

Chapter 115 Mysterious Gift

"Lorraine, I've checked it. Your invitation is fake!"

Even though Marina recognized Marco's seal, she didn't want to admit it.

"It seems that you just don't want to let us in," Lorraine said in an icy tone.

"So what? As long as I'm here, you'll never be able to get into our castle!" Marina declared, throwing up her chin proudly as she stood in their way.

"Marina, what are you doing? Why are you blocking them?"

The cold voice of a man startled Marina, who stepped aside immediately.

Marco strolled to the scene from inside the castle, his black tailored suit perfectly fitting his tall frame. There was a simple sapphire brooch on his cloth, making him look even more elegant and noble.

"Lorraine, you're here," Lorraine said softly and ushered her into the castle in a gentlemanly manner.

Lorraine looked at his outstretched hand, but she didn't take it. Instead, she remained standing beside Cayson.

"I didn't come here alone," she said to him.

Marco's eyes turned cold and he fixed an icy stare on Cayson. Cayson didn't seem like he was going to back down.

Both men stood there, eyeing each other with fiery glares.

Coincidentally, Cayson's dressing was very similar to Marco's. Both of them were wearing tailored suits and simple brooches.

But when Marco saw Cayson's brooch, his eyes narrowed.

He recognized it at a glance as an antique brooch that Lorraine had bought at the auction last time.

She had given it to Cayson.

Marco's heart boiled with anger.

Not knowing what was on Marco's mind,



Lorraine urged him, "Have you confirmed the invitation? Can we go in now?"

Her statement instantly reminded Marco of what he saw just now, and he glared at Marina, who was now trying to hide herself.

"Marina, since you like to verify invitations so much, why don't you just stand here to receive guests? After all the guests have arrived, then you can come in."

"Marco!"

Marco ignored her and walked back into the castle, followed by Lorraine and Cayson.

Marina stamped her feet in anger, but she didn't dare to disobey Marco. She had no choice but to stand at the entrance and do as she had been told.

Meanwhile, in the castle, the banquet had already begun.

Liza, well-dressed as usual, was being warmly congratulated by the guests.

Keely, in a fashionable and trendy gown, walked over to talk to Liza.

"Mrs. Bryant, today is your 70th birthday. This renovated castle is my gift to you. I hope



you like it," Keely said.

She had been busy working on the castle for about a month and helping with the event too. Liza could not be more grateful and satisfied with her.

"Oh, my dear! Thank you so much!"

But just then, she caught sight of Loraine and Cayson coming in and her face darkened.

"What? Why are they here?" she asked in anger.

Following Liza's angry gaze, Keely also saw the pair and her eyes turned cold.

She stood properly, making sure to stay close to Liza, as if she was a member of the Bryant family.

"Loraine, long time no see. Weren't you too busy to renovate the castle? So, what brings you here today?" she asked with a sneer.

"We were invited by the Bryant family. Happy birthday, Mrs. Bryant. Here is the red wine we got for you." Cayson smiled and brought out a gift box.

He meant that the gift was being presented to Liza by both Loraine and himself.

Keely acted like she did not understand. She looked at Loraine, who was holding a parasol, and sneered. "Loraine, you came to attend Mrs. Bryant's birthday and you didn't bother to get her a gift?"

Instead of pointing out that Cayson was already presenting their gift, Loraine smiled and said, "I did prepare a surprise, but this is not the time to present it. You'll know about it later."

Keely scoffed.

Surprise? What surprise could she have? She was simply just too poor to buy a gift!

In a tone that was made to sound kind and considerate, she said to Loraine, "I know you're from a poor family and don't have much money. But this is Mrs. Bryant's 70th birthday, so you should have tried your best to get her a gift. It's common courtesy, you know."

Liza had been listening to all of this and her face had a disgusted look on it.

As far as she was concerned, Loraine was totally shameless! She had not even brought

a gift. Marco divorcing her was the right thing to do!

Other guests that overheard the conversation began to mock Loraine.

"Didn't she make a lot of money recently? Why couldn't she afford even a simple gift? She's so stingy!"

"After all, she's from the countryside. She can't change her poor character in a year or even a century!"

"She's so rude. No wonder she was divorced."

Loraine heard some of these talks, but she didn't care about them at all.


Regardless of the ridicule, she only looked up from time to time at the beams in the hall of the castle.

Marco, on his part, had all his attention on her.

He followed Loraine's eyes as she looked up at the beams, and suddenly, he saw some tiny dust particles fall. If not that he was coincidentally standing at the right angle, he would not have seen that.

Looking back at Loraine's glittering eyes,

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 +120 Points at most

Marco had a bad feeling.

He sensed that something was wrong.

Loraine said that she prepared a surprise, but this was not the time to present it. What was she trying to say?



Chapter 116 Collapse

Keely watched as Loraine observed the castle every once in a while. She thought Loraine must have been amazed by her design, so she grinned.

"Loraine, even if you appreciate my design that much, don't ignore Mrs. Bryant on her special day. If you need advice, I'd be more than happy to share with you after the party."

Loraine shot her a meaningful look. "I wouldn't dare learn from you."

"What? You think I'm too good that you won't be able to understand?"

Keely was still completely clueless to what Loraine truly meant.

"Your skills are beyond my imagination. I don't mean it like that, though." Loraine sighed. "I didn't expect the damage that your renovation did to the castle to be so serious. The entire beam structure has been changed and it's worse than I expected."

"What are you saying? Are you doubting my achievement?" Keely's expression dimmed.

Instead of answering her, Loraine raised her parasol. "I didn't think I'd need to use it until later tonight."

She calmly held the parasol above Cayson and herself.

Everyone turned as she was acting so strangely.

They were inside the castle! What kind of person would use a parasol indoors? The crowd began to chuckle.

"Is she a fool?"

"Good thing Marco divorced her, or else he would be too ashamed of his wife to tell anyone!"

Keely felt her disdain of Loraine bubble up inside her. "Loraine, do you need me to find a psychiatrist for you?"

Loraine didn't listen and instead turned to Cayson. "Come closer, or my parasol won't be able to cover you."

Though he was confused, Cayson still stood beside her obediently and kindly held the

parasol for her.

This action just caused more ridicule from the crowd.

Loraine was far from upset that everyone was laughing at her. She watched the roof leisurely, then looked to her watch.

"It's almost time. It's much earlier than I thought."

Suddenly, a loud sound came from the ceiling. The castle partially collapsed, a cloud of dust falling down onto the crowd.

"Watch out!"

Marco rushed to Loraine, carrying her in his arms and rushing outside.

Cayson turned to assist Loraine as well, but he was slower than Marco, watching as he took her away from the scene.

It happened so fast that Loraine wasn't even able to react.

Once she came back to her senses, Marco had already moved her out and away from the building.

Marco held her waist with one hand and held

her thighs with the other. His palms clung to her body tightly. Loraine felt the heat of his hands through the fabric of her dress.

"Are you alright?" Marco looked down worriedly to the woman in his arms.

"Put me down!" Loraine struggled to break free from his grip.

Marco set her down, and she stepped away from him instinctively.

They had made it out of the castle so quickly that they were completely clean of the dust.

The people still in the castle were not so lucky.

Except for Cayson who was holding a parasol, everyone else was covered with a layer of dust, and instead of looking glamorous, they looked like they just crawled out of a coal mine.

Liza, the one celebrating her birthday there, was so scared that she took a pratfall, covered in dust as well. Keely helped her up.

Once Liza came to her senses, she looked around for Loraine with a fierce look.

"Loraine, come here! Did you do this?"

Lorraine came over. "Please don't accuse me without any evidence. I didn't do anything."

"Who else could it be? Why would you know to prepare a parasol in advance?" Liza was so angry that she vented it on Lorraine.

Lorraine spoke calmly. "I told you something was wrong with the structure here, but you didn't believe me. And you hired Keely to repair it. She's inexperienced. She just randomly fixed things, and it made the damage worse. It was just a small collapse now. But the entire castle will probably fall in several days."

Since Lorraine saw the photo, she assumed this would happen. She wouldn't have come for any other reason than to watch it.

"Mrs. Bryant, don't listen to her nonsense! You've seen how much I've done for the castle!" Keely explained in a panic.

Liza had been looking for a target to vent her anger, and Keely blew her fuse.

She was fired up, turning to her. "Is this the result of your work? Look what you have done to my castle, you rubbish!"

"I didn't mean to—"

Before Keely could finish her words, Liza pushed her out. "Get out of my castle now!"

The crowd looked to Keely, the one who caused their embarrassment.

Keely clenched her fists, lowering her head and exiting the room, attempting to get out of there as soon as possible.

The birthday party was no longer a beautiful spectacle, but a complete joke.

The incident became an ongoing joke among the upper class.