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Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort

chapter 981 - 985

Cynthia urgently exchanged a glance with Taylor.

Taylor instantly understood and began sweating bullets. "Mr. Nacht, Cynthia would never do it. They are insulting her by investigating her in such a way. Please do her justice."

"Let her go first." Henry slammed his palm onto the table.

Lupine pay no heed to his command.

She finally let Cynthia go after receiving a knowing glance from Charlotte.

Cynthia tripped and nearly fall.

Taylor hurriedly held her. "What have we, the Blackwoods, have done? We are here to help and treat others, but all we received were insults and humiliations. We were hit yesterday, then subjected to such humiliation today."

Cynthia's entire body was swaying as though she could fall at any moment.

Henry didn't have the heart to look, so he admonished Zachary. "Don't believe what that woman said. How could you suspect Cynthia?"

"I'll apologize to her if there's no poison in the broth." Zachary continued to sip his tea.

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"You..."

"Cynthia was there when Ellie was poisoned at the Seacrest Restaurant. That is the main reason I'm doing this." Zachary explained calmly, "Charlotte suspected Cynthia was the one who poisoned Ellie; hence, her antagonistic acts toward Cynthia."

"How could Cynthia have poisoned Ellie?" Henry insisted on believing Cynthia's innocence. "When Ellie was sick, it was Cynthia who took care of her day and night."

"You're right, and that is what I thought exactly." Zachary nodded with agreement. "I'm not suspecting Cynthia. Aren't I investigating this matter with everyone present? If there isn't any problem with the broth, it means Cynthia is innocent. Charlotte won't bother her any longer."

"But-"

"Mr. Nacht."

At that moment, Spencer spoke, "We're merely checking the contents of the broth and not the individual. It'll be fine once things clear up."

"You have to understand that to be on the receiving end of the Lindbergs revenge is a very frightening experience. It'll be fine if we investigate the matter now. Ms. Lindberg won't target Ms. Blackwood anymore. Isn't that good for everyone involved?"

"As we can see, Mr. Spencer has common sense."

Charlotte raised her cup of tea and drink with Spencer.

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"Mr. Spencer, how could you-"

"He's right." Henry interrupted Taylor. "Nobody can touch Cynthia with me here today. If they want to investigate Cynthia, let them. If there's no issue, you..."

He pointed at Charlotte and said harshly, "Must apologize to Cynthia."

"What if there's a problem?" Charlotte asked with an arched brow.

"Then-"

"Mr. Zachary, the result is out."

Soon, Raina walked over with an analysis report. She gave Cynthia a knowing expression.

Cynthia paled when she met Raina's gaze and instantly lowered her head in guilt.

Zachary gave a cursory glance at the report, then passed it to Henry without saying anything.

Henry was shocked as he read the report. His face paled almost immediately.

Taylor caught a glimpse of the report from the side. He almost fainted.

"What in the world happened?" Henry interrogated Cynthia with the report in hand.

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"Mr. Henry, I don't know..." Cynthia sobbed as she signed. "I was telling the truth when I said I saw a bug in the broth. That was why I didn't want Zachary to drink it."

"Yes... yes..." Taylor agreed urgently. "Even if there's poison in the broth, you can't deduce it was put there by us. Even the judges need evidence before they pass the verdict."

"If I were the one who poisoned the broth, why would I flip the bowl? Wouldn't that action betray that I'm the culprit? I'm not dumb." Cynthia cried as she signed.

"That's true." Henry was hesitant. "Why would she flip the bowl over if she was the one who poisoned it? Nobody would've suspected her if she didn't do what she did."

"Simple. The person she wanted to poison was me, not Zachary." Charlotte sneered, "When I about to drink the broth, she was merely sitting there. But she panicked when Zachary was about to drink it."

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort chapter 982

"Yes, I hate you. I never did you wrong, but you've been targeting me at every turn, bullied me, tried to kill me, and even pierced my face with a needle..."

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Cynthia signed wildly. "That's why I didn't want to tell you when I saw a bug in your medicinal broth. You can drink the bug for all I care. But it's a different story when I saw Zachary reaching out for the broth."

"Keep it up!" Charlotte glared at her coldly. "Do you think you can get off scot-free with some lame excuse? The truth will come pouring out after going through your medical kit. This might even be the same poison Ellie was poisoned with..."

"We're running tests on the poison right now. We'll find out in a bit." Raina reported. "As for the medical kit..."

"Let's get to the bottom of things," agreed Zachary.

"Ok." Raina immediately took Cynthia's medical kit.

"Zachary, you..." Cynthia cried. "I did everything for you. Why are you treating me like this?"

"Zachary, why do you not trust Cynthia?" Taylor exclaimed. "She wouldn't have stopped you from drinking that medicinal broth just now if she wanted to scheme against you."

"Calm down." Zachary was cool as a cucumber. "I'm doing this because I want to do Cynthia justice. Don't worry, I will apologize to Cynthia if she's innocent at the end of it all."

"You..." Taylor panicked. He turned to Henry for help. "Mr. Nacht, please help."

Henry stared at Zachary for a long while before he spoke up. "We should get to the bottom of things since we found out that the medicinal broth was poisoned. Don't worry, no one can do you wrong since I'm around."

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"This..."

Taylor fell into despair. They would know that something is up if they check the medical kit.

However, Cynthia remained calm. "Any excuse will serve the tyrant. How can I escape if someone really wants to frame me?"

"Frame you?" Charlotte sneered. "So you mean to say that even if we found poison in your medical kit, it would be from me?"

"Finally, you admit." Taylor quickly played along.

"So you're implying that I put a bug in the medicinal broth and pretended that I was going to drink it?" Charlotte rubbed her temples, feeling frustrated. "But how would I know that Zachary would snatch the medicinal broth away from me? How can I tell that you're going to stop Zachary from drinking the medicinal broth?"

"This..." Taylor was rendered speechless.

"Love is blind." Tears of despair ran down Cynthia's cheeks. "I never thought that Zachary would go that far for your sake..."

She then lowered her head and cried.

"Huh!" Charlotte couldn't help but laugh. "So you're implying that we put on a show just to plot against you?"

"That's certainly a possibility." Zachary nodded. "I will do anything for you."

"You..." Charlotte was rendered speechless. What is he thinking?

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“Grandpa, that’s exactly what you’re thinking, right?” Zachary turned to face Henry.

Henry frowned. He was completely caught off guard when he heard it from Zachary because that was exactly his thought.

He knew better than anyone else how much Zachary loves her.

He would do anything for her sake.

It was certainly a possibility for the two of them to put on a show just to force Cynthia to leave and gain his trust in order to stay at the Nacht residence.

However, he pushed the thought away after hearing it from Zachary.

“Cynthia, you’re certainly a smart one.”

Zachary took a sip of tea and said calmly.

“You know you’re going to get exposed soon, and also knew that I’ve set a trap up for you. So you gave up on me and placed all your hopes and dreams on Grandpa instead. You didn’t hesitate to pull me down in order to gain his trust. Everything just makes sense. You’re really good at manipulation.”

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“You...” Cynthia stared at Zachary in bewilderment.

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"What are you trying to do?" Henry frowned.

"Ok, let's stop the act." Zachary waved his hand.

Ben immediately pulled his phone out and projected a video on a white screen.

Very soon, the video started to play...

It was a CCTV footage from Nacth residence from two days ago.

"What is this?"

Everyone stared at the screen.

The first clip was during Charlotte's arrival at Nacht residence.

Cynthia and Taylor were having a discussion in Zachary's study.

"This is not the time to back down. After doing so much and arriving at the cusp of success, I cannot retreat from this!"

"We're only avoiding her for a while. It's not like we're not coming back. She has yet to recover her memory. But, if she finds out that you masqueraded as her during the wedding, she will definitely strangle you to death. Also, if she knew that you planted the..."

"This is Zachary's study. I hope there aren't any CCTVs in here."

The second clip showed Cynthia leaving the study and instructing Freya what to do in a quiet corner with hand gestures.

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Freya was then seen moving stealthily towards Ellie's room with a bowl of herbal concoction. Along the way, she poured a packet of medicinal powder into the broth.

The third clip showed Freya and two medical staff forcing Ellie to drink the medicine. Freya even pinned her down and tried to force the medication down her throat.

Luckily for Ellie, Jamie and Fifi were around to stop Freya from doing so. Hence, Ellie only drank a little bit. However, the drug quickly took effect.

Henry was trembling with rage as he watched. He pointed at Cynthia and yelled furiously. "You... How dare you..."

Cynthia went pale with fright and panicked. She never thought that her actions would be recorded on surveillance cameras. But why are there surveillance cameras in the Nacht residence?

I thought they don't have it...

"Don't fret. Watch on." Zachary reminded.

The fourth clip showed Jamie carrying Ellie on his back as they went downstairs to look for Charlotte.

Cynthia gestured at Blackwoods' medical staff. She quickly ran behind Jamie and pushed him down the stairs.

As Jamie and Ellie tumbled down the stairs, Cynthia rushed forward in an attempt to break their fall.

However, everything was done just to gain sympathy.

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The fifth clip was about Zachary carrying Charlotte, who went into relapse, back home.

Frustrated, Cynthia carried her medical kit upstairs when Zachary wasn't around and used Zachary as an excuse. She then tried to pierce Charlotte with a needle.

But who would have thought that Charlotte managed to defend herself and Cynthia pierced her own face instead?

That would also mean that the poison needle belonged to her all along.

The sixth clip showed Taylor and Cynthia in a room.

Taylor just found out that Cynthia had been disfigured. Their conversation and the way they told the medical staff to take the medical kit clearly indicated that Cynthia was the one behind it all...

The seventh clip showed Cynthia instructing Taylor to get Freya to prepare the medicine after Henry and Zachary left.

She even instructed the two medical staff to poison Charlotte.

The eighth clip was about the two medical staff poisoning the medicinal broth.

The truth was revealed after these eight clips.

Cynthia slumped on the floor in despair.

She could no longer talk her way out of this.

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Everything she had done up till now was presented clearly in front of everyone. It felt as if she had been stripped naked and placed under the sun with nowhere to hide.

“Y-You...”

Henry trembled with rage. He pointed at Cynthia with his frail hand. He wanted to chastise her but couldn't come up with anything to say. He placed a hand on his chest and almost had a heart attack.

“Mr. Nacht...” Taylor fell on his knees and begged. “Jealousy got the better of Cynthia. She never once thought of hurting Zachary. She just wanted to stay by his side. Please forgive her.”

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“In order to be with me, you even harmed my children?” Zachary questioned incredulously. “Did you think that you could convince me using such low-handed despicable means?”

“No, it wasn't like that...” signed Cynthia while shaking her head desperately.

“Enough!” Zachary did not want to see her defending herself. “Perhaps I have been too easygoing lately, so you and your father think that I can be easily manipulated!”

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"No, Zachary, it's not like that..." Taylor tried to explain in a hurry, "Cynthia dislikes Charlotte for always bullying her but she had no intention of hurting you or your children. She had been helping you and Ellie."

"When Freya poisoned the food, she was acting alone. Cynthia was not involved. Cynthia was only gesticulating that she wanted to feed Ellie, not asking Freya to poison the food."

"Even now, you are still trying to lie your way out?"

Charlotte wanted to take the father and daughter duo out right away.

Zachary made her sit down and spoke calmly...

"Yes, where the video was shot, Cynthia did not clearly instruct Freya to administer the medicine. In these videos taken at home, we can only see that she clearly ordered someone to give Charlotte the medicine. However, it is undeniable that she gave poison to Ellie at Seacrest Restaurant."

"There is no proof that Cynthia did that." Taylor was still arguing, "Zachary, don't be fooled by others and accuse Cynthia. She is innocent."

"Do you say that I'm accusing her wrongly? I'll show you the proof." Zachary turned around and called out, "Raina!"

"Yes, sir." Raina handed the laboratory analysis report to Spencer. "The analysis just now showed that the poison in the medicinal broth is the same as the type Ellie took."

"This..." Taylor was panicky but still continued to deny everything, "This does not prove that Cynthia administered the poison. It is possible that the darned servant did it..."

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"Bring the witness," Zachary ordered.

In a short while, Bruce brought someone over and placed her right in front of Taylor.

"Freya?" Taylor's eyes widened in surprise. "How did you..."

I phoned her and asked her to dispense the medicine last night. How did she end up here?

"Help me, Uncle Taylor..."

Freya was unharmed but her spirit was broken, obviously after stern interrogation.

"I detained her immediately after she was driven away," Zachary said plainly.

"During Bruce's interrogation, she confessed everything—how Cynthia instructed her to poison Ellie and what you did this morning, ordering her to dispense the medicine. Should I ask her to repeat it?"

Taylor looked at Cynthia as he panicked.

Cynthia was now totally disorientated and in a panic too.

"This is the witness and there is also evidence."

Zachary signaled to Bruce.

Bruce took out a box in which were pieces of broken pottery.

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"This is..." Lupine looked carefully and then recognized it. "The cup from Seacrest Restaurant."

"There were twelve cups. The eleven cups that were taken away were fine," Bruce explained, "The one that was used was removed by Cynthia, who later broke it and threw it into a trash bin three kilometers away. I found it later on."

"I see." Lupine began to understand.

"Straightaway, I sent the cup to the police station for testing, and it really contained residual toxins as well as Cynthia's fingerprints," Bruce continued to explain.

"What else do you have to say now?" Zachary looked at Cynthia with a cold frosty gaze.

"I never intended to harm Ellie, really, I didn't..." Cynthia gesticulated in panic. "The cup of tea was meant for her."

Cynthia pointed at Charlotte, signing anxiously, "I never thought that Ellie would drink it. I have never thought of harming Ellie, really, I didn't..."

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"If you had never intended to harm Ellie, why did you mix her medicine with poison and feed it to her?" Charlotte questioned her.

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"That wasn't poison, rather it was a type of medicine which only made her feel unwell, temporarily," Cynthia explained anxiously, "If it were poison, I would not be able to make her well again so quickly..."

As she spoke, Cynthia crawled up to Zachary's feet, crying while making signs. "Zachary, I have saved you before. Please forgive me for this once. As for Ellie, if not for me, something really bad could have happened to her."

"That was only because they took the medicine given by Ms. Lindberg."

Lupine was furious...

"After Mr. Nacht was poisoned by snake venom, Ms. Lindberg immediately fed him her life-saving potion so he would not suffer any ill effects at all. As long as he recuperated for a period of time, the snake venom would naturally be ejected from his body.

"After that, Ms. Lindberg sneaked into the hospital without telling anyone and fed Ellie the potion as well. That was how she recovered so quickly. In order not to be discovered, we rushed over to the South Sea Hotel. Coincidentally, you arrived to treat Ellie making everyone think that you were the one who healed her. That was ridiculous. If you could heal her, why couldn't you heal yourself? If I am not mistaken, there is still poison on your silver needle, isn't it?"

As she spoke, Lupine took off Cynthia's mask. Sure enough, one side of Cynthia's face was so infected that it was horrifying to see.

"Oh, my goodness! Cynthia..."

Taylor was anxious and worried when he saw Cynthia this way. Yesterday, the infection was only the size of a pea. Today, it had spread to cover her face.

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"You can't live by committing sins." Zachary looked at Cynthia coldly, "When you try harming others, you harm yourself. This is your fate!"

"This is all?" Charlotte's fists cracked as she clenched them tight. "It's horrible enough she had harmed me so badly. Is this punishment enough for harming my daughter as well?"

"I had no intention of hurting Ellie. It was just you!"

Cynthia glared at Charlotte with utter hatred in her eyes, gesticulating with intense emotion...

"We are both women. Why should I be the replaceable stand-in? I've done so much for the Nacht family. In order to please them, I've lowered myself to the level of soil; yet, Zachary has not even looked at me properly even once. As for you...? You go on and on to antagonize him; yet, he likes you so much. Your family and the Nachts are sworn enemies, so you should not have come back. In fact, you should have died two years ago. Then, I would have been Mrs. Nacht by now, and the three children would call me Mommy. We would be one happy family..."

"Stop dreaming!" Zachary interrupted her impatiently, "Even if she didn't come back, I won't marry you."

"Two years ago, when she had that mishap, I had already decided never to marry again. "If I ever get married, the bride can only be Charlotte!"

Hearing this, Charlotte's trembled slightly. Zachary has said it under such circumstances and in front of so many people. He has to be sincere.

She was very moved...

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"Since you love her so much, why did you let me impersonate her two years ago?" Cynthia asked in a choked voice, "I was just an unloved daughter of a wealthy family, living in humiliation in a world of my own.

"Overnight, I was made Mrs. Nacht, adored and respected by everyone. Everywhere I went, relatives surrounded me and put me on a pedestal.

"Furthermore, from the time I was fifteen years old, I had started admiring you. In my dreams and fantasies, I wished to marry you many times. I really thought my dreams had come true.

"However, it was all just a falsehood.

"Since you never liked me or admired me, why did you give me hope? "Then, you pushed me to fall from heaven into hell with your own hands. "Why?"

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