

# Love Amidst the Shadow

## Chapter 7

Instinctively, I hurriedly turned around and prepared to leave. However, Johnny, who had been pouring wine for Emil with his head lowered, looked at me. Without giving me a moment to think, he said in a dissatisfied voice, "Didn't I ask your manager to call four to five girls over? Why did you come alone? What's going on? Do you like to be passed around?" In an instant, my face flushed red. How could I not understand what his words meant? At that point, I had already forgotten my original purpose and bowed profusely whilst apologizing, getting ready to leave. However, Johnny mistook me for a hostess and grabbed me, saying, "Forget it, you can have a few drinks with President Penrose for now. I'll ask your manager to get us more girls." With that, he dragged me and pushed me to Emil's side. At that moment, I was completely befuddled. As soon as I sat down, I met eyes with Emil's slightly deep gaze. In a moment of panic, I blurted out, "I'm here for business!" He looked at me emotionlessly, his thin lips lifting slightly. "Do you need money?" My heart skipped a beat, before I felt a strange pang of pain in my chest. Did he think that I was selling myself too? "Yeah!" I spoke, before continuing, "I'm not here to make money, but I have something to take care of!" As I said that, I wasn't sure if I was trying to convince him or myself. He raised his eyebrows, as if he didn't care what I was here for. Judging from the current situation, I was afraid that Johnny wouldn't give me a chance to talk to him at all. Hence, I simply got up and prepared to leave. However, before I could stand up, the manager of the nightclub led a group of scantily clad women inside with a smile plastered on his face. The women stood enchantingly by the table, as though they were dishes awaiting to be tasted by the guests. "Sirs, I'm here with the people you requested. These girls are all Halanox's finest. Feel free to take your pick and enjoy yourselves to the fullest." The manager's smile was stretched so wide that he was almost grinning from ear to ear. Puzzled, Johnny cast a sideway glance at me, then looked at the manager and asked, "Why did you only send the girls over now?" The manager smiled embarrassedly and explained, "I apologize for keeping you waiting. I will send you two more bottles of good wine in a while. I will definitely ensure that you enjoy yourselves." Johnny squinted at me for a moment before he turned to Emil with a huge smile, asking, "President Penrose, is there anyone that caught your eye?" Without even looking up, Emil replied indifferently, "No." Seeing that he was not interested, the other men casually called one of the women to sit next to them, and then sent the manager away. As the room filled with music, Johnny's gaze fell on me again before he looked at Emil who was drinking impassively and completely ignoring me. He narrowed his eyes at me, asking, "Did you enter the wrong room, sweetheart?" I had originally planned to leave, but I suddenly changed my mind again and quickly looked at Johnny, saying, "Hello, Mr. Meyer. I am Vivian Lovelace, Stephen Lovelace's daughter. I came here to speak with you. I'm begging you, can you please not sue my father? My brother is still in the hospital, waiting for the money in order to treat his illness. That day, he accidentally hurt someone because he was too anxious." Hearing my words, Johnny's expression changed, revealing a hint of panic, and he

pushed me to the ground violently. He said irritably, "What kind of nonsense is this? Miss, if you want to scam someone, you should go somewhere else. Don't make things difficult here." Sensing the commotion, the other men looked over as well. One of them, a handsome and gentle man, looked at Johnny and questioned, "What's wrong?" Johnny seemed extremely panicked. He looked at the man and said, "President Turing, you should just relax and enjoy yourself. It's obvious that this woman is a scammer. I'll take care of her." *President Turing?*