

## Chapter 129

Nolan narrowed his eyes. "What are you afraid of? Everyone knows that you belong to me."

He had made it public, so it wasn't possible they didn't know.

Maisie pushed his hand away and said proudly, "Can you show me a little respect, please?"

She didn't want to walk around as 'Mr. Goldmann's woman'.

Nolan's eyes turned dark.

She didn't really mind how people thought. It was more like she didn't want to show affection in front of everyone.

Why was she ashamed of him?

Maisie noticed the weight of the arm and the possessiveness coming from his eyes, so her heart started pounding.

Who knew if this man would kiss her in front of the crowd just to show them that she was his? That wouldn't be ideal.

She changed her attitude from being proud to being shy, even a little demure, and whispered, "We're in public. Could you at least let me look respectable?"

Nolan paused. He thought she didn't want to get close to him in public, but it turned out that she just wanted to look respectable.

He scoffed. "Alright, I'll buy that."

He let go.

Quincy was stunned.

Was it that easy to convince Mr. Goldmann?

Maisie relaxed. As she was about to leave, she remembered something. Thus, she turned around and asked, "By the way, didn't you investigate if my mother was linked to Erwin? Did you find anything?"

She had been thinking about that since the night before.

Erwin wouldn't tell her, saying that it wasn't the right time, but she still wanted to learn more about her mother.

Since Nolan had started looking into it, he might have learned something.

Nolan's tight lips slowly opened upon seeing how much she wanted to know. "Come see me at my office in the afternoon."

...

When afternoon came, Maisie went to his office. After knocking and getting permission to enter,

she opened the door and saw Nolan sitting cross-legged on the couch, closing the document he was holding.

He looked up at her. That handsome face—his thin lips were pressed together into a beautiful straight line.

Maisie looked away. This man was too good-looking. Not only was he good-looking, but he was also a gangster in a suit.

Upon recalling what she had seen that day, she started blushing.

When her eyes met Nolan's, Maisie faked a cough and pretended to calmly walk to him. "Did you find anything?"

Nolan passed the document he was holding to her.

Maisie took the document and sat down to read it.

Marina de Arma.

Her mother was from the de Armas? Why had she changed it?

Nolan kept his eyes on her. Her expression showed that she didn't know anything about her mother's past. "That means that no one in the Vanderbilt family, including you, knew."

Had the Vanderbilts known that Stephen's wife was Marina de Arma, they would have spread the news far and wide. They were related to nobles, after all.

Maisie slowly said, "I-I didn't know. But what does this have to do with her family name?"

Nolan switched on his laptop and showed her a page.

Maisie saw the picture in the file. It was her younger mother getting off a yacht with Erwin, surrounded by bodyguards in black.

"Uncle Erwin and my mother—"

'No way! Were Mom and Uncle Erwin in a relationship!?'

Nolan suddenly appeared to be sitting next to her and said quietly, "Look closer."

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Maisie took a good look at the picture and realized that Erwin and her mother were walking in a row, or rather, he was standing at the side behind her. However, it looked as though they were standing in a row because of the angle.

If they were lovers, they would be more intimate, but Erwin and her mother didn't show any signs of intimacy. It even looked as though Erwin was respectful toward her.

Who was her mother to Erwin?

The laptop was suddenly pushed shut.

Maisie turned to look at the man beside her, a little surprised. "That was all you found?"

That was it?

Nolan's long arm was resting on the back of the couch, behind where she sat. He leaned in. "Kiss me, and I'll tell you."

"Never mind. I'll find out myself."

Maisie was getting up to leave when Nolan pulled her into his arms.

She sat down on his lap. That wasn't a good position to be in.

"Nolan, just because this is your office doesn't mean you can—" Maisie pushed him lightly, but he was holding her tight against his chest with no signs of letting go.

Seeing her turn red from anger, he slightly raised his brows. "Hmm? What are you trying to do?"

"Let go." Maisie gnashed her teeth.

"Kiss me." Nolan was pretty much a prick trying to take advantage of her.

"I don't—"

"I'll kiss you then."

The man didn't give her a chance to speak. His cold lips covered hers, and his hand was behind her head as though he was trying to eat her up. The fire in his eyes started burning.

Maisie was concerned, but his kiss was too good. She was already out of breath, but she had finally lost her grip. She didn't even know how to struggle, so she just let him take over.

His kiss lasted very long before he finally reluctantly released her.

Maisie could finally breathe, but in her heart, her alarms were going off.

She knew that if this went on, she would be devoured whole!

"Can you tell me now?" She changed the subject.

Nolan ran his finger across the corner of her lips, and then his eyes shifted. "Your mother was from a noble family in Stoslo."

Maisie was still in a trance when she got back to her office.

A noble of Stoslo. Her mother had status.

If her mother had been a noble, then she had changed her name to Gonzalez to cover up so that the Vanderbilts didn't know who she was.

That made sense. Had Madam Vanderbilt known that her mother was from a noble family, she wouldn't have treated her that horribly.

'But why did Mom come to Zlokova from Stoslo? Does Uncle Erwin know something?'

...

Maisie arrived at Erwin's enormous private villa with an outdoor pool that night.

They were playing chess in the living room while the bodyguards were watching from the side.

"Uncle Erwin, when will you tell me about my mother?" Maisie looked up to see his expression.

Erwin paused with a smile. "Do you really want to know about your mother that badly?"

Maisie pursed her lips and made a move on the board. "Is there anything that I can't know? Is it because of her status?"

Erwin slowly raised his head. "Your mother had always wished that you could grow up happy and have a normal life. She always wanted to be a civilian."

Maisie was stunned as she looked down.

"Your mother was born in a big family that had a high social standing in Stoslo. They worked for the royals and were pretty much the inner circle, but when the royal family had an internal conflict, your mother's family left politics in order to keep the entire family safe."

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"You're talking about the de Armas, right?"

Seeing that Maisie already knew about it, Erwin nodded and continued without hesitation. "I want to wait until you've attained certain achievements in life before I tell you more about her.

"Zee, even if you were to know something about her in the future, don't blame your mother. In fact, your mother loved you very much. She knew that the Vanderbilts would mistreat you after her death, so that's why I showed up." Erwin sent Maisie to the door.

Maisie got in the car and left after bidding goodbye.

Not far away, Willow, who had been following Maisie around the city, was sitting in the car at the moment. She was grasping the steering wheel tightly with both hands and took out her cell phone as soon as she saw Maisie coming out of the strange man's house. 3

Looking at the photos on her phone, she gave off a wicked expression and smirked.

'B\*tch, I finally have something on you!'

At the Vanderbilt manor...

Leila walked out of the bathroom wearing a sexy nightdress, but she was extremely aggrieved to see Stephen falling asleep so early.

'He hasn't touched me since last night just because Mother mentioned that b\*tch, Marina Gonzales.

'But I can't give up.'

She crawled to Stephen's side, hugged him, and kissed him. "Dear..."

Stephen sat up abruptly and pushed her away. "How can you still be so shameless at such an age? I'll sleep in the study."

Leila watched as Stephen left her behind so mercilessly. She was so ferocious that her cheeks were flushed.

'How am I, a living woman, not comparable to that dead b\*tch!?'

'But if Stephen really loved Marina, why would he give me a chance back then? Or, are men all unfaithful beasts? Is he starting to think about his ex-wife now that he's grown tired of me?'

Seeing that nothing had really happened these days, she could not stand not doing anything and waiting for her demise. She then thought of something, and a glimmer of viciousness flashed across her eyes.

'Stephen Vanderbilt, since you don't want to touch me, then don't blame me for this.'

...

Willow came to the Blackgold Group to find Maisie. She had come to the 16th floor, and Kennedy's

expression dimmed slightly when he saw her. "Ms. Vanderbilt, why are you here?"

"Am I not allowed to come to visit my sister?" Willow crossed her arms and gave off an arrogant attitude.

Kennedy chuckled and said, "You're not welcome here. You should go back."

"Aren't you just Maisie's lackey? What rights do you have to drive me away? Get Maisie to come out here to see me!" Willow's attitude worsened. 1

Maisie walked out of the elevator and happened to hear what Willow said. Her eyes turned gloomy instantly. "Why aren't you staying at home to avoid the limelight? You actually have the guts to come here and create a stir?"

After seeing her, Willow gave off a cold smirk and was about to say something, but she then saw Nolan coming out of the elevator.

She was delighted. "Nolan..."

Nolan's eyes looked nonchalant. "What are you doing here?"

Seeing Nolan's indifferent attitude toward her, Willow bit her lip and explained, "Nolan, I'm here to give you the truth. Don't be deceived anymore. You don't know what Maisie has done behind your back!"

Nolan took a glance at Maisie and squinted. "Oh? Then tell me, what did she do?"

Willow glared at Maisie furiously. "Nolan, you might not know about this, but Maisie came out of another man's house last night. She actually stayed at that man's house for more or less an hour!"

Maisie frowned slightly.

'I came out of another man's house last night? Isn't that Uncle Erwin's house? Is she stalking me?

'And this is the reason she has come all the way here with such an aggressive attitude?'

Seeing Nolan's eyes were fixed on Maisie, Willow felt that he should have taken her words to heart. Thus, she gave off an innocent look. "Nolan, I... I just can't bear to see her deceiving you and toying with your feelings, so I've come to tell you this."



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Willow did not forget to add a sentence. "Don't be captivated by her lies anymore!"

Captivated?

Indeed, in her opinion, Nolan had been captivated by Maisie. And Maisie was the seductive vixen who had hooked up with her man and stolen his heart.

Maisie crossed her arms, her expression looking indifferent as if the person Willow was talking about was not her.

Nolan raised his hand and lifted Maisie's chin as the corners of his lips twitched slightly. "Is that real?"

Maisie did not respond.

But in the eyes of all the bystanders, Mr. Goldmann was nowhere near being angry!

Maisie sighed. "Yes, I stayed at that man's place for an hour last night."

Willow did not expect that she would admit it, so she tried to add fuel to the fire. "Nolan, did you hear that? I didn't lie to you. She's—"

"What did you do in that hour?"

"I did everything that was supposed to be done." Maisie smiled.

Everyone present gasped.

'Is she asking for an ugly death!?'

Nolan pressed his thin lips together tightly and lifted her all of a sudden.

"Aah! What are you doing? Nolan Goldmann, let me down, you dbag!" Maisie was exasperated.

'He actually carried me in front of other people.'

Nolan carried her to her office.

Willow, who was left in place, was stunned as her expression gradually became embarrassed.

'Why did it turn out so? Nolan doesn't believe in me?'

"It really doesn't look like Mr. Goldmann is angry at Ms. Zora."

"He looks jealous at first glance instead of angry. It seems that somebody has failed to sow discord."

"Shut up! What do you know!?" Willow yelled at those people.

The staff members ignored her and departed one after another, leaving Willow alone at the scene. She was trembling due to pure wrath.

'D\*mn it! I don't believe that the Goldmanns would still accept such a misbehaving and shameless

woman after the photo has been exposed!

In the office...

Nolan put Maisie on the desk, and Maisie was so angry that she punched him. "Nolan, have you lost your mind? You know very clearly where I went last night. If you believe in what she said, then you should just— Umm!"

Nolan sealed her chattering mouth and bit her lips. "Then why did you answer my questions with such ambiguous answers on purpose?"

He obviously knew that she had been to Erwin's house last night, so he would definitely not believe in Willow's words.

'It's just that this woman wants to piss me off.'

"Let me go!"

"No."

Maisie lifted her leg in an attempt to kick him, but he grabbed her calf, causing her to not be able to sit still and fall backward, bringing him along as she fell.

Maisie was dumbfounded.

Seeing her messy hair scattered on the table, she looked very lovely. Nolan's Adam's apple rolled, and a flame was ignited within him.

"Do you know what I want to do now?" He lowered his hoarse voice.

Maisie trembled from head to toe as she noticed something and tried to push his body away from her. "You said that you wouldn't force me!"

"But I've regretted saying so."

Nolan's gaze was getting fierier the more he looked at her. He stared at her as if he was an apex predator and she was his prey.

Maisie knew that this man had already lost all his rationality, and she was the one to blame. She should not have said such things! ❶

"Zee..." He lowered his head and kissed her.

Maisie trembled slightly.

'I'm done if this continues!'

"Nol... Nolan, wait a second, I can help you..." It took Maisie a lot of courage to utter those words, and her cheeks blushed as she said so.

She was afraid and still could not imagine the both of them hitting the home run, so she could only escape such situations whenever a chance was presented to her.

Nolan smiled softly. "Are you sure?"

Maisie did not look at him and only nodded. ❶



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**Maybe the people outside of the room could not think of what was happening inside, Maisie felt that it was a torment, and it was a very shameful one.**