

Chapter 286 The Gift

Without thinking too much, Loraine went to the company with Obot in her phone.

Cayson had assisted her with a lot of work after returning. Loraine was consequently free from work.

She read the documents pertaining to the food court project. Cayson knocked at the door and entered just as she was going to take a break.

Loraine raised her brows, peered at his hand behind him, and teased, "Is that a gift for me?"

Smiling, Cayson showed it to her.

It was a planter with a tiny, lovely cactus.

"It is a gift for me!" Loraine exclaimed.

"I bought it on the business trip. You can keep it in your office. It can assist in clearing the air and reducing weariness."

With a smile, Loraine took it and placed it on the desk. "I'm grateful, Cayson. I'll treat you to dinner in return. Is that okay?"

"Okay."

Loraine's phone started vibrating as soon as he accepted her invitation.

Loraine gave him an apologetic smile and shifted her focus to her phone.

Obot sent a message, saying, "You better not eat out today."

Loraine was rendered speechless. The two personalities were similar in terms of message delivery.

"Is there anything wrong?" Cayson asked gently.

Putting her phone down, Loraine smiled awkwardly. "My mobile butler notified me not to eat out today."

Cayson was obviously taken aback when he heard such a ludicrous excuse, but he soon recovered and smiled.

"It's okay. Anyway, I get bored eating out. Lorrie, how about you make dinner for me? I haven't eaten any of the meals you've prepared. I'm eager to taste the food made by Odom's student."

However, her phone vibrated again.

Loraine frowned and looked at it.

"You better not cook today!"

The exclamation mark was in vivid red.

Loraine turned to face Cayson. "Cayson, don't say that. I am not his student. I've just learned to cook a few dishes from him."

She was a straightforward person.

Clearly, Cayson was able to discern that she was rejecting him. Although he was a little dissatisfied, he gave in. "Just forget about it. I'll leave so you can have a rest."

Loraine felt a little guilty.

When he was out on a business trip, he remembered to bring her a gift, but she refused his invitation again and again.

"Cayson, are you free? Can you accompany me for shopping?" She wanted to get him a gift.

Cayson's eyes sparkled as he nodded and grinned broadly. "Of course I'm free."

When he rushed to get the car ready, her phone vibrated again.

"You better not go out today."

Loraine rolled her eyes.

Compared to the vibrant Qbot, who would talk a lot, Obot was quite different.

Obot was more like Marco.

It could piss her off the same way Marco did.

Loraine said impatiently, "Okay, calm down. Has Bryant Group even created the divination feature for

you?"

Obot was shocked and said stiffly, "The surrounding malls are poised for expansion and rebuilding. It is not advised to go there."

That made sense.

Putting her phone in her bag, Loraine decided to go to a more remote mall.

After driving for a while, Loraine and Cayson arrived at the mall.

They weren't expecting to run into Laura and Marina.

When Marina saw Loraine, she subconsciously wanted to avoid her because she thought Loraine might call security to drive her away.

Suddenly, she remembered that this was her family's shopping mall. Thus, she became more confident.

"Loraine, why are you here? You even brought your boy toy to Bryant Group's shopping mall!"

Laura pulled a long face.

But since Liza had warned her before, she didn't dare to offend Loraine openly. "Be nice, Marina. Don't drive them out since we're now cooperating with them. However, Loraine, you are just a guest. I have to remind you to be respectable and not to cause trouble."

Frowning, Cayson took a step forward. He was going to speak when Loraine stopped him.

She said unhurriedly, "I apologize, Mrs. Bryant. Bryant Group and Universe Group are currently working together. As per the contract, I own a portion of the mall's development rights since I represent Universe Group. But you are just Marco's family. You have no real power here. So don't make such a stupid mistake again."

Chapter 287 Shopping Mood

Marina and Laura were rendered speechless. They could only watch as Cayson and Loraine entered the mall.

Despite their rage-filled expressions, the mother and daughter were powerless to stop Loraine.

Loraine was casually strolling through the mall, where a variety of high-end goods were displayed on the counter.

Cayson naturally followed her.

"Laura and Marina are here. What a bad luck! Lorrie, why don't we go to another mall?"

Either Universe Group or Bryant Group held the malls of Vagow. Cayson regretted coming here without prior preparations.

Loraine shook her head and replied dismissively, "Don't worry about them. They aren't worth my avoidance."

Ignoring them was the ultimate kind of disdain.

When Cayson heard that, he beamed with adoration in his eyes.

Loraine turned to him and asked, "Is there something

you like? Pick whatever you want. I will foot the bill."

Cayson wanted to decline her request, but when he glanced into her eyes, he grinned and agreed.

Actually, he wanted nothing in the store. However, these items' importance would be different because they were a gift from Loraine.

Cayson looked around as he made his way to the men's luxury area, picked up some ties, and gave them to Loraine.

"Lorrie, could you please assist me in picking which tie best suits me?"

He wanted Loraine to assist him in wearing them, but when she looked at them, she replied, "They are all very suitable. I'll pay for them all."

Cayson shook his head feeling defeated.

When the shopping guide heard them, her eyes sparkled.

She brought them coffee and tried to flatter them. "Miss, you have such a keen eye. Sir, you're such a lucky man to have such a girlfriend!"

Loraine was stunned. As she was about to explain, her phone began to vibrate erratically, as if it were about to explode.

Cayson was too caught up learning about other things from the shopping guide at that moment to notice the

vibration. Loraine seized the chance to pull out her phone and found several texts from Obot.

"Why is this Cayson so thoughtless?"

"If he wants to purchase something, he can do it by himself. How dare he use your money?"

"Don't buy them for him!"

Obot wasn't usually so animated, and Loraine almost thought it was Qbot.

She smiled and teased, "I have enough money. Are you feeling sorry for me?"

Before Obot could respond, Loraine stowed the phone away in her purse.

The shopping guide was still pestering Cayson.

After observing them for a bit, Loraine decided to visit the adjoining women's luxury section to take a look.

She saw a leather bag that she believed would be perfect for her. It was delicate and low-key.

Loraine went to pay the bill of it together with Cayson's ties.

After she gave out her card, the shopping assistant swiped it twice. With an apologetic look, she said, "I apologize, miss."

Surprised, Loraine asked, "What's going on?"

That card had enough money on it to buy the entire store.

"My sincere apologies. This is a limited edition bag. Your in-store consumption is insufficient to meet the distribution requirements. You must fork out a specific sum of money to purchase it."

Loraine heard a taunting voice from behind just as she was about to respond. It was Marina.

"Look what we have here! I never thought that the CEO of Universe Group wasn't even a VIP!"

Marina and Laura were holding several shopping bags.

Laura scowled at Loraine and said, "Even though you are now a Torres, you're still as humble as you were before. I just know the real you!"

She handed out her VIP card arrogantly and said, "Don't worry, I'll buy the bag for you. Let's put the past behind us."

Marina felt upset after she heard this. "Mom! I want this bag too!"

Laura said with a smile, "Marina, be nice and give it to Loraine. I'm not sure how long it's been since she was reunited with her family. She might not have adapted to luxuries like you have."

As Marina noticed the mockery in her words, she smiled and added, "Alright, Loraine. Since you're so pitiful, I'll let you have it."

Cayson, who had just got rid of the shopping guide, walked over with burning rage after hearing what they said. With a long face, he scolded, "Enough! You two know nothing other than spending money. How dare you mock Lorrie?"

With her hands akimbo, Marina replied, "We'll be better off than some bumpkin who doesn't know how to spend money."

Cayson seethed with irate. However, Loraine stopped him and gave him a comforting pat. "Don't be impulsive. It's not that I don't know how to spend money. It's just boring. But I'm in a shopping mood today, so I'll buy everything I want."

Chapter 288 Extravagance

The instant Loraine finished speaking, Marina sneered.

"You truly are such a bumpkin. You buy such useless things."

Marina purposely waved her hand in the air, showing off the jewelry on it. "My brother gave you many pieces of expensive jewelry before, but you donated all of them. I thought then that you were simply being generous. But now it shows that you did that because you did not even understand the weight of their value at all."

Laura smoothed her hair and gave Marina a fake angry expression. "Don't say that, dear. You were well-educated since you were a child. Don't put yourself on the same level as someone with no manners."

"If you're interested in learning some things, Loraine, we can teach you regardless of our bad blood in the past." Marina's smile dripped venom.

Loraine burst into uncontrollable laughter. "You?"

Both mother and daughter lifted their heads proudly.

Laura said arrogantly, "We're used to luxuries, you know. So it's a given that we're more knowledgeable on these things than you who used to be a pauper."

Their tone was so brazenly rude and belittling, even the shop assistant that stood on the side felt awkward. They were taking it too far.

Loraine chuckled softly. "I don't need to pick a special one out of everything though."

With that, she turned to the shopping assistant with a smile. "Help me wrap up everything in the shop, please. I'm buying them all." Her tone was calm and unshaken.

Instantly, it was as though time in the shop froze and everyone's breathing stopped.

Completely in shock, the shopping guide thought she'd misheard. She asked to confirm, "Miss Torres, you're buying everything?"

Marina finally managed to snap out of her shock and spoke again. "Don't do that just to keep your dignity, Loraine. Even ladies from the highest-ranking families wouldn't spend so much on luxury goods!"

A luxury store was not any mere walk-in store. Just one small piece of jewelry would cost tens of thousands of dollars.

Buy everything in the entire shop? She had to be joking!

Laura believed Loraine was just bluffing. "We know each other very well, Loraine. Don't bother trying to boast. No one would mock you for not recognizing the most expensive jewelry."

Loraine acted as though they didn't even exist and repeated to the shopping assistant with a smile, "That's correct. I'm buying everything in the shop. Swipe my card. The money in it is sufficient."

The shopping assistant gulped and shook as she took the black card from Loraine's hand, holding it as though it was a holy item.

"Alright, of course, I'll do so right away!"

She went behind the counter, breathed in deeply and began printing the receipt.

The long, stark-white paper strip came out like a cascade, and the sound of the card being swiped was crisp and pleasing to the ear.

Each swipe was like a slap in Laura's and her daughter's faces.

They stood there unmoving, still stubbornly waiting for the machine to announce her balance was insufficient.

However, the machine went on as usual until Loraine paid the complete bill.

The receipt was nearly half a meter long at that time, and it went all the way down to the floor.

The forehead of the shopping assistant was covered in sweat. Her eyes were wide as she looked carefully, frightened that she might've made a mistake.

The shop went silent for a while, then Laura swallowed and forced a smile. "That's enough, Loraine. You shouldn't give in to anger and lose all your money."

Marina, on the other hand, stared at the list, her eyes brimming with jealousy.

She had to be subservient every time she took money from Marco. And she had never spent money so extravagantly.

All her friends would be envious of her if she was able to buy everything in the luxury shop with zero hesitation.

However, the one who was buying everything in the shop now was the one she hated and looked down on the most, Loraine. Her heart felt like it had been torn into pieces.

Marina shook and yelled in disbelief, "That's impossible. How on earth do you have so much money, Loraine? You embezzled Universe Group's fund, didn't you? You're just looking for trouble!"

Loraine lifted her brows and smiled. "Thanks for your concern, but this card simply has the pocket money my family gives me. I don't usually use it, to be honest."

Laura's and her daughter's eyes were wide in shock and disbelief.

Cayson laughed as he saw this and said, "This money is simply just a small part of Lorrie's pocket money.

"She doesn't need to use the company's money to buy such things. Or are you saying now that you don't even have such a small amount of money?"

Their faces whitened instantly in anger and embarrassment.

The amount of money they had didn't matter to them at all before. No matter how much they spent, Marco would usually cover it.

However, since Loraine had divorced him, the status of Laura and Marina declined heavily. They were no longer living as lavishly as they used to.

The shopping assistant suddenly walked over to them and collected the shopping bags from them.

"I'm sorry, you haven't paid for anything yet. However, Miss Torres has bought everything in the shop, these included."

