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Chapter 426 Chase Her Out

Eventually, Tania swallowed her words.

Russell noticed the short exchange, and he was displeased, but he hid it quickly. They say Yoona's brought up in a village, but I don't think so. Someone with that kind of aura can't have grown up in a regular family.

Even though his sister had stumbled, Daniel was in no hurry to come to her defense. Instead, he shifted the topic like he usually would. "And I'm one year older than you. Come to me if you need any help."

"What kind of help can you give me?" Elise asked without missing a beat.

Daniel was only being polite, but he never thought Elise would take it seriously. He had nothing to answer, and the air was becoming awkward, so he threw out a random reply. "Anything. If someone tries to bully you, or if you run into any trouble, you can come to me for help."

"Get me a hundred doses of hyacinth serum then," she answered calmly.

The moment she said that, Claude spewed his soup out. Hyacinth serum? And a hundred of them? Wow, she does not hold back.

Daniel had some knowledge on medicines, since he was the young master of a family of doctors. Hyacinth wasn't a rare item, so he thought hyacinth serum was just another regular medicine as well. "No problem. You will get your serums in three days," he accepted the request readily.

Elise looked at him as if he was an idiot. "You have three months. If you can get a hundred doses by then, I'll acknowledge you as my cousin."

Claude came over. "Hey, if I get a hundred of them, can I be your cousin too?"

"Buzz off," Elise told him off bluntly.

"Okay." Claude went away immediately, but he muttered under his breath. "You didn't have to tell me off so bluntly."

Daniel knew nothing about how Elise and Claude got along, so he thought of that as a funny little episode and brushed it aside. Proudly, he said, "No need. Don't worry about that, Elise. Leave it to me. If I can't find a hundred of them in three days, you can pick anything from my medicine stash. What do you say?"

"Deal." Elise's eyes glinted slyly. Well, Christmas came early this year. And Santa came to my house himself.

"Good." He puffed his chest out confidently, but when he glanced at his sister, a hint of disdain flashed in his eyes. Hmph. In the end, it's still up to me to complete Dad's request of befriending Elise. You're just a girl and going to get married off soon. Just give up on the inheritance. You're not worthy of it.

"Seems like you're getting along." Russell nodded happily. "Do keep in touch. It's how a family bonds."

"Don't worry, Dad. I'll come over a lot," Daniel answered proudly.

"Good." Russell nodded. He looked around the yard, and when he saw Alexander, his eyes shone.

Sometime earlier, he had looked into all the rich kids in Tissote to pick a good candidate for his daughter's marriage. Not to mention he could use the connection as well. Alexander was on the list, and he was by far the best candidate for Tania.

The Griffiths might be in a decline, but Alexander was capable enough to get into Frazier Incorporated and save their pharmaceutical company from a crisis. That alone pointed to the bright future Alexander had.

When he heard the rumor about Alexander being Elise's fiancé, he thought it was just a rumor. I guess that rumor's true, but they're still not married. As long as he's still not married, I can still snatch him away. Russell gave Tania a look.

Tania looked at where he was looking. When she saw Alexander sitting there handsomely, she realized what her father was getting at, and she nodded imperceptibly.

Russell went up to Jeanie and requested genuinely, "Jeanie, we're really busy with work, Daniel and I. We have no choice but to leave Tania at home every time. She's really lonely there, so can you take care of her for us for a few days? It's a lively place here, and she can learn a thing or two from Yoona. What do you think?"

Before Jeanie could say anything, Elise refused, "I have nothing to teach her."

Daniel laughed. "You're being modest, Elise. You're a top student in Tissote University. You're more than qualified to teach her a thing or two."

"Daniel's right. Please don't refuse us. She's a hard worker, and she's a great cook. Let her stay and help you guys out, alright?"

Russell left them after saying that, worried that Elise would refuse again. "Enjoy your day. Tania, come with me. I need to talk to you."

He went out of the hall, and his children quickly followed him.

After they left, Moses mocked, "Well, someone's more shameless than I am."

Trevor snapped out of it and turned to look at his mother. "Are we really letting that girl stay here, Mom?"

"What can you do? Chase her out?" Jeanie could not do that, for they were still relatives.

Trevor shut up, since he could never chase his relative out.

Elise blurted, "Chase her out then."

Jeanie smiled bitterly. "I was just joking, Yoyo. Russell's a b*stard, but Tania's your cousin, and she's a girl. You can't chase her out. It's a bit too insensitive."

"If you don't want to take her in, then why do you care if it's insensitive?" Elise asked curiously.

"Um..." Jeanie was at a loss. Human relationships were weird and complex. Any minor decision could result in a great disaster, so they couldn't do whatever they pleased all the time.

Elise knew it was something she couldn't understand, so she simply waved her hand. "Fine, you decide." She left it to her family.

Russell and his children stood face to face outside.

Tania grumbled pitifully, "Dad, you want me to seduce Elise's fiancé on her turf? That's too risky. If they find out, Aunt Jeanie and Trevor will kill me."

"Then don't let them find out, duh," Daniel mocked. "I don't have to tell you who Alexander is, right? If you actually marry him, even I have to butter you up. Dad's paving a road for you here. Are you sure you want to act like a child and refuse?"

"But-"

"Alright, quiet," Russell interrupted the conversation. He told Tania, "I've always told you that it's important you marry a rich and powerful man. Endure this, and you will come out as a champion. Don't tell me you can't do even this much."

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Chapter 427 Delivering a Girl to Alexander

"You'll need to get married someday, Tania. I can't protect you forever. Think about it—there are tons of wealthy women who wish to marry that man inside, but they don't even have a chance to get close to him. Now that this chance is right before your eyes, are you sure you want to let it go just like that? As long as Alexander is on our side, I'll get the chance to be the head of the Anderson Family. Our fates are tied together. You shouldn't make rash decisions during such crucial times." Russell made his intentions clear, and Tania would come off as a self-centered and ignorant person if she were to reject his request.

Therefore, Tania had no choice but to swallow all her afflictions and nod obediently. "Don't worry, Dad. I won't disappoint you."

"That's my girl. It's all up to you now," Russell uttered thoughtfully. After giving her a pat on the shoulder, he turned to leave. "Good luck, sis!" Daniel wore a gloating expression on his face as he walked off. Tania watched as the two figures disappeared down the alley, and she let out a long sigh before she returned to the house.

The moment she walked through the front entrance, she put all her worries aside and forced a pleasant smile onto her face. Even her footsteps seemed lighter as she made her way in. However, she realized that the front porch was completely empty once she got in. It had been filled with people earlier, but now there was no one left. It was as if they were trying to avoid her.

Tania was the precious child of the family, and she had been spoiled and pampered her whole life. She had never been neglected in the past! She felt a lump in her throat as tears began forming in her eyes. However, when she recalled Russell's instructions, she forced her sobs back down her throat. Daddy's right. Everyone has to go through some tough times in life. All of this won't mean a thing when I achieve my goals and become better than everyone else. With my skills and traits, I'll win Alexander over soon. No one's going to look down on me then!

Tania no longer felt sad after that. If anything, she felt more determined than ever. She turned around and walked over to the backyard in search of Jeanie. "Mrs. Anderson, do you think I should share a room with Yoyo? I think that would help us get closer to each other, right?" Tania wore an innocent look as she spoke.

"No." Jeanie rejected her immediately. "Yoyo doesn't enjoy sharing her room with others." The truth was that Elise didn't like being bothered by others, but Jeanie made her explanation sound a little kinder as she thought that Tania was a relatively nice child. Well, can't she tell that she isn't welcome here? I can't believe she's shamelessly staying around. I wonder what's going on in her head.

"If that's the case..." Tania nodded thoughtfully. "You're right, Mrs. Anderson. Why don't I share a room with you, then?"

"No!" Jeanie felt a headache coming. "I don't like sharing rooms either. You can find yourself an empty room!" she grumbled, feeling annoyed. Although Jeanie didn't want grudges from

the older generations to affect the younger generations, she simply couldn't bring herself to like Tania whenever she thought about Russell. Jeanie's gut feeling told her to stay away from Tania.

Jeanie's words were precisely what Tania was waiting for, so Tania strode off with a grin on her face after that. Initially, Tania had assumed that Alexander was staying in one of the rooms in the current house, but she circled the area to realize that he was staying in the area next door. If that's the case, then I won't get a chance to get close to Alexander even if I stay with Elise, right? Tania's footsteps came to a halt in the middle of the courtyard when she realized the issue she was facing.

Meanwhile, Elise was just about to head over to Valerie's place to give her an acupuncture treatment when she bumped into Tania. "What are you doing here?" Elise asked in an icy tone.

Tania was caught by surprise, and her heart jolted when she turned around to look Elise in the eyes. It took Tania a while to gather herself. "Mrs. Anderson told me to pick my own room, but it looks like there aren't any empty rooms here." She tried her best to sound calm.

Elise thought about it for a while. She might be right. All six of the rooms are full since Claude took the last one. I don't think this place can fit anyone else. "You can go over to stay with Maria," Elise uttered flatly.

"Maria? Who's that?"

"The cook," Elise replied.

"What? Would that work?" Tania's body language made it clear that she was against the idea, but at the same time, she didn't want Elise to know that. "Personally, I'm fine with it," she explained after biting her bottom lip. "But if the public finds out that the Anderson Family's young mistress is sleeping with maids, it will ruin my family's reputation. You can't tell me to do that."

Elise crossed her arms in front of her chest. "This won't work, and that won't work... Tell me—where do you want to stay, then?"

There was a long pause as Tania pretended to think about Elise's question for a while. "When I first arrived, I noticed that people were guarding the yard next door. I think those belong to the Andersons, too, right? Perhaps I could move there."

Elise subconsciously shot a glance toward Alexander's place. Moments later, she had a sudden realization. Russell's actions puzzled me at first. I was wondering why he sent his daughter over for no reason. Well, I got my answer now—she's here for Alexander. Gosh, she's trying to go for my fiancé when it's only our first day meeting each other. She sure is an impressive woman, huh? Well, both Russell and Tania are being a little too confident. Do they think Alexander will find someone like Tania attractive? Okay. Since they want to embarrass themselves, then I have no reason to stop them. I'll just treat this as entertainment.

"Sure." Elise generously gave consent before she made her way to the yard next door. "I'll bring you there," she offered.

Tania hadn't expected Elise to agree so easily, so she froze in her spot for a few seconds before she hurried after Elise. Both of them went over to the yard next door. When they stepped in, Alexander happened to walk out of the main hall. Elise walked over when she caught sight of his towering figure, so she walked over to address him directly. "My cousin would like to stay over here. Do you guys have a spare room?"

Tania hadn't managed to catch up with Elise's footsteps, so she had to jog to follow her. When Elise's footsteps came to a halt, Tania nearly crashed into her. It took Tania a few moments to recover her energy and steady herself. Her eyes were filled with anticipation and fear as she looked at Alexander.

Alexander lowered his gaze to look at Tania before he shifted to stare at Elise. His hands were stuck in his pockets, and he pressed his fingers together as he wondered, What is this woman trying to do this time? Can't she tell that the girl beside her is interested in me? Is she sending someone over to balance things out because she has someone interested in her next door? She's saying that we can each have our own fun, huh?

Alexander had already been sulking over the incident with Joseph, and his face turned more sour when he realized that Elise had personally sent a girl over for him. Anger was written all over his face as he spoke grumpily. "I guess. Deal with it on your own. Don't tell me about this."

He had initially planned on turning around and walking away to avoid interacting with them. But to his surprise, Elise had a comeback immediately after. "Great. She can stay here, then. She can prepare your meals and tidy the place. You're welcome," she said in a haughty tone.

Upon finishing her sentence, Elise gave Tania an affirming pat on the shoulder before she walked to Joseph's room. She was utterly entertained by the look of fury on Alexander's face.

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Chapter 428 Closer to Me!

Tania wasn't the most observant person. It was clear that Alexander only had eyes for Elise, but Tania proceeded to fix her hair before she addressed him in a timid voice. "Which room should I stay in, Mr. Griffith?"

"You can stay on the streets." Alexander didn't bother to think before replying to her.

"What?" Tania froze as she thought she might have heard him wrongly. When Alexander returned to his senses, he peeked through the doors to see Elise gazing at Joseph in a caring manner. Rage burned in Alexander's chest as he saw this scene. This time, he changed his answer as he realized his initial reply had been a mistake. "The first room on the right. Follow me!" he uttered in an exceptionally loud voice.

"Really?!" Tania was overjoyed. She hadn't expected things to go so smoothly. It seemed like both Elise and Alexander didn't have their guards up against her because they were agreeing to all her requests. Dad and Daniel were overthinking it earlier. My cousin isn't that hard to deal with after all!

"Yes." Alexander wore a steely expression as he addressed Tania. "You can get Cameron to provide you with anything that you need."

"Okay!" Tania nodded enthusiastically. "I'm a simple and easy-going person, so I'll just need some daily necessities," she uttered in a respectful tone.

"Mhmm," Alexander mumbled as he stepped into the room. After glancing at Alexander, Tania looked over to the room that Elise was in. Tania felt an urge to leap with joy. I thought their relationship would be more solid since they're engaged, but it seems like all of that is just a show! I only arrived a while ago, and it's already clear that Alexander is really cold toward Elise. Soon enough, he won't even look at her anymore.

Happiness spread across Tania's face as she thought about how she was about to marry the dream guy of all women in Tissote. Soon enough, Cameron arrived with the daily necessities that Tania needed. He had just arrived when Elise strode past Tania's room without gazing in their direction. Alexander looked out for a brief moment, but his actions were too subtle to be realized.

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Chapter 429 Stop Making Noise

Alexander only stepped toward the exit after he made sure that her footsteps had traveled far away from the room. "Hey, Mr. Griffith!" Tania stopped him in a rather meek tone. "I'm not done talking..."

But it was almost as if Alexander couldn't hear her at all—he simply walked out of the room without turning back. Cameron, who was watching both of them from behind, put on a puzzled expression when he noticed the disappointed expression on Tania's face. Why do you look so dejected when your cousin's fiancé leaves your room? Cameron gave Tania a long, thoughtful gaze before he walked out after Alexander.

Alexander walked over to the room that Joseph was in before he slammed the door behind him. His burly figure towered over the man sleeping in the glass coffin, and he let out a sigh as he looked at the man. How are you related to Elise? How does she truly feel about me? She sent a young girl over to me—is that something all women in love do? Or... Does she not care about how loyal I am to her? There were tons of questions running in his head, but the only answer he got was silence.

Elise took a trip to the black market, and it was already late in the evening by the time she got back. She heard a commotion going on next door, so she turned and walked over to Alexander's area. When she got there, she saw chickens and ducks running all over the place. There were feathers flying all over the yard, and the whole place was an entire mess.

Tania was situated right in the middle of the yard with a knife in her hand. She was too terrified of the chickens and ducks to keep her eyes open, so she merely held the knife out in front of her as she swung it around while screaming. She didn't manage to hit a single thing with her knife.

Elise felt like her eardrums were about to burst if she listened to Tania's screams for any longer. With a flick of her right hand, a couple of needles slipped into Elise's fingers, and she sent them flying out all at once. In an instant, all of the chickens and ducks collapsed onto the ground—Elise's needles had done the work. The yard was finally peaceful again.

"Grandpa and Grandma both prefer a quiet environment, so you should stop making so much noise." Elise turned around and walked off right after that.

Tania had her lips parted to say something, but she couldn't find the words at all. In the end, Tania had no choice but to force herself to pick up all the chicken and duck carcasses and drag them into the kitchen.

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Chapter 430 Effort Gone to Waste

Another two hours went by before Tania placed the final pot of soup on the stove. She heaved a sigh of relief when she saw the scrumptious dishes that she had prepared on the kitchen countertop. She was excited to be praised for her skills, and she hastily brought empty bowls out to set up the dining table.

She had just arranged all the dishes when Alexander came back home. With a broad grin on her face, Tania let out a loud cry. "You're back, Mr. Griffith! It's time for dinner!" Upon hearing her, Alexander walked in to take a look at the dishes. He wore a blank look on his face, but he raised an eyebrow when he saw Tania standing by the table. "Who told you to do this?" he asked heartlessly.

"What?" Tania didn't fully understand what he meant, but she replied to him with a polite and reserved tone. "No one told me to do anything—I decided on this myself. I'd be freeloading if I just lived here without contributing, so I figured that I would prepare your meals so that you don't have to go over next door. It'd save you some trouble."

"Did you ask the maids before you prepared the meal?" There wasn't a hint of warmth in Alexander's tone.

Tania frowned as she didn't get what he meant. "I don't like the smell of oil and smoke at home," he explained. He walked out of the dining area right after that. Tania remained frozen in her spot for a long while before returning to her senses. I spent the whole day working on this, yet I didn't get a single good comment. I even violated one of Alexander's rules at home!

Her sharp eyes darted all around the room before she hurried along behind Alexander. He was headed in the direction of Elise's room. When Tania got there, she realized the atmosphere was completely different—there was a cheerful, light atmosphere at the dining table as everyone gathered around for a meal.

Once again, Tania felt herself being enveloped by a layer of embarrassment. She didn't even know what to do with herself. Right then, a group of people walked through the entrance. These individuals seemed as if they had been trained—they were arranged in two straight lines, and each of them had a gift in their hands. They marched past Tania before entering a horizontal formation and held their gifts up.