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It would be ridiculous if Emily didn't recognize Lee, Henry, and Mason.

Brian frowned and patiently said, "Not only the three major families. You should also watch how you speak to the other guests. Don't offend the bigshots of the music industry, or your future will be over."

He and Megan had tried their best to set up this huge event for her. If Emily screwed things up because of a few words, all their effort would be for nothing!

With a grin, Emily said proudly, "I know all of the bigshots in the music industry, so I definitely won't offend them."

Frowning, Brian asked doubtfully, "Even the piano master, Wesley Ford, and the junior pianist, Walter Lynn?"

Emily shyly lowered her head and pursed her lips, then said, "Of course, I know them. I even have Walter's contact information."

Although she had shamelessly asked Mr. Hilbert to give it to her, wasn't she resourceful since she had eventually gotten it?

There's nothing to be ashamed about!

Hearing this, Brian's eyebrows instantly relaxed and he said with satisfaction, "Yes, good for you. It's good that you know the importance of widening your network. After all, you'll be on an equal footing with them in the future."

"Exactly. That's what I thought too." As Emily said this, a trace of pride and delight flashed across her eyes.

Both Brian and Megan were content with her behavior. They nodded as Brian praised, "Look at how great Emily is. She really proved herself to be the daughter of the Jackson family. Although your sister is very talented in all aspects, if you become the champion of the World Piano Competition, you won't pale in comparison."

As soon as he said this, the smile on Emily's face suddenly collapsed.

Does that mean that if I don't win this competition, I'm not as good as Janet? That's kind of absurd. I know that my ability to seduce men is indeed incomparable to Janet's!

She didn't say this out loud but simply kept it to herself.

"Dad, Mom, I will do my best."

Since Janet was admitted to Woodsbury University, Megan and Brian's attitude toward her had improved a lot. Plus, when she was revealed to be the author, Rose, her status in their parents' hearts elevated.

If I don't get first place this time, I might be kicked out of the house.

At the thought of living in the countryside, the dirty soil, and having to dress in off-the-rack clothes, Emily's heart shuddered.

"All right. Emily, you stay here first. Your mother and I will go greet the guests." Brian held Megan's waist and slowly disappeared from Emily's sight.

She nodded. As she watched their receding backs, a sense of gloominess surfaced inside her, and an indescribable rage burned in her heart.

It's all because of Janet, that b*tch! Dad should've known better too. Why did he have to mention her for no reason? It's just my rotten luck.

As she silently seethed, she turned and her gaze fell on a woman in the corner whom she had never seen before.

Emily frowned slightly, then glanced down at her own dress and back at the other woman's, and her anger suddenly grew.

It was bad enough that her figure was similar to Janet's. She was also wearing a limited edition gown, and it looked even more expensive than Emily's.

A trace of anger erupted in Emily's eyes.

She got up and slowly walked forward while lifting the hem of her dress.

Originally, Janet and Mason were supposed to stay at the VIP table in the corner of the banquet hall together, but when they walked in, they met Henry, so Mason followed him to discuss matters elsewhere.

Janet didn't want to move around, so she stayed alone in the corner.

Sitting to one side, she sipped on her wine and looked down at her phone, appearing completely at ease and unbothered.

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However, a sharp female voice sounded and broke Janet's tranquil state.

She saw Emily with her dress raised and a sour expression on her face. In a domineering manner, Emily demanded, "Which young lady are you?"

Emily walked up to her and eyed her up and down with disgust.

Emily knew everyone they invited to the party, and as far as she knew, someone as strange and eye-catching as this woman shouldn't be at this important celebratory banquet of hers.

If she were a stranger who came to the banquet to scrounge a free meal, it would've been fine. However, this woman's temperament and figure bore a huge resemblance to Janet's, which Emily found truly annoying.

She felt so disgusted that it was as if she had eaten sh*t!

A look of disdain and contempt flashed across Emily's face.

Janet sat on the sofa with no emotion in her eyes. Picking up the wine glass on the table, she gave it a gentle swirl. "So, you're the contender for the champion of the World Piano Competition and the protagonist of tonight's banquet, Miss Emily Jackson?"

Emily didn't expect to be recognized so soon. It seemed like she had a pretty good reputation after all.

"That's me! Who are you?"

Upon hearing this, Janet let out a light chuckle. In a monotonous voice, she answered, "I'm not some young lady. Someone brought me here."

As soon as she said that, Emily frowned, and the disgust in her eyes became even more obvious.

Brought over by someone else? Haha. She's just a piece of trash who came here to scrounge a meal, yet she put it in such a refined way. How shameful indeed!

Emily fluffed her hair, then warned, "So, you're just here to eat and drink. In that case, know your place and don't let your eyes linger for even a second on the eligible men. You might end up disappearing and no one would know about it."

Hahaha. Besides getting a free meal, since she's all dressed up like this, isn't she also trying to hunt for rich and attractive men at this large banquet?

Emily was most familiar with this strategy!

Janet curled her lips and sneered, "Don't worry. I don't use the methods that you use, Miss Jackson."

Her words were like a double-edged sword that was clearly meant as criticism toward Emily!

This angered Emily in an instant.

Her face contorted into a hideous expression. In a furious voice, she snapped, "Who brought you here? How dare you talk to me like this!"

How can she ridicule me even though she's just here for the food? Is she asking for a fight?

With her wine glass in hand, Janet took a small sip, then said casually, "I managed to come here because I'm capable. As for who brought me here, you don't need to look too much into that, Miss Jackson."

"You!"

Today was an important moment for Emily, yet someone dared to speak to her like this.

This woman must be tired of living.

"It's one thing to come here for food, but what right do you have to criticize me when you're just a woman who warms the bed for men? Remember; this is the Jackson Family's territory, and this is a banquet organized by us. If I find you distasteful, I can get you kicked out in minutes!" Emily spoke in a low voice so only the two of them could hear her clearly.

Janet simply laughed but didn't speak. She continued sitting there, turning a deaf ear to Emily's warnings.

At this moment, a female voice sounded from behind.

Emily turned her head and looked around before noticing that Megan was walking toward them. "Emily, the people from the music industry are coming soon. Get ready."

Hearing this, Emily immediately plastered a smile on her face and said cheerfully, "I'm coming, Mom."

She couldn't let her mother find out that she was arguing with a stranger. Otherwise, Megan and Brian were sure to give her a scolding later.

At that, Emily quickly left the corner and walked in Megan's direction.

Looking up, Janet glanced around and her pink lips curled up slightly, her raised eyebrows making her appear profound.

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Under Megan's guidance, Emily successfully met the famous piano master in Sandfort City—Wesley Ford.

Upon Wesley's arrival, the guests were collectively shocked.

They knew that Wesley refused every invitation he received. Even if it was an international event, he would find a suitable reason to decline the invitation. It was difficult to see him at huge events, but today, he actually made an appearance at the Jackson Family's banquet. It signified just how much respect he showed Emily.

It seemed that rather than being a contender for the first place, Emily could directly be considered the champion.

She hadn't even competed but everyone already predicted her to be the champion. Emily's skills certainly weren't comparable to others!

With the hem of her dress lifted, Emily walked up to Wesley and respectfully offered her hand. "Master Ford, thank you very much for coming to the Jackson Family's banquet. Please take a seat at the VIP table."

Wesley pushed up his glasses and smiled. "Don't worry. It's no hurry. I came here today to assess the skill level of the World Piano Competition's winner."

He wanted to see how well Mr. Hilbert had taught his students.

Emily pursed her lips, then said modestly, "Master Ford, you're too kind. I still have a long way to go from being the champion! However, I'll be playing the piano today. I hope that you can give me some comments after my performance."

With that said, Wesley was naturally very happy. "All right. I'll be waiting for your performance."

Emily was all smiles as she stated firmly, "I'm sure I won't let you down, Master."

Wesley pushed his glasses up once more, then went to the VIP area and sat down.

After sitting down, he made a gesture and someone brought forth a huge object.

Wesley was smiling with anticipation. "This is a gift for you, Miss Jackson. I hope you'll like it."

As he spoke, the cloth covering it was gradually lifted.

When the cloth was fully lifted, every guest widened their eyes in shock.

D*mn!

The gift in question was a grand piano.

When everyone saw its brand and shape, someone suddenly exclaimed, "Isn't this the piano that has been passed down in the Ford Family for generations?"

This piano had been passed down since ancient times. During Wesley's generation, he did not continue to pass it down because none of his children undertook a career as a pianist, so it had remained in his possession all this while.

Now, to everyone's surprise, Wesley was personally handing this precious piano over to Emily.

Does this mean that Master Ford believes Emily will be the winner? Does he think that Emily has the potential to become a part of the next generation of masters?

As these thoughts ran through the guests' heads, they began to talk aloud.

"Tsk, tsk. Who would've thought that Master Ford would pass this piano down to Emily."

"I know, right. What a surprise!"

"Although this time Emily is representing Yobril, she still has Sandfort City's blood running through her veins. Master Ford sure is a knowing man."

"Well, well. It seems like Emily's skills can't be underestimated."

"This is a great thing! Regardless of whether Emily or Sandfort City's representative wins, she would still be our city's glory."

"Yeah, that's right. Emily has really made Sandfort City proud."

Overwhelmed by all the compliments and comments, Emily was slightly stunned.

Everything that was happening felt as beautiful as a dream.

Master Ford is actually giving me his family piano? This is a dream come true!

Although she was shocked, she was even more surprised and elated.

Wesley saw that Emily was dazed and standing in place, so he assumed that she didn't like his gift. He frowned and said, "Miss Jackson, is the gift not to your liking?"

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Emily reacted immediately upon hearing this. She hurriedly said, "How could I not like it? I like it so much. Thank you for your support, Master Ford."

Having been favored and gifted with such a generous present, Emily felt that all the suffering she endured in the past few months in Yobril was worthwhile.

It has certainly paid off! Now, it's my time to shine. Hahahaha!

Megan, who was standing to one side, was deeply touched as well.

She didn't expect that everyone would think so highly of Emily. This act made her feel a little bit more confident about the competition that was to be held a few days later.

At this moment, Brian walked toward Emily and said enthusiastically, "Another bigshot has arrived! Emily, hurry up and greet him with me!"

"Another bigshot?" Emily's eyes sparkled with excitement. "Who is it?"

"The top composer—Mr. Antonio Powell."

The moment Brian said this, Emily froze.

Her shoes felt like they were filled with lead, and she couldn't seem to walk.

She was thrilled but her feet felt heavy, so she didn't take a step forward.

Oh my God, I didn't have high expectations for Antonio's arrival, but I'm really going to meet him now! This is such a delightful surprise!

If she could invite even a top composer, it seemed like she would soon have a huge influence on Sandfort City and the entire music industry!

Seeing that Emily was motionless and seemingly daydreaming, Megan hastily tugged on her sleeve and urged, "Emily, hurry up and greet Mr. Powell with me."

Emily was so happy that she had gotten a little loopy. She nodded repeatedly. "Okay. Let's go meet Mr. Powell." As soon as Emily said this, the guests couldn't hold back their gasps.

Antonio Powell?

They managed to invite the top composer, Antonio Powell?

How lucky is Emily?

It seemed like she had already become the champion; she already had half a foot in the music industry.

In that case, Emily would be the first person in Sandfort City to be loved by the people in the music industry.

“Even Antonio is here. Emily is seriously amazing.”

“Oh my God. Since things are developing like this, do you think Emily will become the next Hilbert?”

“It’s not impossible. If she wins first place, I wonder which university will approach her first to hire her as a music professor!”

“Goodness me. Do you think the previous champions will turn up as well?”

“And Walter Lynn, the piano prince. He will show up to support Emily too, right?”

“There’s also Sweet Tune—the talented composer. If anything, I think she’ll attend the banquet too.”

Emily listened on as everyone discussed tonight’s prospective guests.

It sounded like casual remarks, but it signified another meaning to Emily.

Emily didn’t expect that the bigshots in the music industry held her with such high regard. This is so exciting!

She reckoned even Walter and Gordon didn’t receive this kind of treatment, let alone other people.

Although her song 'borrowed' a little bit of Sweet Tune's composition, even the composer wasn't treated like this either. Does this mean that she has lost to me? Hehe!

As she grew aware that she was standing on the stage in the limelight, Emily straightened her back.

When she moved, she acted with utmost grace and elegance. "Welcome, Mr. Powell."

Antonio's smile was like a kind breeze. "Congratulations for being selected to compete in this year's World Piano Competition, Miss Jackson. I'm here today for the same reason as Master Ford, which is to witness the strength of the champion candidate."

Emily nodded. "Of course. When everyone is here, I'll immediately play a song on Master Ford's piano."

Antonio nodded in response and sat down in his designated seat.

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After sitting down, Antonio spoke slowly. "I brought a small gift for you, Miss Jackson. I hope you won't dislike it."

With that said, he hurriedly asked someone to bring something for her.

It wasn't big, so the cloth used to cover the object wasn't large either.

Antonio got up and stepped forward to slowly uncover the present.

"This is a speaker that I asked a designer to customize for you, Miss Jackson. The sound quality is very clear, and the operation is simple. Your name is on it too. I hope that it can contribute to you winning the competition."

When the gift was revealed, the guests were shocked once again.

What on earth?

The speakers were designed in Spain. Not only did it look magnificent, but it was also very practical. What's more, Emily's name was engraved on it. It would be perfect to be used during the competition.

Antonio had indeed thought this through!

Emily was slightly overjoyed, and she couldn't conceal the smile on her face. "Thank you, Master Powell, for your blessing. I will certainly work harder knowing that I have your support."

Antonio was very pleased to hear this.

There was now another talent in Sandfort City!

If nothing unexpected happens, this year's champion would undoubtedly be Emily.

It seems that Hilbert is doing a great job at nurturing new talents!

The grin on Emily's face grew wider by the second, and her previously downcast mood disappeared with everyone's flattering remarks.

She had been cast aside for so long. Now, she was finally making a name for herself.

Her hard work from the past few months had not been in vain after all!

If Janet saw how dazzling of a moment I'm having now, she would definitely be so angry that her lungs would hurt!

Hehehe. It would be best if I could p*ss her off!

She could avoid dealing with such an eyesore in the future.

At this moment, a male voice suddenly sounded out of nowhere.

Then, they saw an usher running from the corner toward Emily and Megan. With great excitement, he announced, "The three major families of Sandfort City are here!"

At this, the guests who had been shocked to the core by Wesley and Antonio's arrival couldn't resist sucking in a breath.

Everyone at the banquet was completely shaken.

What is going on today?

Wesley and Antonio's arrivals were shocking enough, but how did Emily manage to invite all three major families of Sandfort City?

The last time the three major families made a collective appearance was during Mason's 26th birthday party. So... why are they here at an event like this?

This is just a celebratory banquet. Are the Jacksons so highly respected that even the three most popular young masters in Sandfort City can be called upon?

It's unbelievable.

Megan and Brian didn't expect that they would turn up too, as they had only sent the invitation as a symbolic gesture!

This news not only amazed the guests but also left the two of them dumbfounded.

Emily was so stunned that she didn't know how to react.

She was frozen in place, and her hands and feet were ice-cold!

All three of Sandfort City's most popular young masters were here at her party.

It can't be. Am I dreaming? Young Master Sanders, Young Master Moss, and Young Master Mason are all here! Why did they come? Could it be...

Emily began to blush.

Could it be that they're all attracted to me? That's impossible. Am I going to be pursued by all three young masters in Sandfort City? Oh my God. This is unlike anything I've ever imagined before! How did it turn out like this?

At first, Emily was highly suspicious, but after giving it some further thought, she figured that it wasn't impossible.

After all, the three young masters weren't married yet. They were nobles, so they had to be looking for a well-bred young lady who had a full range of talents, and she just so happened to meet those standards. So, it was understandable for her to have caught their attention.