

Chapter 346 Indifference

Laura's eyes widened in disbelief. "Loraine, who do you think you are? They are soldiers under Mr. Torres. Why should they listen to you?"

Her hands landed on her hips, waiting for the soldiers to drag Loraine away. But instead, the soldiers of the Cheetah Command saluted Loraine and began pulling Laura out.

Laura was shocked as she attempted to struggle out of their arms. "Let me go! Why are you listening to her? She is just Mr. Torres' lover."

She was thrown into the corridor before she was finished.

Her expensive gift was thrown out with her.

Laura held the wall, not daring to lose her cool in front of the soldiers. She glared at Loraine.

"Loraine Torres, how dare you? Just wait and see. I'm calling Marco right now to tell him you were in Mr. Torres' ward!"

Loraine sent her a cold gaze as she spoke. "As you please."

Laura hated Loraine, and the only thing on her mind was telling Marco what she saw.

The problem was that she didn't even know where he was.

Annoyed by her calmness, Laura pulled her phone from her pocket and dialing Marco.

She turned to Loraine once more as the phone rang. "Wait and see!"

The phone finally connected and Laura put the call on speaker immediately.

Before Marco could say anything, Laura burst out. "Marco, I just saw Loraine coming out of Mr. Torres' room! It's so late, and she is a woman..."

Marco's voice was cold as it came through the speaker. "Is there anything else?"

Laura sulked. "Are you saying I can't call you unless I have breaking news? Marco, I'm telling the truth. I saw it with my own eyes..."

Marco interrupted her once more. "If there's nothing else, please stay at home and don't cause any more trouble."

Laura felt anxiety grow in her chest suddenly. "I didn't ask for trouble. This time it was Loraine! She's having an affair with Mr. Torres. They must be doing shady business together!"

She felt like Marco wasn't understanding how serious the situation was, so she began to exaggerate the claim.

"Marco, think about it for a moment. Bryant Group is cooperating with Universe Group. If this scandal between her and Mr. Torres comes out at such a critical moment, it will bring trouble to Bryant Group. I'm doing this for the sake of our company!"

Marco gave a suppressed sigh, and Laura was overjoyed at the thought that she finally got him to muster up some anger toward Loraine.

However, he continued, "I was on a business trip with Loraine and we've reached an agreement on cooperation with Cheap and Fine Group."

His tone became colder with each word. "Loraine has always brought benefits to Bryant Group. And you and Marina have continually been making trouble for me."

Embarrassed by his words, Laura hurriedly turned off the speaker and lowered her voice. "Why do you always stand up for Loraine? Marco, she is just an outsider! We are family! You just wait and see who causes more trouble."

Marco sneered. "If I see any bad press on the Internet, you'll be the first one I come to."

Laura was shocked by his frigidity, trembling slightly. "How can you not believe your own mother? Come to the hospital in person, and you'll see what I said is true!"

He paused before speaking again. "I've already been in the hospital."

Laura was surprised. "You also come to the hospital to visit Mr. Torres? When did you get involved with him?"

Marco didn't answer her. After a second of silence, he hung up the phone.

Although Loraine only heard half of the conversation between Marco and his mother, she could guess what they were talking about. She didn't know how to react.

It turned out that Marco's family didn't really care about him.

If her uncles and grandpa knew that she was in the hospital, their first worry would be her health. But Laura only cared about flattering Rowan.

When Loraine thought of Marco's sister who only ever asked him for money and his grandmother who always pressed Marco to have children, it was no wonder he didn't want to return to them when they got married.

She subconsciously wandered to Marco's ward. As she was turning to leave, she heard the sound of Marco asking Qbot to open his work files.

Loraine frowned slightly. This man never listened to her, and continued to work, instead of resting his injured body.

Chapter 347 Peace Of Mind

Cross-legged on the bed, Marco stared intently at his laptop and phone, his eyes slightly lowered.

He was engrossed in the documents before him, unaware of the door opening as his visitor entered.

As the tablet was lifted from his grasp, Marco felt a jolt of surprise. Looking up, he realized it was Loraine who had taken it.

His gloomy expression vanished and was replaced by a smile. "Loraine, what brings you here?"

Loraine, who had not bothered to look at the tablet, regarded him sternly. "Didn't I tell you to go to bed early?" she scolded.

Marco covered his mouth and coughed, stealing a glance at his phone screen.

Qbot, which was connected to his phone, had gone offline.

The robot had just agreed to cooperate with Loraine and didn't dare to remind Marco of her presence.

If Qbot did so and Loraine discovered it, the robot would be seen as a double-crosser.

Qbot pretended that it was not there.

Marco had no choice but to turn to Loraine. "I can't sleep at the moment, so I decided to catch up on some paperwork."

"To catch up on paperwork?"

Lorraine's eyes scanned the room and caught sight of the neatly folded quilt on Russell's bed.

"You're not going to work all night, are you?"

There was a tinge of frustration in her voice. His family never cared much about Marco, and he didn't take good care of himself either.

Marco felt speechless, like a scolded pet dog obediently listening to its owner's rebuke.

Lorraine's expression softened as she put the electronic device into the cabinet and locked it. She then gestured for Marco to lie down and rest.

After a brief moment of hesitation, Marco complied and lay down on the bed.

Lorraine spread out the quilt over him and tucked it in. She looked down at him and pouted. "There you go; have a sweet dream."

Marco tried to respond, but his words were stuck in his throat. He simply nodded, silently grateful for her concern.

He was not used to being cared for, but he found himself feeling grateful as Lorraine tended to him.

It was clear that she was worried about him.

As Lorraine finished tucking him in, the room fell into an uneasy silence.

Feeling a bit awkward, she stood up and said, "I'm

going to leave now, so you can rest."

But Marco stopped her. "Wait a second."

He lowered his arm and sighed. "Actually, I can't sleep because the wound is bothering me."

Loraine was taken aback. "Does it hurt? Why didn't you tell me sooner?"

She quickly opened the small cabinet where the medicine was stored. "Take some painkillers; they'll make you feel better!"

As Marco watched her rush around, he felt warmth in his chest, content with the care she was giving him.

But he shook his head and coughed. "No, thank you. I don't really need them."

"Why?" Loraine turned to Marco with a worried expression.

"These pills are not good for the body, so I'd rather endure the pain instead of taking them," Marco replied calmly.

After thinking for a moment, she nodded and agreed, "You're right."

Sitting on the edge of the bed, Loraine wanted to comfort Marco, but words escaped her. After a brief silence, she suggested, "Try to get some rest. You won't feel the pain when you're asleep."

As Marco gazed at her perfect profile, he no longer felt sleepy.

Loraine sat next to him, her breath heavy with

infatuation. He felt himself relaxing under her spell without even realizing it.

His fatigue slowly crept up on him. He then closed his eyes and drifted off to sleep.

Lorraine stood up quietly, making sure Marco was asleep before closing the door and leaving.

Returning to Rowan's ward, Lorraine checked on him to make sure he was alright, but found him still awake.

"Did you check up on Marco?" Rowan glanced at her and asked.

Rowan let out a deep sigh before Lorraine could say anything.

"Lorrie, I understand that you are grateful to Marco. He saved my life, and I'll return the favor to him. However, you don't owe him anything. Don't do anything stupid. You might end up hurting yourself again," he warned.

The concern in Rowan's words made Lorraine's heart skip a beat. "No worries, Uncle Rowan. Trust me, I won't fall for it again," she reassured him.

Rowan gave her a meaningful look and added, "I'm glad to hear that, Lorrie. I do hope you mean it. Remember, Marco's family is not easy to get along. They never change, no matter who they encounter."

Although Marco saved his life, Rowan still held a negative opinion of his family. "Just think about his mother. The Bryant family is always causing trouble for others. Marco is not exemption."

Although Lorraine wanted to defend Marco, she

remembered that he had lied to her and pretended to be Obot.

Rowan was partly right about Marco. She decided to hold her tongue.

Rowan fell silent, taking in Loraine's haggard expression and feeling sympathetic.

He waved his hand dismissively. "It's getting late. You should go back to your room and get some rest."

Loraine nodded and gave Rowan a gentle hug before saying goodnight.

Unbeknownst to Loraine, their silhouettes were cast on the window, appearing intimate to any onlooker. Someone outside managed to take a photo of them and then quickly fled the scene.

Chapter 348 A Scandal

Laura looked at the picture on her phone while standing outside the hospital with a smug expression.

Fortunately, she didn't leave the hospital right away. After wandering outside for a while, she encountered an unexpected thrill.

She captured an extremely sharp photo of a man and a woman hugging each other intimately. The two faces were also discernible. People could tell they were Loraine and Rowan.

Laura sneered, "Loraine, you are a shameless woman! I will release the photo and make you suffer!"

She had to annihilate Rowan since she couldn't be friends with him. She couldn't spare Loraine's strong helper.

Laura looked resentfully into the window, and despite Marco's warning, she posted the picture.

Loraine was lying in the bed. Even though she was exhausted, she had trouble sleeping.

She was still recalling what had happened in the last few days when dawn was just beginning to break. She realized that everything was connected to Marco.

Like just now, she had Marco on her mind.

Loraine sighed and turned over. Suddenly, her phone vibrated.

Who would be contacting her this early? She picked up the phone and saw it was Jennie.

She clicked on the message. She could sense Jennie's anxiety through her message.

"Lorrie! I heard that your uncle Rowan has been admitted in the hospital. Are you taking care of him? Is he okay?"

Loraine was stunned and replied, "He's fine. Jennie, how did you find out I'm at the hospital?"

The Cheetah Command's aircraft was parked at the hospital. It was not surprising that someone was aware of Rowan's presence, but Loraine hadn't shown up.

Jennie immediately sent her a photo.

"Lorrie, someone secretly snapped you a photo. Word of this picture has spread within the group of wealthy and influential people. They said you were taking care of Mr. Torres at the hospital and spending the entire night with him."

Loraine clicked the photo and frowned as she carefully examined it. Rowan's and her figures were highly distinct, and anyone familiar with them could instantly recognize them.

Who took this photo?

The hospital was crowded. Loraine couldn't know who took it. She read the message sent by Jennie and asked, "Jennie, where did you get this photo?"

"A paparazzo revealed it, but we prevented him from

posting it online. Don't worry. All of your prior controversies were misunderstandings. Furthermore, neither Rowan's nor your backgrounds are simple. They don't want to offend you. So only the people in the upper class know. But Lorrie, the situation has a grave consequence!"

Jennie rushed to send her a message at four in the morning out of concern for her. Warmth filled Loraine's heart.

"It's alright. I'm accustomed to it. They just remarked that I have a lot of men and a lustful private life. I am involved in several scandals. I don't care as much about this one now."

Jennie said anxiously, "This time, the situation is different! Your uncle might be affected!"

Seeing this message, Loraine frowned and asked, "What's my uncle got to do with it?"

"Although everyone now knows that you are a Torres, your uncle's identity is still a secret. People believed Rowan worked hard to gain his status. However, it has since been discovered that he is connected to you. No matter the truth, someone would conjecture that he worked in cahoots with influential people and wealthy women to attain his success!"

Jennie dared not tell her that those individuals had started spreading that rumor.

At this point, the public would question if Rowan had depended solely on himself to achieve his successes, regardless of whether he revealed his identity or refuted the rumors.

On the other hand, Loraine had been the subject of numerous rumors and knew that trying to prove oneself was the worst course of action.

She frowned and sneered, "I don't give a damn what they are saying about me. But how can they detriment my uncle's reputation?"

Her top priority was her family. While Loraine could put up with others criticizing her, she couldn't stand by and watch as they hurt her family.

After speaking with Jennie for a while, Loraine became extremely irate. She then made a call to Hubert right away.

Soldiers led disciplined lives. Although it was very early in the morning, Hubert had already woken up. He immediately answered the phone.

Loraine asked, "Hubert, are the results of my uncle's mission out?"

She was relieved to hear the response on the other end of the line. She grinned, and her eyes sparkled.

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Chapter 349 Visit Rowan

The public didn't know yet that Rowan was in the hospital, but many people still came to visit him.

Many powerful people came to see him, including Klein, the director of the smart city project. He had cooperated with Loraine in the past.

"We heard that Rowan is in hospital, so we come here to visit him."

Two soldiers stood outside of the door. "I'm sorry. I can't let you in without permission."

Klein smiled lightly. "Please inform Rowan that I am Klein Moore. I have met him before."

The soldiers hesitated for a moment, before sending someone to get Loraine's permission.

When Loraine arrived, all of Rowan's visitors exchanged a knowing look.

As Klein noticed Loraine, he was also surprised, as he thought he had a pretty good impression of her.

Her relationship with men was too complicated, though.

Klein thought that the cooperation between Loraine and Bryant Group had improved the relationship between her and Marco, but he didn't expect to see her with Rowan.

Loraine ignored the gazes that followed her as she

greeted them gracefully.

"I'm so sorry, but Rowan was just taken to another examination. You caught him at a bad time."

Klein could do nothing but nod, knowing that Rowan wasn't a close friend, so he couldn't ask for more. "Well, I'll come next time, then."

The other visitors viewed her with contempt. How could Loraine get to see Rowan while they couldn't? They were political officials.

A middle-aged man scoffed. "Now isn't a convenient time? You're just some woman. Even if you have a good relationship with Rowan, you can't make any decisions for him, can you?"

His words almost exposed his satire on Loraine and Rowan's relationship.

She stared at the man with cold eyes. "Who are you?"

The man ignored her, sticking his chin in the air proudly.

Klein stepped in to diffuse the tension. "Loraine, this is Ashton Riley. He's the adjutant in the army."

Loraine looked the man up and down slowly. "Oh, you're the adjutant. Aren't you Rowan's subordinate? I heard that the municipal government has strict disciplinary rules. Is it proper for you to judge your superior?"

Ashton hated being called the adjutant, and his gaze darkened as he replied, "I am not Rowan's subordinate."

The onlookers gazed at Loraine, knowing about the

conflict between Ashton and Rowan.

Klein shook his head slightly to her, trying to ease the argument that might start between the two.

Lorraine scoffed out an angered laugh. How could she swallow that kind of insult and humiliation? Ashton was being intentionally provocative.

"Oh? You're the adjutant. Doesn't that make you a subordinate?"

Ashton ground his teeth together. "What do you know? Everyone here knows that I was supposed to be promoted. I don't know Rowan said or did, but he came back and stole my position!"

He worked for years to get where he was, but his promotion was stolen by the young man.

Ashton squinted his eyes as he looked to Lorraine, suddenly smirking.

"Now I get it. Rowan has quite a few tricks. Nepotism, huh?"

Lorraine shot him an icy stare. "Everyone has seen Rowan's work. He deserves the position. Are you throwing mud at him?"

She wanted to defend Rowan, so she mentioned all of the dangerous work he put himself through in the past few years.

"He was only taken from the front line because he was seriously injured on the mission. He earned his military merit with his sacrifice. In the past few years, you only sat in your office, enjoying the air conditioner. How dare you slander him?"

All the members of the Cheetah Command knew that Rowan had made great contributions to the army. Ashton couldn't refute this.

Ashton's face burned with fury. He wished that Rowan had died during the mission. He never wanted to see Rowan again.

But his colleagues came, and he had no choice but to tag along. He never expected Loraine to confront him.

Ashton was so angry that his hands trembled as he pointed a finger at her. "Wait and see. I'll report to our superior that Rowan colluded with the Torres family!"

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