

When Life Takes a Turn – Chapter 0106

Zayn was chuckling as if he had just heard the world's greatest joke. 'I was actually looking forward to seeing the look on their faces when James addresses me later as the chairman.'

When the manager noticed that he was still capable of laughter, she grumbled, "You're looking death straight in the eye, yet here you are, laughing like a child. There's truly not an ounce of shame in you..."

Her eyes were sparkling with excitement the moment she directed her attention behind Zayn. The bitter expression that plagued her features was replaced with an admiring gaze. Winking at Cristian, she brushed past Zayn and paced forwards with a spring in her step as she chirped jovially. "My goodness, James. You actually came down here to welcome us. We're so honored."

James had a cheerful smile on his face as he approached the two of them with three other superiors in tow. He responded good-naturedly, "Haha, Shannon. You and Cristian took the time to come all this way, so it's only natural that I'd see you in."

As soon as James mentioned Shannon's name, the smile on the manager's face grew brighter. Even Cristian felt respected in his presence—his eyes were wide with eagerness as he bowed and shook James' hand. He was flattered beyond belief. "You're too kind, James. I've always looked up to you, and now that I've met you in person, it's obvious that you're in character to your reputation!"

Cristian had ensured that he was very well prepared before they arrived, and now that James was in the palm of his hand, his grooming tactics were coming into play. This, of course, also included his superiors. He kept pandering to the four of them, humbling himself in the process.

It dawned on him that James was a very intimidating individual. When Cristian interacted with James, he found himself behaving more stiffly. The air had become almost suffocating. He found himself struggling to breathe around James. 'The director from the last media company was nowhere near as intimidating, but at least I feel more confident this way. As long as I'm signed under Violet Vision, I'm not going to have any problems at the end of the day. I have a higher chance of reclaiming my stardom. Plus, with Violet Vision's resources, I'm going to be famous in no time at all!'

Cristian was scheming to himself. 'If I ever have the honor of meeting the newly-appointed chairman in the future, I've definitely got to suck up to him! Actually, now that I think about it, James is already such a phenomenal director. The chairman must be a god amongst men!'

"Haha, you definitely know how to present yourself. As expected from an Internet celebrity like yourself, it was no wonder you were blowing up on the Internet. Not bad at all." James praised as he let out a good-natured laugh.

While Cristian was flattered, he felt an equal wave of embarrassment wash over him as well. 'He's implying that I'm not as popular as I used to be. Though, I can't say he's wrong either.'

Cristian's manager, Shannon, chimed in, "As long as Cristian's collaboration with Violet Vision goes according to plan, I think he'll be back on the popularity charts in no time, especially with Violet Vision's resources!"

James was not humbled at all. In fact, he straightened his back and puffed his chest out. "I don't think so—I know so. Ever since the new chairman's been in charge, Violet Vision's stock prices have increased in value exponentially. Our assets are so strong, we're nothing like the old Violet Vision at all. As long as Violet Vision revamps and remarkets Cristian's image effectively, he'll be back to his former glory in no time. He'll probably be bigger and better, even."

You could see the exhilaration written all over Cristian's face. His face had gone a bright red as he excitedly clenched his fists.

Suddenly, he burst into a fit of laughter, as if he had recalled something unbearably hilarious. "Speaking of which, I witnessed the funniest thing today. There was this poor numbskull who was posing as the chairman. He even told me to p*ss off, haha!"

Both his manager and personal assistant followed up on his laughter, finding it hysterically outrageous, However, what they failed to realize was the sudden change in James' facial expression.

"Where's this young man you're referring to?" asked James lowly, raising his brows.

Cristian turned his head and pointed to where Zayn was standing. His head was lowered as he was preoccupied with his phone. "There, he hasn't moved an inch. I could buy his entire outfit with my lunch money. His clothes look like they barely add up to 30 dollars, and he actually had the balls to call himself the chairman of Violet Vision, what a joke!"

"Unbelievable!" James cried, his face was hot with rage as he clenched his jaw. The look in his eyes depicted brewing fear in a raging firestorm.

Cristian had the gall to laugh even harder at James' reaction. "You took the words right out of my mouth, he's insane!"

Almost immediately, Zayn raised his eyes to meet James', a feigned smile plastered on his lips. He could feel his skin crawl as he took in the chairman's reaction. He tripped over himself to give Zayn a proper greeting. He bowed, before respectfully addressing

him, "Chairman!"

You could hear a pin drop in the dead silence that followed.

Cristian and the others had their eyes wide open in disbelief. It looked like their souls had just left their bodies as they stared blankly at Zayn. They were unable to process the scene that had unfolded right in front of them.

“What?”

“Chairman?”

“Do my eyes deceive me? Did James just call that pauper ‘chairman?’”

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‘No, we must be hallucinating! This can’t be true.’

Zayn nodded slightly and said to James, “Were you the one who intended to bring Cristian over?”

James had learned what had happened from Cristian and Shannon, so there was no way he would admit to it at that moment. He hurriedly shook his head and said, “No... no, I wasn’t the one who wanted to bring them over. It was they themselves who wished to discuss a collaboration with Violet Vision.”

Instead of exposing his lie, Zayn merely looked past James and casually glanced at Cristian, whose face was ashen. He said, “I’m very dissatisfied with Cristian. Violet

Vision is forbidden from having any sort of business relationship with him. Otherwise, I'll be very displeased. Is that understood?"

"Yes, understood!" James nodded vigorously. "From today onward, Violet Vision will blacklist Cristian and is forbidden from collaborating with him!"

Only after Zayn had left did Cristian, Shannon, and the others regain their senses. They exchanged glances and saw the shock, regret, and despair in their eyes!

'Oh my God! The guy we scorned just now was actually the newly appointed chairman of Violet Vision!

'What have we done?!'

An intense feeling of regret shrouded their minds, especially Cristian's. He was covered in a cold sweat and desperately wanted to give himself a hard slap.

Zayn's final statement had left him horrified. 'Violet Vision has not only refused to sign me, they're even blacklisting me!'

'My situation is already bad enough. If I offend Violet Vision now, my chances of making a comeback are gone.'

Shannon seemed to have realized this as well. She hurriedly rushed toward James and said, “James, James, this was all just a misunderstanding. We didn’t know that he was truly the chairman of Violet Vision!”

James glared at her icily and there was a tinge of anger in his voice as he said, “Shannon Cruise, Cristian, I see you’re really quite bold. You managed to greatly offend Violet Vision’s chairman. You even called him a poor bimbo, didn’t you? Marvelous, just marvelous! Since you guys are so great, keep on being great on your own. I’d like to see how you guys can remain great after being blacklisted by Violet Vision!”

Cristian could feel James’s fury and started shivering so severely that he was on the verge of tears. ‘How could I be so unlucky? I genuinely wanted to discuss collaborating with Violet Vision, so how could I have insulted the chairman out of nowhere?’

‘I might as well kill myself!’

No matter how he begged James, his words fell on deaf ears. Eventually, Cristian and the rest were chased out by security.

When Cristian returned to his car, he was having a mental breakdown. He could no longer hold it in anymore and burst out crying. He then swore to himself, ‘If I get a chance to meet Zayn again, I’ll be sure to apologize to him no matter what. I’ll suck up to him so hard, I’d even grovel on my knees if I have to!’

‘I can’t imagine what I’ll be able to do if I lose this career.’

On the other, all of that was just dust in the wind to Zayn and did not affect him in the slightest. The moment he entered his office, he had forgotten about the whole ordeal and focused on the task at hand.

Meanwhile, Faye was dealing with a very troublesome situation.

A female classmate had just informed her that there would be a class reunion and she was invited. Plus, she could bring her family with her.

At first, Faye wanted to reject her classmate's offer. She had never been a fan of attending such events and was even less willing to go at the thought of having to bring Zayn with her.

She had not forgotten how Zayn had embarrassed her during the last gathering.

However, what her classmate told her next was enticing, "Faye, you definitely have to come. I heard that Moses has hired Cristian to sing for us during the gathering! Cristian, the huge celebrity! Didn't you always want to get his autograph? Now's your chance."

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"Is Cristian really coming?" asked Faye, a little tempted.

“Of course! Why would I lie to you? Moses is doing very well at the moment. Hiring Cristian is certainly within his capabilities.”

Faye considered for a moment before saying, “Alright then. I’ll give it a think.”

“What’s there to think about? Just come! We haven’t gotten together for a long time now. I imagine you’d be better off not bringing your family, after all...Hehe, you know why! Right then, I won’t disturb you any further. I’ve still got to call our other schoolmates.”

After she hung up the phone, Faye had a hesitant expression on her face. She was actually quite intrigued. Firstly, it has been a long time since she had met her schoolmates. Now that someone was finally organizing a reunion, she should participate. Coincidentally, she did not have any urgent matters to attend to.

Furthermore, the most important thing was that Cristian was going to be singing, making it exponentially more enticing!

Truth be told, Faye rather liked Cristian, not in a romantic way, but purely as a fan trying to worship her idol. She especially enjoyed his role in the television series, “The Priest”. Strictly speaking, Faye liked the character that he played in the show and not necessarily the man himself.

‘Of course, Cristian is very handsome. May as well get his autograph if I can, right?’

With that on her mind, Faye decided to attend the class reunion in two nights.

As for Moses, she had long since discarded any feelings she had for him. 'It's been so many years, I'm sure Moses forgot about me ages ago.'

In fact, when they were in middle school, Faye was somewhat close to Moses. Of course, they were not dating at the time. Back then, the study culture was still pretty innocent. Nevertheless, they were the couple with the best results in class. Both were in the running for first place among their peers. Hence, the other students would sometimes tease them about having a relationship, but that was as far as it went.

That being the case, both Faye and Moses did have feelings for each other during that period. Whatever it may have been, many years had passed, so they should have put all of that behind them.

Two nights later, Faye hesitated before finally asking Zayn, "Are you available tonight?"

Zayn said, "I'm available. What's the matter?"

Faye then said, "I've got a class reunion tonight in Apollo City. Would you like to come with me?"

Zayn looked surprised and sounded a bit doubtful when he asked, "Didn't you always say you don't want me tagging along at your class reunions? Why are you..."

Faye's expression turned cold and she was a little irked as she said, "Decide whether you want to go or not yourself."

"I'm going. Of course I want to go. I'm definitely coming!" Zayn said hurriedly.

'Are you kidding me? I know all too well what kind of gathering this is going to be. The wealthy ones get to show off. Faye's so beautiful that she's definitely going to be forced to drink. She might even get molested. How can I not go?'

Unnoticed, the corners of Faye's lips were forming a smile, but that vanished immediately. Cold once more, she said, "You can come, but you've got to listen to my every word. You're not to speak or eat casually, and you mustn't embarrass me, understand?"

"Got it, got it," Zayn answered while nodding quickly.

"Alright, then pick me up after you're done with work today and we'll go together," Faye instructed.

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“Sure, no problem.” Zayn nodded his head ferociously. He then took out his cell phone and sent James a text message to postpone his dinner gathering for that night.

‘Speaking of which, ever since I took over Violet Vision, we haven’t organized a proper dinner gathering for our company. Many employees still don’t know what I look like. The artists that signed with us have particularly wanted such an event to get to know their newly appointed chairman. They’re only hoping to butter me up, and even if that fails, they’d probably be happy with just the thought of me knowing who they are.’

This was especially true for those young female artists. They were all cooking up some kind of scheme to get on the chairman’s good side. Violet Vision’s reach was steadily increasing by the day. Therefore, if they were able to get in his good graces and utilize the company’s resources to give them a bit of a push, they would definitely become famous.

After James had received Zayn’s text message, he was frustrated, but he did not dare to utter a word of complaint.

Who had heard of such a thing? A director complaining about a chairman? Did this director not want to keep his job at Violet Vision?

Actually, James genuinely admired Zayn from the bottom of his heart. ‘Although he’s become a chairman at such a young age, he doesn’t indulge in any vices, let alone

interact with a single one of the company's starlets. Truth be told, I wouldn't be able to stop myself from giving in. That's probably why he's so capable, isn't it?'

That day, Zayn did not return to his office at Violet Vision. Instead, he used the time to tidy himself up and got a haircut which made him look refreshed. Furthermore, he even bought a suit to make himself more presentable. 'I can't let Faye feel ashamed of me after all.

'Of course, I can't buy a suit that's too expensive. I mustn't let Faye realize that something's amiss.'

Therefore, he bought a complete suit which was worth about 100 dollars and a pair of leather shoes for around 40 dollars. He then headed to Faye's company, waiting for her to finish work.

Faye left on time, only to find Zayn standing there in his suit. Her eyes could not help but sparkle as she almost could not recognise him. She was used to Zayn being in his messy state, so she was somewhat surprised to see him in a proper suit with a tidy haircut.

As it happened, there was another more crucial factor...Faye suddenly felt something familiar about Zayn.

"Fifi, you've finished work already," Zayn greeted her with a smile on his face.

Faye sized him up for a moment and asked, "Where did you get this suit?"

Zayn spun in a circle and said with a grin, "I bought it. How is it? Do I look good? All of this cost me close to 150 dollars."

However, instead of smiling, Faye's expression turned cold as she stared at him. There was even a hint of loathing in her eyes as she said, "You look hideous!"

"Huh?" Zayn was stunned. 'I don't look good like this? That can't be true! I'm dressed like the chairman of Violet Vision. Faye is interested in the chairman, so she should be pleased that I'm dressed up in his image, shouldn't she?'

In fact, Faye did see the chairman of Violet Vision in Zayn at that moment. 'I didn't realize before since Zayn's usually dressed so casually. Now that he's in a suit, I can't shake the feeling that he and the chairman have very similar figures.'

As she looked at Zayn, Faye felt that he was degrading the chairman of Violet Vision. 'What right does a deadbeat like Zayn have to look like him?!'

In her eyes, the chairman of Violet Vision was the perfect man, the greatest in all the world. On the other hand, Zayn was just a deadbeat. 'The two of them are nothing alike!'

“Why though? Don’t you think I look pretty good in this suit? Tonight’s your school gathering, so I thought I’d dress a little better and not embarrass you this time,” Zayn said with a confused and aggrieved expression on his face.

Faye’s eyes remained cold. She had apparently become even angrier. She swiftly dashed at him and grabbed the suit. “I’m telling you to take it off, so just do it and stop talking so much nonsense!”

“Alright, alright, I’ll take it off. Stop tugging…” Zayn said hurriedly. ‘Faye doesn’t seem to be herself today. Could it be because she doesn’t like the chairman of Violet Vision anymore? Is that why she’s so frustrated when she sees me dressed like him? If that’s true, it’s actually a good thing.’

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Thus, Zayn had to go home to change into the casual and messy clothes that he normally wore. Since they had been worn the whole day and had yet to be washed, they were crumpled pretty badly. In fact, some spots appeared quite filthy, so Zayn asked, “Are you sure you don’t want me to wear a suit?”

“Stop talking nonsense.” Faye glared impatiently and sized him up for a few seconds before finally smiling. “I still think you look better in this.”

Zayn was a little speechless. ‘What exactly is she seeing? I clearly looked better in a suit.’

Faye's class reunion was being held at a medium-sized resort in Apollo City, so it was anything grand or expensive. However, organizing it proved to be quite costly, approximately 600 dollars per person on average. They were a class of 40 people, making the total cost a few thousand dollars. Furthermore, there was also a rumor that Moses had been generous enough to bear all the expenses himself. That was why the reunion was able to be held so successfully with almost everyone attending.

The whole journey there, Faye was actually feeling rather excited. 'There are so many classmates that I haven't met in years. I wonder how they're doing now? Have they all successfully built up their careers and families?'

Zayn was the one driving that night. When he arrived at the parking lot at the resort, he managed to find a spot. Just as he was about to drive in, another car suddenly barged in from the side. It tried to snatch the parking spot from him and bumped into Zayn's car with a bang.

"What happened? Have you bumped into someone else's car?" Faye frowned and her demeanor instantly shifted.

Zayn shook his head and said, "We're the ones who've been bumped into. They were at fault here."

Faye heaved a sigh of relief. "That's better. See if you're able to resolve this peacefully. After all, the reunion's about to start. I don't want to be late."

“Alright.”

Zayn got out of his car, but he could not see anyone else. Suddenly, he heard a very haughty voice, “Oi! Do you even know how to drive? Are you blind? Can’t you see that I had my eyes on this spot? You kept backing up after I honked my horn at you. I’m telling you now, you’re entirely at fault!”

A short, fat man walked over with an indignant expression. As he approached them, he badgered on rudely, exuding the air of a pompous smartmouth.

‘This guy’s just cursed at me without so much as a word from me at all.’ Zayn’s polite face sunk. “You seem to have it the other way around. I obviously saw this spot first. You can see my car was already parked, but you still forced your way in. Just look at their positions. You’re the one who should be held responsible.”

“That’s f*cking bulls*it!” The fat man cursed and his expression grew even more hostile. He pointed angrily at Zayn’s nose and scowled. “You insolent scoundrel, how dare you fight for a parking space with me? Do you know what car I’m driving? A BMW 525, tens of thousands of dollars more expensive than your Lavidia! One checkup is enough to cover a whole year of your insurance. F*ck!”

With all the fat man’s cursing, he had attracted a crowd and they began murmuring amongst themselves.

Zayn's features darkened immediately. 'I was initially planning to settle this civilly like gentlemen and resolve it in private, but this man's so arrogant and uncouth. The moment he opens his mouth, insults just pour out nonstop.' It did not matter if he was a cultured man, he would still be angered when faced with such a trivial situation. "Point at me one more time."

The fat man was shocked by how menacing Zayn's eyes suddenly became and the aggression on his face faded quite a bit. He tried to double down and said, "What did you say? You're in the wrong, yet you actually have the b*lls to get violent?! Fine, come and try to lay a finger on me if you dare! I'll make sure you pay with your life."

In the face of such a shameless person, Zayn was truly furious. 'If I weren't accompanying Faye to her class reunion, I would have knocked you flat right here.'

When Faye heard the commotion, she got out of the car. "Zayn, why are you arguing with him? Didn't you say you were going to resolve it peacefully?"

Faye's appearance made the spectators fall silent as they all turned to her in surprise.

Faye had gotten dolle up for the class reunion that night. She had only put some light makeup on her face, but she was quite stunning and emanated a feminine aura.

When Zayn saw their reaction, he felt quite proud to be Faye's husband.

He then said, "Before I could even try to reason with him, he immediately came up to me and started yelling at my face!"