Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort chapter 1211 - 1215

"Of course!" The maid nodded vigorously in agreement.

"Frankly, I didn't think Charlotte was worthy of him either in the beginning." An inexplicable mix of emotions filled Sherlyn as she spoke. "After all, she's divorced and already had children from her previous marriage. How could she be worthy of being Louis' wife?"

"Yes, that's true. Besides, she's actually two years older than Sir Louis, if I recall correctly," one of the maids added in a judgmental tone.

"I just feel a little upset whenever I think about this matter," Sherlyn said with a frown. "I fought with my husband about this back then, but he was right. When you consider the power and influence that the Lindberg family holds, what does it matter that she was once married and already has children?"

Truthfully, Louis could easily find himself a thousand other young ladies if he ever got bored of Charlotte. However, it would be impossible for him to find someone like her, a beautiful woman who hails from a good family and possesses great talents of her own.

"That's true..." the maids concurred.

"Anyway, since Louis loves her, I won't stand in his way." Sherlyn heaved a sigh. "After all, he's my only son, and I want him to be happy!"

"Lady Sherlyn, you truly care for Sir Louis a lot."

"Stop chattering now and hurry up. After this, make sure to send someone to keep an eye on Charlotte's bedroom. Remember to inform me to go over before they wake up..."

"We understand," the maids replied obediently.

While his mother was busy masterminding her scheme, Louis was already fast asleep.

After all, it was his first experience. At midnight, he had gotten so tired that he dozed off.

Diana leaned in his embrace and rained kisses all over his sleeping face, besotted with him. She wanted to be one with him forever, never to be separated again.

However, she knew it was not the time yet.

After forcing herself to get out of bed, she got dressed, tiptoed to the closet, and dragged the unconscious Charlotte out of it. Then, she undressed her and plopped her onto the bed next to Louis.

Her heart ached at the sight of the man she loved lying next to another woman. At the same time, she shot a look of resentment at Charlotte.

However, she knew her grand plan would be ruined if she acted hastily.

She did not stop at merely placing Charlotte in that compromising position. Instead, she went further and pinched the latter's chest and thighs, leaving purple bruises on her delicate skin. Then, she threw the duvet over her and Louis' naked bodies.

It was four o'clock in the morning, and the world was silent.

No one was still awake in the manor. Diana quietly slipped out of the bedroom and quickly returned to the maid's room on the first floor. Her heart was fluttering with joy the entire time.

Just as she returned to her room, a maid, who had woken up to relieve herself, caught sight of her. She asked casually, "Diana, where did you go? Why are you back so late?"

"I was in the garden the whole time..." Diana replied smoothly, for she had already thought of an excuse. Feigning a dejected expression, she continued, "You even walked past me! You didn't notice me?"

"Huh? Oh, okay..." the maid replied groggily and went back to sleep.

Diana breathed a sigh of relief and tiptoed into the bathroom to take a shower. Seeing the love marks Louis had left on her skin, she recalled the sweetness she had experienced earlier that night and felt blissful.

After washing up, she was about to lay in bed when another maid came over and called them hurriedly, "Get up! Lady Sherlyn is about to wake up!"

"I'll attend to her," Diana volunteered. "You all can continue sleeping."

"We can't fall back asleep! Something big is happening today, so we all have to be there," another maid said mysteriously. "If everything goes well, Lady Sherlyn may reward us!"

"Wow! Okay, time to get up!" the other maids said excitedly. All traces of sleep disappeared from their faces as they immediately rushed to the bathroom to freshen up.

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Diana's heart sank. However, she knew that it was not time yet. She had to continue to be patient.

"I'll go attend to Lady Sherlyn first. Take your time to get ready."

Diana hurried to Sherlyn's bedroom.

When she entered, the duchess was already seated at her dressing table, putting on makeup and setting her hair. Diana walked toward her quickly. "Aunt Sherlyn, let me do it!"

"Where were you last night?" Sherlyn asked pointedly.

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort chapter 1212

"I was just hanging out in the garden for a little while..." Diana replied in a soft voice.

"You know, Diana, we should all know our social status and where we stand in relation to one other." Sherlyn hinted at her. "What is yours will be yours. Whatever that isn't meant to be yours... Well, just forget about it."

"Yes, I understand." Diana lowered her head humbly. He's already mine.

"It's good that you understand. Now, do my makeup quickly. I'm going to see Louis soon."

Sherlyn assumed that Diana had accepted her fate and smiled triumphantly to herself.

Charlotte woke up in a confused state. Her head felt heavy, and her body was aching everywhere. Trying to ease the discomfort, she rubbed her temples and turned to her side. The bed felt more sunken in for some reason as if someone was lying next to her.

Her sleepy eyes suddenly shot wide open in surprise. There really is someone in bed with me! I thought I was dreaming!

Blinking her eyes hard in disbelief, she took a second look. Someone is really lying beside me!

"Ah!" Charlotte screamed in horror and quickly sat up. That was when she realized that she was completely naked. At that realization, she hastened to pull the duvet to cover her bare chest and tried hard to recall what had happened the previous night.

Louis jolted awake from her shout. He turned around and was also stunned to find himself lying next to her. Lifting the duvet, he glanced down at his naked body and recalled last night's events.

In an instant, a grin lit up his face as he reached out to hug Charlotte. "Charlotte, we've finally—"

"No, that's impossible! No way!" She dodged his outstretched arms, shaking her head in a panic. "There must be some sort of a mistake here!"

"How can it be a mistake?" he asked anxiously. "We were clearly making love last night! You were holding onto me so tightly, and you kept on kissing me everywhere—"

"I did no such thing! That can't be true!" Charlotte interrupted him. "You're mistaken. You must be mistaken!"

"I'm not mistaken!" Louis insisted. "Charlotte, I know it was not right of me. We've had too much to drink last night. I know I wasn't very gentle with you, and I didn't consider your feelings. I swear I'll be better next time. Please don't be angry with me!"

"No, no, this is not happening..." Before Charlotte could finish her sentence, a knock sounded at the door. Sherlyn called out from the other side, "Charlotte, are you awake? Let's take the children out for horse riding."

Charlotte panicked even more when she heard the duchess' voice.

She wanted to get up from the bed, but she was completely naked, and her clothes were nowhere to be seen. In a hurry, she tried to wrap herself in the duvet, but her movement exposed Louis' bare body. Shocked, Charlotte quickly turned her head away.

"Charlotte, are you going to take a shower? I'll grab a towel for you..." Louis offered when he saw Charlotte getting up. He was trying to appease her.

"Shh!" Charlotte hurriedly hushed him. However, it was too late as Sherlyn spoke again. "Huh, why do I hear Louis' voice inside the room?"

With that, she started rapping the door again. "Louis, are you in there?"

"Mom, I-"

"Shut up!" Charlotte was about to explode in frustration.

"Oh, so you are inside the room." Sherlyn twisted the doorknob and pushed open the door. "Well, I'm coming in then. Let's go to..."

However, her voice trailed off when she saw the mess in front of her.

Wide-eyed, she stared at them in astonishment. "You two..."

All the maids who were following along behind her, including Diana, saw the scene as well.

Every single one of them gaped at Louis and Charlotte, then exchanged hushed whispers.

Charlotte closed her eyes in defeat and wished fervently for the ground to swallow her whole.

"Mom, what are you doing? Get out!"

Louis quickly helped wrap the duvet tightly around Charlotte's naked frame.

"I'm sorry. I'm so sorry..."

Sherlyn hurriedly turned around and left with her entourage of maids away, even ordering them to close the door.

However, before the door was fully shut, Lupine and Morgan, who had just arrived at the scene, caught sight of the naked Charlotte and Louis in the bedroom

Zachary, who was walking behind the two of them, too, saw what was happening inside the bedroom.

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort chapter 1213

When Zachary called Charlotte the previous night, he had boarded a chartered private jet to fly him into Arkfield.

He wanted to tell her that he would be arriving early in the morning and that he wished to have a proper conversation with her, but Louis cut off his call.

Although Zachary was rather ticked off by that, he did not pursue the matter.

That was because he trusted Charlotte and believed that she still loved him and would never cheat on him with another man.

However, a terrible surprise greeted him when he arrived at the manor.

Even though he did not enter the bedroom and was still standing quite a distance from the door, he had seen everything that he needed to see.

His height allowed him to see over the women's heads in front of him, so he had a clear view of the bedroom.

With his own eyes, he saw the naked figures of Louis and Charlotte on the bed. The entire room was in a mess. Anybody could have easily guessed what had happened the night before in that room.

"Z-Zachary, when did you get here?" Sherlyn was startled to see Zachary.

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She had not considered him in her intricate scheme.

In fact, she had no idea that Zachary would be arriving in the manor at this hour.

However, this is quite a good surprise...

Zachary did not reply to her as his eyes were still fixed on the scene in the bedroom.

Recently, the treatments he had been undergoing caused him to lose a lot of weight, and hence his eyes were sunken. His hair had grown long, and there were lines on his face where there once were none.

Even so, his eyes were still sharp, and he still exuded a domineering aura.

Beneath them, emotions rolled like raging waves in a sea at night.

Sherlyn felt rather flustered by his expression. She knew that blood would spill if Zachary were to lose his temper.

However, when reminded that they were in the Laurent family's manor, she quickly steeled herself. This is my territory. Besides, Charlotte and Louis are about to get married.

No matter how scared she was of him, she knew she had to stand up to him for her son's sake.

Hence, the duchess stepped toward Zachary and said in a polite tone, "Louis and Charlotte are already engaged. Their wedding will be held in seven days. Even if something did happen last night..."

Her sentence was cut short by the sharp look he had thrown at her.

Frightened, she quickly held her tongue. She did not even dare to breathe as panic filled her eyes.

However, Zachary did not explode with fury, unlike the usual him. In a low, icy tone, he ordered Lupine, "Attend to her bath. I'll be waiting for her in the study half an hour later."

After that, he spun on his heels and headed to the study downstairs.

"Yes!" Lupine snapped out of her daze and headed into the bedroom with the female bodyguards to help Charlotte sort out the mess.

Diana, too, led two maids into the room. She helped Louis into a robe and escorted him out of Charlotte's bedroom.

"Lady Sherlyn, Sir Robert is on the phone," one of the maids announced hurriedly.

"Get back to work!" Sherlyn took the phone from the maid and started to walk back to her bedroom. "What are you all still doing here?"

"Yes." The maids lingering in the corridor quickly disappeared.

Sherlyn shut her bedroom door behind her and said into the phone, "What's the matter?"

"Has Zachary arrived at the manor?" Robert asked eagerly. "He didn't confront Louis, did he?"

"Not yet, but he might later..." she replied, feeling a little uneasy. "This is our home! Zachary wouldn't dare to pick a fight here, would he?"

"Did something happen?" He probed further.

"Well..." She then told him about what happened between Louis and Charlotte the night before. "I didn't expect Zachary to appear at that moment. He saw everything, and the way he gazed at them seemed as if he wanted to eat them up!"

"Louis has always been a gentleman. How did he become so wild after a few drinks?" Robert wondered out loud. "Even if the boy got drunk, Charlotte would still have been sober. Did you do something?"

"The pressing matter now is to ensure your son's safety! What nonsense are you talking about?" Sherlyn snapped. "Hurry up and get back here! If Zachary loses his temper, you're the only one who can stop him."

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort chapter 1214

"I'm on my way." Robert added sternly, "Whatever Zachary does, don't push his buttons. Be patient and make concessions if you need to until I arrive."

Sherlyn was frustrated at his advice. "Why are you so scared of him? We're in F Nation."

He merely retorted, "You've led a sheltered life for far too long, and you're out of touch with the dangers out there. You need to trust me on this; don't cause more trouble-"

"Okay, okay, I got it," came Sherlyn's reluctant agreement. "Now hurry up! I'm going to check on Louis."

After hanging up, she did not immediately visit Louis but instead turned to her subordinates. "Have all our bodyguards patrol the periphery. If anyone catches Zachary messing around, seize him immediately."

"Yes, Lady Sherlyn."

The order did little to soothe Sherlyn's anxiety, and she eventually grabbed a gun from a drawer and hid it beneath her clothes before visiting her son.

Meanwhile, Charlotte was taking a shower when she noticed some marks on her body. She gasped in shock. "What's this?"

Morgan was surprised as well, and she sputtered, "Ms. Lindberg, did you and Sir Louis-"

"I don't remember a thing," Charlotte interrupted as she clutched her forehead in frustration.

She tried her best to recall what happened earlier.

"I remember chatting with Louis after coming back to my room. We argued, and I slapped him so hard that his nose began bleeding. He got himself

cleaned up in the bathroom while I drank some water on the couch. I fell asleep after that."

Charlotte had a splitting headache then. "I really don't remember anything after that."

Morgan said, "Did Sir Louis do something while you-"

She could hardly bring herself to finish her sentence as she became overwhelmed with anger.

"That jerk! And here I thought he was a real gentleman! I can't believe he's so dishonorable! I'm going to kill him!"

Morgan made to leave the room, huffing with anger, when Lupine pulled her back. "What are you doing? Nothing's confirmed yet, and you're rushing about like some headless chicken. Get a grip!"

"But Sir Louis took advantage of Ms. Lindberg."

Lupine repeated herself, "We need to clarify things before jumping to conclusions."

"Aren't things clear enough already? The proof is right in front of you!"

"You've literally considered one possibility."

"|-"

"Enough! Please stop fighting," Charlotte pleaded as their argument worsened her headache.

"Sorry," the two of them said in unison, lowering their heads in shame.

Charlotte tried her best to consider the situation logically. "Louis wouldn't do something like this. The key to solving this puzzle is my memory loss. My gut instinct tells me that nothing happened between us. But if that's the case, where did these marks on my body come from, then?"

"Something's fishy about this whole situation." After some thought, Lupine continued, "I'll check things out; we might be missing something."

Charlotte's heart skipped a beat as a face suddenly came to mind. "He saw it!"

Lupine immediately understood who she meant. "I didn't expect Mr. Nacht to show up at this time. You won't be able to play dumb about this now."

"Mr. Nacht's got a temper, though. I have no idea what he'll do next." Morgan sounded worried as well.

Charlotte's mind drifted to her kids. She addressed Lupine, "You should leave to keep an eye on the children. Don't let them know about this. Bring Jamie, Robbie, and Ellie to the pasture; you can bring Danrique's children along. Tell them that Mommy and Daddy have some things to discuss and will pick them up a bit later."

"I'm on it." Right before Lupine left, she turned to Morgan and said, "Stay here and accompany Ms. Lindberg. Make sure she's okay."

"Got it."

Lupine bumped into Diana the moment she left Charlotte's room.

Diana was heading to Louis' bedroom with a steaming bowl of chicken soup.

The sight suddenly reminded Lupine of the two glasses of water from last night. Maybe something's wrong with the water.

She immediately ordered Jade to track down the drinking glasses from last night and send them for analysis.

Jade got to work at once.

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort chapter 1215

Zachary was slumped on a couch in the study room, his eyes downcast.

It was impossible to tell what was responsible for his cold, murderous gaze.

Bruce scrunched his brows in concern as he whispered, "He looks like he's about to kill someone."

Ben seemed more optimistic about the situation as he replied, "He won't. He's a lot calmer after that harrowing incident."

The words had barely left his mouth when someone opened the door from the outside. A familiar voice drifted in. "Zachary!"

It was Louis.

He had come to explain things for fear that Zachary would make things difficult for Charlotte.

Louis was fraught with nerves as he entered the room carefully. Even his voice shook as he called out his greeting earlier.

Zachary lifted his head slowly and stared coldly at Louis, looking like a predator scrutinizing its unfortunate prey.

Louis decided to defuse the tension in the room by mentioning Zachary's children. "Where's Jamie? Robbie and Ellie miss him dearly, and they've been hoping to meet him soon."

Zachary continued glaring at Louis wordlessly as the hands he had placed on his thighs gradually clenched into fists.

Still, Louis pushed on with his agenda and added, "Since you're already here, you're welcome to stay for a few more days. This way, the children can spend more time with each other-"

"They're my children!" Zachary seethed, finally breaking his silence. "You have no right to organize their lives."

"That's not what I meant. What I'm trying to say is-"

"Enough!" Zachary interrupted his meek defense. "Now tell me everything about last night; you'd better have a darn good explanation for what happened."

Louis sat obediently on a couch facing Zachary and launched into an explanation. "We were watching a magician troupe's performance last night, and Charlotte and I got drunk."

He suddenly paused in the middle of his words and said, "Wait, why should I be explaining anything to you? Charlotte and I are getting married soo-"

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"She's my woman!" Zachary roared furiously

Stunned by his outburst, Louis stared at him silently.

"You're mistaken."

Sherlyn had shown up just then as Louis' cavalry.

"You may have been with Charlotte in the past, but all of that is history. We made a public announcement regarding Louis and Charlotte's marriage two months ago; Charlotte even made the statement herself. They're getting married in a week."

Instead of looking at Sherlyn, Zachary frowned and continued to interrogate Louis, "Is there anything else you'd like to say?"

"There's nothing left to say." Louis glanced at him timidly and lowered his head. "We got drunk, and then things just happened."

Sherlyn chimed in, "They're adults, for heaven's sake. Nothing's wrong if they slept together. Besides, you're her ex-husband; you don't have a say in their relationship. Why should Louis be explaining things-"

Crash!

Zachary slammed his fists on the glass coffee table before him, shattering it.

His action had Sherlyn shuddering in fear, utterly tongue-tied.

Meanwhile, Louis trembled and instinctively scooted backward.

The atmosphere in the study room instantly chilled by several degrees.

"D-Don't do anything stupid now," Sherlyn said fearfully. "We're in F Nation."

"Lady Sherlyn, please leave." Zachary's request was nothing more than a thinly-veiled command.

He seemed even more menacing as he wiped off the blood and glass shards on his hand with a wet towel.

"Why should I leave?"

"Lady Sherlyn, please leave."

Just then, Charlotte's voice rang out, sounding a lot calmer than Zachary.

She added for good measure, "I promise that nothing will happen to Louis."

With that, Charlotte entered the study room slowly, her gaze landing on Zachary. Her heart swirled with an array of conflicting emotions.