

Pampered 231

Chapter 231

The door of the black Porsche Cayenne opened and Samuel got out of the car. At that moment, the onlookers couldn't help but gasp in disbelief.

They thought the mysterious guest would be a fifty something old man with a huge beer belly, whose presence would be accompanied by a few young beauties.

Little did they expect him to be such a tall, fine man!

He was even more handsome than the mixed-blooded models prancing onstage. What was more, he exuded a charisma far more superior than models who only had looks. Samuel was like an honorable and stern king, who could undoubtedly earn his people's respect and submission.

"What the actual f*uck?" Tiffany widened her eyes in shock, "Is this the mysterious guest they're all talking about? Oh my god! He's so rich and handsome! What a gem!"

While Tiffany was falling head over heels Samuel, she looked at Tina and realized that Tina's complexion had turned unusually pale. "Miss Linda, what's wrong? Are you okay..?" Tiffany waved her hand in front of Tina's face.

Right then, Tina returned to her senses. The moment she laid eyes on Samuel, her legs turned weak and her blood ran stale. Why was that man attending the banquet? She needed to escape now, or her life would be in danger! Without giving any further explanation to Tiffany, Tina picked up the hem of her dress and fled the scene.

Tiffany was shocked.

"Miss Linda? Miss Linda! What's wrong with you?" It was probably because of Tiffany's loud voice that Samuel turned to look in her direction.

By then, Tina had run far off the venue. However, her thin figure caught Samuel's attention. Something sparked his mind. Why did this woman look so familiar?

Samuel narrowed his eyes.

He wanted to chase after her. Before he could do it, however, Cindy's sickly sweet voice spoke behind him. "Samuel, my gown's really heavy and I can't get up by myself. Can you hold my hand while I stand up?" Samuel came back to his senses and turned to look at Cindy. She put her hand out and waited for his reply with an embarrassed expression.

However, he rejected her coldly and snapped, "If you can't even stand up by yourself, then you shouldn't have attended today's banquet. I'll have someone send you back home." Cindy, who was flushed red, turned as white as a sheet.

"I don't mean that, Samuel! I know you're still angry with what happened a few years ago, but

Cindy attempted to explain, but her words fell on deaf ears as Samuel turned to leave. She dug her fingers into the soft pads of her palms and clenched her gown in displeasure. Samuel had lost all trust in her. Did that mean she could never win his heart ever again?

No! This wasn't the end! She could still take advantage of her prodigal son!

The reason Samuel allowed her to stay by his side was because Keith ran away from home. That meant Samuel still cared for his own son.

If she used Keith properly, she could definitely change Samuel's mind and earn his favor.

With that thought in mind, Cindy regained her composure and quickly caught up to Samuel. The rest of the guests were all curious about Cindy's identity. "Mr. Langford, who is this lady?" Samuel held a glass of wine and didn't say anything as he gazed afar, seemingly preoccupied with his thoughts. Cindy approached the guests and said proudly, "I am Samuel's wife. We've been married for 5 years. We're even blessed with a child!"

Samuel remained silent. To Cindy, that meant he had accepted her claims!

Chapter 232

Samuel's silence meant Cindy still had a chance to win him over. Elated, Cindy continued the conversation with the honorable guests at the banquet. Suddenly, Samuel said curtly, "I'm heading out to clear my head." Without waiting, he headed in the direction of that woman who had left in a hurry just now. Cindy wouldn't dare to trail from behind. Thus, she continued talking to the guests about the current news in high society. In the meantime, Tina had run off to the hotel's backyard.

Only when she realized she had left the banquet and out of Samuel's sight did she stop running

Ring... Ring... Her phone rang. Tina looked at the screen and realized that it was a call from Tiffany. Tiffany sounded worried. "Miss Linda, what's going on with you?"

"I'm so sorry. I had a terrible stomachache just now, so I couldn't tell you what was going on," Tina said apologetically.

"Oh, alright then. That's completely understandable." Tiffany didn't press on as she changed into another topic. "Anyway, did you see that man just now? I heard his name is Samuel Langford, and he's from Freesia. He's a CEO whose net worth is around billions of dollars!"

"He's so fricking handsome! It's a shame he's already married. I saw him with his wife just now. I guess I don't stand a chance anymore. How disappointing!" Upon hearing Tiffany's words, Tina couldn't help but tighten her grip on her gown.

Samuel's wife was none other than Cindy Young! The thought of the couple sent frightened shivers down her spine. Right now, her only wish was to live a comfortable life with her child. If those two found out that she was still alive, everything she had built so far would shatter into pieces! "Hello? Miss Linda, are you listening to me?" Tiffany asked. "Yes, I'm listening."

"When are you heading back to the banquet? The socialites heard that your design made it to the renowned fashion magazine in Paris! Right now, they all want to talk to you about their ideas with you. They're all potential customers!"

But Tina would never dare to return. She gave another excuse, "I'm sorry, I don't think I can go back. I just realized that I had my period, and it stained my gown." "Oh crap!" Tiffany said. "Do you want me to help you? I'll have the hotel staff send over some

essentials!" Tina rejected her offer instantly. "It's alright. I plan to leave by the back door." Tiffany reminded Tina kindly, "Take care of yourself, okay? Our livelihood depends on you!" Tina felt warm inside. Even though Tiffany was a few years younger than her, the former still tried to look out for her whenever possible.

Throughout Tina's five years working in the company, her colleagues had been working hard to achieve the same goal. Everyone looked after one another like how a family would.

That was why Tina would never abandon her hard-earned job, if it wasn't for extreme circumstances.

After hanging up the phone, Tina was prepared to leave immediately. But just as she made a move, she spotted a tall figure nearby. It was Samuel Langford!

'Why is he here? Has he found out about my identity?' Tina thought in horror. Her mind instantly went blank as she took to her heels. All of a sudden, her heels broke and she let out a gasp. Terrified, she covered her mouth and muffled her voice. However, the sound of someone stepping on the twigs echoed from the bushes of the backyard, which caught Samuel's attention

Under the man's eagle-like intuition, there was no escape for Tina. She shivered in the corner of the bushes as she watched Samuel slowly approaching her.

Hopelessness filled her, and she closed her eyes in despair. There was no escape!

Chapter 233

Where would Kara go if Tina disappeared? If Frederick knew about what happened to her, would he take care of Kara for her?

Right then, someone called out to Samuel in a coy and flirtatious tone, "Samuel!"

Samuel turned and frowned. When he spoke, his voice reflected intense displeasure.

"Why are you here?"

Cindy looked sad and wronged as she wailed, "Samuel, I'm just worried about you! It's already late at night, and it's freezing out here." Noticing that Samuel looked angry, Cindy hurriedly explained further, "Besides, I can't stay here any longer. I'm really worried about Keith. He's been missing for days, and we still

couldn't find him. What if something bad happened to him? As a mother, I can't breathe when I think about this."

While she spoke, sorrowful tears streamed down her face.

Samuel frowned. It didn't seem like Cindy was faking it. After all, Keith was her biological son. As a mother, it was only natural for her to worry about his safety.

“Keith’s a smart boy. I’m sure he knows how to take care of himself. Besides, the reason I brought you here is to let him know that you’ve returned to my side. I’m sure he’ll show himself up sooner or later.” “Really?” Cindy wiped off her tears and said excitedly, “Then, let’s return to the banquet. Let’s walk around together so that Keith will notice us and come back as soon as possible.”

Samuel didn’t reply. Instead, his gaze swept around the place.

There was nobody in the backyard.

Perhaps, he had seen it wrongly.

“Samuel, what are you looking for?” Cindy asked curiously.

“It’s nothing,” Samuel looked at the bushes one last time and said, “Let’s go.”

“Alright.” Cindy smiled brightly as she attempted to wrap her arm around Samuel’s.

However, Samuel walked past her and rejected her gesture coldly.

Cindy gritted her teeth and thought angrily, ‘It’s alright! As long as I’m the only woman around him, I still have a chance to win his heart.’

After they left, Tina shifted uncomfortably in the bush. Her head popped out from the leaves.

She smiled, relieved. “That’s a close call!”

Her gown was destroyed by the twigs and branches around her, and she had sprained her knee from tripping on her heels just now. On top of that, her legs had grown numb from squatting

in the bushes for so long. At this moment, she looked unkempt and haggard. Worried that the two villains would return, she didn’t think twice before limping her way toward the back door.

Tina returned to her apartment. When she entered the door, relief engulfed her as she slumped to the ground. “Tina, you’re back!” Frederick’s voice rang from inside.

Since Tina had to attend the fashion banquet tonight, Frederick was here to take care of Kara and Keith

He heard the door clicking shut and walked toward the living room. The moment he saw Tina’s appearance, he became concerned. “Tina... What happened to you?” he asked, worried. Tina was still shivering at the thought of what just happened. “Frederick, I saw him at the banquet.” The only person who could frighten Tina like that was Samuel Langford. “What?” Frederick’s complexion changed instantly. “Did he see you?”

Tina bit her lip and shook her head. “No, he didn’t! If he did, I wouldn’t have come back alive!”

“That’s good!” Frederick heaved a sigh of relief. Then, he said worriedly, “Why don’t we change our schedule? I’ll send Kara and Keith to school. As long as you don’t show yourself to the public, I don’t think he will spot you.” Tina nodded, agreeing “We’re left with no other choice.” Since Tina was back, Frederick didn’t stay any longer and left the house.

Only after Tina took off her torn gown did she feel the stabbing pain coming from her knee. She took one look at her knee. It had already turned red and puffy. After bandaging up the wounded area, Tina slept while enduring the pain. However, she was awoken by a nightmare in the middle of the night.

In her dream, Samuel had dispatched a team of hitmen to get rid of her when he realized that she was still alive. He wouldn't even let her five-year-old daughter off the hook

The nightmare was too realistic. What made it more terrifying was the fact that Samuel was capable of doing such a heinous thing, given his cruel and inhumane nature.

Though Tina was terrified, she still needed sleep no matter how hard it was. She twisted and turned on the bed, but to no avail.

"Mommy, you look really tired today." On the dining table, Kara saw Tina's dark eye circles. She said curiously, "You look like a panda!"

"I couldn't sleep yesterday because of a bad dream." Tina tried to get her spirits up and smiled at her. "Uncle Frederick will take you kids to the kindergarten these days, okay?" "Okay!" There wasn't any objection from Kara's side. Kara thought of Keith and asked worriedly, "Keith hasn't been talking to me these few days. I'm very worried about him." Tina heaved out a sigh when she thought about that pitiful little boy. "He'll be okay. Everything will be okay!"

When Tina was prepared to leave, she thought about her current circumstances and decided to put on a disguise. Only then did she leave for the office.

Her coworkers jumped in shock when they saw her entering the door.

"Who are you? Don't tell me you're Miss Linda!"

"Miss Linda, why are you dressed like that?"

Tina was covered from head to toe, with the addition of a huge pair of sunglasses covering half her face. Her outfit was also very loose. She looked like a heavily pregnant woman.

Everyone was dumbfounded.

"What on earth happened?"

Tina answered awkwardly, "I... Umm..."

She didn't know how to explain herself.

Tiffany noticed that Tina was in a tight spot and quickly explained in her stead.

"There's nothing wrong with Miss Linda. She left early yesterday because she wasn't feeling

well. The reason she's dressed like that is because she's still feeling unwell. Yesterday's attire exposed her body too much, and she was freezing at the banquet." "What's going on here?" More and more onlookers were growing curious. Soon, everyone knew that Tina was having her period. Not only was she forced to leave the banquet because of it, but she was also forced to wear comfortable clothes to work.

Tina was amused and speechless at the same time. However, she couldn't think of any other explanation.

Her coworkers didn't find anything wrong with Tina and shifted the topic to yesterday's gossip. "That guest who showed up at the banquet yesterday was very handsome! It's a shame he's already a married man."

"His wife looks so pretty too. They really do look like the perfect match," her coworkers said with jealousy.

Tina didn't want to listen to them anymore, and she fastened her pace to leave. Right at this moment, someone reminded her. "Didn't Mrs. Langford say that she'd come to visit us today? She was very interested in working with us when she heard that Miss Linda's design got on the fashion magazine's cover

page."

"Maybe she said that out of politeness. Who knows if she'll actually come? I love rich people, though. They're willing to spend money on everything they lay their eyes on!"

"Hahaha! You're right!"

Chapter 235

Preoccupied with her thoughts, Tina left in a hurry. She didn't get to hear her coworkers gossiping about Mrs. Langford.

After reaching her work station, she heaved in a deep breath and tried to focus on her tasks.

Only when she was immersed in work could she find peace in life.

Soon, evening came.

A black Rolls-Royce stopped in front of the company entrance. Tina's coworkers shouted in excitement, "She's here! She's here!" "Oh my god! Mrs. Langford's actually here!" Cindy got off the car gradually in her greatest finery. She looked exactly like a rich socialite. "Mrs. Langford, you look really pretty today!"

"You're even more beautiful than yesterday! You look exactly like a model!"

Upon hearing the compliments, Cindy's heart pounded in excitement.

However, something was still on her mind.

The only reason Cindy was released from her house arrest was because of Keith's deep desire to see his mother.

However, she couldn't just rely on that boy. She still needed to win Samuel's favor, no matter the cost.

Samuel's appearance last night attracted a lot of women's attention.

Even though everyone knew that Cindy was his wife, it didn't stop them from staring lustfully at Samuel

If Samuel was snatched away by another sl*t, her position as Mrs. Langford in the household would be in jeopardy

She would never allow that to happen!

During the banquet, she heard that Linda was a world-renowned fashion designer. Almost all the popular female celebrities had worn her designs before

So, Cindy decided to collaborate with Linda.

Cindy entered the office under a shower of praises and took a seat in the guestroom.

She looked around and asked in a condescending tone, "Where's Linda? Why isn't she here to greet me when she's already heard that I'm here?"

"Uh... Miss Linda is still working on her designs. She'll be out in a minute."

"What do you mean by that!?"

Cindy changed her demeanor instantly. She launched a threat without hesitation.

"Don't you know my husband's status? He's friends with the founder of the fashion magazine that you're featured on! How dare a mere fashion designer let me wait! One word from me, and her reputation will go down the hill!"

The moment Cindy said that, Tina's colleagues turned as white as a sheet. They initially assumed Mrs. Langford to be gentle and polite, just as her appearance suggested. Little did they know she would turn out to be a rude customer! Someone as powerful as Samuel wouldn't find trouble with a mere fashion designer.

However, their future would be in shambles if Cindy were to smear their name!

"I'll go and ask for her now." "Miss Linda! We have a super rude customer who wants to see you now!"

When Tina heard her colleague's desperate tone, she stopped working immediately.

"Alright, I'll go and see her now." "Miss Linda, I'm really sorry," Tiffany whispered in a low voice. "It's alright. You just have to get used to it." Tina wasn't surprised in the slightest. She continued calmly, "Rich people are always rude." In addition to her working experience in Freesia, she had already gotten used to the rotten attitude of high society after being in Paris for the past five years. Tina led Tiffany into the guest room. The moment Tina pushed the door, she greeted the guest before she even saw the guests' face clearly. "I apologize for making you wait..." Tina looked up as she spoke, and was at once petrified. She didn't expect to see that vile woman again. It was Cindy Young!

Chapter 236

Cindy, on the other hand, couldn't recognize Tina the slightest.

The moment Cindy saw the woman in front of her, she frowned and let out a scathing comment.

"Oh my god! Are you actually Linda?" "Your outfit is so ugly! You don't look like a competent fashion designer at all!"

Tina was still wearing her disguise, which consisted of a loose dress and a huge pair of sunglasses. At one glance, she seemed like a woman with no fashion sense whatsoever.

However, Tina tuned out Cindy's criticisms with ease.

She was filled with shock. She couldn't believe Cindy Young was sitting in front of her right now.

What happened five years ago flooded her mind instantly.

This vile woman right here had always framed her for something she never did.

In the end, Cindy had convinced Samuel to be her accomplice in her acts of cruelty. Together, they plotted to murder Tina along with her newborn daughter by drowning them in the sea. "What are you daydreaming about?" Cindy snapped in displeasure. "Is this how you greet your guests? Take off your sunglasses now!" She approached Tina haughtily, about to snatch the sunglasses away from Tina's face.

The next moment, a shrill scream reverberated in the air. "Ouch!"

Subconsciously, Tina had grabbed Cindy's hand and twisted it out of reflex. Had Tina exerted just a bit more force, she would've broken Cindy's wrist. Tina let go of Cindy's hand instantly. 'I can't hurt her! If I do that, she'll definitely tell Samuel about it. I can't let myself get exposed!' Tina thought, alarmed. "You scoundrels! How dare you treat your customer with such disrespect!" Cindy screamed at the top of her lungs. She didn't expect Linda to fight back. Tiffany approached Cindy and attempted to explain, "We're really sorry! Miss Linda isn't in a good shape today. Plus, she learned martial arts before. Out of instinct, she accidentally..." Before Tiffany could finish speaking, Cindy gave the former a painful slap to the face. Tiffany was caught unawares as a glaring red mark appeared on one side of her cheek. The slap was so awful, blood streamed down the corner of Tiffany's mouth. "I don't want to hear your useless explanation! I'll make sure my husband is aware of what happened today. You will pay for this!"

Tina supported Tiffany, who was about to fall down. Overwhelmed with fury, Tina was

tempted to punch Cindy's face. However, Tina resisted the urge. She knew better than that. Right now, Tina could never let Cindy leave this place. "Wait!" Tina called out to Cindy. "What more do you still want?" Cindy sneered as she turned to glare at Linda. "Don't ever think that I'll accept your half-assed apology!" "Mrs. Langford, please listen to me!" Tina clenched her fists and heaved in a deep breath. Then, she continued, "We all know that your husband is a remarkable man. That being said, I don't think we should trouble him with something as trivial as this." Cindy seemed hesitant when she heard Linda's words.

Tina added, "I shouldn't have harmed you just now. I offer you my sincerest apology. As compensation, we'll do whatever you want."

"I came here with the idea of collaborating with you. Now that I've seen the way you dress, I don't think I can trust you in designing my clothes." "Our designs can't possibly suit someone with such prestigious social standing as you!" Then, Tina added, "However, our product did manage to get onto the cover page of a renowned fashion design magazine. That means our product exhibits a certain amount of quality, right?" Tina took a step back to praise Cindy, which left the latter bathing in a sense of superiority. However, Cindy wouldn't let Tina off the hook that easily. She rolled her eyes and ordered

harshly, "Fine. You're willing to do anything, right? Take off your sunglasses right now and kneel on the ground as an apology!"

Chapter 237

Tina clenched her fists, her hands sweating. If she took off her glasses and revealed her face, she would be done for! "It's not that I'm trying to anger you. My face is a little bit deformed, and you might be shocked when you see me." "I don't care, just take off those sunglasses! Don't you dare defy me!" Cindy snorted scornfully. "Let's see how ugly you are!"

Tina clenched her teeth.

She didn't expect things to turn out like this.

When Tina was in a tight spot, Cindy's phone rang all of a sudden.

At first, Cindy wouldn't budge until she saw Linda's face. However, her complexion changed the moment she saw the phone screen. "Hello?" Cindy, who sounded arrogant and obnoxious before, changed her tone into that of a gentle and loving wife. "Samuel!"

The person on the other end of the phone was none other than Samuel Langford.

"What? You want to come here?" Cindy sounded extremely excited. "That's great!" After exchanging a few flirtatious lines, she forwarded the address of the office to him. Soon after, she hung up the phone and stopped pressing on the matter.

"You're lucky my husband is coming to see me. Get me a few pretty dresses now, and be quick about it! If you can make my man praise my outfit of the day, I'll make sure to reward you!" Then, Cindy turned to leave.

Cindy couldn't see Tina's facial expression right now because Tina was still wearing her glasses.

Tina's face had turned as white as a sheet pale the moment she heard that Samuel was visiting.

Tiffany, who was still beside her, asked in a worried tone, "Miss Linda, are you okay?"

Only then did Tina come back to her senses. She looked at Tiffany's red and swollen cheek, and said regretfully, "I should be asking you that question instead! You should head to the hospital to get your face checked. I'll handle this."

"I can't let you deal with that woman alone! She's obviously going to make things very difficult for you!"

"It's alright. I can handle this."

Though Tina's palms were sweating from anxiety, she knew there was no escape from this crisis. She could only think of a way to resolve it.

"That woman's here for me. Besides, she still has to maintain her false image in front of her husband later. I'm sure she won't make her intentions too obvious."

Tiffany felt that what Linda said made sense. After all, Cindy did sound like an entirely different person during the phone call. "If you say so, Miss Linda. I'll take my leave for now..." Tina smiled. "Can you call my family and tell them that I won't be home tonight? Just tell them I'm busy with work today."

If she couldn't save herself today, she could at least buy some time for Frederick to leave with Kara.

"Sure, I'll do it later." Tiffany nodded. Tina heaved in a deep breath and walked outside. It was as if she was about to face a death sentence.

Cindy could care less about Tina now. Elated, the thought of winning Samuel's heart left her as giddy as a child. "I want to wear that sexy dress which accentuates my back! The more it shows my figure, the better!"

"No, no, I shouldn't strike as too sexy to Samuel. What if Samuel doesn't like it?" "Should I wear this gown instead? But Samuel's already used to seeing me in gowns!" While everyone was busy picking out dresses for Cindy, Cindy kept rejecting their ideas. Finally, Tina chose a long red dress and said, "This one will look perfect on you." "The color is too bright! I don't think Samuel will like this!"

Cindy rejected her suggestion again. Suddenly, the sound of the car engine echoed from outside the studio. Samuel was here. Nervous, Cindy didn't have much time to think and grabbed the red dress from Tina. "I'll just wear this for now!" She entered the fitting room in a hurry. Soon after, Samuel appeared outside the door.

Chapter 238

When Samuel appeared, Tina lowered her head to make herself less noticeable.

His chilling gaze swept across the crowd. For some reason, his eyes fell on Tina for a while.

Tina's heart was racing. Was her identity about to be exposed?

Soon, Cindy burst out of the fitting room.

"Samuel, you're here! Take a look at my outfit! Do I look pretty?" Cindy asked with a flirtatious tone. Only then did Samuel shift his gaze away from Tina.

Oddly enough, the old-fashioned and weird-looking woman seemed familiar to him.

He looked at Cindy, who was wearing a red gown. Her wearing such bright colors was unusual, as she always carved an innocent and gentle image for herself.

Samuel frowned. "This dress, it looks..."

The design of the dress was simple yet intricate. It was fascinating how it enhanced Cindy's figure with such a simple design. Suddenly, another woman flashed across his mind.

Tina would look better in that. When Cindy noticed that Samuel seemed annoyed, she panicked. "You don't like the dress, Samuel? I'll change right now!"

Cindy glared at Tina, who was standing mutely in the corner.

She did it on purpose! She wants Samuel to think that I like sexy dresses so I can show my body off to other men!’

“Just wait! I’ll make sure her life is a living hell!’ Cindy thought. Before Cindy could turn to leave, Samuel stopped her. “Wait. The dress looks nice on you.” “Really?” Cindy heaved a sigh of relief. “I’m happy that you like it!” Looking at her outfit, Samuel asked, “Who’s the designer of this dress?”

Tina’s heart stopped at that moment. Her coworkers said in unison, “Miss Linda.”

Then, they pointed at Tina.

Samuel’s terrifying gaze fell on Tina once more.

“Linda? I’ve heard of that name.”

“Miss Linda’s work has been featured on the cover page in the fashion magazine in Paris!”

For some reason, Samuel had the urge to remove this woman’s glasses. However, he held back

as he knew that would be inappropriate. “Really? Why are you dressing like that if you’re a renowned fashion designer?” “Um...” Her coworkers didn’t know what to say. Tina knew that she had to explain herself now. She didn’t have a good night’s sleep in the first place, and her voice was hoarse. She took advantage of that and lowered her voice even further, “I’ve been feeling unwell lately. I have an allergic reaction to my face, so it’s best I don’t show myself to the customers.” Then, she lowered her head and coughed.

“Miss Linda is a workaholic. If it isn’t because she has a daughter at home to take care of, she would’ve slept in the studio every day.”

The rest of her colleagues tried to patch up the lie.

When Samuel heard their explanations, he erased his suspicions. She has a daughter? Looks like she’s already a married woman.” “Samuel, didn’t you say that you want me to accompany you to attend a banquet? When shall we leave?” Cindy asked excitedly. Samuel said coldly, “Let’s go.” He had no choice but to ask Cindy to come with him. It was a requirement to bring a partner to attend the banquet. Although he was irked by the idea of bringing Cindy to attend official events, she was still his official wife. It wouldn’t look good if he brought just any woman with him. Samuel left, with Cindy trailing eagerly from behind. Tina finally heaved a sigh of relief. “Oh, right!” Cindy recalled something and turned around immediately.

Chapter 239

Tina’s relief was stopped short and her anxiety reared its ugly head once more. “Is there anything you still need, Mrs. Langford?” Cindy sized up Linda. Although Cindy hated the way Linda portrayed herself, the latter still did a great job in choosing the red dress for her. Linda’s eye for good clothes even won Samuel over, who was often a critic of everything. Besides, Cindy also heard that Linda had a daughter. Even if Cindy kept Linda by her side, Samuel would never fall for someone who had already given birth.

Thus, Cindy came to a decision.

"I take back my words earlier. Your designs aren't too bad. From now on, you'll become my personal fashion designer. Don't design clothes for anyone aside from me!"

"What?" Tina was shocked. She stuttered, "But, I..."

"I don't want to hear any excuses!"

Then, Cindy turned to leave in a hurry.

Tina stood rooted to the ground. Even after they left, she remained frozen on the spot. However, her colleagues exploded in excitement. "Oh my god, this is such great news! Miss Linda, your designs are so good that it even piques Mr. Langford's interest!" "Mrs. Langford even wants you to be her personal fashion designer! You're such a lucky woman!"

"She's right! Miss Linda, we have to celebrate the occasion. Let's head out for a toast!" Tina's colleagues complimented her, apparently still oblivious of Tina's predicament.

Today, she had waded her way through this obstacle using her strange fashion sense as an excuse. However, she didn't expect Cindy to appoint her as a personal fashion designer! What should she do?

Would she be living in fear everyday until they decided to leave Paris and go back to Freesia?

Exhausted, Tina said weakly, "I'm not feeling well. I'll head back to rest."

Her colleagues wouldn't dare to stop her from leaving.

Tired, Tina walked outside the studio.

She heaved out a sigh, about to call Frederick to tell him that she was okay. "Hello, Tina?" Frederick sounded really anxious, "Your colleague called me just now. Are you okay?"

"I'm fine!" Tina laughed bitterly. "I managed to escape. Guess I'm in luck today!" Right now, she had no choice but to appreciate the good things that happened to her while being embroiled in adversity.

Tina soon returned home.

Frederick had already sent Kara back. When the little girl saw her mother's appearance, she jumped in shock "Mommy, what happened to you?"

"I went to kill monsters," Tina explained with a sigh.

Kara was a bright child. She interrogated her mother immediately, "Monsters? What kind of monsters? I know! You're talking about that bad guy we met last time right?" Tina was stunned and helpless at the same time. 'That bad guy? Silly child, he's your father!' Tina thought.

However, Tina couldn't say that out loud. Instead, she replied, "You're right, my smart girl." Fuming with anger, Kara brandished her tiny fists and yelled, "How dare he bully my mommy! I'll fight him!"

Tina was amused by her daughter's reaction. She went to pinch Kara's plump cheeks. "You silly child! He's not even here now." Tina did some chores around the house and put Kara to head to bed. When Tina left for her room, Kara opened her eyes.

Quietly, she opened the door of Keith's room and called out to him, "Keith!"

Keith, who was still typing on the keyboard, slammed his laptop shut when he saw Kara. He frowned.

"What do you want?"

"You don't have to pretend to be stupid. I know you're a genius," Kara continued with a stern expression, "I want you to help me search for a man who made my mummy sad!"

Chapter 240

Keith didn't expect Kara, who seemed innocent and gullible, to notice his unique traits.

"How do you know?" he asked as he frowned. "It's so obvious! I can see it with my eyes!" Kara pointed at her own eyes and added angrily, "I am not stupid, okay?" Keith was speechless.

Then, he asked for further details, "Do you know the man's name? What is he working as?" Keith's string of questions left Kara dumbfounded. "Umm..."

"You stupid girl! If you don't provide me with the basic information, how am I supposed to find that man for you?"

At first, Keith thought that Kara was more than she seemed. In the end, she was just a clueless five-year-old

Kara was infuriated by Keith's ruthlessness. She clenched her fists and announced, "If you don't want to help me, I'll find out about him myself!" Fuming, she bolted out Keith's room and went back to her own.

Keith didn't think too much of what Kara said. He simply thought that she was just throwing a fit. So, he turned to his screen and scanned through some information.

He was looking at some photos published by some of the media outlets.

They were from a banquet attended by many honorable guests from high society. The photo that attracted his attention was one with two people in it. They were Samuel Langford and Cindy Young. If Samuel was willing to bring Cindy to a public event, that meant he had recognized her status as his wife.

In other words, Cindy was no longer under house arrest.

Supposedly, Keith should feel happy and eager to return home.

But Cindy's face, contorted with hatred, was firmly etched in Keith's mind.

It seemed Cindy cared more about Samuel than her own son. If Keith could choose, he wouldn't abandon the life he had now in this small apartment, where he was constantly showered with love and affection. Just the thought about going back to his house made him feel neglected and lonely. For the first time in Keith's life, he was conflicted to make a decision. The next morning before the sun came up, Tina got up and did her makeup.

However, she wasn't making herself look pretty. "Mummy, what happened to your face? Why is it so red?" Kara rubbed her sleepy eyes as she walked out of her room. When she saw Tina's face, she was so

shocked that she snapped wide awake. Keith had also just got up from bed. He grimaced and contributed a ruthless comment. "Your face looks like a monkey's butt!"

The children's unfiltered criticisms made Tina feel awkward.

"I have an allergic reaction. It's not like I can do anything about it, alright?"

Tina was at a loss. She didn't know what else she could do to ensure her face remained unrecognizable. To protect her identity and her family's safety, she had no choice but to put on a deformed appearance. After putting on a pair of glasses and a face mask, she drove the children to the kindergarten and left straight for work. While she waited anxiously for Cindy's arrival, she received a phone call from the kindergarten.

AI

The teacher sounded nervous. "Hello? Is this Kara's mother?"

Tina heaved out a sigh and asked helplessly, "What's wrong? Did the kids fight again?" However, the situation was much more serious than that. "You have to come over here right now, ma'am! Your child is missing!"

Stunned, Tina stood up from her seat. "What did you just say?" she yelled, shocked.