

Arabella 561

Chapter 561

School **starts** tomorrow.

On this day, Arabella didn't go to the office but was dealing with some personal stuff in her bedroom.

After a while, her phone lit up.

[Sweetie, this is the dorm I set up for you. Do you like it?]

Arabella opened the picture and saw a luxurious dormitory with four bedrooms, two living **rooms**, and each bedroom with its own bathroom and balcony. She could even see the sea from the balcony.

There was also a small kitchen in the dorm, which was fully equipped with a fridge, oven, and other appliances.

"This is way too luxurious," Arabella replied.

She was going to school, not **on** vacation.

[I know you like to keep a low profile. To avoid drawing attention, I had a new dormitory building built and announced that it was for the outstanding students!]

amusing: "You really

granddaughter, I even changed the chefs in the cafeteria. I can't wait

by the principal's office tomorrow. It's been a while since I saw you last. I

Arabella replied, then received a WhatsApp message from Kelly

see you at the medical school tomorrow!]

didn't hesitate to apply for the same one. Rumor

T

replied, telling her that the new

this in case she feels uncomfortable." Louisa picked up a medicine box and stuffed it into her suitcase.

Bella is a doctor

interrupted him, saying, "Even doctors can't cure themselves. It's always good to have medicine on hand

packing so much food for Bella, especially

they have a fridge in the dorm."

lit

dorms were so

Bella can get used to the food

Chapter 562

Pulling the plug right before school starts, that's quite a curveball.

"Maybe we can just let Bella skip it, or we could get her a sick leave," Kenneth proposed. "we could get our family doctor to write her a sick note."

"Right."

That should work, right?

"Dad, Mom, I'm swamped with work most **of** the time, so taking part **in** these extracurricular activities **could** be a pretty cool thing."

She's been wanting to get in on these extracurriculars for a while.

But Kenneth and Louisa just can't bear to see their baby girl suffer; **it** really broke their hearts.

"I'm against the idea of buying land to build a mall; you guys better toss that plan."

"Bella."

wanted to say more, but then David came back,

products I find most useful. You take them; you'll

he emptied the bags; there were over a dozen sunscreens.

such a

oh, and this is a towel for drying hair, and this." David brought out a bunch of

things through more carefully than she had; she was

her head a pat, and said affectionately, "I will visit, you whenever I'm free!"

need You face is too

I promise no one will recognize me!" David finished, gave her head another

now? Your sister's starting school tomorrow; can't you spend more time

it's about to arrive; I'm going to get

just going to school would create such a hustle and bustle.

to bring so much

stuff to your

even brought

your new

this,” Louisa was getting choked up

Chapter 563

“Alma Collins is going to the same school too. We’ll have fun messing with her.”

At Martha’s words, a gleam of delight flashed in Serena’s eyes. The thought of what was to come made her giddy with excitement.

Come evening, Romeo showed up personally, bringing along a bunch of stuff essential for Arabella’s college life.

“Romeo, you’re so thoughtful, preparing all these things for Arabella. Want to come along with us tomorrow to drop Arabella off at school?” Louisa invited him with warmth.

Romeo accepted the invitation instantly, agreeing in his gentle manner.

“Has Shirley McMillan’s health improved recently?” Kenneth asked amiably.

“She’s responsive now. Arabella says her condition will get even better if she continues her medication.”

“That’s wonderful.” Louisa hadn’t **expected** her daughter to be so proficient in medicine. It looked like Bella could pursue a career in the medical field along with her brothers.

“All thanks to Arabella.” Romeo was equally astonished. He hadn’t expected Arabella to resolve issues that even top-notch doctors couldn’t.

Suddenly, Romeo recalled the day Grace passed away. Arabella had sobbed, saying there were people in this world she couldn’t heal.

Every time he thought of the helpless and pitiful little girl, his heart ached uncontrollably.

“I can go by myself tomorrow.”

At this moment, Arabella was seated on the couch, one hand holding a glass of lemonade, the other resting on the armrest, radiating a powerful aura.

The little girl who used to cry in sorrow was nowhere to be seen.

She had been a professor at Summerfield College for a long time. For her, going to school was just a new life experience.

However, all three of them protested, “No way!”

How could they let her go to school alone?

family accompanying them

down the stairs, laden with stuff. “Arabella, take these to school.”

and down multiple times today. This time, he had prepared a bunch of his autographed photos for weren’t available on the

left

David placed the autographed photos in her suitcase. "These are my autographed photos. Give them to your classmates. They'll definitely help you build good relationships. If your classmates want to video call or voice chat with me, as long as they're good to you and truly

"Thank you."

are you being so formal with your own brother?" David pulled out more autographed photos from his pocket. "These

even more

been home for so long, I haven't given you my autograph yet. These are photos of me in your favorite poses.

was struggling to hold back

guy was so narcissistic. Who would

were the case, Arabella would probably miss her

said helplessly to Romeo, "My son always does

Romeo, who prepared

prepared stuff too."

a bunch of skincare products in the morning? Plus, all

and Louisa continued chatting with Romeo.

said to David, "David, no need to fuss anymore. Come

David patted her head gently

The next morning.

woke up and glanced out the window, only to see a line of black cars

family's chauffeurs, dressed in uniform, stood

there to escort her to

little too

was just going to school, not getting married.

downstairs only to find Kenneth and Louisa dressed formally, directing the servants to move the servants, in uniform, were pushing a suitcase each, moving in an orderly manner outside.

"Dad, Mom."

so early. Did

Edith and the others? Of course, the whole family will send you off to school. My precious daughter going to college

Chapter 564

"What are you trying to say?" Arabella lifted her head to ask.

"I'm not like your brother; I don't have any photos for you to reminisce over. If you miss me, I can appear before you at any moment, so you can see me." Romeo's gaze was filled with gentleness and affection.

Arabella suddenly realized: was he competing with David for her affections? Was she imagining things?

At the school gate, Arabella wouldn't let him get out of the car, saying, "You'll attract too much attention."

"Are you afraid of me being seen by other students?"

"I'm worried you'll draw too much attention."

Romeo laughed heartily, then cupped her face with both hands, kissing her affectionately.

Kenneth, who was getting out of the car, accidentally caught sight of this scene and quickly looked away. "Young people these days really are different from our generation."

Louisa also saw this, but she thought it was quite normal. "You wouldn't understand; this is what being lovey-dovey looks like; it's sweet! It shows how much they are in love."

same?" Kenneth asked with

quickly swatted him away, saying, "Scram,

Kenneth: ???

was he called an old

"Keep in touch."

emotion and charm, and his embrace was filled with

got out of the car and walked away without looking

watched her independent and confident figure disappear, suddenly feeling she was quite heartless, not even looking back at

a strange

tried to keep a low profile today, the six luxury cars parked at the school gate still attracted a lot

"Is she a freshman?"

looks so

so classy and beautiful! A bit

those her parents next to her? They

feel like I've seen

Westerly College's environment was. This was their first time accompanying their

Chapter 565

The dormitory manager's eyes popped out when she saw Arabella. She instantly remembered the principal's instructions. He'd said a stunningly beautiful girl would be reporting today; one look at her would leave she gobsmacked. No doubt, this was her!

Arabella was slowly approaching, not even in the dormitory building yet, and the manager was already rushing out to meet her.

"Are you President Barton's granddaughter?" The manager blurted out, then quickly covered her mouth, "Oops, my bad, I wasn't supposed to spill. Barton wanted it kept hush-hush. Uh, you're Arabella Collins, right?"

"Hi."

"Hi, please come in. Are these two your parents? Come in too! And you brought bodyguards? Are they helping with the luggage?"

Arabella knew men weren't allowed in the girls' dormitory, so she told her driver, "Leave the luggage here."

"No, no, let them help you with it. You're so petite, how could you lug these heavy things around?"

The dorm manager was all smiles. She put her arm around Arabella's shoulder and said warmly, "Don't worry about a thing; I've got your back during your college life! But there's one thing, mate. The guys' dorm manager gets a pay raise every three years. I've been here for six."

Arabella got the hint and nodded, saying, "I'll mention it to my grandfather."

good kid. Now go on up and show your parents

their conversation, Kenneth and Louisa were completely

was President Barton's

Since when?

Barton had also taken Arabella as his

much interaction with him. Their

Barton to take extra care of Arabella at school, they would have

even made the call yet when

asked as soon as they got in

Grandpa Alberto. He's also given me some guidance in

So that was it!

really popular!" Louisa was thrilled. She had no idea

open

They looked over at the sound of the door opening and were instantly captivated by

stunning, and her demeanor was

beautiful, her skin fair, her figure perfect, and she radiated

you Arabella

Chapter 566

"Hey guys, I'm Bella's dad!"

"And I'm Bella's mom," Louisa popped up, donning a radiant smile.

The two girls were in awe when they saw Arabella's parents, exclaiming how classy they were! No wonder they had such a stunning daughter!

They sure looked like they were loaded!

"You guys all living together must be fate. Bella, didn't you bring some things to share with your friends? It's in suitcase number nine."

Beforehand, Louisa labeled each suitcase and sent a list of what was in each one to Arabella's phone.

Arabella opened up suitcase number nine and, in front of everyone, generously said, "Take whatever you guys want."

Seeing this, the girls were amazed. These snacks were brands they'd never seen before, and they looked pricey just based on the packaging.

And these fruits were several they'd never seen before; they had no idea what they were.

Yep, definitely a rich family!

were

"Here, don't be shy."

"Thanks."

things away. They

looks and actions were

your dorm?" After touring the dorm, Louisa nodded and smiled, saying, "Not bad,

the girls heard this, and her eyes widened. This dorm was already better than anything

Louisa's eyes,

was their house

the girl was quite

go chat and eat with your

Bella's room. With the help of the drivers, she personally

girls could tell Louisa was a rich lady; she probably

my luggage there; I'll pack it

head and said, "If you need something or anything's missing, just call me. Come home whenever you're

"Okay."

of yourself." Louisa suddenly felt very sad

worry, we'll

Chapter 567

Kelly was laughing her head off and turned to the other two girls. "Hi, ladies! I'm Kelly, Arabella's BFF."

The two girls were taken aback by another pretty girl joining them, and she was the bestie of the top student.

"So, your grades are also top-notch?"

"Hey there, I'm Joyce. Nice to meet you."

"I'm Mya; we're friends from now on!"

The four girls were having a blast. Moments later, Arabella's phone rang.

"Bella, why are you still not here? I'm on pins and needles. You like your dorm, right?"

"Pretty good." Arabella didn't expect to snag the top-floor room with a killer view. "I'll be there soon."

"I'll be waiting in the principal's office." President Barton hung up the phone with a chuckle.

asked about her new school, her new classmates, and how she was

her room and sent it over,

get some drinks; it's sweltering! The school's got a bunch

unpacking, so they had to

bring some back

girls were too

super generous. She didn't

school just got a makeover; the walls were covered in graffiti, looking pretty

shopping around with Kelly for a bit, they were about to

Kelly was astonished. "Yolanda?"

the nerve

hers online make her

importantly, how could the school accept

noticed them too and immediately stopped

by Mrs. Panter, leaving scars, but she had makeup

scrunched her brows and stepped up to Arabella, resentment in her voice. "My parents

coldly. "Not

were they still alive when her

Chapter 568

In the car, Romeo was incessantly checking his phone, finally getting the text he'd been waiting for.

Just a simple message: All is well. Accompanied by a photo of her dorm room.

But the first thing Romeo noticed was her slender figure, reflected on the glass door as she took the photo.

She looked stunning.

As he was about to reply, there was a knock on the car window.

"Romeo," Serena was standing outside the car, smiling sweetly, "It's stuffy in the car. Why don't you come out for some fresh air?"

Ignoring her, Romeo went back to his text. Serena knocked on the window again.

"You must be bored all alone in the car. No one to chat with. All the drivers are helping my sister move her stuff. Mom and Dad aren't here either. We've got nothing to do, so why not grab a coffee at a nearby café and wait? Romeo, are you even listening?"

She deliberately pressed her chest against the car window, trying to get Romeo's attention. But he didn't even glance at her, focusing on his phone as if she didn't exist.

Feeling embarrassed and frustrated, Serena looked to Martha in the other car for encouragement.

"Romeo, I don't mean anything by it. We grew up together; can't we even have a cup of coffee now? What could I possibly do to you with all these people around?"

"I'm engaged," Romeo said coldly without looking up from his phone, "keep your distance."

Upon hearing this, Serena put on a pitiful look.

the icy

Serena could finish, Romeo shot her

had a knack for rubbing

but if you'd rather stay in the car, I can join you." Serena said in a soft

gaze turned

"Romeo."

even if you have plastic surgery to look like

first time Serena had been humiliated like this.

hypocrites and selfish people, and people who think

bit her lip, holding back

cushy life

Serena ran back to her car and

not self-centered." Serena sobbed inconsolably in Martha's arms, feeling wronged. "What does Arabella have that I don't? Just because he's a billionaire, does that make him so great? His words were too

like Mr. McMillan are naturally arrogant. Winning his heart isn't easy. Otherwise, every good-looking girl

Arabella? She just plays the piano, slacks off

are cold and indifferent. It's their desire to

finally stopped crying and wiped her

enough. You should have cried in front of him; that way he would feel

go again?" Serena really didn't want to make a fool of herself again.

know you truly like him! Not like other girls

thought, Serena finally got

car window and said softly, "Romeo, I'm sorry I was wrong. Please don't be

her, and seeing a glimmer of hope, Serena said with a wronged tone, "Could you get out of the car while we

lowered her head, like a child

But to Serena's surprise.

The next moment, she heard the car door open.

Romeo's dress shoes came into view.

As his feet hit the ground, it felt like a dream to Serena. She couldn't believe it. She looked slowly up at his incredibly handsome face.

Romeo got out of the car!

He actually got out of the car!

He was standing right in front of her!

Martha was right; men can't stand seeing women in tears, looking helpless.

She had purposefully made that face, showing a bit more skin, just to get this reaction.

Just as Serena was about to let her joy show and say something, Romeo was already on the move, breezing past her.

The whole thing took only three seconds.

Serena stood there, dumbstruck, as he got into Carl's car, which quickly drove away.

It took her a moment to realize that Romeo hadn't gotten out of the car to hear her talk. He saw Carl coming to pick him up, so he got out.

From start to finish, all of this had nothing to do with her.

Her previous happiness vanished, replaced by embarrassment and shame.

In the car, Carl was driving and asking at the same time, "Boss, what's up? Weren't you supposed to drop Ms. Bella off at school today? Why the sudden change of plan? Did you have a spat with Ms. Bella?"

Chapter 569

"Me, argue with her?" Romeo sounded exasperated. Arguing was simply not in his nature; he'd rather let Arabella win.

"What the hell happened?" Carl was utterly confused.

"Just a pesky fly buzzing around my ears, getting on my nerves."

A fly? Carl was stumped. It took him a second to associate Serena with the fly. Could the boss be referring to Serena? Poor girl. In the boss's eyes, she was no more than a fly. Once upon a time, she was at least human. Now, she wasn't even that.

Romeo took out his phone again, dialed Kenneth, and said there was an urgent matter at the group that he needed to attend to. He would have to hitch a ride with Carl and have dinner with Arabella later.

problem, you do your

was puzzled, not quite

Kenneth chuckled on the other end of the

on, saying, "I'm

taken aback by his

raising her. I'm truly honored to be part of Bella's family. I'll come visit as soon as I've sorted out

Kenneth was still shell-shocked. Romeo sure had a way with words. What was his main point again? He left

a bunch of stuff to share with her dorm mates and treated them to dinner. Her warmth and cheerfulness quickly won the other two girls over. And because she always included Arabella, the other skincare products with the other two girls. They chatted and laughed in

After taking a shower, Arabella chucked her clothes into the washing machine and then stood on the balcony, listening to the investigation report.

"Martha and Serena are really mother and daughter! The DNA test shows a 99.99% match! It's like a soap opera!"

As she was drying her hair, Arabella calmly said, "I saw it coming."

"But it's confusing. How could a maid successfully place her daughter in your parents' care? There are two possibilities. After the health clinic explosion, Martha discovered her daughter had been swapped with the daughter from the Collins family. Seeing your family was well-off, she faked her death and worked as a maid in your home, hoping her daughter could lead a better life. The other possibility is that she has a puppet master. She might know who plotted the fire, but this seems less likely and raises a lot of questions."

For instance, with her level of intelligence, she's hardly the cunning type to pull strings for someone.

There's nothing particularly special about her that would make any puppet master favor her and ensure her survival.

Chapter 570

Actually, Serena's staying with the Collins family seemed to have no real bearing on the whole plan. It was totally irrelevant.

The fact that Serena was taken by mistake was actually a misunderstanding.

And Martha just went with the flow!

Was it not as complicated as they had initially thought?

[If we want to get to the bottom of this, we need to start our investigation from scratch.]

One thing was for sure, Martha was the woman in the same ward as Louisa at the hospital back then. She didn't die in the fire; instead, she managed to keep her head down and survive.

"So, who's Serena's biological father?" asked Arabella calmly.

[We're looking into it. I checked Martha's contact records with outsiders over the years and everything seems kosher. There's no man of her age who she's been in frequent contact with.]

Arabella remembered what Kenneth and Louisa had said earlier. They had people investigate it, and they found out that Serena's biological father had disappeared in the fire, and her biological mother was dead.

"Over the years, has Martha visited the graveyard, or secretly asked someone to visit it?" Arabella

continued to enquire.

[No, she's been working as a nanny at your house and rarely goes out. Is it possible that Serena's biological father changed his name, thinking that his wife and daughter died in the fire, and remarried?] Finding him would be a tall order if he had indeed changed his name and moved to a far-off city.

"Not sure."

Without evidence, Arabella couldn't jump to conclusions. She just said, "If Serena's biological father knew that his wife and daughter didn't die, and his daughter was living a good life, and his wife came to share this benefit, wouldn't he, as a father, want to share this benefit as well? Given Martha's character, she should have told him about this benefit. Investigate all the male employees the Collins family hired eighteen years ago."

[You mean, Serena's biological father might also be in your house? Could he be a driver, or a bodyguard?] her subordinate asked in surprise.

"This is just a hunch, just check it out and see if anything's been overlooked."

[Roger that!]

Once the serious conversation was over, Arabella's subordinate joked, [Is school fun? How about letting me in to experience life a bit?]

"Your face is too old."

Her subordinate was instantly bummed out by her words, [I'm only in my early twenties. If I wasn't running around helping you out all day, I wouldn't look this old.]

The thing was, he didn't think he looked old at all, so why did he seem non-existent in Arabella's eyes? Was it because she saw Romeo's face every day and it raised her aesthetic standards? That must be the reason why she's so hard on him.

"Enough said," Arabella didn't wait for him to say anything more. After hanging up, she picked up Romeo's call.

"Bella, who were you chatting with?" Romeo had called earlier, but she was busy. He tried again after a while, but still the line was busy. Now he finally got through.

"You've been talking for a long time, a male friend?"

"Yes, a guy, in his twenties," Arabella asked with a smile, "Do you need me to send you his details?"

So it really was a guy!

Romeo had a feeling that she might be on the phone with a guy since he couldn't get through.

"Okay, send it to me. I promise I won't cause him any trouble."

Arabella laughed and asked, "Did you need something?"

"I missed you; can't I call you only for that reason?" Romeo sounded a bit upset, "What did he want? Did he have something important to deal with? What could a twenty-something guy possibly have that's so important? Did you guys just meet today? Is he a classmate?"