

## Chapter 685 Cold Beauty

Gabrielle was not a particularly remarkable rich woman. But, with such two extraordinary men escorting her, naturally, none of the other boys dared to approach her.

The rumors said that Gabrielle was a scheming woman who liked to seduce men. But that was all bullshit. She had a pure friendship with Austin and Jax, and there was no ambiguity in their relationships at all.

Regardless, she was always labeled as a coquettish and cunning girl in the mouths of many girls.

However, anyone with common sense could see how such a gorgeous and indifferent girl could be unbearable for other girls. She was, after all, on a different level than everyone else, so other girls would naturally regard her as a nuisance.

Because their hearts were burning with jealousy, and they couldn't do anything about it, they vented their frustration by spreading rumors.

On the other hand, Gabrielle's arrival surprised these boys, who had chatted about her in private many times.

After all, Gabrielle had never participated in any parties or activities before. On top of that, with Austin and Jax around her, no one dared to force her to go.

"Wow, welcome our cold beauty!"

"Welcome! Welcome!"

"Is this the biggest surprise of the night?"

"Sure enough, Jax is awesome. He is able to ask the cold beauty out!"

"Jax, you are great! You said you didn't make an appointment because you didn't want to disturb our cold beauty. You actually give us such a big surprise."

The air was instantly filled with the guys' joyful praises. Many boys praised Jax loudly with the guts fueled by alcohol when they saw him standing by Gabrielle.

This was the first time Gabrielle had heard someone call her by the title 'cold beauty.' She was aware that some students at school had given her a title like this, saying that she was a cold person who was not approachable and difficult to communicate with. Yet, no one had ever called her that in front of her.

Now that she suddenly heard these boys calling her by that title in such a loud voice in unison, she was completely taken aback.

"Do they usually call me like that?" Gabrielle subconsciously turned her head to Jax beside her and asked.

She felt that this title didn't match her temperament at all.

"Gabrielle, this is actually... Don't mind them. They are all drunk now. If you don't like it, just take it as their drunken words." Jax was at a loss for words and didn't know how to explain the matter properly. It was indeed true that all the boys in Alorith University called Gabrielle in such a way. After all, she was really a cold and unapproachable beauty.

"It is okay," Gabrielle said as she felt that it was just a title, and there was nothing to think about.

"Why would Gabrielle mind it? Gabrielle is really cold and really beautiful. It's right to ignore those

stinky boys. Is there anything wrong with that?" One of the girls said this casually as she came by and wrapped her arms around Gabrielle's shoulders.

She then looked Gabrielle in the eye and asked, "Cold beauty, are you here to surprise us for Jax's sake?"

"What surprise to you? She is obviously here to surprise Jax." A boy's voice interrupted the girl's question as he came over with a glass of wine in his hands.

"Since it's a rare chance for us to have a party together, you must drink two more glasses of wine tonight, cold beauty." As the boy continued, he handed Gabrielle the glass of wine in his hand.

Gabrielle lowered her head and glanced at the wine in the glass. Just by looking at it, she felt a sense of dizziness in her head.

'Are these boys planning to make me drink a lot?' A thought occurred in Gabrielle's mind.

"Hey, stop it. Gabrielle can't drink too much. Don't give her wine." As he said, Jax naturally took over the glass in front of Gabrielle.

However, the boy did not agree with Jax's actions and said, "Hey, Jax. This is not the right way to help her. If you want to drink for her, you can do that after she drinks three glasses of wine by herself. But before that, she has to drink it herself."

Gabrielle's brows furrowed slightly when she heard the mention of the number of the glasses, and she was at a loss for words. ②

"Gabrielle, you don't need to care about them or cooperate with their wicked intentions. Today's party is organized by me. No one dares to force you to do anything here," Jax looked at her and said in an imposing manner.

Seeing Jax's protective manner towards her, Gabrielle was a little moved. However, there were more than twenty pairs of eyes looking at her, waiting to see what she would do next. What was the point of coming here if she just let Jax drink her wine from the start? If so, she shouldn't have come here in the first place.

Right now, if she let that happen, it would just make her look too pretentious.

"It's okay, Jax. I'll drink it myself. Since I am here, I can't disappoint everyone." As Gabrielle thought of the situation she was in, she calmly said this and took back her wine glass. ②

She thought that since she was already here, she should have the guts to deal with the consequences. There was no turning back for her at this point.

'Isn't it just a few glasses of wine?

I can drink them.'

Gabrielle hypnotized herself to build the guts. After all, it was not that she never had drunk alcohol. Besides, it was just wine, and the alcohol content was not too high. It didn't matter if she drank a few. After battling with her inner thoughts, Gabrielle gained some inexplicable confidence in her drinking capacity.

The only thing she worried about was whether Westley would get angry if she drank too much.

"You see, our cold beauty is really cheerful and resolute. I like this kind of personality, straightforward and simple, which makes me like her even more," the boy said loudly with a smile.

"My name is not cold beauty," Gabrielle said indifferently.

The boy was startled at first, but then he realized that Gabrielle was unhappy with the nickname they gave.

"I'm sorry, Miss Jones. You have a very famous nickname at school, which is cold beauty. So we are used to calling you like that in private." The boy hurriedly gave out an explanation with a cheeky smile on his face.

Gabrielle didn't like such a boy with a carefree demeanor, and her expression revealed her feelings clearly. Jax noticed her displeasure and quickly pulled the boy away.

"It's all right. I understand it's just a form of address. But I hope you can call me Gabrielle in the future, which will make me more comfortable. I'd like to propose a toast to you. It's the first time I've had a drink with you in four years because I'm not used to hanging out with too many people." As she finished speaking, Gabrielle raised her glass and drank the entire contents of it.

"Gabrielle, you are doing a good job. Here, drink one more glass." The girl next to Gabrielle quickly refilled her glass.

A frown formed on Jax's face as he watched the scene. But he didn't try to stop her. Instead, he brought some food and put it on the small table in front of Gabrielle.

"Gabrielle, eat something. Drinking like this will make you uncomfortable," Jax said as he gave her a skewer of barbecued meat.

"Thank you," Gabrielle responded.

"Gabrielle, cheers! I didn't expect you to be such a straightforward girl. I like it." The girl next to Gabrielle clinked glasses with her. Just like that, all the people joined in the toast one after another.

"I also like straightforward girls."

"Cold and arrogant and straightforward. It's just so likable."

"That's right. Come on, cheers!"

"Jax, let's drink together. Don't just take care of Miss Jones."

"If the beauty is drunk, Jax will have a better chance."

When Jax heard this, he almost knocked over the glass in his hand. He didn't propose to drink for her out of selfish motivation. He just wanted to see Gabrielle get drunk because only then could he have a chance to get closer to her. But he had no intention of taking advantage of it or doing anything immoral to her.

After all, Gabrielle already had a husband. Jax just wanted to spend more time with Gabrielle, and he had no other malicious motives.

He knew that it was quite pathetic to like a person to such an extent, but he did love her that much. It was also the first time he had ever loved someone so humbly.

Although he felt very bitter in his heart, he was also very happy at the same time. He was happier than anybody else as long as he saw Gabrielle happy.

## Chapter 686 Selfish Motives

Jax really thought it was despicable to harbor such an idea in one's mind. However, he found nothing wrong when he desired to learn more about Gabrielle and spend more time with her.

Anyway, he would never intend to hurt Gabrielle.

Perhaps all people had their own ill intentions, or in other words, some would want to be thieves at times. Whenever they found something they loved, they'd want to stealthily carry it to their side and conceal it.

Jax had made peace with this self-centered motive.

However, he would not use threats or coercion to compel Gabrielle to do anything she did not want to do. He'd have achieved that long time ago if he ever intended.

But he really disliked getting the woman he liked in such a despicable way. Respect for love was still very essential, and it would be ideal if the two could fall in love with one another. That was the type of love Jax desired.

"Let us drink, Jax. Don't just think about drinking for Miss Jones and forget about your part. You two might be unlucky because you won't be spared tonight."

"Sure. We hardly see Miss Jones partying. Tonight, let's drink till we pass out. What are your thoughts?"

"Okay!"

"Let's drink till we pass out!"

Gabrielle felt immense pressure as a result of the way others reiterated the suggestion. Who were these individuals? What were they doing?

They were already so drunk. And they still wanted to drink till they passed out? She was the most level-headed person there.

So she didn't want to quarrel with them. Plus, she was conversant with how drunk people behaved. The drunker they'd get, the harder it would be to admit they were drunk and they would even clamor to continue drinking.

"Jax, how much alcohol did you drink tonight?" Gabrielle drained the drink from her glass and asked him quietly.

"Little." Jax had no idea how much he had consumed, but he assumed it was not much. After all, he may have been the partygoer who drank the least.

He had organized the party. As the person in charge, he had to keep an eye on the entire site and ensure that nothing went wrong, which meant he had to maintain a level head at all times. When someone approached him to propose a toast or to request a drink, he would take one or two sips.

As a result, he didn't drink much.

"Could you two just quit whispering? Let's drink. Don't think you won't drink just because you're focusing on chatting."

"Yes, we are here to eat meat and drink beer. Not to just give stories."

"You cannot demonstrate your affection in this manner, Jax. It's too unkind."

The boys who had been looking at them began another round of teasing. Gabrielle did not intend to say anything and immediately gulped another glass of wine.

"I apologize. I've now downed three glasses of wine. My family will be concerned about me if I remain outside for an extended period of time. I have to return now." Gabrielle set the glass down and watched them with regret, preparing to leave.

The rowdy atmosphere abruptly became quiet, and everyone's gaze fell on her.

Gabrielle's face was devoid of cowardice. She looked at them seriously and quietly, with a hint of coldness in her gaze. As cold and disinterested as the Gabrielle they were accustomed to seeing at Alorith University. However, it was an ideal match for the moniker 'cold beauty.'

Indeed, Gabrielle was attempting to maintain control of her emotions, as she sensed she was about to become inebriated. She was fully aware of her drinking capability. It was almost sufficient. If she continued to drink, she would very certainly get intoxicated on the spot.

As a result, she desired to leave this place the soonest she could and did not want them to continue forcing her to drink.

Who could tell what she'd do the moment she got intoxicated?

Gabrielle would never put herself at risk. Besides, she didn't know many people around here. She had no idea what they were thinking.

"Come on, are you in such a hurry?"

"But you've only had a little. Gabrielle, please don't leave like this. It's tedious." She was handed the roast beef by the girl next to her.

"Gabrielle, give this a try. The roast beef served here is very exclusive and delectable. Additionally, a roasted entire lamb will be served later. Why don't you just leave once you've eaten?" The girl coaxed her more.

If it was gourmet Lolita, she would very certainly be drawn in by the delicious roasted entire lamb that would be served. However, Gabrielle was uninterested. She would eat if there was food available. However, she would not wait to consume a particular food, nor would she anticipate something that had not yet been offered.

Even if she was interested in something, she would check to ensure that it was in the correct spot. She didn't dare to get too excited about anything here, as this was not her domain.

"Thank you, but no. It is already too late. I have to return. You may continue playing. When the next opportunity arises, we may meet up." She had no desire to encounter these folks again. Gabrielle was only being courteous.

"Gabrielle, there is not a better time to be lively than the present. Now that we are all together today, why don't we have a drink and have some fun together instead of waiting for the next time?"

"Sure, since we already are here, don't say that we'll meet up again."

"Do not rush back to your room, Miss Jones. You and your family are also here to have a good time today. So you should enjoy yourself with us. We are young people. They will definitely get it."

"It appears as though Miss Jones is more concerned with her family than with her friends."

Gabrielle was adamant about not expounding on anything. Westley, according to her, was far more significant than those schoolmates who were not even her pals.

She was simply not in the mood to quarrel with them. It was pointless to argue with a bunch of drunk students.

In any case, she made efforts to demonstrate her goodwill by coming here and drinking with them.

"Well, you're drunk, right? You have joked enough. Avoid going too far. Gabrielle's relatives will be concerned if she returns late and inebriated." Jax rushed in to interrupt them, seeing Gabrielle's mood deteriorate. What they said was not pleasant.

What kind of mood would Gabrielle be in following that? Jax didn't intend for Gabrielle to be ashamed. As he had welcomed Gabrielle here, he would return her. He feared that if they continued to create a scene, they would anger her greatly. Jax never wanted to see her sad.

The two girls forced Gabrielle to drink and that was enough irritation. If they continued to cause trouble, she would get angry. What if she never spoke to him again?

Jax was incredibly protective of Gabrielle. He wasn't going to let her suffer or become upset because of them.

"Jax, it is not acceptable to defend Miss Jones in this manner. We are all really good friends of yours. You cannot be so partial."

"Yes, Jax, it's unfair to be so partial."

"Well, you people are being too much. I'll return Gabrielle first. You may play independently. Order whatever you like to eat or drink. I'll return shortly."

Jax cautioned them against going too far.

"Gabrielle, after you." Ignoring their protests, Jax extended his hand and was ready to take Gabrielle's arm into his.

Gabrielle, on the other hand, avoided him unconsciously. She was, after all, married. She was married to Westley. She would have no personal communication with other males and no physical contact with them. As a result, she would automatically avoid intimacy with Jax.

## Chapter 687 Not Willing To

Jax felt embarrassed when Gabrielle dodged his hand, but he didn't show it on his face as he covered up with a smile.

"Gabrielle, you look like you are about to fall any second. Can't I even help you?" Jax rubbed his nose slightly to ease his embarrassment.

He just wanted to help her, seeing how she was wobbling, but Gabrielle dodged. He felt a little sad. However, he mustered up a smile and chose to respect her. After all, he had never thought of doing anything that could make her unhappy.

"No, thanks, Jax. I'm not drunk yet. Don't worry." Gabrielle waved her hand and smiled at him.

Although her smile looked very gentle as usual, Jax knew that it was a complete refusal to him.

He didn't say anything more and just followed her out while keeping his distance from her.

At the sight of this scene, people began to criticize, "How hypocritical she is!"

"She is so proud and arrogant even though she is nothing more than an adopted daughter."

"Don't talk about her so carelessly. Have you heard of what happened to Emily? Because she had a fight with Gabrielle, the Garcia family is nearly unable to keep a foothold in Antawood."

Due to this, the girls who liked to gossip didn't dare to do so anymore. This incident had been known by almost everyone in Alorith University.

Even though they felt happy that someone as arrogant as Emily was expelled from university, they didn't want the same thing to happen to them.

It was obvious that the misfortune of Emily had something to do with Gabrielle, so they'd better watch their mouth.

It could be assumed that Gabrielle's background was very powerful. Otherwise, Austin and Jax wouldn't have been protecting and courting her like this.

'Forget it. Anyway, we'd better watch our mouth. Don't gossip about others or the consequence would be unimaginable.'

As soon as Gabrielle and Jax walked out, a man in a black suit came out from under the shade of a tree.

The moment Gabrielle saw the man's face, a grin appeared on her face and she rushed to him happily.

"Honey, are you here to pick me up?"

Gabrielle was so excited to see Westley when Jax, who was standing next to her a moment ago, had a disbelief expression on his face.

'This man is Westley Morris, the CEO of the Morris Group and also the most famous big shot in Antawood! What's going on? Is he the husband of Gabrielle?'

He just heard clearly that Gabrielle had called Westley 'honey' in the endearing tone. He could also see the man holding Gabrielle with a doting and worried look on his face, in case she slipped down.

Every passerby could see that they were a couple. Westley was Gabrielle's husband!

In an instant, so many things began to make sense for Jax. No wonder Emily became like this after Gabrielle was bullied by her at school. Not to mention that because of Emily, the Garcia family almost couldn't keep a foothold in Antawood. It could be assumed that all of this were done by Westley for

mistreating his wife.

It seemed that Westley was willing to do anything if it meant he could protect his wife.

Someone like Westley could only do things ruthlessly like this. A man like him deserved to be Gabrielle's husband!

However, it was a shocking matter to Jax as he couldn't accept the fact at once. He looked at the couple holding each other with a stunned look on his face.

"Mr. Morris?" Jax swallowed and called out hesitantly.

He felt as if he was seeing a ghost, or rather, he was drunk, so he was having such a ridiculous illusion. In order to prove his own guess, he closed his eyes and opened them again. Nevertheless, no matter how many times he did that, he still saw that it was indeed Westley who was holding Gabrielle in his arms.

"Oh, right. Honey, let me introduce my classmate to you. This is Jax. Jax, this is my husband, Westley Morris. You must have heard of him, right?" Clutching the sleeve of Westley half drunk and half awake, Gabrielle introduced them to each other.

The word "husband" made Westley very happy.

At first, they had made a deal that they wouldn't make their relationship public for the time being, but for Westley, he was ready to announce it at any time and was excited about it to do so as well. He was willing to make it public whenever Gabrielle agreed. Now that Gabrielle was willing to introduce him to others as her husband, of course Westley was over the moon.

Instantly, a strong sense of pride filled his nerves. After all, this was a confirmation that he had gained an important place in Gabrielle's heart. He wanted to shout at the world to let everyone know that he was her husband, especially to the men who liked her, like Jax for example.

How could Jax not have heard of Westley? It could be said that there was no one who didn't know him in Antawood. He was like a celebrity who was more famous than the world stars.

"Mr. Morris, I didn't expect that you would be Gabrielle's husband. It's so unexpected to meet you here. Nice to meet you. I'm Jax, Gabrielle's classmate." Jax stretched his hand out as he greeted Westley seriously.

However, Westley had no intention of shaking hands with Jax at all. He just glanced at him coldly and replied nothing.

Of course, Westley knew the identity of Jax and what he had been up to. This was the man who had confessed his love to Gabrielle, but was refused.

For a person like Westley, it was impossible for him not to know about the men who tried to get close to his wife. If they dared to have any ill intention towards Gabrielle, he would ask someone to deal with them immediately.

There was no way he would let anyone dangerous get close to his wife again.

His current impression of Jax was that he seemed to be a moral man as he hadn't done anything getting out of line. If not, he would have dealt with him.

"Mr. Nelson, thank you for sending my wife to me." After a pause, Westley briefly said before holding Gabrielle in his arms. His intention was clear, he didn't want to talk to him anymore.

"You're welcome, Mr. Morris. Please take good care of Gabrielle. She drank a few glasses of wine and got a bit tipsy." For a smart person like Jax, he naturally could read Westley's attitude. He knew that Westley looked down on people like him. So, he might as well stop trying to talk to him.



After all, how could a nobody like him attract the attention of a big shot like Westley?

In fact, Jax was wrong. It was not that Westley looked down upon him. It was just that Westley knew he liked Gabrielle secretly. That was why Westley purposefully ignored him.

Towards another man who had a secret crush on his wife, wouldn't it be ridiculous if he acted friendly to him?

No way! He wasn't willing to.

"Okay, Mr. Nelson. I'll take Gabrielle back." He didn't have much time to talk to Jax either because he wanted to take Gabrielle back to their room and make her comfortable as soon as possible.

Westley knew that Gabrielle was drunk the moment she pounced on him. He could smell the strong alcohol scent on her, but he wasn't surprised at all. After all, he had been standing under the tree for a while and witnessed Gabrielle drinking from afar.

"Honey, let's go back. Carry me, will you?" Gabrielle put her arms around his neck and whined, acting like a spoiled child. She had completely relaxed her vigilance now that she was with Westley. 2

It was the first time that Jax had seen Gabrielle behave like this and he was stunned for a moment.

Only in front of the person she loved so much would she relax so naturally as she completely trusted that person.

"Alright, I'll carry you back." Westley lifted Gabrielle up agilely as if she weighed nothing before walking away in long strides. 2

Even after they disappeared into the corner, Jax stood there alone for a long time, staring straight at the direction they left. His mind was full of thoughts.

Never in a million years would he have thought that the husband of Gabrielle would possibly be Westley.

It could be seen that the relationship between Gabrielle and Westley was really good and they loved each other to the extreme. Realizing this, Jax sincerely wanted to wish them happiness, but he was not willing to. After all, he had had a crush on Gabrielle for such a long time.

## Chapter 688 Settle Accounts

It was about a ten-minute walk from the square to their room. The chilly night wind blew as Westley carried Gabrielle through the quiet and shady path.

With Gabrielle's arms wrapped around Westley's neck, she carefully examined his features under the streetlights.

"Dashing, aren't I?" Westley couldn't help but laugh as Gabrielle was staring at him intently.

Seeing her like this, a smile formed on his lips. Her drunk face was a rare sight, and Westley thought it was cute.

He couldn't believe he would spend a lifetime with this woman. He was very fond of watching her every chance he got.

"Of course, my husband is the most handsome man in the world. I can't believe how charming you are." Gabrielle reached out for Westley's hand and gently caressed it.

Touching his hand made Gabrielle feel giddy. Westley's hand was much bigger than hers. She didn't want to let go of it at all.

"Do you like it?"

"Yes, it's cute. I'm so happy. Everything about my husband is amazing." Gabrielle's words made Westley blush.

It wasn't every day that he would get a confession like this from Gabrielle. After all, she was very demure. If Gabrielle wasn't drunk, he wouldn't get to listen to her saying these kinds of words.

So he thought he wouldn't stop her from drinking as long as she was able to control herself and not get addicted.

A few moments ago, he had been standing under the shade of the tree, ready to pounce and take Gabrielle away. If anyone else had forced her to drink, he would jump in without hesitation.

That would startle all of them. Gabrielle was taken away by the CEO of the Morris group out of the blue. Rumors would escalate.

He would frighten the living daylights out of them.

If that happened, he wouldn't care if Gabrielle would get mad at him or not. He also didn't care about what people would think. He'd just snatch her away in a heartbeat.

"Honey, will you promise to be my husband until my last breath?" Gabrielle whispered, looking at him tenderly.

Her eyes were clear and firm as she looked up at him. It made Westley think that she was not actually wasted.

"I will be your husband for as long as you want, my Gabrielle. You wouldn't want anyone else, right?" Westley asked, smirking.

"You're the best husband ever. I don't need anyone else, just you. Just my Westley." She tightened her arms around his neck as if she was scared he would run away.

This made Westley's heart flutter. It was a night he was never going to forget.

When they returned to the hotel, Gabrielle was still in his arms, but she had already sobered up.

Westley sat on the couch with her in his arms, softly placing her on his legs. They exchanged glances

with each other.

Gabrielle kept smiling since she was still a bit tipsy. She liked staring at her husband like this.

"What is it, Gabrielle?" Westley asked softly.

He figured Gabrielle had something on her mind.

"It's nothing." She shook her head and then leaned onto his chest.

The intoxication made her even cuter.

"I could never get tired of looking at you, Westley. You're dazzling," Gabrielle whispered, caressing his face.

"Can we talk now, Gabrielle?" Westley chuckled in a deep voice and tried to keep her from touching him.

This lovely, silly girl deserved to be spoiled and loved for the rest of her life.

"Alright, honey. What did you want to talk about? I will listen to you anytime." Gabrielle was behaving like a little child.

"How much did you drink back there?" Westley sighed, smiling.

Gabrielle had always been obedient to him. She could totally answer his questions even when half-conscious.

"It was around... let's see... two? Oh, no, three glasses! Just three glasses of wine." Gabrielle giggled and extended her hand to show three fingers to Westley.

She remembered it well, so she wasn't very drunk at all.

"Mm-hmm, three glasses. Didn't we both agree that you can't drink outside, especially with other men? Do you recall?" Westley tried to tone his deep voice down. He didn't intend to scold her. ①

Gabrielle was busted.

He did tell her that and they made a deal, but she couldn't admit it right now. She would try to use alcohol as an excuse. ②

"Honey, I'm not sure, but I'd like to dip in the hot spring bath, can we?" Gabrielle immediately changed the topic.

She didn't want Westley to ask her about it again and again. She would feel guilty if he did.

Gabrielle thought that Westley would get mad at her for drinking, but it turned out he was settling accounts with her.

Drinking made her feel a little bad, but she went ahead and did it anyway because she knew Westley was watching her. Whatever happened, Westley would come to the rescue.

She had no idea when she had become so dependent on Westley, but she trusted him with everything.

If Westley wasn't around, she wouldn't have taken a single drop of alcohol.

"As you wish." Nevertheless, Westley couldn't refuse her, so he picked her up

Each building had its own little hot spring in the back. There were small walls and very shady green plants, forming a natural barrier. The private hot spring behind the building could not be seen unless guests entered through the front door.

It was a great spot for couples or families to spend their holiday there, since they could relax in a private hot spring bath.

Westley gently lifted her up and put her on the deck chair.

"Wow, the water must be incredibly relaxing." Gabrielle was in awe. Her inner child had awakened

again. She stood up by the spring and stared at the misty steam.

Novo Resort was popular because of its hot springs, so it was the main attraction. They should savor this opportunity and enjoy bathing.

"Wait here, I'll grab us some towels and bathrobes." Westley then turned around and walked back into the room.