

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort

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Lupine started taking things seriously. She had the dart in her hand and examined it carefully before she tossed it.

The dart brushed past the petals and cut a small section out of it.

She needed to avoid the branches and the leaves, so it was extremely difficult to achieve any of that.

"Is that it?"

Ben scoffed and picked up a dart before adjusting it in his hand. He aimed and let the dart loose.

The dart zipped over and knocked a huge portion of the petal down.

The cheers on-site became louder, and everyone was calling out Ben's name.

Zachary's lips curved into a small grin before he continued sipping his drink.

"Not bad," complimented Charlotte nonchalantly. She suddenly recalled something and said simply, "Mr. Nacht, we haven't discussed the terms of our bet."

"Oh?" blurted Zachary. He stared at her in amusement before asking, "What would you like to bet then, Ms. Lindberg?"

"If I win the bet, you will have to do me a favor," replied Charlotte as she narrowed her eyes at him with a sly grin on her face.

"Sure," answered Zachary without a second thought.

"Aren't you going to ask what that favor is?" asked Charlotte with a raised brow.

"I can do anything as long as it is not illegal or immoral," replied Zachary confidently.

"Besides, I won't lose!"

"Is that so?" scoffed Charlotte. "Well, I'll look forward to our bet then."

"What do I get out of the bet if you lose?" asked Zachary as he inched closer to her while swirling his drink.

"Name whatever it is you desire," answered Charlotte boldly.

"I want you..." murmured Zachary as he slightly tilted his body to her. His gaze burned with the hunger of a beast when he continued, "To spend the night with me."

No one spoke.

The crowd gasped upon hearing those words.

Everyone knew that Zachary was wild and arrogant, but they didn't realize the extent of his arrogance. He actually made such an unreasonable request to the second-biggest shareholder of Lindberg Corporation who is equally powerful and on par with him!

Such arrogance!

The bodyguards of the Lindberg family were so angry that their faces were distorted as they glared at Zachary. If looks could kill, Zachary would be pushing the daisies by now.

Ben, Marino, and the other bodyguards of the Nacht family were all grinning happily to see their master in the lead.

These ladies had been pushing our buttons time and again. It's about time we give them a taste of their own medicine

Good job, Mr. Nacht!

"Mr. Nacht truly is my idol," said a businessman sincerely. "I am impressed once again."

"You're right. He really is bold. I won't even dare..."

The other businessman replied in a soft voice, but he quickly clamped his mouth shut. He realized that his words were extremely offensive toward the Lindberg Corporation.

"Mr. Nacht truly is something else..."

Everyone was excited, and they gathered to watch the show.

"Hah," sneered Charlotte. "Your reputation is just, Zachary Nacht."

"Why? Are you too chicken to gamble? Or do you think you'd lose?" taunted Zachary arrogantly as he leaned back on the black leather chair he was sitting on.

"Of course I won't lose," replied Charlotte, who refused to admit defeat. She then added, "Fine, I accept the terms. I'll teach you a lesson you'll never forget once you lost."

"I look forward to it!" said Zachary with a gleeful grin.

Charlotte's face was red with fury. She was glaring at Zachary when she instructed Lupine, "You must win this competition!"

"Understood, Ms. Lindberg," said Lupine. She grabbed a dart and knocked Ben away. "Get out of my way!"

"Hey, you..." growled Ben. His knuckles were cracking, and if it wasn't for the bet holding him down, he would've gotten into a fight against her.

Lupine grabbed a dart and narrowed her eyes to adjust her vision before she threw it. Zip!

At that crucial moment, Morgan suddenly moved, and the dart landed directly at the center, causing petals to fly everywhere. They landed on Morgan's face and clothes.

Morgan blinked. Seeing those petals got her to grin happily.

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"Hey! How is that okay?" blurted Ben as his eyes bulged. He complained, "That's obviously cheating!"

"He's right. This is too much," said Marino angrily.

"We never said that the target can't move," refuted Lupine with her head held high. She continued, "If you're not happy with the result, you can send someone to hold the target and work together as well. Anything goes as long as the objective is achieved."

"You..." growled Ben, his face scrunching up in anger. He turned to Zachary.

Zachary, on the other hand, simply looked at Charlotte with a calm look.

"She's right," said Charlotte nonchalantly while shrugging.

"How unreasonable can you get?" complained Ben as he cracked his knuckles.

The business tycoons were touching their noses and clearing their throats endlessly at the side. No one dared to speak up.

Lindberg Corporation was indeed being unreasonable, but this was just a game. It was not an official tournament, so there were never any actual rules set in place.

Whether or not it was fair would depend on Zachary's take on the matter.

That was why everyone had their eyes on him and was waiting for his response.

"Hmm... If Ms. Lindberg thinks it's fine, then I'm okay with it as well," replied Zachary. He nodded before turning to Ben and ordering, "Go on."

"But Mr. Nacht..."

Ben was stunned in place. He never expected that the renowned Mr. Nacht, who he and his friends respected and cared about, would actually stoop that low and abandon his values for a woman.

He wants me to continue even after we're being pushed to this extent? Has her beauty chased his brain out of his head?

"Go on," demanded Zachary.

Ben felt horrible, but he had no choice but to swallow all his fury and push forward.

Only half a petal was left on the rose. Ben had to hit it or the Lindberg family would definitely win the game.

Even though it wasn't a hard task for Ben to strike those petals, the fact that the other party had broken the rules made him wary. There is no saying if that b*tch will move the target at the last second.

If she moves even a little, I will miss the target.

Gah! That woman already has her brows raised like that and doesn't even bother standing upright now.

Fury burned within Ben, but he picked up the dart and adjusted his position.

"Careful now, this is your last chance," reminded Lupine arrogantly from the side. "I will break your hand if you hurt my people."

"Don't you think you're crossing a line here?" growled Marino. He was so agitated that he stepped forward to demand justice.

Zachary cleared his throat as a sign of warning.

Marino had no choice but to back away while glaring at those vile women.

"Mr. Nacht, I just had an epiphany," said Charlotte as she rested her forehead on her hand, looking as though she had just thought of something. She continued, "If I win, I want you..."

Charlotte inched closer to him. Her lips curved into a sultry and mischievous grin as she emphasized her next words. "To strip naked and dance in the banquet hall!"

Urk!

Mr. Potter was sipping red wine when he heard those words. That prompted him to spit everything out and cough nonstop.

The business tycoons widened their eyes in disbelief as they gawped at Charlotte.

Just moments ago, they thought that Zachary was being too arrogant, but it turned out that the Lindberg family was even worse.

Did she actually demand Zachary do a striptease in the banquet hall? I can't believe she uttered those words. I won't have the guts to do that, not even in my dreams.

On the bright side, those words got everyone excited. They rubbed their hands together in anticipation.

It didn't matter whether Charlotte would end up spending the night with Zachary or if Zachary would end up dancing naked in the banquet hall. Either result would be a historic event that would be something they had never seen before and would likely never see again.

Tonight is the night we witness a miracle!

"Mr. Nacht, this is getting way out of line," reminded Ben nervously with a soft voice. "Remember the old saying. A warrior's honor is more important than his life."

"Mr. Nacht, these women are playing dirty, so let's not play this game with them," said Marino, who was anxious as well.

If their boss was forced to dance naked in the banquet hall, they would be so ashamed that they would never be able to look another person in their eyes again.

No. We can't let this happen!

"Shut up!" reprimanded Zachary coolly. "I am a man. How can I go back on my words?"

He then turned to Charlotte. His gaze was gentle, and his lips carried a hint of glee when he said, "A striptease, huh? Not a problem!"

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"Huh?"

Everyone gasped once more. Their minds practically short-circuited.

W-wow. Mr. Nacht is really going all out to court her. Guess the old wives' tale was right. Even heroes can't defeat a beautiful lady.

Looks like it doesn't matter how devoted he is to his company and career. He loves this woman more.

He's actually willing to perform a striptease just to make her smile?

Every thought passing through the spectators' minds highlighted their admiration for Zachary's dedication.

They were astonished. Looks like even the mightiest of men would fall prey to a vixen.

This is both sad and admirable.

Charlotte laughed aloud. She seemed pleased when she said, "Your reputation is just, Mr. Nacht. You're actually keeping your word, and I am truly impressed."

Lupine, Morgan, and the others giggled happily.

It seemed that everyone was certain of Lindberg Corporation's victory.

After all, they were the ones who made the rules. It was impossible for them to not win.

"Well then, let's continue," said Charlotte eagerly. She couldn't wait to see the end result, so she waved at Ben and reminded him, "Don't worry. You're not the one who has to dance naked, anyway."

Ben stared at the face that was once familiar and friendly. That same beautiful face was shining with arrogance and cruelty at that moment. Ben swore to himself, I will never be with a woman in this lifetime! Women are the root of all evil...

"What are you still standing there for?" urged Zachary. "Go on!"

Ben felt his heart oozing with disappointment, for the Mr. Nacht that they looked up to had lost all his dignity for a woman.

He sighed inwardly. Whatever... Here goes nothing.

Ben took a deep breath and picked up the last dart before walking into the right position.

"Hurry up already!" urged Lupine from the side. She was already holding her dart and was ready. She was certain that Ben wouldn't hit his target, so she was waiting for him to fail.

The Linberg family's bodyguards were all exuding confidence and were urging Ben to hurry with their gazes.

Every bodyguard employed by the Nacht family looked troubled. They felt hopeless because even their boss had sided with the enemy.

They sighed to themselves.

Ben narrowed his eyes and tossed the dart.

Morgan saw that the dart was about to hit the petal, so she moved away immediately. Just then, an ice cube flew over and hit her in the right cheek. That stopped her from moving away and got her to crouch down a little.

The dart flew past the rose petal and landed on the board behind it, quivering a little as it found its target.

The crimson red petal fell slowly, gliding down Morgan's black skirt, and landed in the wine glass.

It felt as if time had stopped, and the air seemed frozen.

Everyone's jaw dropped and they were holding their breaths as they stared intently at that rose petal.

It took some time before someone came around and shouted, "We won!"

"The Nacht family won!"

The business tycoons followed suit and cheered excitedly.

"We won!"

Even the Nacht family's bodyguards, who had always been quiet, became excited.

Marino walked over and snatched the flower stalk from Morgan. He showed it to everyone and exclaimed, "Look! There are no petals left on it. We won. We won!"

It was only then that Ben snapped back to his senses. He seemed pleased as he grinned. A moment later, realization dawned upon him and he turned to look at Zachary.

The former's eyes shone with respect and admiration.

Turns out, Mr. Nacht has never changed...

"Good game," commented Zachary as he wiped the water off of his hand gracefully.

"D-did you do something just now?"

Charlotte was frowning deeply as she stared at Zachary's hand.

He moved too quickly earlier, so she never registered what she saw.

There's no doubt about it. He must've done something. He picked up a piece of ice and threw it over at that crucial moment to hit Morgan's right cheek.

Morgan instinctively moved away, causing the dart to land perfectly...

"I did," admitted Zachary. He even grinned with his brows raised when he asked, "Like you girls, we worked together pretty well too, right?"

"You..."

"This doesn't count. You're obviously cheating!" growled Lupine angrily.

Zachary tilted his head and turned to her. His gaze was soft with a hint of hostility.

That frightened Lupine so much that she took a step back and didn't dare to say another word.

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"Aren't you the one who said that anything goes as long as the objective is achieved?" taunted Marino, "If you girls are allowed to move at will, then why can't we?"

"You..."

"Shut up!"

Lupine had more to say, but Charlotte cut her off.

"I will honor my word," said Charlotte before she picked up the wineglass and downed her drink.

"You truly are an incredible leader, Ms. Lindberg," said Zachary. His lips curved into a satisfied grin before he stalked toward her and reminded her, "Since you've lost, you are mine tonight."

"Oh my!"

Everyone started murmuring amongst themselves.

They were all excited and happy for Zachary because Lindberg Corporation was the one who kicked up the dust in the first place, then had the audacity to cheat.

Zachary, on the other hand, acted like a gentleman and kept backing away despite their constant unreasonable requests. In the end, he still won under those unfavorable circumstances.

Everyone was delighted to see an ending like this.

"Ms. Lindberg..." said Morgan. She had her hand on her swollen cheek and had stepped up to receive her punishment. "I did not do my job well. Please punish me."

"Leave!" instructed Charlotte grimly with a frown. She turned around and scoffed at Zachary before asking, "You'd better think this through, Mr. Nacht, so you won't regret it in the future."

"I've never regretted any decision I made," replied Zachary before he pulled Charlotte into his arms. He stroked her hair and whispered, "I'll give you a striptease once we're alone in the room."

His last sentence was extremely flirty and left many with room for imagination.

The business tycoons were all excited at that moment. They were cheering silently for Zachary, but they never said a word.

"Sure," replied Charlotte. She showed no signs of being a shy and awkward lady. Instead, she hooked her arm around his neck and leaned into him before she said, "I am curious to see how you look like doing a striptease performance."

"Wow!"

Everyone was howling and whistling excitedly.

That was especially true for the men. They were applauding Zachary so much that it was as if he had just fought and won a battle for the male species.

"What are we waiting for, then? Every second counts!"

Zachary held Charlotte's hand and rushed out of there, while their bodyguards hurried to keep up with them.

The business tycoons who had been watching the show were all staring enviously at Zachary.

Ben and Marino were also happy for Zachary.

The driver had already pulled the car up when Charlotte and Zachary left the banquet hall.

Just when Zachary was leading Charlotte into his car, she grinned seductively and suggested, "It's a beautiful night. Why don't we go for a walk?"

"You're wearing high heels. Will you be alright?" asked Zachary as he stared at her eight-centimeter heels.

"It'll be fine as long as I do this."

Charlotte took off her shoes and held them in her hand. After that, she hiked her gown up and led the way walking down the road.

Mixed emotions rose within Zachary as he watched her back. It felt as if he had suddenly returned to two years ago.

Back then, Charlotte was carefree and wild. She had since assumed another identity and became stronger, but she would still subconsciously show her cute and naughty nature.

That is who she is. It will never change, regardless of how much she pretends to be otherwise.

Zachary took off his coat and draped it over Charlotte's shoulder before he took a step back gracefully. He didn't try to take advantage of her or anything.

"I didn't think you were such a gentleman," commented Charlotte with a smile.

"Are you trying to say that you see me as a crude man?" asked Zachary with his brows raised.

"The kind of person you are is not important," replied Charlotte as she stared ahead at the beautiful street. She then narrowed her eyes and added, "The important thing is that the Lindberg family and the Nacht family are mortal enemies!"

Her words got Zachary's heart to sank. She's right. The Lindbergs and the Nachts had always been enemies. She has been provoking the Nachts ever since she showed up here. That could only mean that the Lindberg family is declaring war on us...

There was a time when they were worried that the Lindberg family would discover Charlotte's real identity and deliberately use her to get to the Nachts. That was the whole reason Zachary sent her away. Who would've thought that after all the twists and turns we took, we'd still end up here?

None of that matters, though. I don't care how tough the road ahead is. I will get her back...

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"There is no such thing as an eternal enemy," said Zachary all of a sudden.

Charlotte was slightly taken aback. She then grinned and sneered, "Are you asking for a cease-fire, Mr. Nacht?"

"You can interpret it however you like," replied Zachary. He suddenly circled his arms around her thin waist and pulled her into his embrace before he added, "Either way, you are mine tonight."

Charlotte wasn't repulsed by him, nor did she deny him anything. She simply extended her slender hands and gently touched his chest before teasing, "We'll talk if you can keep up."

Charlotte shoved him away as hard as she could the second she finished speaking. She hiked up her dress and dashed forward barefooted.

Zachary grinned as he watched her run from him.

The refreshing night wind made Charlotte's hair danced while her white dress flew with the breeze.

Her beautiful figure was undeniably alluring under the moonlight.

Zachary's heart thumped wildly at that sight, and he sped up to chase after her.

Charlotte cast a long shadow under the moonlight, and she was right in front of him.

He was right behind her shadow and could have caught her if he just reached out, but he kept his distance.

He enjoyed the sensation of being a predator chasing his prey, and he was feeling contented at that moment. He also wanted to give her some time to relax and be carefree.

Charlotte turned around to face Zachary when she noticed that they had been running for a while, but he hadn't caught up to her. She grinned mischievously and teased, "Can't keep up?"

"Hah!" scoffed Zachary. He then sped up and reached out to hold her beautiful arm.

Surprised, Charlotte quickly moved away to avoid his touch before she pushed forward.

He continued chasing after her. However, he restrained himself and kept about three meters between them.

Charlotte's bare feet were running on the clean, even road under the moonlight.

He seemed amused as he stared at her back. He was like a predator looking at his prey, and it didn't matter how fast she ran. She would never be able to escape him.

The trees that were planted on both sides of the road cast a row of orderly shadows while the streetlights that illuminated the road showed two individuals hanging out and playing together.

The scene was so sweet and romantic that it looked like it was plucked straight from a movie.

"If you haven't caught me when I reach that streetlight, you will lose your opportunity to be with me tonight."

Charlotte was holding her dress when she turned around and grinned at Zachary. Her petite figure seemed especially adorable that night.

"Are you shamelessly going back on your words?" asked Zachary while narrowing his eyes.

"Don't you know that women are naturally shameless?" teased Charlotte with a smile.

Upon saying those words, she forged ahead again.

Her figure was as beautiful as an angel's, and under the moonlight, she looked ethereal.

Zachary grinned at her. His speed remained constant until she was about three or four meters away from the streetlight. That was when he suddenly zipped over and reached out to grab Charlotte's arm.

He was about to get ahold of her when a black, unidentified object with a menacing aura sped down from the sky.

"Mr. Nacht, watch out!" shouted Ben in a worried tone.

Zachary avoided that object quickly, but the back of his hand was still cut. The sharp wing brushed past his clothes and flew toward the men behind him.

Ben and Marino moved away in time to avoid being hit.

The unidentified object spun around in the sky before it flew back down and calmly landed on Charlotte's shoulder.

Zachary took a closer look. The hell? It's an eagle!

At that moment, the eagle's sharp and piercing eyes were glaring murderously at Zachary.

"Fifi, you're acting up again!" scolded Charlotte while caressing the eagle's wings. She smiled brightly as she introduced, "This is my pet eagle. I call it Fifi."

Back then, when Danrique gave her the bird, he let her give it a name. At the time, Charlotte instinctively blurted, "Fifi!"

She didn't know why she gave her pet such a stupid name, but at the time, that was the word that popped into her head.