

## Arabella 781

### Chapter 781

Cherry was severely reprimanded by her mother, and had to apologize sincerely, swallowing her pride.

"Last time at the club, I saw with my own eyes that your daughter picking a fight with my daughter-in-law, and then two days later, here she is again, under my nose, picking on my daughter-in-law.

Are the McMillians just easy targets? Even a kid can mess with us?"

Cynthia hadn't expected the club incident to come up and then gave her daughter a harsh slap on the shoulder, "Why are you always causing trouble?"

"I'm truly sorry, Jennifer. I've failed in disciplining my daughter,"

Cynthia bowed in apology, turning to Arabella, bending a full 90 degrees and sincerely said, "I'm really sorry. I haven't raised Cherry properly, but I promise you we'll work on it. It won't happen again."

"Mrs. Evert, you're not the one who did wrong. There's no need for you to apologize on behalf of her' Arabella's voice was cold and clear, without any hint of taking advantage of the McMillian's influence.

Cynthia noticed that Arabella's character matched Jennifer's well as if she was born into the McMillian family.

like

all Cherry's fault. She's been spoiled

said that, she turned to her daughter and

expect her mother to ask that and was at a

tone turned fiercer, "If the CCTV can't find it, I have my ways. Better tell the

mumbled with her head lowered, "I knocked

asked, "With what?"

so when I saw her passing by,

her a hard slap

at her mother in

I have raised you all these years? You can dislike someone, avoid them, not befriend them, but you absolutely cannot harm them! Today, not only did you try to harm someone, but you also did it through despicable means! How could you turn out this way? At eighteen, you're an adult,

her mother's

this is the Evert family's usual

time, Cherry couldn't brush it off and

guys?" Jennifer angrily looked at Cherry's

The girls were terrified and hurriedly apologized.

"We're sorry, Jennifer, sorry, Arabella. We did see Cherry knock the cupcake over but didn't stand up for Arabella, that was wrong of us."

"It's all my fault, please give me another chance."

"We're sorry, truly sorry."

Seeing how scared they were, Arabella and Jennifer decided to let

it go and went upstairs for afternoon tea.

Cynthia quickly arranged with the restaurant manager to have a tab, meaning that any expenses incurred by the McMillians or

Arabella in the restaurant would be charged to the Everts.

After that, she dragged Cherry home for a stern lecture.

Chapter 782

A few days later.

After wrapping up his work, Romeo decided to take Arabella out for a movie night.

But as soon as he got home, he found Arabella all dressed up, ready to go out.

"Out with Mom again?" He asked.

"Yep, Aunt Jennifer asked me to accompany her while shopping,"

She replied.

That had been going on for days!

Once Arabella had left, Romeo couldn't help but call Jennifer, "Mom, when are you and Dad leaving for your trip?"

sounded cheerful, "I realized that

his voice, "Don't you love traveling the world? Weren't you supposed to set off right after

with Bella than looking at the beaches of Maldives. Bella won't be home for dinner tonight, you'll have to manage on your own. I

to take Bella to see the waterfalls, but his mom

at the sea, but again, his mom got there

by the time he got home and was ready to

house, Romeo felt frustrated but

the other side

with Jennifer, had visited several luxury

into would close its doors to other customers, providing exclusive service to them to make them feel in a top-tier

and Arabella around, introducing various items and curiously wondering

before; The store manager complimented genuinely, "She's

chuckled and asked, "Do we look like mother

Mother and daughter?!

like sisters. But the young lady does have your

"We are family; Jennifer said, then turned to Arabella and asked affectionately, "Do you like this dress?"

"I have too many dresses already; Arabella didn't want Jennifer to spend more, she had already bought her so many things. Anything that was good-looking and suitable, Jennifer had already bought it for her.

George couldnt even carry all the shopping bags, so he had the driver take a car full of shopping bags home.

No matter what, she didn't want Jennifer to buy anymore.

However, the store manager and the employees all said, "Please accept Mrs. McMillian's kind gesture."

"We've never seen Mrs. McMillian bring any girl here before, let alone select clothes for her. She must really like you."

"Your skin is so fair. Wearing this dress would make you look like a fairy descended from heaven."

"If you wear this dress and walk with Mrs. McMillian, everyone can tell that you're family."

In the end, the last comment captured Jennifer's heart. She generously said, "I'll take this one in small."

"Yes, Mrs. McMillian; The store manager was overjoyed and personally went to wrap it up.sea

Chapter 783

"Mrs. McMillian, your taste is impeccable. You've picked out the crown jewel of our store."

"Mrs. McMillian must really care for you, splurging on such an elegant and expensive dress for you."

"I'm so envious."

"Yes, you are indeed fortunate."

Compliments flowed around Arabella. After a while, Jennifer had purchased quite a few items. George, unable to carry any more, called their chauffeur to ask where he was.

"Alright, I'll be waiting for you at the entrance."

After ending the call, George, weighed down by dozens of shopping bags, turned to Jennifer as he said, "Honey, I'll bring these bags to Gene first, then I'll come back to help you with your shopping."

"Go ahead," Jennifer picked a few more dresses, asking Arabella for her opinion. She seemed intent on buying her the entire store.

a sudden pain shot through his back, his  
excused herself to Jennifer before rushing over to  
up. I'm getting old.

"I can carry it."

laden with over thirty shopping bags, Arabella felt  
can handle it; George could never let his daughter-in-law carry the

"But your back."

"It's alright, really."

then, a female voice squealed in disbelief,  
a young

yours?" George was about to

Arabella averted her gaze and said to George, "We're not close. Let  
still young, we can't let you carry

"I'll insist.

"No, really, I can."

still being her dismissive self, Yolanda felt

"Yoli, is this the sister you've mentioned before?"

Gerald had heard Yolanda talk about Arabella before, a woman who enjoyed being spoiled by older men, using their credit cards to fulfill her vanity, and scheming to put Yoli's parents in jail. She was a woman who looked down upon others and carried an air of arrogance.

He didn't expect to run into her that day!

"Some people spend their lives relying on men to buy them luxury goods, and not just any men, but married, older men. Yoli, don't you think she's pitiable?" Gerald added, placing a supportive hand on Yolanda's shoulder, looking down at Arabella from his high horse.

Arabella and George were both speechless. Both had the same thought, "What's his problem??"

Yolanda didn't know who that middle-aged man was, but his arms were laden with dozens of luxury shopping bags, clearly showing he was wealthy.

She didn't expect Arabella, who she thought had settled down, to be mixing with an older man, and worse still, extorting him into buying her all those luxury goods.

Even with Gerald's decent financial status, he would never buy her so many items at once.

She didn't expect that older man to be so generous towards Arabella.

With those thoughts, Yolanda was eaten up with jealousy.

Chapter 784

"Arabella, I can't believe after all this time you're still so flighty,"

Yolanda feigned shock, "You're a woman betrothed."

Couldn't she ask Romeo to buy whatever she wanted?

Why the need to use other men's credit cards?

Was it to flaunt her alluring charm?

Or had Romeo grown tired of her and no longer wanted to fund her shopping sprees?

As she pondered that, Yolanda saw a glimmer of hope. If Romeo took an interest in her, then she could soon surpass Arabella!

Arabella didn't expect Yolanda to still be so annoying after their time apart. She didn't even bother to look at her, took the shopping bags from George, and left with him.

had a sore back,

are you deaf?" Gerald was quite displeased with Arabella's

by several

she still think of herself as a pure,

your parents teach you any manners?" George was quite displeased with the young ones'

found that amusing, "What, you're brave enough

have we done?" George was baffled by

"Uncle,

hear that? She's calling you 'uncle'. Aren't you ashamed of yourself at your age? Do you know how many men she's been with

did you say?" George's

to slander his daughter-in-law in

said this woman is like a

onto the

lose his temper and start a fight. Angrily,

inside the store,

time, the mall manager hurried over with several security guards, all puzzled

But in just a few seconds, George had the young man pinned down, landing punch after punch, and declared indignantly, "You're so young and yet your tongue is so poisonous, what do your parents do? How did they raise such a scoundrel?"

"Stop, stop!" Yolanda was terrified. She didn't expect the middle-aged man to be stronger and more skillful than Gerald.

Gerald was so useless!

Just like any rich boy, he was like a flower in a greenhouse, unable to withstand any hardship.

He couldn't even best an old man on the brink of death!

The mall manager was taken aback by that scene and quickly dispersed the crowd. He bent over to George and respectfully asked, "Mr. McMillian, what's the matter?"

"This brat insulted my daughter-in-law, and I intend to deal with him myself. Everyone else stands aside."

"Uncle, your back."

Before Arabella could finish her sentence, George said, "I'm fine, I'm alright. This brat just mentioned a whore? If he doesn't need his mouth, I can sew it shut! He only knows how to spew filth."

Jennifer, who had just arrived, saw the scene, linked arms with Arabella, and watched the fight, amused, "Let him have it."

Chapter 785

Arabella didn't know what to say. She had seen George get the better of Gerald a while ago, which was why she didn't intervene.

She was just a bit worried about her future father-in-law's back.

When Yolanda heard the middle-aged man being addressed as Mr.

McMillian by the mall manager, a sinking feeling began to creep in.

Could it be, was he Romeo's father??

Just a moment ago, that man was accusing Gerald of being disrespectful towards his daughter-in-law.

So, it turned out Arabella wasn't with some older man but was accompanying her future father-in-law shopping. Standing shoulder to shoulder with Arabella, hand in hand, was her future mother-in-law?

Thinking that way, Yolanda felt doomed. Gerald's family background was no match for the McMillians.

was really done for that

she was planning to sneak away, she was quickly spotted by Arabella. Arabella gave the mall manager a quick glance and ordered, "Don't let

what are

overcome with fear, started running. But even as she sprinted with all her might, she was quickly restrained by a few security guards. She

moment, Gerald was beaten to a

from a family that owned a garment factory. What was so special about

any need for that shabby factory to continue

after the fight, said to someone over the phone,

that, he gave Gerald another kick, "Haven't

of collapse, saw Yolanda trying to

that he had loved the

sorry.' Gerald weakly said, "I heard she's been involved

dare to continue with that made up story?" George threatened, raising his hand to hit

instinctively used his hand to

one who spread these rumors? You know my daughter-in-law? Yet you deliberately slander her,' Jennifer, who was standing by, coldly stared at

the Yolanda I told you about before,'

so you're the bad girl." Jennifer realized, "Take

instructed a few security guards to take

"Bella, are you alright?" Jennifer finally checked on her daughter-in-law.

"I'm fine, but as for uncle."

"Oh, my back." George suddenly half-collapsed onto Jennifer, "Honey, it hurts, could you rub it for me."

Jennifer fell silent for a moment. Jennifer could tell he was faking it, but considering he had stood up for their precious daughter-in-law, she still rubbed his back a few times.

Arabella couldn't help but grin. She was about to pick up the dozens of shopping bags on the floor when the mall manager had someone help, even taking the bag from her hand, "We'll take care of these small matters. I'm truly sorry for what happened in the mall under my management."

"It's good that you know!" Jennifer glanced at him, "From now on, don't let them in."

"Yes, I got it."

George was still half-leaning on his wife, but reluctant to put pressure on her, simply enjoying that moment of bliss.

"I feel much better after you rubbed my back."

"SO many people are watching, aren't you embarrassed?"

"My back hurts, and you are helping me, why would I be embarrassed."

Chapter 786

Reflections Mansion.

Kenneth and Louisa were utterly shocked upon hearing that George had lost his temper and hit someone in defense of Bella.

In their eyes, George was not a man prone to anger or violence, especially not in public.

"That just goes to show how much Mr. McMillian cherishes his daughter-in-law, Bella. He can't bear to see her treated unfairly; Edith, their housekeeper, said with a grin, "Bella is truly blessed to have such caring in-laws."

"I heard that a couple of days ago, Jennifer even stood up for Bella and put the Evert family's daughter in her place,' Louisa added, feeling a wave of emotion. It was clear to her that George and Jennifer saw Bella as their own daughter and went to great lengths to protect her.

With such in-laws, she was confident that Bella would lead a happy life in the future.

"They're coming over tonight. Edith, have you prepared everything I asked for?" Louisa suddenly asked.

to visit that evening on Bella's

to not only buy

was unaware

everything is ready;' Edith answered, smiling, "The house has been thoroughly cleaned, fresh flowers have been placed in the vases, and there's no shortage of

had two

that moment, Serena entered the gate of Reflections Mansion, noticing the considerable changes in and around

you're finally here; Martha pulled her aside and whispered, "Have you decided on the piece for tonight's performance? And your dress? Do you

vacation and I missed my parents, so I decided to stay here

disappointed to see that Serena

could impress Romeo's parents, becoming the future daughter-in-law of the McMillian family wouldn't be a



even if Romeo loved Bella, could he really go against his  
and Mrs. McMillian have watched you  
more affection for you

Yet, she was doing nothing on her behalf to grab that golden opportunity!

"Martha, didn't you just say in our WhatsApp group that Mr. George and Jennifer have already taken Bella's side twice? They must really like her. I don't want to waste my time or compete anymore. There are plenty of men in the world besides Romeo. Worst case scenario, I'll remain single forever."

"But he's the best, the most capable, the most protective, and the most deserving of you!" Martha said passionately, her voice heavy, "Serena, I've watched you grow day by day. I truly can't bear to see you fall from the pedestal of a golden girl to an ordinary citizen.

Can you understand my feelings?"

Just then, Serena noticed Bella entering through the mansion gate.

"Alright, Martha, let's leave it at that. I'm going to my room now: "Serena, Serena.' Martha called after her, frustrated by her nonchalance.

Just as Serena was about to climb the steps to the main building, she heard Martha yelp. Turning back, she saw Bella standing coldly beside Martha, who had fallen to the ground.

Rushing over, Serena helped Martha up, asking, "Martha? Are you alright? Did you hurt yourself?",

Chapter 787

"Serena, it's okay, I'm just getting old and clumsy. I lost my footing.

It's not a big deal,' Martha's knees were scraped raw, and bruised.

From the sidelines, Arabella watched Martha's poor performance and coldly added, "Not only are you getting old, but your acting has gone downhill too, not what it used to be."

Martha didn't expect Arabella to be so sharp-tongued. Suddenly, she groaned in pain, clutching her waist.

"Is your back hurting?" Serena immediately became concerned, "Let me help you inside to get some ointment, see if you can stand up."

"Serena, don't worry about me, I'm fine, ouch, it hurts,' Martha managed to stand up with Serena's help, groaning in pain all the while.

Arabella, tired of watching her act, strode towards the house with her long legs.

help but stop her, wanting to say something but hesitating,

fell on

didn't want to waste time with them and walked up the steps

lower lip, seemingly

you; I fell on my own; Martha

just fine on a flat and wide path, how could you

slowly moved towards the side house, "Oh, forget it, if people didn't know better, they might think

walk, already holding some

judge for yourself, Martha was helped

can get some

need, Gloria

too old to hurt herself on purpose just to slander a teenage girl, especially when she fell so hard on the

and Jennifer's arrival that night. If she intentionally hurt herself, she wouldn't be able to show her face in front

Given Martha's nature, she would definitely praise Serena to George and Jennifer, she wouldn't miss that opportunity for the world.

But Arabella's demeanor at that moment didn't seem like she was lying.

Given Arabella's nature, if she did it on purpose, she would surely admit it.

So, what really happened there?

However, after weighing everything, Serena still trusted Martha more, thinking that Arabella must have pushed or bumped Martha.

The reason being that Martha had just been whispering to her, which Arabella saw when she had returned.

It's possible that Arabella was taking that opportunity for revenge.

At that moment, Serena's phone vibrated again. When she looked at it, she was stunned.

Chapter 788

"Oh, by the way, the outfit that your parents are wearing today was a gift from Arabella, and yours,' Martha added once again, "you might want to take a look at the seasonal wardrobe."

The seasonal wardrobe, as the name implies, was where the unwanted and unused clothes were temporarily stored. After a while, some of the better pieces would be picked out for donation, a kind of charitable act.

The wardrobe was packed to the brim, taking up a massive space.

It was teeming with clothes, too many to count.

Serena could hardly contain her surprise. When she went to take a look, she found her carefully selected pieces, some of which she had even paid a pretty penny for a designer to tailor specifically for her parents, all shoved to the back.

They were not worn, not even once!

She felt a pang of disappointment.

Romeo's parents were coming over. Her beloved parents were wearing the designs of Arabella and not the

that your fate is quite similar to these clothes? Initially, you

turned out that they didn't

Serena's eyes dimmed.

complacency flashed in Martha's

she had told Kenneth and Louisa that she would take Serena's clothes to be ironed. With their consent, she secretly moved these brand-new pieces to the

and white. To avoid being found out, she took a few black and white pieces that Serena had given to Kenneth and

her to move them

was arranging flowers, and Serena casually struck up a conversation, pretending nothing was amiss. After a while, she finally asked, "Mom, I was just moving some old clothes to the seasonal wardrobe,

Don't you like them?"

suddenly remembered what Martha had said and gave her a smiling glance, "The design is nice, but we can't wear them anymore, dear. You're very thoughtful, but don't spend so much on

"Why can't you wear

quite right. They don't look good on." Louisa was puzzled by her daughter's

The color wasn't right.

They didn't look good on.

Serena pondered for a moment and then it clicked.

Of course, black and white symbolized ill fortune. They couldn't wear these colors for such an occasion.

But, they could save those clothes for later, right? There was no need to move them to the seasonal wardrobe.

She looked again at Louisa's beautiful dress. That was the color of celebration, wasn't it?

Finally, Serena accepted the truth. Martha wasn't lying. Her parents really did this.

They had thrown her heartfelt gifts into the seasonal wardrobe.

Earlier in the seasonal wardrobe, she had even seen many of her favorite pieces, discarded without her knowledge.

Chapter 789

Martha said it was her parents' command.

Could this household not accommodate both her and her clothing?

She refrained from asking further, exchanged a few words, and then she ascended the stairs. Her retreating figure was somewhat dim and forlorn.

As Louisa arranged some flowers, she couldn't shake off the feeling that something was off with Serena today. Could it be that Serena was upset because she had worn the dress gifted by Arabella instead of the one she had given her?

With this thought, Louisa dialed Martha's number again, "Martha, have you ironed the clothes Serena gifted us?"

"Madam, are you referring to the recent batch from Serena? She gifts us quite a number of clothes. Since they're of fine quality, I didn't want to ruin them by ironing them myself. I've spoken to the professional ironing service you usually use. They've agreed to take care of all the clothes Serena sent, but they're a bit busy, so they haven't gotten to them just yet."

Louisa was taken aback by this turn of events, "In that case, don't bother ironing them. Serena's on leave these days and I'd like to wear some of them."

thought it would be best to get them ironed since the McMillians visit often. If you want,

my." Martha pretended to

quickly asked, "Martha,

"Nothing serious. I just took a tumble

you okay? Have you seen

In a couple of years, I'll

and her identity became public, why would she continue as a housekeeper,

would quit and

to let her go, expressing her gratitude for Martha's hard

issue with the clothes wasn't urgent. Louisa advised Martha to rest, and Martha proceeded to

At 8 PM.

servant announced, "The McMillians are here,

Merely the greeting gifts required eighteen bodyguards to carry them in, leaving everyone stunned with their extravagance.

Kenneth and Louisa were about to welcome them when Edith swiftly ushered George and Jennifer inside.

"Kenneth, long time no see." George warmly greeted Kenneth, shaking his hand and giving him a gentlemanly hug, chuckling, "I've been over the moon these days."

"Jennifer, you finally decided to grace us with your presence! It's been ages since we saw you last!"

"Oh, Jennifer's been pampered by her husband." Kenneth jested.

"I must say you two look younger, revitalized by your daughter's return." Jennifer praised them, and the four of them invited each other to sit down.

The eighteen bodyguards carried in all the gifts, arranging them neatly on one side.

"Oh my, Jennifer, anyone who didn't know better would think you were here to propose a marriage, bringing all these gifts."

Chapter 790

"Who arrives for a proposal so casually? But Bella's really won me over, Jennifer said, adding with a chuckle, "And not just me, George is quite taken with her too."

"Jennifer is spot on with that. It's not just us, even the elders at home are quite fond of her. She's smart, beautiful, modest, and talented. She's an artist, calligrapher, pianist, and brand founder.

Honestly, the list just goes on,' George laughed.

Jennifer chimed in, "And I heard she topped the national college entrance examination! Louisa, you and Kenneth certainly know how to raise a brilliant child!"

Kenneth and Louisa were taken aback. An artist and calligrapher?

When did this happen? Why didn't they know?

"You said Bella is an artist?" Kenneth couldn't help but ask.

"Calligrapher?" Louisa was equally surprised.

both turned their gaze towards Arabella,

did their daughter

soon as she came downstairs after her shower, let

as she looked at her future daughter-in-law, casually dressed and looking gorgeous. Jennifer

sit here." Jennifer affectionately pulled Arabella to

Arabella, George turned to Kenneth and asked, "Didn't

exceptional painting skills were

brush strokes, fluid style, and imaginative creativity, she had single-handedly elevated

perfect blend of form and  
revered as a master in the art  
have one of her paintings hanging there?" George pointed to a  
ago at an auction. He had found the painting so captivating that  
idea that the painting was  
home for quite some time but had never mentioned  
was far

In truth, Arabella wasn't modest. When she didn't know Kenneth and had someone auction her painting, she had asked for an exorbitant price.

She had felt a twinge of guilt when she saw the painting later.

Suddenly, Kenneth remembered something else. On the day his daughter came home, her gaze had briefly rested on the painting.

It was a renowned piece by the famous painter Mirabelle. Bella had suggested then that he hang it in the study.

Thinking about it now, Kenneth found that the antique painting did look a bit out of place among the modern art pieces in the living room.

Her suggestion to hang it in the study, where it would complement the other pieces, was indeed apt.

She must have recognized it at first glance. Such discerning eyes.

"And Bella is also the calligrapher Labella." Jennifer started talking about how they had met her future daughter-in-law, growing more and more delighted.

Kenneth and Louisa hadn't expected their daughter to have so many aliases, nor that she would not only save her future mother-in-law by a twist of fate but also win over the hearts of her future in-laws.