enjoying it. I just can’t understand why Miss Segovia has to ruin the mood” she stated while staring straight at Mariz Segovia who gulped nervously. Levinia Wright’s gaze is devoid of the gentleness she would always have, making not only Mariz but all the models anxious about her presence.

Levinia and Samantha were enjoying their intimidation of the group of models who bullied

Lexie when someone interrupted the silence.

“Boss...”

Ben interrupted with an iPad in his hand. He walks to the CEO, sporting a grim expression.

“The footage inside the dressing room” he announced while handing Lucien the iPad. Silently, Lucien watches the footage with a grim expression. The deadly aura he is emitting is choking the air out of the models’ lungs. Out of nervousness, they tried to leave but Wright

security was already behind, trapping them.

“Speak” Lucien, after watching, turns to the model with his calm yet dangerous look.

"I'm so sorry, I was the one who put my earrings in Miss Segovia's purse after she left. I was furious when Miss Eve and President Deutche sided with her when I lost my ring the previous day" frightened by the unspoken warning coming from the CEO and the man beside him, Mariz spoke despite her quivering voice.

Lucien waited for her to continue together with Ben but the model pauses long while nervously gulping several times.

"When we saw she got a standing ovation from the audience, especially from Mr. Arman Varce and Madame Sandra Corsino, I got furious. I've been in the modeling industry for a decade but never did I get a standing ovation. I was envious and frustrated. I'm not thinking straight when I plan to stage Miss Montes of stealing my earrings" Mariz continues with tears already brimming her eyes.

"I'm sorry for what I did to Miss Montes. Please forgive me, modeling has been my dream" tearfully, she begged at the grim-looking CEO. She was hopeless. The Wright family could destroy her career in a snap of their fingers and she fears it.

"You could have thought of that before doing what you did. You're just unfortunate, Zia is my woman. But what if she is not? What if she is just an ordinary girl who is struggling to achieve her dream just like you? You would step on her just to make yourself above others. You could freely bully anyone whom you thought is below you. I don't agree with such behavior, Miss Segovia" Lucien sneers, unaffected by the tears in the model's eyes.

Without sparing a second look at the model, he turns away and faces the group of reporters.

"No news about this incident. I forbid any news portal to divulge whatever happens at this time. Miss Alexzia Montes' name will not be mentioned in your news other than her exemplary performance at the earlier fashion show. I value my family's privacy, especially the privacy of

Miss Montes. Her name will not be dragged in any news, even with my name" he sternly announces to the reporters who are all attentively staring at him.

Everyone had acknowledged a long time ago that CEO Lucien Wright's words are like law. Whoever defy him would face his wrath. He may not openly challenge anyone who disregards his warning but he will make sure his retribution will be felt.

"The stealing incident did not happen tonight. This whole drama is nonexistent. I will forget this all happened but don't expect me to forget the people involved. I will be dealing with all of you accordingly" he added with a dangerous warning before turning away.

Levinia and Samantha Wright take a last look at the models before turning away, back to where they have been. While Lucien raised his hand to Lexie who instantly grab him after Dom let her go.

"Thank you, Dominic" Lucien mumbles before gently pulling Zia with him.

Amid the boring eyes of everyone, Lucien with her arm wrapped around Lexie's waist walks calmly in the middle of the path they gave them.

"So, Lexie is with CEO Lucien Wright?" Jason whispers to Dom but those who are nearby turned toward him upon hearing him ask. Especially Eve who is so curious too.

"Yes," Dom readily replies.

“Since when?” Eve was the one who asks.

“Since four years ago...” Dom turns to the woman and smiles.

Hearing Dom, Arvin turns to stare at him. Mulling at the information he got from Lexie’s best friend, he heaves a sigh. So it was that long they were together. Indeed he has no chance with Lexie.

Eyes followed the four figures before several grim-looking security rounded, protecting the family as they exit the venue.