

Reborn Through Fire By Kazuya Higan Chapter 41

Chapter 41 The Young Boss of The Mullen Group As the door was pushed open, a choking smell of smoke hit her nostrils, causing her to cough violently. Ariella shot her a disdainful look and then scowled as she walked inside. Kisa was used to the way Ariella treated her. Compared to Ariella's cowering, she was much calmer. She took a quick glance at the room

upon entering. The room was large, with many men and women inside. The women were dressed up in : fashionable and flamboyant dresses. They should all be actresses like Ariella. The men, on the other hand, all looked like dudes. One of the outstanding-looking men sitting in the middle, languid with a cigarette in his mouth, was half-squinting his eyes to size up Ariella. He had a playful smile on his face, which was unnerving to look at.

Recalling the information she had just found on the Internet, Kisa figured this guy should be Anthony Mullen, the only son of the Mullen family, a shrewd businessman and a subject of gossip. But rumor had it that he had some eccentricities and was vindictive, an extremely dangerous character.

"Hello, everyone. I'm Ariella. I'm sorry that I'm late." Ariella stood in the room and awkwardly introduced herself. She thought she had been in the entertainment industry for long enough to have earned a bit of fame. But no one paid any attention to her. Those who sang continued to sing, those who drank continued to drink, and those who talked and laughed continued to talk and laugh. A few people were even engaged in small talk.

"Who is she? I have never seen her before." "I have never heard of her either. Not sure where she is from. Probably just some bit-part actress."

Ariella stood awkwardly on the spot, her pretty face turning red. Seeing Ariella standing there in embarrassment and about to cry, Kisa sighed and dragged her to sit in a remote corner. At that moment, Anthony suddenly spoke up.

"Yo, pretty, I have an empty seat here. Come sit on my side." As he spoke, he unceremoniously pushed the pretty woman next to him out of the way.

Ariella saw this and was overjoyed. She hurriedly broke free from Kisa's hand and flew over, her face even blushing with a touch of smugness, her earlier embarrassment vanishing.

Kisa had no choice but to follow her and stand behind Ariella in silence. At first, she did not have to come, but Ariella was nervous and had to drag her along. Now, she really looked out of place.

As soon as Ariella sat down, Anthony put his arm around her shoulder, his eyes glancing at her body, and he chuckled. "You are the second female lead who was suddenly promoted by GK executives?"

"Yes," Ariella said excitedly, "You know about me, Mr. Mullen?" "Of course." Looking at the excitement on Ariella's face, there was a flash of disappointment and boredom on Anthony's face. "It seems that Gilbert's taste is just so—so." The sudden mention of Gilbert gave Kisa a chill. Gilbert is not here, is he?' she looked around

in a panic but did not see the man. 'How could that be a coincidence? But what did Anthony mean when he said that? Why does it feel like he meant Gilbert has fallen for Ariella?'

As she was thinking, Ariella suddenly threw her fur coat at her. "Ugly, carry it for me."

Kisa subconsciously caught the coat. When she looked up, her eyes collided with Anthony's dark, seductive eyes, causing her heart to skip a beat.

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Chapter

42 I'll be There If You Get Drunk The man's eyes were so sharp that Kisa panicked. She looked down and sorted out Ariella's coat, thinking she had better find an excuse to go out later. "Oh, is this Ariella's assistant?" Anthony chuckled all of a sudden. "Yes, she is my assistant. I was afraid that she would be bored at the hotel alone, so I brought her here," Ariella said.

"This assistant of yours has a really unique look." A dude on the side gave a sarcastic laugh as he stared at Kisa's face.

Ariella immediately felt humiliated. "If you guys think she is an eyesore, I will ask her out."

Kisa was eager to get out too. But Anthony suddenly laughed. "No, I do think she looks quite distinctive, especially... I think she looks like someone." With that, he suddenly held out his hand to Kisa.

Kisa was startled and subconsciously took a step back. When Anthony saw her reaction, he found her to be interesting and said lazily, "Since you're here, then let's sit together. Come over here!" As he spoke, he pushed the other woman beside him away.

Kisa was panicking and did not dare to go over.

Just then, Ariella said, "Why don't you sit next to Mr. Mullen? It is a great honor for you to gain Mr. Mullen's favor."

Kisa had no choice but to go over and sit down after hesitating for a while. As soon as she sat down, Anthony put his arm around her shoulder and smiled frivolously. "Can you drink?"

Kisa hurriedly shook her head. Drinking was akin to suicide in her current condition. She subtly shrugged her shoulders, trying to move away from the man's embrace. But Anthony, as if on purpose, took her more and more into his arms. Seeing several women next to her, including Ariella, all had their faces darkened, Kisa's heart started to race. 'As much as Anthony wants to fool around, he shouldn't drag me into this.'

"How can you be an assistant if you can't even drink? Not to mention how ugly you are." Sure enough, someone started to target her. A woman dressed in a sultry way swirled her glass and laughed sarcastically. "Tsk, even the assistant that the bit-part actress hired is so unattractive."

Ariella's face reddened with anger upon hearing that. She pushed a glass of wine up in front of Kisa. "Show them you can drink." Kisa's face changed. "Ariella, I— I really don't know how to drink."

There was an instant burst of contemptuous laughter all around. Ariella felt even more humiliated, and she glared at Kisa and yelled, "Drinking won't kill you. Drink it now." And at that point, the room fell completely silent. Almost everyone's eyes were turned this way as Anthony leaned back and watched the drama unfold in front of him. Kisa rubbed her hands together, not knowing what to do. She was not going to live long, and if she drank this wine, she might not even see the sun tomorrow.

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"Drink it. Drink it down." "Drink it down."

Some people heckled her, and some sneered at Ariella, who was so furious that she gritted her teeth and snapped at Kisa. "Drink it."

Kisa pursed her lips and stared soberly at the glass of wine, her mind racing, thinking about how to avoid it.

Anthony glanced at her, his eyes flicking back toward some shadowy corner with an evil smile on his face. He suddenly picked up the glass of wine and brought it to Kisa's lips. "Baby, it is just a glass of wine. Come on, drink it down. I will be there if you get drunk."

"No, Mr. Mullen, I—"

"I will drink it."

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Chapter 43 Provocations As Kisa dodged in fear, a deep, familiar voice suddenly sounded, causing her heart to shudder. The voice sounded like Gilbert's. She hurriedly looked in the voice's direction and saw a tall figure slowly walking out of the dark corner. 'He is really in the room.' Not only Kisa but almost everyone else in the room was wide-eyed to see Gilbert. Anthony was an exception. Gilbert was sitting silently in the shadows, so these people did not even notice his presence.

Seeing Gilbert come out, Anthony broke into a smile. He grabbed Kisa's waist and deliberately brought her in to his arms, causing her to crash into his wall of muscles, almost knocking her out. She frowned and looked up as Anthony stared at Gilbert provocatively.

The way Anthony looked at Gilbert puzzled Kisa. She somehow felt that Anthony was using her to get back at Gilbert. But she doubted that. She did not think she was worthy of being used as a tool to get back at Gilbert. Just then, Gilbert had come over. She saw his frosty, knife-like eyes and instantly felt wronged because he looked as if he was blaming her for causing trouble.

Anthony smirked at Gilbert and lazily rested his feet on the coffee table. "Since you came, why did you stay in that corner? If people saw this, they would think that I slighted my guest."

"It is your home turf today, so it doesn't matter where I sit," Gilbert said, but his eyes were on Kisa, who was uneasy with Anthony's arms around her and Gilbert's eyes on her.

She took the opportunity to give up her seat to Gilbert. "Mr. Kooper, please take a seat here. An ugly nobody like me shouldn't be here in your way. I'd leave."

Just as she finished speaking, Anthony pulled her into his arms again, and she dropped right into Anthony's arms. Seeing that, Gilbert furrowed his brows subtly. Those women next to the side stared at Kisa with contempt and jealousy. Kisa hastily tried to get up, but Anthony held her tightly in his arms.

"What are you doing out there? I like it when you sit in my arms." He then stared playfully at Gilbert.

Gilbert looked calm, and he chuckled. "Your tastes are getting more and more exotic after a few years' absence."

“That is right. I have had enough delicacies, and I want to have some ordinary ones for a change,” Anthony said as he leaned close to Kisa’s neck and sniffed, but his eyes were fixed on Gilbert’s face.

But Gilbert remained calm, which made Anthony rather bored and even a little annoyed. So he sneered, and his hand hovered around Kisa’s waist. Kisa recoiled, but the more she struggled, the tighter Anthony’s hold became.

Gilbert took two puffs of his cigarette in silence. Under the shroud of smoke, he saw Anthony’s hand straying from the woman’s body with increasing abandon, and the woman did not even resist.

‘Heh!’ He puffed out rings of smoke and suddenly chuckled. “You seem to be unable to wait

now, Anthony. I remember that there are guest rooms upstairs. So why don’t you take this woman up there and get it done?”

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Chapter 44 This Guy is Bonkers His words startled Anthony. ‘Could i be wrong? This ugly woman is not the same woman back then, and she and Gilbert also have no relationship? But if there is no relationship, then why does Gilbert want to drink on this woman’s behalf? The Gilbert I know is no saint. When has he become so kind–hearted?’

Taking advantage of Anthony’s daze, Kisa hurriedly broke away from his embrace. Her cheeks were flushed with shame and anger, her clear eyes wet and sultry as she stared at Gilbert.

But Gilbert pretended not to see her. Instead, he smiled slyly at Anthony. “I can’t believe that you are into such an ugly woman. It is really shocking. Those who aren’t in the know might think you have never touched a woman before.”

Several dudes immediately covered their mouths and snickered. A few beautiful actresses also laughed quietly at the side, looking at Kisa with contempt. Anthony’s face sank, a tinge of viciousness gradually appearing in his slightly narrowed eyes.

Seeing that Kisa was tutted over, Ariella thought that the opportunity had come and hurriedly held Anthony’s arm with a flattering smile. “Exactly, Mr. Mullen. My assistant is so ugly. So why do you want her? Why don’t you look at me—“.

“Get lost!”

Ariella hurriedly shut up at his shouting, and the smiles on the faces of several other actresses also froze. None dared to speak.

Meanwhile, Gilbert lowered his eyes with a smirk. He slowly and methodically picked up the glass of wine in front of Kisa and knocked back at once, then chuckled. "You shouldn't think that I'm also into her just because I drank this glass of wine for this ugly woman, should you?"

Anthony laughed hideously. "Of course not. You have a beauty like Sharon by your side, so this ugly woman will only spoil your appetite." "It is good that you know that." Gilbert could not hide the disdain on his face. "I don't know how an ugly woman like this can be here. She is really a buzz killer." Ariella hurriedly lowered her head and kept quiet. Anthony shot Kisa a sinister glance and said with a grin, "Since she has spoiled your mood, I – will just throw her out." With that, he unceremoniously kicked Kisa to the ground. "Get the hell out of here. You make us sick."

Kisa covered her sore waist with her hand, feeling like cursing. 'This guy is bonkers. One moment, he forced me to sit in his arms, and the next, he kicked me to the ground. He is bonkers.'

Everyone else saw what Anthony did and was all stunned. Gilbert was still sipping his wine and did not spare Kisa a glance as she limped past him with a painful back. Anthony chuckled at the sight, thinking that he had gotten it wrong at last. Out of the room, Kisa could finally breathe a sigh of relief. She hunched her back, covering her painful part while walking. She sat down when she reached the corner at the end of the hallway. 'Anthony is really a ruthless guy. He almost broke my back. But as long as I can get out, the kick is worth it.' All she hoped for now was that Ariella would come out soon so that

she could go back to the hotel and rest early. The air in the hallway was so warm that she sat against the wall and dozed off. A moment later, she felt someone coming in her direction. Kisa half-opened her eyes and saw that it was Gilbert and Davian. She wondered if they were looking for her. She instantly became alert and struggled to stand up with the support of the wall.

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Chapter 45 Pretending Not To Know Me But the two men stopped about six feet away from her at the elevator. Gilbert did not even look at her as if she were a stranger with no connection to him. As the elevator door opened. Gilbert and Davian walked in without looking the other way. Kisa smirked with a stiff expression. 'Gilbert is superb at pretend

ing not to know me.' She lowered her eyes and sat down again slowly by holding the wall. Not far from the door of the private lounge, an assistant whispered to Anthony, "Gilbert really doesn't seem to know that woman. He didn't show any reaction when he saw that woman. So she might not be his ex-wife, but just a bit like her."

"Then could you explain his sudden promotion of Ariella as the second female lead, and that woman was Ariella's assistant?"

"Coincidence, I guess."

Anthony stared thoughtfully at the woman huddled in a ball at the end of the hallway, his sharp eyes filled with curiosity and scheme. Out of the clubhouse, Davian asked Gilbert, "Are you really going to leave Mrs. Kooper here like this?"

"She could come here, and she definitely can go back herself." Gilbert pulled open the car door and got in.

Davian was worried. "But Anthony is a dangerous person. I'm afraid that he knows her identity and will repeat it just like five years ago."

A few years ago, Anthony's father had taken a fancy to Sara, and Anthony sent someone to abduct Sara and send her to his father. When Gilbert found out about it, he rescued Sara but offended the father and son of The Mullen Group. As Anthony was a vindictive and ruthless person, he had been targeting Gilbert since then.

Five years ago, he found out that Gilbert was married to Kisa and then tried to get at Kisa. Gilbert hated Kisa, but he still protected her so well that she did not even know that Anthony was a danger.

Gilbert leaned back in his chair and kneaded his brow, not saying a word for a long time. Davian saw his tired look and could not help but feel sorry. "In fact, you didn't have to come today if not because Mr. Kooper and Ariella came here"

"Just drive."

"What about Mrs."

"She will not die." Gilbert closed his eyes and said casually. "If Anthony had wanted to get at her, he would have done it just now and wouldn't have kicked her out."

Davian listened and pursed his lips, not saying anything again but just starting the car.

The people in the private lounge were coming out in tandem. Many of them were drunk, but when they walked past Kisa, they did not forget to quench their disgust at her. Kisa did not care. She just stretched her neck and kept looking inside the room, wondering why Ariella had not come out after so long.

After a long while, everyone in the room seemed to have left, and she then pulled the door open. She cautiously took a peek inside and saw Ariella sitting on the sofa in a daze, not knowing what she was thinking. "Ariella, what's wrong with you?" Just as she went over, Ariella kicked at her. "You ugly bitch. How dare you steal my limelight?"

Kisa had no words for it. 'It was not like I did it on purpose. So why blame me? Not to mention that it was something celebratory. My back was still hurt.' She helped Ariella up and said, "Let's go back and rest. You have to attend an event tomorrow. You have to keep in good shape." "Right on. Hurry up. Go back and sleep."

As luxurious as The Regina Clubhouse was, there was not a single cab passed by the entrance. Kisa helped Ariella wait in front of the clubhouse for a long time without getting a taxi. Ariella could not help but start cursing, "Mr. Mullen sent someone to bring us here but didn't send someone to send us back. How can we go back like this? He is a real jerk!" Kisa was amused. Earlier, Ariella had tried to get on with Anthony, but now it seemed it was just her wishful thinking. "The hotel we stay at is not far. Why don't we walk back following the GSP navigation?"

"What? Are you telling me to walk back? Don't you know who I am?" ;

"Then you wait here. I will go looking for a taxi." Ariella looked around; there was no one around, and she was a little scared, "Forget it. Let's walk back."

Kisa helped her walk as they followed the navigation. As they walked into a dark alley, Kisa could not help but frown and stop to look back. When Ariella saw her grave expression, she was scared to death. "W-What's wrong?"