

# The Day I Kissed An Older Man By Cher the Cherished

## Chapter 491

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Cole was extremely eager and had already removed his shirt. He removed his belt from his trousers and said, "Don't bother! You have such fair and tender skin, and you smell heavenly too. There's no need to take a bath! Just take off your clothes and get on the bed!"

Corinne blinked her eyes, lowered her head, and smiled shyly. "Okay, but you need to close your eyes. I get shy when I'm undressing in front of someone else."

Her words were music to Cole's ears since she was starting to get into the moment.

"You love playing hard to get, don't you, my sweet little thing? Okay, I'll play along! I'll close my eyes right now, and I promise I won't peek when you take off your clothes!" Cole smiled at the end of his sentence and closed his eyes.

Suddenly, Corinne's expression turned cold, and she took out her phone. She tapped on the camera app, switched it to video record, and aimed it right at Cole's face. She then made a point to speak seductively, "Mister Cole, who told you that I'm good in bed?"

Cole licked his lips and rubbed his hands together. "You don't need to worry about that. Just take off your clothes! I can't wait to see my sweet little baby's beautiful body."

Corinne reproached him playfully, "You're such a naughty boy! Don't open your eyes, okay? I won't take off my clothes if you don't tell me who told you!"

Cole slurped in his saliva and smiled obscenely, "Okay, okay! I'll tell you! It's Rosie! She told me you're a pro at playing the kinds of games men love, so I wanted to have some fun with you too."

'So that's who it was!'

Corinne then giggled coquettishly. "Really? You trust her a lot, though. What if she's wrong?"

“I don’t care if she’s right or wrong. You’re mine today!”

“And what if I say no?”

Cole thought she said that purposefully just to make things more exciting and replied, “If you say no, then you can’t blame me for being a little rough with you! I’ll enjoy every inch of your body, even if it means forcing myself on you!”

Corinne snorted slightly and said, “Okay, Mister Cole! You can open your eyes now!”

Cole opened his eyes eagerly, but when he saw that Corinne was still fully clothed, he lashed out furiously at her.

“What are you playing at? Hey, b\*tch! Why haven’t you taken off your clothes?!”

Corinne glanced with satisfaction at the video she recorded on her phone and saved it before saying nonchalantly, “Those games you mentioned earlier that men like to play? Well, I’m not

a pro like you claimed I am. You’ve got the wrong girl if you wanted to have fun.”

“You f\*cking b\*tch! How dare you trick me? You had the choice of doing it the easy way or the hard way, so if you’re not going to take off your clothes, I’ll make sure to strip you naked!”

Cole lost his patience and rushed towards Corinne like a hungry wolf. Corinne remained calm as he delivered a swift and firm kick to his crotch!

Cole’s face turned purplish, and he covered his crotch in agony. Tears streamed down his face as he let out a muffled groan.

“Were you seriously thinking of forcing yourself on me when this is all you got? What a loser!”

Corinne waved her phone and replayed the video that she had just taken. “Everything you said earlier has been recorded, Mister Cole. It should be enough evidence for a court of law to charge you with attempted rape.”

The tables were turned on Cole, and he said, “Darn b\*tch! You…”

At that moment, a voice came from outside the room. "Lucas, I saw your secretary Corinne follow a man into this room. She's not in any danger, is she? It looks like she went in voluntarily with that man!"

It was none other than Rosie's voice.

"Tch! Did she bring Lucas here to try and catch me in the act?' Corinne thought.

The doorknob was twisted forcefully from the outside, but the room door failed to open. Suddenly, Lucas's stern voice was heard saying, "Open the door!"

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Cole was visibly panicked when he heard Lucas's voice. He immediately picked up his clothes. that were strewn all over the ground and put them on.

"Lucas! It's me, Cole! I drank a bit of wine downstairs and felt a little dizzy, so I decided to rest here for a bit. It's just me and no one else! Is there something you need from me?"

'Crap!' he thought, 'I'm doomed! Why is Lucas here?'"

Cole seemed to have heard Rosie's voice saying that the woman in his room was Lucas's secretary, and he also recalled her saying that she came with her boss.

"This is bad!"

Had Cole known that would happen, he would have never dared to deal with Lucas's men!

"Open the door!" Lucas repeated. He did not bother to entertain any shenanigans from the other party.

Cole was left without a choice. He did not dare to piss Lucas off, so he hurriedly put on his clothes, went to open the door, and smiled wretchedly. "Why are you here, Lucas?"

Lucas's indifferent and cold gaze frightened Cole into backing away slightly. The man then walked into the room, looked around, and saw that there was no one else inside.

Cole was just as surprised.

'Wasn't the girl here? Where did she disappear to? Well, it's not like I'm complaining though. That way, Lucas doesn't catch me with her, and I don't need to find an excuse to explain the situation to him!'

"Who are you looking for, Lucas? Didn't I tell you that I'm resting alone in this room?"

As soon as Rosie heard that something was not quite right, she immediately walked in and searched everywhere around the room. A curious expression appeared on her face as she asked, "Hmm? Where did she go? I could have sworn I saw Corinne coming in here with Cole!"

Cole glared at Rosie and cursed at her in his heart for wanting to make his life difficult.

At that moment, the sound of rushing water was heard coming from the bathroom. Rosie immediately pointed in that direction and said, "She's probably in the bathroom!"

Lucas heard the voice from the bathroom as well, and he narrowed his eyes while asking Cole,

"Who's in there?"

"N-n-n-no one!" Cole had a guilty expression on his face.

Rosie had a shocked and ashamed expression on her face. It has to be Corinne who's inside there! She... She's probably taking a shower after they did the deed..."

When Cole saw that Rosie was the one who brought Lucas there, he knew that he had fallen for her trap and was burning with rage in his heart. After hearing her insinuations that Corinne was taking a shower after they had done it, he could not stop himself from cursing her.

“What nonsense are you blabbering about? Even if I did bring a woman in with me, she wouldn’t be showering now because we’d still be getting it on! I last long in bed!”

Rosie was speechless. She felt Cole was truly a shameless man who was fit to be with Corinne.

Lucas walked over with a sullen face and knocked on the bathroom door unceremoniously, ” Who’s there? Get out!”

However, apart from the sound of running water in the bathroom, no one responded, and no one came to open the door either.

“What’s going on, Lucas? Why are you and Rosie here? What happened?”

Anya passed by the door and walked in uneasily to ask what was going on. She deliberately brought a few relatives and friends over to poke their noses into what was happening, but she acted as if she just happened to pass by.

Rosie walked over to Anya and explained, “Lucas is looking for his secretary, Corinne, but who would’ve known that Corinne would come in here with Cole and... Umm... Do that.”

Anya blushed all of a sudden. “How could that be? Didn’t Corinne meet him for the first time at the banquet hall earlier?”

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Rosie pursed her lips and sighed. “Some people progress pretty quickly in their relationship and end up sleeping together after meeting for the first time. We’re probably too conservative, Anya. I don’t understand how any girl could sleep around like that...”

As soon as the girls that Anya brought overheard that, they took out their cell phones right and texted their friends to come over and see the commotion. That was exactly the kind of effect Anya intended to achieve.

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Abya wanted everyone to witness for themselves that Corinne was an unchaste woman who slept with a random man. That way, Corinne would fall behind in the race to win Jeremy's

heart.

Despite Anya's malicious thoughts, she had a kind yet helpless expression on her face as she sighed.

"Even though things progressed too quickly between Corinne and Cole, they're both single, and they have the freedom to do what they want with each other. We shouldn't be busybodies. Just let them spend their time with each other!"

'Freedom? Must she fool around in the room with a man she just met under the pretext of freedom?' A surge of anger came out of nowhere in Lucas's heart, and he was somehow unable to suppress it.

In the past two days, he saw that Corinne was a capable woman who had a good work ethic. Thus, his impression of her began to change, and he no longer felt that she was an immoral girl like he used to think.

Alas, that good impression he had of her had turned to disappointment and disgust.

'How could a good girl who acted the part of a proper woman and was capable in her work be so debauched as to accept the advances of another man who was just toying with her? Is this how her parents raised her?'

Lucas's patience enabled him to control his anger, but his voice was very calm and incredibly terrifying. "Open the bathroom door and tell her to come out, Anya!"

Anya put on a show of persuading her brother before finally walking to the bathroom door. Naturally, she-more than anyone else-wanted to see Corinne's image ruined after being made a fool in public.

She walked up to the bathroom door, knocked on the door in a fake show of courtesy, and said, "I'm sorry, Corinne, but I'll have to open the door if you don't come out!"

There was still no response.

Anya pretended as if she had no choice but to open the door and go in. "Corinne?"

No one was in the bathroom, and the sound of the water came from the bathtub being filled.

'That's strange. Where is she?'

Rosie went into the bathroom with Anya and was startled to see that there was no one there. The two of them then searched around in the bathroom but still could not find any trace of

Corinne.

A crowd had already gathered at the door of the room, and they were all waiting to see what kind of woman would be raunchy at a banquet that they could not wait to go upstairs and fool

around with a man!

After Anya told Lucas that there was no one in the bathroom, he walked into the bathroom to take a look before turning to Cole and asking, "Where's Corinne?"

Cole was just as baffled as they were. He did not know where Corinne went, nor how she managed to disappear into thin air. However, he was quick-witted enough to feign ignorance. and reply, "I don't know any Corinne! The person you're looking for isn't here!"

Lucas narrowed his eyes slightly in an intimidating manner. "I'll ask you one last time. Where is Corinne?"

Cole felt chills down his spine. "I d-d-don't... know who-"

"Mister Lucas! Were you looking for me?"

Corinne's voice suddenly came from behind the crowd.

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Lucas stiffened slightly, turned around to look at the source of the voice, and saw Corinne slipping through the crowd of onlookers from behind.

She walked up naturally to Lucas and asked, "Is there anything I can help you with, Mister

Lucas?"

Cole, Anya, and Rosie were all shocked by what happened. They were dumbstruck as to why.

Corinne was outside.

Lucas looked at her intently and asked, "Where did you go?"

Corinne answered calmly, "I didn't go anywhere. I was waiting downstairs for you to come back, but when I saw a lot of people running upstairs, I thought that maybe something serious happened. I followed everyone up to see what was happening. I heard you calling my name as soon as I came up, so I can't help but feel curious as to why you'd look for me here."

Lucas was speechless. 'How am I supposed to answer her? Do I tell her that I thought she was fooling around with another man?"

Rosie did not believe Corinne one bit, so she came forward to cast doubt on the latter's

statement.

"Don't act stupid, Corinne. I just saw you enter this room with Cole! You must've escaped in the chaos, and now, you're trying to pretend as if you just came from downstairs!"

Corinne looked at Rosie inexplicably, as if she could not understand what the woman was saying. "Who's Cole?"

Rosie glared at the exquisite makeup on Corinne's face as said, "Are you still going to play dumb?"

Corinne frowned. She was speechless at Rosie's remark and aggrieved by the accusation.

“I have no beef with you, Miss Rosie. Why do you need to slander me all the time? Are you bearing a grudge against me because you weren’t able to accompany Mister Lucas as his female companion today?”

She then turned around to look at Lucas. “Mister Lucas, perhaps next time you shouldn’t let a secretary like me accompany you to attend these non-work settings. I’ll become an easy target for those who have a crush on you, and they’ll see me as their rival. This’ll only cause unnecessary trouble for the both of us.”

Rosie’s face soured at once and she explained hurriedly, “Don’t listen to her nonsense, Lucas! I’m not like that. I’m certain I saw Corinne and Cole enter the room earlier!”

Lucas had an irritated expression as he glanced at the noisy, troublemaking woman. He knew that she liked him, and he only gave her a bit of courtesy because she was Anya’s best friend.

However, she had caused him no shortage of trouble during the past few years.

Everything that happened then probably stemmed from Rosie’s jealousy.

Corinne looked around at the crowd and asked, “Which one of you is Mister Cole?”

Cole was in a bit of a daze at that moment and he stood up in confusion, “Ahem, I am!”

Corinne smiled at him, “Hello, Mister Cole. I don’t know you, so I’m curious if you know me?”

Her question stunned him for a second, and he realized that he could never admit to almost forcing himself on Lucas’s secretary.

He shook his head immediately and said, “I don’t! Who are you? I don’t remember having met you before!”

“That’s right. We probably haven’t met each other before,” Corinne said to him before turning to Rosie. “As you can see, Miss Rosie, he and I don’t know each other at all.”

Cole's attitude changed from having a guilty conscience to that of someone who had

conviction in his belief.

He yelled angrily, "Yeah! We don't know each other! Lucas, I'm just a little tired after drinking some wine, so I came up here to take a bath and get some rest. I just turned on the faucet when

knocked on the door and left me feeling all confused!"

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Following that false alarm, Lucas felt a little ashamed that he had doubted Corinne but showed little courtesy to the kind of scum that Cole was.

"You're not fit to freshen up and rest here. Put on your clothes and go back home. You can do whatever you like there!"

Cole apologized with a flattering smile, "Hey now, aren't we cousins? What's wrong with me taking a bath here? You can't be that impolite to me, right!"

The corners of Lucas's lips twitched coldly as he asked, "Are you going home by yourself or should I get someone to send you home?"

"I... I'll go home on my own! I'll leave, okay, I'm leaving!" Cole said after seeing that Lucas was already prepared to instruct several men to deal with him. He had no interest in causing trouble for himself, so he buttoned his clothes in a hurry, picked up his jacket from the

ground, and left right away.

Once the excitement died down, the crowd at the door gradually dispersed.

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Lucas skeptically glanced at Corinne. When he noticed that she was only wearing her off-shoulder dress, he frowned a little and asked, "Where's the jacket that you were wearing?"

Corinne looked at her jacket-less shoulders and realized that the jacket was gone. ‘Crap!’

The jacket had accidentally fallen off when she jumped out from the bathroom windowsill and climbed into the next room. Her pregnancy had affected her nimbleness, and that sort of mistake was something that should never have happened in the first place.

At that point, she could only cook up an excuse and say, “I’m sorry, sir. I spilled a drink on your jacket and stained it, so I took it off downstairs. I promise I’ll compensate you at the original cost. You can tell the company’s finance department to deduct the amount from my salary every month.”

Lucas felt a little ashamed that he almost made the wrong accusation at her earlier, so he just waved his hands and said calmly, “Forget about it. You make it sound so serious when it’s just a jacket.”

“Thank you, Mister Lucas,” Corinne heaved a sigh of relief.

Anya gritted her teeth secretly beside them. She was the one who bought the jacket and gave it to Lucas, and it was a super expensive limited-edition piece no less.

‘Is Corinne the reason he doesn’t care about the jacket anymore?’

She had thoroughly underestimated Corinne and did not expect that the latter could have such an effect on her brother, who generally did not care much for women.

“What’s going on? Why is there a crowd over here? Did something happen?” A temperamental female voice asked. Amidst the solemn and gentle tones within that voice was a touch of maturity and sternness.

Someone then called out respectfully, “Missus Benet!”

“Hello, Missus Benet!”

“Missus Benet...”

“You’re here, Missus Benet!”

A woman in her thirties passed through the crowd. She wore a dark blue fishtail evening dress that oozed charm, elegance, luxury, and fashion.

Anya trotted happily toward her and called out sweetly, "Auntie!"

Rosie made a point to flatter her future aunt. "Missus Benet, the dress you're wearing today is so beautiful! It makes you look so pure, so graceful, and so magnificent!"

The woman glanced briefly at Rosie, ignored the sweetly-smiling Anya, and raised her mature yet charming eyes to look at her nephew Lucas. "What's the matter, Lucas? Why are there so many people gathered here?"

Lucas said, "Nothing. A brief and insignificant incident just happened, but everything's all right now."

Missus Benet had severe obsessive-compulsive disorder and abhorred it when people brought chaos to order. That included the order at her birthday party.

"Who did you come with today, Lucas? Where's your companion?"

Missus Benet had just posed her nephew that question when she noticed a woman beside him. Her gaze landed on Corinne and she asked, "Who's this person? I don't remember seeing her before."

Lucas introduced curtly, "She is my companion, Auntie."

Corinne looked politely at the young and elegantly-dressed 30-something woman and nodded slightly. "Hello, Ma'am. I'm accompanying Mister Lucas here today, and I'm also the new secretary of his company. My name is Corinne Carew."

Missus Benet's sharp eyes scanned Corinne from top to bottom. "Are you wearing 'Spirit in the Mist' from Comi's newest range of dresses this season?"

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Corinne smiled and replied, "Yes, Ma'am. I can tell that you know a lot about fashion if you could immediately identify the clothing brand at first glance!"

Missus Benet maintained her graceful and unsmiling expression. “I was present at the fashion show where Comi first introduced this dress to their lineup, and it left quite a strong impression on me. You have very good taste, young lady, and this dress looks amazing on you. I’d even go so far as to say that it looks much better on you than on the models.”

Corinne did not show any awkwardness after being praised and smiled heartily. “Thank you for the compliment, Missus Benet.”

Missus Benet had much admiration for the way Corinne carried herself. She scanned Corinne again, then finally looked into the young woman’s eyes as she offered, “My name is Mindy, and I’m the editor-in-chief of the weekly magazine ‘Fashion Pyramid’. Would you be interested in modeling for the pages of our magazine?”

Corinne’s height was 168 centimeters. Although she was not tall, her figure had good proportions, and her appearance was even more desirable in the industry due to her delicate yet energetic-looking facial features.

However, she politely declined and said, “I’m sorry, Ma’am. I’ve just joined Mister Lucas’s company, and I have no plans to change jobs at the moment.”

Missus Benet had a somewhat pitiful expression in her eyes. “It’s a shame for such a beautiful young lady to work as a secretary.”

Corinne smiled slightly in return. “It’s such a great honor to receive your admiration, and although I won’t switch jobs, I can always help out after-hours if your company requires me for a photo shoot.”

She then looked at her boss Lucas in a very respectful manner and asked for permission. “I should be able to work part-time after-hours, right?”

Before Lucas could say anything, Missus Benet acted in her capacity as Lucas’s elder and said, “You don’t need to ask him. He wouldn’t dare to refuse. He has no reason to say no when his aunt is just borrowing the help of his company’s employee! Your name’s Corinne, right? Leave your number with me and I’ll contact you later.”

There was nothing Lucas could say as he still had to show some courtesy to his aunt. Corinne took the cell phone that Missus Benet handed over and saved her cell phone number in the contact list.

Missus Benet looked at Corinne in satisfaction and grew even fonder of the young lady with every passing look. She had the feeling that Corinne was very familiar to her, but she could not seem to figure out why that was so.

Beside them, Rosie's complexion soured and she felt as if she had witnessed an extreme injustice when Corinne gained Missus Benet's appreciation without any effort.

Missus Benet was the editor-in-chief of an internationally renowned fashion magazine, and she was known to those within the industry as the 'She-Devil of Fashion'. In the past, the only people who could make an appearance in Fashion Pyramid were either global superstars or powerful people.

A country bumpkin like Corinne could never be worthy of modeling for the pages of Fashion Pyramid, and Rosie could not fathom at all what Missus Benet saw in her.

At that moment, Anya stepped forward and said with a sweet smile, "Why didn't you tell me that your company needed a model? I have plenty of time since I returned to the country, so I'm happy to help you if you ever need a model.

"Lucas's company is pretty busy all the time, so there's no need for you to burden his secretary. Corinne will probably be too busy to work as a part-time model!"

Missus Benet had an aloof and cold expression as she looked at her well-behaved and sensible niece. "It's not that I don't want you to be our models, but your appearance and temperament don't fit the style and target audience of Fashion Pyramid."

The smile on Anya's face froze, and she nodded with a slightly hurt expression. "Okay. I guess I thought too highly of myself, thinking that I could be of help to you..."

Rosie could not bear to see her best friend being looked down upon, so she stood up for Anya and said, "Isn't Anya beautiful enough? Did you forget that she participated in the Miss World beauty pageant before and even made it to the finals? Had she not withdrawn from the competition due to health reasons, she would've been crowned Miss World that year!"

"So what if she's crowned Miss World?"

Missus Benet glanced insipidly at Rosie and then turned to look at Anya. Her sharp eyes seemed to express her disappointment that there was nothing about Anya that could be appreciated.

“Anya is beautiful, but she lacks a certain carefree, easygoing, and confident temperament. She doesn’t strike anyone as being ‘unforgettable’-a quality that I value greatly.

“Fashion Pyramid’s market position focuses on uniqueness, freedom, and distinctness- qualities that Anya lacks. There is no need for her to push herself either. She should just stay at home and take good care of her health.”

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Missus Benet’s disapproval of Anya went way back.

Anya never had any personality from a young age, and she was so obsessed with boys that she became a spineless girl when she met Jeremy. If there was one thing Missus Benet hated, it was women who could not live without a man. Had Anya not been her niece, she would not even bother to look at the girl.

Rosie frowned. She looked at Corinne whom she hated with a passion and asked, “Is Miss Corinne prettier than Anya, then? Doesn’t seem like it to me!”

Missus Benet turned her head to look at Corinne and had the same look of admiration that she

had before.

“She’s unique. She might look like an adorable young woman, but there’s a strong valiance in her expression. Even her gaze is firm and unyielding. Most importantly, she exudes a disdain for men and power, and this is exactly the feeling that Fashion Pyramid has always strived for!

Rosie bit her lower lip in displeasure. In her view, Corinne was a natural-born vixen who could even sway a strong woman like Missus Benet!

Anya’s complexion was already at its ugliest, and she felt unable to hold her head up after her aunt demeaned her in front of so many people.

Her aunt was a fashion freak who treated everyone in the family indifferently, and Anya was even more jealous when the woman showed such admiration for Corinne and even offered to

let her become a model.

Rosie even spoke up for Anya, but even then, Missus Benet's attitude did not change. She did not even give Anya a chance to step back from that embarrassing moment.

Anya felt humiliated, and she wanted to search for her brother Lucas in the hopes that he would shield her and stand up for her. However, as soon as she raised her head, her eyes

suddenly lit up.

Behind the crowd of onlookers was a familiar figure-the man whom she had been wanting to see for ages! She immediately became a little excited as she asked, "When did you arrive, Jeremy?"

Jeremy stood at the end of the crowd, with his protruding height and strong aura towering above a sea of human heads.

'Jeremy? He's here?!!

Corinne's heart trembled and she looked over suddenly.

As expected, Jeremy stood there expressionlessly like a sculpture, and his entire person was

exuding an icy chill. 'Why's he here? I thought the Holdens wouldn't attend a party organized by the Riveras?'"

Corinne's pupils trembled, and she unconsciously clenched her palms tightly as her heart.

spiraled into turmoil. She still ended up meeting that man in the end.

Anya walked through the crowd and half-jogged toward the love of her life. "Didn't you go on a business trip yesterday? Why'd you come back so soon?"

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Jeremy's sudden appearance shocked the crowd, and they all began to whisper among themselves.

"I'm not seeing things, am I? Is Jeremy Holden here at the Riveras' party?"

"He came here willingly for Miss Anya's sake, I presume? It's so touching that he's making an exception for the girl he loves by showing his favor to the Riveras despite their family feud!"

"I guess the Riveras and the Holdens are now slowly breaking the ice even though they've never interacted with each other before!"

"I heard rumors that he insisted on getting engaged to Miss Anya despite the objections of his family's elders!"

"Whatever it is, you can't deny that he's handsome. I'm so jealous of Miss Anya! As if having a handsome brother who dotes on her all the time isn't good enough, she even has a handsome and powerful future husband in Mister Jeremy!"

"Ah, I'm so jealous too!"

Amidst the whispers and the discussions, Jeremy lowered his eyes and responded curtly to Anya.

"Yes."

His one-word reply left a lot to the imagination. His deep and firm voice was carefree and casual, and the nature of his tone made everyone else feel as though the relationship between the two of them was much more solid than they first thought.

It could be likened to an old couple who need not speak much to convey their thoughts due to the intimacy, rapport, and understanding that they had developed over time.

Lucas, however, narrowed his eyes with animosity after seeing his younger sister standing with Jeremy. It had not occurred to him that Jeremy would show up there.

Then, as if by instinct, Lucas glanced at his secretary Corinne to see her reaction.

Corinne's expression remained as indifferent and calm as usual, and there was not much emotion on her face.

On the contrary, Missus Benet's emotions were showing, and she shot a cold glance at Jeremy. She then looked at her niece's obsession with him, whereupon a trace of loathing and dissatisfaction appeared in her

eyes.

Her high heels clacked on the ground and she walked over gracefully. "I don't remember inviting you to my birthday party. Is this how the Holdens usually carry themselves? By turning up uninvited at an event?"

Jeremy's face was as cold as ice and he locked his gaze on a certain person. After a long while, he finally turned to Missus Benet and said calmly, "Sorry to bother you, but I'm here to look

for someone."

Missus Benet frowned. "You're looking for someone? Who could you possibly be looking for at my birthday party?"

"A woman."

Missus Benet was not interested in the person Jeremy was looking for as she was too focused on her dissatisfaction with him for inviting himself to her party.

"It's bad enough that you came uninvited to my party. Have you abided by the rules? Did you bring a female companion?"

Her controlling side began to show, as she had a particular dislike for those who broke her rules. Jeremy did not look too kindly at Missus Benet, and his thin lips parted open slightly as he prepared to answer her.

To ease the tension between the two sides, Anya smiled and said, "Auntie, Jeremy came here to look for me! I'm his companion for the day!"

Missus Benet was even more disgusted when she saw her niece's spineless response. Thought she frowned resentfully at Anya, she did nothing about it in the end.

Jeremy, however, did not cooperate with Anya's remark and ignored her completely as he stepped forward and strode directly toward a girl in a straight line.

Corinne gasped and thought to herself, 'He's like a curse that I can't get rid of!'

She prepared herself mentally for any eventuality and decided that she had to adapt to the situation regardless of what Jeremy did.

Jeremy's eyes were focused in her direction, and it almost looked like he had tunnel vision as he walked over to where she was.

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When he was one step away from bumping into Corinne, he moved past her smoothly and naturally as he continued to walk forward.

Corinne's body and expression froze slightly.

"It's late, so why aren't you home yet? Who gave you permission to come here?" he reproached in a deep voice behind Corinne.

Corinne came back to her senses and turned around to look over.

Amongst the crowd of onlookers was Annie, who had an awkward expression on her face. She answered stubbornly, "I was just socializing after work. It's not like I did anything bad!"

Annie pursed her lips as she answered Jeremy and turned around to look at Corinne. She waved her hands ever so slightly and sneakily greeted her with a smile.

Corinne suddenly realized that Jeremy was there for Annie. 'And I thought he was here for me. Well, it's good that Jeremy didn't come for Anya and showed no reaction when he saw her earlier. It couldn't have turned out better!'

At that moment, Anya walked past Corinne toward Jeremy and leaned close to him. Anya then turned to Annie and asked in a warm, gentle tone, "When did you arrive, Annie? Why didn't I see you earlier?"

Annie frowned a little and treated Anya indifferently. "Oh, I've been here for a while now. I was just dancing and chatting with some of my friends downstairs. I heard that something exciting happened here, so I came over to have a look. I didn't expect to run into Aun-"

Before she could complete her sentence and say 'Aunt Corinne', she sensed the death stare from Jeremy. His stare appeared calm, but beneath it was an endless current of negativity. Annie could only gulp and halt herself from saying anything further.

Jeremy said again in a stern voice, "Go home. Tommy will take you. He's waiting at the

entrance."

Annie would never dare to disobey her uncle's orders, so she had no choice but to cower in a bit of resentment. "Fine. I'll do as you say and go home!"

She felt annoyed that she had to be reprimanded by him in public when she was already an adult. It was incredibly embarrassing!

Annie then muttered angrily in a soft voice, "Sheesh! I'm already twenty-one! I'm not a child anymore. Can't I have some fun after getting off work? Is it wrong for an adult to come home. a little late?"

She continued to mumble to herself while walking toward the door, and as soon as she passed by Corinne, she made a point to glance at Corinne and stick her tongue out mischievously.

Corinne's lips twitched and she looked at her with a smile. It has been a while since she saw Annie, but she still had the same old attitude that never ceased to make people worry.

With that, Annie went downstairs obediently while everyone else was whispering among themselves.

After Annie left, Anya sighed and said to Jeremy, "Don't you think you're too harsh on Annie? Since she's already here, why couldn't you have let her enjoy herself a bit before leaving? Even if she's late, she can always sleep at my place. I could also ask my driver to send her home too."

"She's got a bad temper. You won't be able to control her."

Anya smiled softly and said, "Oh... How so? I think her personality is pretty good. She's a bit like my younger brother, Sunny. They're both stubborn and mischievous at times, but they're still very sensible!"

Jeremy ignored Anya completely and looked up to stare at Corinne. It was almost as if thousands of invisible threads came out from his pupils and wrapped tightly all around her.

Corinne could feel the pressure, and her heart was starting to become flustered despite maintaining her calm exterior. If she had the chance to leave that place, she would do so without the slightest hesitation.

## Chapter 500

All of a sudden, there seemed to be some sort of pressure bearing down on everyone, and the scene became deathly silent. Everyone thought that the atmosphere was a bit strange as Jeremy seemed to be staring at Lucas's female secretary with a cold and sharp gaze.

Jeremy had a conflicted yet dangerous expression that sent chills down one's spine.

Missus Benet also noticed that something was amiss with Jeremy's gaze, since there did not seem to be a logical reason as to why Jeremy would stare so intently at Lucas's secretary.

'Isn't he satisfied with leading Anya on all this while? Has he taken a liking to another woman? Tch. Men are all the same. They always want the best of

both worlds. He does have a good eye, though. Corinne is an outstanding young lady whose beauty makes it difficult for those who lay eyes on her to look away.”

Missus Benet did not welcome Jeremy’s presence, and she was prepared to call someone to remove him from the venue.

One of her male servants was looking all around him, and his eyes lit up as soon as he spotted her. He then walked in quickly and said hurriedly, “Missus Benet! You’re here! The old man sent me over to inform you that he wants to speak with you.”

Missus Benet frowned. “What is it?”

The male servant shook his head. “He didn’t say what it was. He merely told me that it was urgent and asked me to inform you that he wants to see you as soon as possible!”

“Okay,” Missus Benet said before turning to the guests and letting them know that she would have to excuse herself for a moment. She then immediately followed the male servant.

The pressure-filled silence was lifted by that brief exchange and everyone started to whisper among themselves.

“Why is Mister Jeremy staring so intently at that girl?”

“Do they know each other?”

“Miss Anya is right by his side, but he doesn’t seem to have looked at her more than once!”

“What’s going on?”

Anya could not have been happy to see Jeremy staring so intently at Corinne, especially not after she heard the whispers of those around her. She stretched out her hand, deliberately tugged on the man’s sleeve in a coy manner, and asked, “Are you tired after your business trip? Do you want to get some rest first?”

Jeremy’s gaze remained fixed on Corinne and he answered Anya bluntly, “No. I’m leaving.”

Anya's expression became a little weird and she forced a smile like a well-behaved doe. "Okay,

Jeremy. I'll go with you."

Lucas did not want his sister to go with Jeremy at such a late hour, so although he had kept

quiet the entire time, he still stepped forward and said, "You're already here, so why don't you stay for a drink?"

Rosie came over as well and said, "Yeah, Jeremy. You should stay. Zeke and Gerald are here too!

As she said that, she deliberately blocked Corinne from Jeremy's view.

Jeremy's expression remained unchanged. "No, thanks. I have other matters to attend to."

He then took a step forward and walked toward the door. As he passed by Corinne, he halted his footsteps abruptly and turned his head to give her a cold look.

However, he stopped for only a brief moment before closing his eyes again and walking away.

When Anya saw that he ignored Corinne completely, her worries were dispelled and she smiled secretly as she went up to him. "Wait for me, Jeremy! I'll go with you!"

With that, Anya left along with Jeremy.

Corinne's tense nerves relaxed slightly and she breathed a sigh of relief. As it turned out, she was merely overthinking. She was nothing to him after she served her purpose as a tool for him, and he would not hold her accountable for anything when they met-not that there was anything for him to hold her accountable, of course. She left after the cooperation between them had lapsed, and both sides did not owe each other anything.

On the contrary, she felt a little surprised at herself for panicking when she saw him.

Everything was back to normal at the party, and Rosie snorted as she gave Corinne an annoyed look. From the looks of it, Corinne was no longer important to Jeremy, and he had no intention of talking to her anymore.

Rosie then had a shy expression and she hesitated for a moment before walking over to Lucas with a blush on her face. “Do you have time, Lucas? I’d like to dance with you downstairs if that’s okay.”

Lucas was unmoved. “Could you please bring Anya home? It’s late, and I don’t want her going around out there.”