

The Unshackled Queen: Never Say Never

Online Free - Chapter: 521

“Bryson, fancy meeting you here!” A woman’s voice rang out, melodious and warm. Both men turned toward her in unison.

Ruby Green stood there in a chocolate-colored dress, clutching a petite, elegant handbag. Her makeup was flawlessly applied, and she wore a radiant smile, reminiscent of a carefree young girl.

“Brayden, you’re here too? What a coincidence!”

Ruby waved cheerily at Grace, saying, “Grace, it’s been ages! You’re looking more stunning than ever.”

Grace offered a strained smile, lifting her hand in a somewhat rigid greeting.

“Hi, Ruby.”

Just after she mentioned Ruby to her brother, Ruby unexpectedly showed up today. Talk about timing!

“Uh...” Brayden seemed a bit uneasy. He eyed his friend cautiously and said, “Quite the coincidence, isn’t it?”

“I decided to grab dinner here with a friend. I haven’t been in town for ages, and everything’s so different now. My friend couldn’t stop praising the food here, so we had to try it.”

A N G E L A ‘ s L I B R A R Y

Ruby then shifted her focus to Bryson, saying, “I’ve been hoping to catch up since I got back. Grace mentioned you were away for work.

Maybe we can arrange a meetup soon?”

Bryson didn’t even spare her a glance.

“I’m booked. And to be honest, Miss Green, you and I aren’t exactly close. There’s nothing to discuss.”

Ruby’s heart sank. She hadn’t anticipated such a cold response from Bryson.

Her eyes misted over, tears spilling down her cheeks.

“Bryson, are you still holding a grudge for what happened years ago?”

“Excuse me, Miss. Can’t you see that he isn’t interested in speaking with you? I advise you to stop pestering him, for everyone’s sake.”

Lydia couldn’t be bothered with basic courtesy and added bluntly, “We’re obviously in the middle of a meal. Please leave.”

Ruby blinked at Lydia, thinking that she was Bryson’s current girlfriend. She made a point of wiping a stray tear that escaped her eye.

“I apologize. Are you Bryson’s girlfriend? I believe there’s been a misunderstanding. I simply wanted to catch up with an old friend, nothing more.”

Lydia scoffed and cocked her head to the side.

“Sorry to disappoint you, but I’m afraid I’m not his girlfriend. I am, however, a very good friend of hers. So, I would appreciate it if you could keep your distance from my friend’s man!”

Ruby bit her lower lip, looking hurt and upset. She turned to Bryson and said, “I’m so sorry, I never meant to interfere in your new relationship. I know our issues are in the past, but I... I just wanted to have a little chat with you, that’s all.”

That earned her a scowl. Bryson glanced at her, his eyes cold and ruthless.

The Unshackled Queen: Never Say Never

Online Free - Chapter: 522

“There’s no need for any of that. We settled everything between us years ago. We have nothing more to discuss. Now, just as the lady said, we are in the middle of a meal. Can you please stop bothering us and leave?”

Ruby took a step back, looking stricken. Clearly, she wasn’t expecting this response from Bryson.

Utterly humiliated, Ruby lowered her head and hurried away.

Lydia shook her head in disdain as she watched the woman go.

“Some people can be so shameless these days,” she muttered.

Brayden nudged her under the table and gave her a pointed look, silently telling her to stop talking.

To her credit, Lydia heeded his warning and quietly resumed her meal.

Meanwhile, over in Hoijery, Hannah had been keeping busy.

After signing in on a collaboration with the Mitchell and Archer Groups, she had her hands full, implementing every step of the agreed upon plan and making sure that everything was compliant with the contract.

Her office was located on the 12th floor, which accommodated the core department. Thanks to her sudden and unexpected assignment, she had to temporarily commandeer the General Manager’s Office.

Naturally, the general manager, Duncan Hanson, was anything but pleased with this arrangement.

The tension did not escape the employees’ notice, and they made an effort to curry favor with Duncan during lunchtime.

“Duncan has been here much longer. She’s only here because of her grandmother. How can a newcomer, and a woman at that, be more capable than our general manager?”

“Exactly! Duncan has been with Mr. Schneider from since the beginning, and has seen this company prosper over the years. What about that woman? She hasn’t even accomplished anything of significance since her arrival. All she does is give speeches and spout those ridiculous slogans!”

A N G E L A ‘s L I B R A R Y

“I know, right? Very typical of a parachuted individual, acting all high and mighty and ordering everyone around. At the end of the day, they’re all incompetent. Just wait. Soon, she’ll be relying on us to get things done around here.”

As expected, Duncan was mollified by their words, though he pretended to disagree with them and keep up appearances.

“Now, now, that’s a little unfair. She might actually know what she’s doing. She does hold a large chunk of shares, after all. I heard that she has even more shares than Mr. Jalen White, the eldest grandson of the White family.”

This particular piece of gossip quickly caught the attention of the other employees at the next table.

“Really? How could someone who just appeared from out of nowhere suddenly hold so much power over the company? Do you think it’s possible that she...”

“Oh, please! She couldn’t have slept her way up, that would be absurd. With so much at stake, I’m sure there’s more to the story than it seems.”

Duncan hummed, a smug glint entering his eyes.

“You guys have no idea. I heard some insider information myself. Apparently, she’s an heir to the White family, too, and has returned to claim her birthright. If you ask me, she seems somewhat capable.”

“That’s well and good, but she still hasn’t proven herself yet! She’s practically useless around here. I can’t even begin to understand what the higher-ups were thinking when they pulled her into our department!”

“Hey, someone from the finance department let it slip that the White Group is currently facing a financial crisis. Do you think they would lay people off?”

The Unshackled Queen: Never Say Never Online Free - Chapter: 523

“No way! Our company is stable and robust. Even if we are having issues, I’m sure it wouldn’t be so bad that they would let employees go.”

“Don’t be too complacent,” Duncan remarked in a warning tone.

“This new shareholder that you’re badmouthing has the power to make decisions on behalf of the company. I advise you to stay on your toes and tread carefully.”

“Huh? What do you mean by that? She wouldn’t lay us off, would she?”

Duncan shook his head.

“Don’t worry, I will definitely have your back if something happens. But who’s to say that the same is true for her?”

Later, as the lunch break ended, Hannah entered the staff office with some documents in hand.

“Who is in charge of this environmental project plan?” she asked, holding up a folder.

“It’s me.” Mya Smith stood up.

“That is my team’s project.”

Hannah glanced at her briefly and nodded.

“Bring your team members to my office.”

“Yes.”

A N G E L A ' s L I B R A R Y

The other teams watched with spiteful eyes as Mya herded her teammates after Hannah.

Hannah sat behind her desk and pushed the folder forward.

“So, you guys came up with this proposal? I was told that you were given half month to finalize everything, and this is all you managed? Is this the extent of your capabilities?”

Mya bristled at Hannah’s questioning. She lifted her chin in defiance and said, “This is the product of my team’s hard work. Do you even understand the plan? Don’t go criticizing us with what paltry knowledge you have of our operations.”

Taking their cue from her, the rest of the team also muttered their dissent.

To their surprise, Hannah merely laughed, “If you submit this shitty proposal at every turn, then we might as well close up shop. We’d be better off running a charity instead. Do you think any businessman worth his salt would sign a contract with us if you pitch this garbage to them? These ideas, the designs, even the projected expenditures and revenue are a complete mess.”

Hannah leaned over her desk and rapped her knuckles against its surface. She looked Mya dead in the eye and said, “This is the White Group’s so-called core department, isn’t it? Are you trying to dupe me by submitting this drivel for approval?”

She picked up the proposal and slowly walked around her desk until she was standing right in front of Mya.

“I may have just started working in this company, but it certainly isn’t my first day dealing with this kind of nonsense! If you’re going to muddle

through your job, then I suggest you head over to HR, tender your resignation, and take your severance pay! This is no place for people who indulge in their ineptitude!”

Mya was trembling all over in the face of Hannah’s rebuke. She couldn’t even open her mouth to retort.

“I’ve reviewed your team’s performance in the last year,” Hannah added.

The Unshackled Queen: Never Say Never Online Free - Chapter: 524

“In this proposal, you stipulated a monthly salary for the team leader, amounting to fifty thousand. In Light of your track record, even five thousand would be too much.”

“Miss Moore! Don’t you think you’re being too harsh? Although we are mere employees, we are also human!”

Mya recalled the gossip earlier and was even more infuriated. Taking comfort in her relationship with Duncan, she didn’t hold herself back from snapping at Hannah.

“Why are you disparaging our proposal so vehemently? Are you trying to abuse your authority to show off or something?”

Hannah was too clever to fall for Mya’s bait, however.

“I’ll say it again-if you don’t intend to do your job properly, then you should get lost. The company doesn’t need someone Like you.”

Outside, the other employees were craning their neck to sneak a peek at Hannah’s office. They couldn’t hear what was being said, but they could see through glass and noticed the grimace that Mya and her teammates were sporting.

The door flew open a moment later, and Mya stormed out of the office, crying.

“What’s the matter? Why is Mya crying?”

“Did that woman say something again?”

Mya’s teammates left the office after her, each wearing a grim expression.

While the other employees were gossiping quietly outside, Hannah emerged from her office.

“Cleopatra Salazar, please step into my office.”

Seated farthest from the door, a woman sprang up and hurried into Hannah’s office as soon as she heard her name.

Once the door closed behind her, Cleopatra felt disoriented. She’d never been personally summoned by superiors, which made her uneasy.

Angela’s Library

“You’ve had a hand in these contracts, haven’t you?”

Hannah slid a pile of former contracts across the desk towards Cleopatra.

Cleopatra moistened her lips nervously, her eyes darting to the contracts before her. She hesitated, unable to find her voice.

“I’m aware you contributed to these, yet Mya’s team claimed the bonus, correct?”

Adjusting her glasses, Cleopatra nodded slowly.

“I merely assisted them, and since I’m not an official part of their team, they didn’t compensate me when the contracts were finalized.”

“Why do you continually aid them? Each team has its own responsibilities.”

Pausing briefly, Cleopatra chose to be honest with Hannah.

“Whenever she needs help, she buys me bubble tea. She claims to be tied up with something else, so I end up assisting with the contracts. It’s hard for me to say no.”

The Unshackled Queen: Never Say Never Online Free - Chapter: 525

“Considering you orchestrated most of these contracts, why didn’t you inform your own boss?”

Cleopatra’s face clouded over.

“Duncan... always favors them. No matter the situation, he leans their way. Telling him would make no difference.”

Hannah nodded thoughtfully.

“And why didn’t you work on the recent project?”

“Well...”

A N G E L A ‘ s L I B R A R Y

Cleopatra anxiously combed her fingers through her hair.

“I was tied up with client meetings for Duncan while they were focused on this project.”

Hannah couldn’t quite understand her motivations.

“You’re essentially offering them free help. Don’t you have responsibilities of your own?”

“Yes, I do.” In a rushed tone, Cleopatra said, “Usually, I handle some contracts, but it’s not always easy, especially with those clients.”

Hannah didn’t have to ponder long to realize that Mya’s team cherry-picked simple projects, leaving the challenging ones for Cleopatra, who was easy to push around.

Though considered low-tier help, Cleopatra was anything but, evident by her skillfully drafted and meticulous contracts.

“You’re going to be my assistant now. In this office, focus on doing your job well. The only person you need to listen to is me.”

“What?” Cleopatra Looked up, bewildered.

“But... I...”

Cutting her off, Hannah said, “I know you make 5000 a month, maybe 7000 with commission. As my assistant, you’ll start with 20, @0@ your first month. Perform well, and there’s a 20% commission on top.”

Caught off guard by the offer, Cleopatra was petrified.

Hannah went on, “Be warned, the office vibe is sour. They’re not happy with their new boss, which is me. If you choose to follow me, expect resistance. Think it over.”

“No need,” Cleopatra interjected quickly.

“I never got along with them anyway. I’m all in, Miss Moore. Just say the word, and I’ll do bio Eyebrows raised, Hannah took a moment to absorb Cleopatra’s enthusiasm before smiling, “Very well, starting today, you’re my assistant.”

“Understood!”

After leaving Hannah’s office, Cleopatra seemed transformed. She returned to her desk and diligently started revising the business proposal.

Just then, Mya, who’d been placated, tossed the rejected business proposal onto Cleopatra’s desk.

The Unshackled Queen: Never Say Never Online Free - Chapter: 526

“Redo this and get it to that hag! I can’t even look at her.”

Cleopatra paused her typing. A chill passed over her eyes, visible even behind her glasses.

“I’ve taken over the project. No need for you to worry.”

Silence filled the room, leaving Mya dumbfounded.

“What?! You’re hijacking my project? Since when do you defy me?”

“It’s you who drove me to this,” Cleopatra declared coldly.

“I’m set to be Miss Moore’s right hand. I’ll only heed her commands. Nothing more!” Cleopatra’s gaze fixed on Mya.

“She’s our superior. You disrespected her just moments ago. I won’t hesitate to inform her!”

“You dare!” Mya seethed with anger, taken aback that the typically demure Cleopatra would challenge her now.

Her peers and team tried to console her.

“Let it go. Cleopatra’s just become Moore’s puppet. Look how smug she looks!”

“Don’t waste your breath on her. She’ll likely be the first one let go when cuts are made!”

ninjanovel.com

“After all, Duncan’s word is final here. Hannah’s just an inexperienced newcomer. She’s merely trying to create discord.”

Taking in their remarks, Mya inhaled deeply, shooting Cleopatra a menacing look.

“You’ll regret this! Mark my words!”

Later that afternoon, Duncan returned to the office after a leisurely meal and movie, under the guise of a business outing.

Upon his entrance, Mya rushed to him, tears streaming down.

Sympathy arose for Cleopatra among some colleagues, while others barely concealed their satisfaction at her impending misfortune.

Yet, Cleopatra remained unfazed, diligently reviewing a business plan.

“Cleopatra’s now siding with the new boss. She didn’t even heed my command! She needs to be taught a lesson!”

Duncan sighed, pondering for a moment. He pulled Mya close, planting a gentle kiss on her cheek.

“Hannah’s trying to prove herself as the fresh leader. If I oppose her now, I might become her target. Then how will I aid you in letting off steam in the future?”

Mya sulked, questioning, “So, how much longer must I endure?”

Duncan reassured her.

The Unshackled Queen: Never Say Never Online Free - Chapter: 527

“Fear not. Mr. Schneider isn’t fond of Hannah.

He won’t let her succeed in this project! I just need a small favor from you to ensure she’s shown the door.”

“What is it?” Mya asked. Duncan murmured something into Mya’s ear as he held her close.

Mya’s expression shifted at his query.

“If this comes to light, I’ll lose my job.”

“But on the flip side, if it works out, you’ll share a joyful life with me! Risks can lead to rewards, don’t you agree?”

After pondering for a moment, Mya nodded.

“I’ll find a way.”

At nine in the evening, Hannah got Cleopatra’s amended business proposal through an email.

After reviewing it, she nodded to herself in front of her computer screen. Her judgment had been correct.

She replied to the email, “Follow the edits I’ve marked. You can finish it at the office tomorrow. No rush.”

Just then, Lydia called her. Hannah picked up.

“What’s going on?”

“Hannah, you won’t believe the bombshell I have for you!”

Lydia’s volume was so high that Hannah moved the phone away from her ear, asking, “What’s so shocking that you had to call me this late?”

ninjanovel.com

“Did you know Bryson is back in Valmere?”

As she skimmed through some data on her screen, Hannah responded absentmindedly, “Yeah, he told me before he returned to Valmere. Is that your big news?”

“No! It’s about his first love! She’s back and wanted to have a talk with him privately. I sent her packing!”

“What?”

Distracted by a contract she had been reading, Hannah was puzzled by Lydia’s revelation.

“What first love are you talking about?”

“Listen, Bryson had this first love named Ruby Green. She left the country after her family went broke. They lost touch, but now Ruby’s back, and it looks like she wants to rekindle things with Bryson.”

Hannah shut her laptop quietly, pausing for a moment while still on the phone.

Lydia, picking up on the silence, quickly chimed in, “Hannah, don’t stress. I’ll keep an eye on Bryson for you. He won’t even get near her!”

C 528

Hannah responded with a soft laugh, “I have faith in Bryson. If they reunite that easily, then they have my blessings.”

“Have you lost your mind, Hannah?”

Rising from her seat, Hannah walked back to her bedroom. She reclined on her bed and shifted the topic.

“Enough about that. You mentioned visiting Hoijery. When are you planning to do so?”

“Well, Grace wants to visit too, so maybe we can make it a joint trip.”

“Sounds good. Let me know when, so I can arrange your hotel stay.”

“You’re the best, Hannah! It’s getting late. You should get some rest.”

Hannah ended the call and glanced at her chat history with Bryson on WhatsApp. The conversation had ceased two days prior.

Recalling the woman Lydia had mentioned, Hannah massaged her temples, opting to set her doubts aside. She trusted Bryson, after all.

The following morning, Cleopatra was finalizing the business proposal, intending to send it to Hannah.

Just then, Mya walked by her.

And accidentally knocked her water cup onto Cleopatra’s laptop!

ANGELA’S LIBRARY

Water splashed all over the keyboard.

The cup tumbled down, shattering upon impact.

Mya let out a startled cry.

“Oh my God!”

“Seriously? My laptop!”

Cleopatra’s expression darkened instantly. She frantically grabbed her Laptop!

But the screen had already blacked out, unresponsive to her desperate attempts to revive it.

Frustrated, Cleopatra glared at Mya.

“I had a deadline today, and you just ruined my laptop. What on earth were you thinking?”

“I didn’t mean for that to happen. I’m as stunned as you are!”

Mya looked at Cleopatra’s dysfunctional laptop with a hint of guilt.

“I’ll just get you another one. What’s the fuss? Being managed by Hannah doesn’t make you special.”

The Unshackled Queen: Never Say Never Online Free - Chapter: 529

“What’s actually happening here?”

Emerging from his office, Duncan shot Cleopatra a displeased look.

“Why are you arguing with Mya again?”

Cleopatra held up her damaged laptop for Duncan to see.

ninjanovel.com

“Mya ruined my laptop, and I have a business proposal due today!”

Duncan shrugged it off.

“It’s not a big deal. Get it repaired. No need to bicker with your coworker.”

His lack of concern only emboldened Mya further.

“Exactly. Just get it fixed. Your proposal’s still saved on there, isn’t it?”

Usually even-tempered, Cleopatra found herself in a heated exchange with Duncan and Mya, catching Hannah’s attention in the process.

When Hannah swung the door open and saw the commotion, she inquired, “Cleopatra, what’s going on?”

Cleopatra quickly filled her in.

“Boss, my laptop is broken now. I don’t think I can submit the proposal on time.”

“That’s fine, I can reschedule with Mr. Perry,” Hannah said.

She glanced casually at Duncan and Mya, adding, “This project is crucial to our company. If someone lacks the skills but wants to stay, they can start from the bottom. But if they’re not only inept but also sabotaging our work, firing them is not out of the question.”

Sensing that things were getting tense, Duncan tried to defuse the situation.

“Miss Moore, it’s really not a major issue. I know a tech expert who could probably fix Cleopatra’s laptop in no time.”

Hannah replied nonchalantly, “No worries. I’ve got a bunch of tech experts in my circle. Still, I appreciate the offer.”

She turned to Mya and warned, “This is your second blunder. One more and you’re out.”

Mya nodded vigorously, visibly shaken.

“Understood.”

Hannah then looked at Cleopatra.

“Take the rest of the day off. I’ll send you the address of a repair shop. Your laptop should be fixed swiftly.”

“Got it,” Cleopatra replied, picking up her laptop.

The Unshackled Queen: Never Say Never Online Free - Chapter: 530

“I’ll head there now.”

Hannah retreated to her office. After wrapping up a call with Brewster, her phone rang again. It was Edwin.

As she answered, Edwin’s frustrated voice came through.

“Haven’t forgotten what today is, have you?”

“What day?” Hannah was clueless.

Exasperated, Edwin clarified, “Hannah, my graduation party is tonight.

Please don’t tell me you haven’t prepared or aren’t planning to attend!”

In an instant, a revelation struck Hannah, and she cast a quick look at the calendar before massaging her forehead.

“I apologize. I’ve been swamped lately, and this slipped my mind.”

The voice on the other end of the line hesitated briefly.

“So, are you coming over tonight?” Edwin managed to ask.

“Absolutely, I’ll be there. I gave you my word, didn’t I? How could I go back on it?” Hannah reassured.

Checking her watch, she noted it was nearly 10 o’clock.

A N G E L A ‘ s L I B R A R Y

“Great. It so happened that I had to push back today’s commitments, but this gives me time to pick up your graduation present.”

Unable to hide his grin, Edwin responded, “Well, at least you do not intend to go back on your word! I’ll be waiting.”

“Alright.”

Glancing the map on her smartphone, Hannah saw that Wealth Plaza was the closest destination. She wasted no time, driving straight to the mall.

Luckily, she’d known beforehand that Edwin had a soft spot for WiseTech’s latest gaming innovations. The entire third floor of Wealth Plaza was a shrine to all things WiseTech.

Upon reaching the third floor via the elevator, Hannah was greeted by an array of WiseTech gadgets.

“Good evening, ma’am. May I assist you in finding something particular? Allow me to show you some options.”

“Got any of the newest AI games released this year?”

The sales clerk’s eyes sparkled.

“Indeed, we have one final unit available. It’s part of a limited 100-piece release. Allow me to guide you to it.”

The WiseTech humanoid game was promoted as having human-Like cognitive functions, a digital companion who could accompany you for a lifetime on your computer.