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Chapter 149, Coolest Girl in Town

Elise gave Owen a nod. Then, she walked up to Quentin, saying, "Papa, this is Alexander Griffith, my boyfriend." Only then did Quentin raise his head and look at Elise. His eyes were full of scrutiny when he laid them on Alexander, but it took him just a glance to sense something extraordinary from the majestic aura Alexander gave off. *This young man is no ordinary man*, he thought. "Nice to meet you, Mr. Fassbender. I'm Alexander Griffith," Alexander said slowly. The instant he spoke, he gave the feeling of a man born to be king, which surprised Quentin greatly.

This young lad seems to be in his early 20s, yet he gives off such an impressive aura. Also surprised was Alexander, who surely never expected Elise's godfather to be Quentin Fassbender, the richest man on earth who topped the Forbes list of the world's billionaires. "You look like a fine man, young lad," Quentin replied with a smile. However, the smile didn't reach his eyes, which were full of scrutiny as he sized Alexander up. Elise asked Alexander to take a seat and then said to Quentin with a grin, "Papa, now that I've brought him to you, please have a good look at him.

I believe my dear Alex will not disappoint you." Her words filled Alexander with immense pleasure, not least because the words 'my dear Alex' made him feel like he and Elise had been married for years. Quentin replied, "Oh, I'm sure he won't. I have no problems as long as he's someone you like, Ellie. Besides, even if I disapprove of him, you won't break up with him, right?" Elise replied with a helpless smile, "You must be joking, Papa." "Haha, look at this daughter of mine!

She's already so protective of him right now; what will become of her in the future?" Owen kept smiling the whole time without saying a word, but only he knew how affected his smile was. He had no interest in Elise at first, but he changed his mind after seeing what she really looked like. However, he didn't expect Elise's current boyfriend to be Alexander—the all-powerful head of the Griffith Family. Quentin had lived abroad for many years and thus knew little about Athesea, but Owen was well aware of Alexander's status and family background.

He didn't expect Elise to be Alexander's girlfriend at such a young age. This was something he couldn't sniff at. But who cares if Alexander is her boyfriend? As long as it's something I

want, there's nothing I couldn't get my hands on, he thought. "Since our distinguished guest has arrived, why don't we seat ourselves?"

he suggested. Quentin agreed at once. "Good idea. Let's have a talk after dinner," he replied. With that, the group went to the dining room. Elise held Alexander's hand while whispering in his ear, "My godfather is easy to please. It's fine as long as you make it look like we're faithfully devoted to each other.

He definitely won't give us a hard time." Alexander turned to look at her. He asked, "Elise, why didn't you tell me before we came that your godfather is Quentin Fassbender?" Elise frowned. "Does it matter?" For a moment, Alexander was at a loss for a reply. Does it matter? Of course it does.

It's your godfather that we're talking about, after all, he thought. However, he couldn't say that to Elise since they weren't really dating at present. Seeing how intimately Elise and Alexander interacted with each other, Quentin said, "Ellie, come over and sit on my left."

Since Quentin said so, Alexander could only sit next to Elise. Just then, Quentin asked, "What do you do for a living, Alex? Do you have anyone else in your family? Are they in Athesea?" A background check already? Elise thought. She quickly asked, "Are you doing a background check on him, Papa?" Quentin immediately replied, "Ain't I trying to learn about Alex's family?" Worried that Quentin might say something that displeased Alexander, Elise replied baldly, "If there's anything you'd like to know, Papa, just ask me. I'm staying at his place, anyway."

As soon as she said that, the air turned heavy right away, and the atmosphere in the spacious dining room changed at once. Quentin cleared his throat. Obviously, he didn't expect the young couple to have already reached this point in their relationship. I suppose it's too late for me to stop them now. Alexander is a fine lad, though. His looks, the way he carries himself, and his upbringing are those of an upper-class man, so he totally deserves my dear daughter, he thought. Deep down inside, though, he was a bit reluctant to part with Elise. He felt like he had painstakingly grown a pot of flowers, only to have the flowers taken away along with the pot.

Alexander knew that everyone had gotten the wrong idea. If it were someone else, they would definitely not explain anything; since he and Elise were both adults, it was no big deal even if they shared a room. Nevertheless, to save her reputation, he explained, "Please don't get it wrong, Mr. Fassbender. Elise is only staying at my place for the time being for my

grandfather's sake. We live in our own rooms, so we never crossed the line." Quentin's inner displeasure vanished without a trace when he heard Alexander say so. "I've never heard Ellie mentioning it before.

It's all my fault. I guess I was too caught up with my work before and didn't care much about her." "Elise is a nice young lady. Not only is she hardworking, but she's also kind and lovely. I'm lucky to have her as my girlfriend," Alexander replied, not forgetting to turn his head and give Elise an affectionate look. In the eyes of outsiders, they looked totally like a young couple madly in love with each other. Upon seeing this, Quentin became a lot more satisfied with Alexander.

"Your family is also running a business, right, Alex?" he said in the indicative mood, despite what he said being a question. Obviously, he had roughly figured it out. "Yeah," Alexander replied, "I'm the one managing the Griffith Group at the moment." Naturally, Quentin knew that the Griffith Group was one of the largest conglomerates in Athesea. Seems that my Ellie does have good taste in men, he thought. "Still, you've made such great achievements at such a young age. I'm sure you'll do well," he said, before finally noticing Owen sitting next to him. He then said, "It's rare for you young people to gather together.

How about this? Alex, Elise, why don't you two stay the night and go horse riding with us on the ranch tomorrow?" Startled by his sudden proposal, Elise quickly replied, "Uh, I'm afraid we'll have to pass, Papa. Alex still has lots of work to do tomorrow, so it's really inconvenient for him to do so. Why don't we go some other day?" Quentin turned to look at Alexander. "Is that so, Alex?" To his surprise, Alexander replied in all calmness, "However busy I am, I still have time to go horse riding with you, sir."

Quentin was very satisfied with Alexander's answer, and his lips curved into a smile. "Alright, it's settled then. Let's go horse riding together tomorrow," he said, before turning to look at Owen. "Owen, you'll go with us. Let's have a race together." Owen replied, "Sure, Mr. Fassbender."

They had a great time over dinner, and Quentin became more and more satisfied with Alexander as they chatted. As he had completely regarded Alexander as his future son-in-law, he totally forgot about Owen, who had previously been his favorite. Naturally, Owen noticed all this.

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After dinner, Quentin suggested a round of chess. Having no interest in chess, Owen declined to play. And so, Alexander followed Quentin to the study to play some chess with him. Owen felt a little lonely as he headed outside of the house for a smoke by himself. From a distance, he looked lost and left out with the clouds of smoke shrouding him. His lonely figure was the first thing his assistant, Neil, saw when he went outside as well. Neil quickly approached Owen. "Young Master Owen, what happened to you?" "I'm fine," Owen replied.

Neil already knew what had transpired that day, and he knew Owen's thoughts. After he looked over his shoulder, he whispered, "If you truly are interested in Miss Elise, I have an idea that you can try." Owen raised a brow slightly at Neil's words. After a pause, he finally answered, "Tell me what it is." Neil then lowered his voice to whisper his plan. Owen's expression shifted before his face lit up radiantly. "Yes, let's do that." "Then, I shall get someone to start working on it. I'll be sure to surprise you greatly tomorrow." Owen was pleased. "Be discreet. Do not let anything slip."

"You can be assured that I will be careful, Young Master." With that, Neil turned and left. Owen stubbed out the cigarette in his hand, a profound look lying hidden within his eyes. The next day, Elise was startled when she woke up and saw that she was in an unfamiliar place. Her mind slowly came back online before she finally thought of wondering where she was. After she was done washing up, she picked up her cosmetics bag to apply her makeup. She only left the room pleased once she had returned to her usual 'ugly girl' look. The guest rooms that Elise and Alexander were staying in were both on the third floor, and the two of them stepped out of their rooms at practically the same time.

Their eyes met, and Alexander's lips curved up into a smile. "Morning!" Elise returned his greeting before hastily approaching him. "Did you sleep well? You didn't feel uncomfortable sleeping in a strange bed, did you?" Alexander looked at her as he answered, "No, everything was fine." The worry stuck at the bottom of Elise's heart instantly disappeared when she heard him say that. "Okay then, let's go down together."

After they had breakfast, everyone headed for the horse ranch. This horse ranch was a private one that Quentin bought years ago. He had quite a few handsome horses here, and these horses had specialized workers tending to their needs. The ranch was huge. It encircled a hill, and the land was vast, vast enough for people to freely ride to their hearts' content. The moment Elise arrived at the horse ranch, she immediately rushed to the changing rooms to change into her riding attire.

The handsome set of clothes she wore was rather fetching, and she looked absolutely bright and gallant when she paired the outfit with a set of riding boots. "The outfit looks good on you." Alexander did not skimp on his praise. Elise smiled. "You should get changed too. We'll go riding soon." Seeing how excited Elise was, Alexander then headed into the changing rooms as well to change into his riding clothes. When he exited the changing rooms, he bumped into Owen. Their eyes met, and both men could read the dark feeling of competition in the other's eyes.

Alexander had already noticed since yesterday the feeling of enmity radiating from Owen. Initially, he hadn't thought much about it, but he seemingly understood something later on. "You look great in that outfit, Mr. Griffith, though I wonder if your riding skills can match up to it." Alexander had taken riding lessons before, but he merely treated those lessons as a hobby. He rarely went horse-riding in his daily life. "They're okay, I guess. I know the basics." Upon hearing Alexander say that, Owen decided to give him a reminder. "This horse is quite the wild one.

He's not easily tamed. I'm worried that an accident will happen if the rider's skills aren't up to par." Alexander knew what Owen was insinuating, but he ignored it. "We shall meet at the grounds soon, Mr. Morgan." Owen made a sound of affirmation. A calculating glint streaked across his eyes once he saw Alexander's figure disappear into the distance. For just a moment, when Alexander stood before Elise in his riding clothes with a handsome steed's reins in hand, Elise was head over heels for him. Alexander was a fine man, be it his face or figure.

The riding attire he wore highlighted his aura. "Alexander Griffith, do you know just how good you look in those clothes?" Elise asked honestly from the bottom of her heart. With his looks and aura, Alexander would be sure to rocket to stardom if he decided to get into the entertainment industry. He would have legions of fangirls. It was Alexander's first time being complimented by Elise like this. He then said, "As long as you like it." His words had a different tone to them, but Elise seemingly didn't pick up on it. "Let's head on over." Alexander and Elise led their own horses over to the ranch.

Meanwhile, Quentin and Owen had already gotten onto their horses. "Alex, let's ride twice around this hill." "Sure," Alexander said. He then helped Elise onto her horse before getting onto his own. The four of them took their reins and snapped them against the horses' back. The horses galloped off, having been hurt by the snapping reins. It had been ages since Elise had ridden a horse, so she made her horse go slow. Soon, she was left behind in the dust by the other three. She was in no rush either as she chased after them at her slow pace.

"You're not a bad rider, Mr. Griffith," Owen said to Alexander as they rode. "You're not half-bad yourself too. It's just that your horse doesn't seem like it can keep up," Alexander answered. With that, Alexander smacked his horse's back. Instantly, the horse sped up. Owen's eyes darkened. After he glanced at the hill ahead, he followed Alexander. Elise soon lost sight of everyone. Having lost interest in riding, she decided to find a nice, shaded place to rest and wait for the others to come back. For some reason, however, her horse suddenly went berserk and charged forward madly.

The change in the horse's demeanor was too sudden. Elise instinctively tightened her grip on the reins as she attempted to slow the horse down, but the horse was completely out of control. It continued its mad charge ahead. Elise was constantly jostled and jolted atop the horse as it galloped. The horse kept going faster and faster, and Elise's stomach felt awful, as though there was a roiling ocean inside her. "Stop... Please, stop."

Elise pulled on the reins, never stopping in her attempt to rein in the horse, but the creature absolutely refused to heed her command. In fact, it kept opposing her, its body constantly twisting and turning as though it wanted to throw Elise off its back. "Someone! Please..." Elise yelled, but there was no one around to hear her pleas for help. Meanwhile, her horse kept galloping, its body still twisting and turning this way and that.

All Elise could do was press close to the horse's body and wrap her arms tightly around it to avoid being thrown off, letting the horse continue its berserk charge. The wind whistled past Elise's ears. A burning, biting pain rose from her cheeks. Meanwhile, Alexander felt a little bothered when he noticed that Elise hadn't caught up. After he greeted Quentin, he turned back. But then, he lost control of his horse as well.

A mad neigh later, the horse charged forward, berserking. Owen's lips quirked up into a handsome smile when he saw this, but what came out of his mouth was, "Mr. Griffith, what's up with your horse? Wait for me! You're going too fast..." His voice grew more and more distant. Alexander's eyes darkened. He had ridden horses before, but he had never experienced something like this.