

# Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1181-1190

1181 Hit On at the Bar

After hearing what Ashley said and the almost pleading gaze in her eyes, Lucas nodded. "Okay."

The two of them left the restaurant and drove to a nearby bar.

On the way, Ashley looked out the window from time to time in a daze, her brows furrowed tightly and a worried expression on her face.

Lucas drove to a bar named the Blue Duke, and Ashley suddenly came back to her senses.

"I think I'd better send you home," Lucas said.

Seeing Ashley's expression, he knew that she had something on her mind. If she came here to drown her sorrows, she would get drunk easily.

Ashley hurriedly said, "No, let's go inside! I'm going abroad soon. Just accompany me, okay?"

Lucas sighed and agreed. "Alright, let's go."

He treated Ashley as his younger sister.

Moreover, as long as he was here, even if she drank too much, she would be alright.

The two of them got out of the car and entered the Blue Duke.

The bar wasn't too large, but the atmosphere was pretty good, and it wasn't noisy. The soothing blues being played in the bar and the dim lighting created an ambiguous ambiance.

But the bar was rather crowded. Apart from a few couples sitting in booths, there were also many people sitting at the bar counter and around the stage in the center of the bar.

Seeing Lucas and Ashley entering, many people turned to look at them. A few men's and women's eyes lit up immediately.

Lucas was tall and handsome, and Ashley was beautiful. As soon as they entered, they attracted a lot of gazes.

After all, bars were good places to make friends and hook up, so many people liked hanging out at bars in hopes of having a sudden encounter.

Facing the eager gazes, Lucas remained expressionless, as if he didn't notice them at all. But Ashley was obviously a little disturbed, so she leaned close to Lucas and even held the corner of his shirt gently.

After they found seats, Lucas looked at the nervous Ashley and asked with a smile. "Do you rarely come to bars?"

From her uneasy and guarded expression, he could tell that she wasn't a frequent visitor to bars.

Ashley nodded and said truthfully, "Yeah, I only went to a bar with my classmates out of curiosity two years ago. I was frightened away the moment I entered. So strictly speaking, this is my first time at a bar. If you weren't here, I wouldn't have dared to come in."

Lucas couldn't help laughing.

Logically speaking, a wealthy heiress like Ashley should be a regular at bars and such entertainment joints.

Since it was Ashley's first time at a bar, it was no wonder that she was so reserved.

People like her were rare.

Ashley asked, "Lucas, you seem so unfazed. Do you frequently go to bars?"

"..." Lucas smiled speechlessly. "Do I look like someone who regularly patronizes bars? Actually, I rarely go to these kinds of places."

He wasn't lying. In fact, he had only been to a bar twice, once in Orange County, where he had saved Cheyenne from Connor Hale, and another time in DC a short while ago. At the time, he had been there to drown his sorrows after finding out that he wasn't Michael's biological son.

This was the third time.

Feeling a little embarrassed, Ashley smiled and said, "Hehe, I misunderstood. Seeing you so relaxed and not nervous at all, I thought you were used to it!"

"Why should I be nervous about being at a bar?" Lucas asked in confusion.

Ashley thought for a moment and said, "I always have a strange feeling because of some rumors I've heard. For example, people getting drugged and violated by those who harbor ill intentions. Well... it's all a little beyond my imagination. That's why I'm subconsciously a little nervous."

Lucas laughed noncommittally, "Yes, although the chances of such things happening aren't high, they have indeed happened before. Bars aren't very safe for girls.

"So unless you're with someone you especially trust, don't go to bars. Of course, it's inevitable that people will hit on you since you're so pretty."

As soon as he finished speaking, a voice rang in Ashley's ear. "Hey beautiful, can I get to know you better?"

Ashley turned around in surprise and saw a refined-looking young man in his twenties standing beside her with a gentlemanly smile and a glass of wine in his hand.

Ashley was stunned. Lucas had just said that someone would hit on her, and someone came over to talk to her the next moment.

Moreover, this young man was very handsome and suave. He was wearing expensive clothes and a luxury watch. He seemed to be from an affluent family.

Most young girls would be easily attracted to such men and possibly even develop feelings for them.

But Ashley was not one of them.

She had been born into the Steele family, one of the eight top families in DC, so she had been raised in luxury. Be it the boys she had attended prestigious schools with since childhood or those she had seen at various banquets and functions, she had seen countless outstanding males.

The young man in front of her was only average among them, and he wasn't good enough to impress her.

Besides, she was already in love, and he was right in front of her, so how could she possibly fall for someone else?

Ashley wanted to turn him down at first, but a sudden thought came to her mind. She said to Lucas, "Honey, is he a friend of yours?"

Lucas was stunned by her address for him. But he soon realized that she deliberately wanted to pretend to be a couple with him so that she could shake off this young man who came to hit on her.

He coughed and shook his head. "I don't know him."

With a blissful smile, Ashley said, "Honey, actually, I have a piece of good news for you. I went to the hospital for a checkup today, and the doctor said that I'm two months pregnant. You're going to be a father soon! Are you happy?"

Lucas almost burst out laughing. This girl... Even though we're pretending to be a couple, she doesn't need to say something so shocking all of a sudden.

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1182

However, since Ashley had already spoken, Lucas naturally couldn't deny it on the spot. So he could only smile and play along. "Really? Of course I'm happy! In that case, you can't drink today. Alcohol isn't good for the baby. Let's get you some juice instead."

Ashley blushed coyly and said joyfully, "Alright. Honey, you're so good to me!"

The two of them talked in harmony, completely ignoring the young man who came over to hit on Ashley.

Being ignored by them and hearing them talk as if they were the only ones present, the young man instantly looked displeased.

He originally thought that Lucas and Ashley were just boyfriend and girlfriend, so he could try to hit on her. But it turned out that they were married, and the gorgeous Ashley was pregnant. He immediately knew that she wasn't the right target to flirt with.

Seeing the young man leave without saying another word, Ashley couldn't help covering her mouth and laughing. "Haha, Lucas, that was so fun! His expression was hilarious!"

"But you're so bad, Lucas. I didn't expect your acting skills to be so good. You coordinated with me so well. Haha! I almost thought you'd be too startled to continue the conversation or laugh and break out of character!"

Lucas chuckled wryly. "What you said really shocked me. Try not to say such things from now on. In case someone really misunderstands us, it will affect your reputation."

She actually suddenly said that she was pregnant. If Lucas wasn't quick-witted enough, he would have been too stunned to react in time.

"Hehe, I know! I was just joking!" Ashley stuck her tongue out and smiled.

After what just happened, Ashley was in a much better mood, and a normal smile finally returned to her face.

"Are... are you Ashley?" Suddenly, a man's voice filled with astonishment came.

The moment she heard this voice, her body instantly stiffened, and she turned around.

When she saw the appearance of the speaker, her eyes widened. She stared at the person in front of her in disbelief, her lips trembling, at a loss for words.

Lucas looked up at the person who spoke.

The young man was around 25 years old, about 1.8 meters, and quite handsome.

Beside him was a young woman of similar age. Although her looks were ordinary, she was dressed in designer apparel from head to toe and seemed to be from a wealthy family.

The two of them were linking arms and looked like a couple.

Ashley stared at the young man, and her lips trembled several times before she finally said, "It's... it's really you? You're still alive?"

The young man smiled with a complicated expression. "Of course I'm still alive. Did you think I was dead?"

When Ashley heard this, her expression became indescribable. She smiled mirthlessly but seemed to be tearing up. She looked surprised yet confused. She was at a loss for words and just kept her eyes peeled on the young man without looking away.

The young woman frowned with displeasure while shaking the man's arm and asking sourly, "Honey, who is this? Do you know her?"

The young man quickly said, "She's just a former college classmate. Her name is Ashley Steele."

Then he introduced to Ashley, "Oh, I forgot to introduce you. This is my wife, Vanessa Phillips."

"What?!" Ashley abruptly stood up, dazed by the sudden news. She whispered in disbelief, "Your wife? You... you're married?"

The young man smiled. "Yes, we've been married for more than two years."

Ashley clutched the tablecloth tightly as if it was the only way she could barely support herself and turned as pale as a sheet while tears quickly welled up in her eyes.

Lucas reached out to hold Ashley worriedly.

Her current state wasn't good. She almost lost her balance and fell to the floor.

The young man looked at Lucas and asked with a smile, "Ashley, who is this? Aren't you going to introduce us?"

Ashley took a deep breath and finally managed to suppress her tears. Trying her best to keep calm, she said, "He... he's my husband, Lucas Gray."

She looked at Lucas apologetically before introducing to him, "This is Peter Hewitt, an old friend of mine."

Peter sized Lucas up ambiguously before reaching his hand out and smiling. "Nice to meet you."

Lucas didn't accept the handshake. Instead, he said calmly, "I'm sorry, but I'm a bit of a clean freak, so I tend to avoid handshakes."

Peter was slightly stunned for a moment before realizing that Lucas meant that his hands were dirty. Fury appeared in his eyes.

But he soon suppressed his anger and still behaved gentlemanly. He retracted his hand and said with a smile, "We have a few friends here, so we'll excuse ourselves first. Goodbye."

With that, Peter left with Vanessa and headed to the other side of the bar.

After watching them leave, Ashley seemed to lose all her strength and slumped down into her chair, confusion and misery written all over her face.

"He isn't dead... and he's harried... Haha!" Ashley laughed in self-contempt and mockery.

Although Lucas didn't know what their relationship was, nor did he know what had happened between them, he could tell from their brief conversation that Ashley had thought that Peter was dead all this while.

After hearing that Peter was married, Ashley seemed to suffer a huge blow as she turned pale and bewildered.

In contrast, Peter had remained polite the entire time, and because of this, he appeared distant and aloof.

But for some reason, Lucas didn't like Peter, so he couldn't be bothered to shake his hand.

"Waiter, please bring me a bottle of the highest alcohol content wine you have!" Ashley suddenly exclaimed to a waiter nearby.

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1183

### 1183 The Relationship Between the Two

Lucas didn't stop her. Soon, the waiter brought a bottle of golden wine.

Ashley grabbed a glass, filled it to the brim, and downed it in one go.

The next second, she immediately coughed, choking on the strong wine.

She obviously wasn't a regular drinker.

Lucas hurriedly moved over and patted her back to soothe her. "Since you don't drink regularly, you should drink alcohol like that. You have to be careful not to choke."

Ashley coughed for a long time before finally catching her breath. But for some reason, tears stained her face. Perhaps it was because of the choking...

Lucas didn't say anything and just handed her a few tissues silently.



Ashley took them and covered her face tightly, her body trembling violently.

Lucas sighed, not knowing what to say.

He could guess that Ashley's abnormal behavior had something to do with Peter and that it was probably related to emotional issues. But he wasn't in any place to say anything.

After a long time, Ashley finally regained her composure and wiped her tears. But her eyes were still red, and she seemed rather distressed.

"Actually, Peter is my ex-boyfriend," Ashley suddenly said.

Lucas nodded. He had already guessed this matter, so he wasn't surprised.

Ashley didn't want to talk much about it at first. But when she looked at Lucas, she suddenly lost control of her emotions and felt a strong desire to confide in him.

"Lucas, do you want to hear about our past? I... I really don't know who to turn to now." Ashley sniffled and looked up at Lucas with a pitiful expression.

Lucas said softly, "Sure, if you want to."

Sometimes, bottling things up would make you feel worse. So if Ashley wanted someone to confide in, Lucas wouldn't mind lending an ear.

No matter what, Ashley was Alexander's sister and his subordinate at the Stardust Corporation. Lucas regarded her as a younger sister too.

"Thank you, Lucas!"

After thanking him, Ashley said with nostalgia and reminiscence in her eyes, "Actually, I met him when we were first-years, and we were classmates. During college, we dated for over three years.

"When we were graduating three years ago, we agreed to get married as soon as we graduated. I had a hard time persuading my parents before they finally agreed to let me marry him.

"But on the day of our engagement party, he never showed up and disappeared.

"Later, I went to great lengths to find him and ask him why he was absent from our engagement party, but he told me that he regretted it and no longer wanted to marry me.

"He told me that he finally found out that since my father passed away, the Steeles didn't regard my immediate family highly. Since my family didn't have any substantial authority or power among the Steeles, marrying me wouldn't give him a bright future.

"He even said that he never loved me and dated me only because I was from the Steeles, one of the eight top families in DC. He thought that he could take a shortcut to a wonderful life by marrying me, but he ended up disappointed.

"I was devastated after hearing what he said. I cried my heart out and told him to go away. He left, but I never thought that it would be the last time I saw him.

"Later, I heard that he died! At the time... I felt guilty because I thought that he had died while leaving after I told him to go away.

"After finding out that he was dead, I was miserable and guilt-ridden. I didn't know what to do at all, and I suffered from severe depression for a while. I tried to commit suicide a few times, but I didn't end up dying because I was rescued every time.

"When I saw my mom and brother crying over me, I decided to get therapy. After two years of therapy, I finally overcame the trauma.

"But I never thought that I'd see him alive and well again, let alone right in front of me with another woman he's been married to for two years! Hah, if I had known the truth, I could have saved myself from all the pain. All this while, I had thought that I killed him!"

Toward the end, Ashley was weeping.

Seeing her in so much pain and distress, Lucas felt uncomfortable.

Ashley's situation reminded him of Cheyenne, who had been left alone with the Carters for six years after he left without a word. She must have been just as miserable.

But he was luckier than Ashley. When he returned after six years, Cheyenne was still his wife, and they had reconciled and were happily married.

On the other hand, Ashley had gone through almost three years of agony, only to find out that her ex-boyfriend was still alive and, worse still, married to another woman.

"Could he have had a reason?" Lucas asked.

Ashley sobbed and said, "Even if he had a reason, he's already married to someone else. It's pointless to say anything now."

Lucas didn't know what to say.

Indeed, Peter had been married for more than two years. Even if he had a compelling reason for doing what he did, it was pointless to find out the truth now.

He couldn't possibly divorce his wife and rekindle his relationship with Ashley.

Besides, Lucas felt that there was already something fishy with Peter back then.

He had dated Ashley for more than three years and even got her to convince the Steeles to let them get married. Yet he fled right before the engagement party and stood the Steeles up, causing them to be greatly embarrassed.

Later, when Ashley found him, Peter brushed her off with the reason that her immediate family didn't have enough status and authority within the Steeles, which meant she wouldn't be of much help to his future, and he regretted getting together with her.

The most revolting thing was that Peter blatantly told Ashley that he didn't love her and that he had only approached her because she was from the Steeles. But he left without a care because he realized that things were different from what he had imagined.

There was obviously something very wrong with his character and morals.

However, all of this was just Lucas's conjecture. He didn't know what the truth was or if Peter really had any difficulties.

Anyway, there was something pretty strange about the entire situation.

If not for the news of Peter's sudden death after Ashley had a fight with him and told him to leave, she might not have been in agony for so long.

All Lucas could do was comfort her. "Since it's all in the past, you shouldn't be bothered about it anymore. You can continue to treat him as dead and ignore the past. Just focus on living the life you want and look forward."

Ashley wiped her cheeks, nodded, and said obediently, "Yes, I got it. I just couldn't control my emotions after seeing him alive and well. Actually, I should have gotten over him after hearing those cruel things he said back then. I've just been feeling guilty because I always thought that I caused his death.

"But I won't feel like that anymore. Besides, I've already fallen for someone else."

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1184

1184 College Classmates

After hearing what Ashley said, Lucas heaved a sigh of relief and said with a smile, "That's good. Since there's someone you like, that's even better. Congratulations!"

Ashley quickly glanced at Lucas and then looked down with misery in her eyes.

There was indeed someone she liked. But unfortunately, he didn't know.

She would probably never reveal her adoration for him in her lifetime.

Peter's appearance had ruined Ashley's mood, and it had just gotten better. But now, she felt down again.

Lucas understood how she felt.

Although Ashley said that she had already gotten over Peter and fallen for someone else, he was her first love after all, and they had been together for three years. How could it be easy for her to get over him?

Moreover, she had just found out that her ex-boyfriend was still alive and even married, so she definitely needed some time to digest it.

But at this moment, several young men and women walked toward them. Peter and his wife, who had just left, were at the front.

"Hey, Ashley, you're really here!"

"We just heard Peter mention it, and I didn't quite believe him. But you're really here! As far as I remember, you never went to bars in the past."

"Ashley, do you remember us, your college classmates?"

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Several people surrounded Ashley and chattered one after another.

These people turned out to be Ashley's college classmates!

Seeing these people, Ashley said happily, "I didn't expect to see you guys here! Of course I remember you. We were classmates!"

She chatted with her former classmates, whom she hadn't met for three years.

After the initial excitement, Ashley asked with some puzzlement, "Speaking of which, why are you guys here today? Is there a class reunion?"

A fashionably-dressed woman quickly explained, "It's just a mini-reunion among a few of us who don't have much to do. We planned to invite you, but none of us could reach you. So we just had a small reunion here. Please don't blame us!"

Ashley didn't blame them at all. She smiled and said, "We were classmates. Why would I blame you?"

The girl chuckled. "I knew you wouldn't be petty, Ashley! But since fate has allowed us to bump into each other here, it means that God has arranged for us to meet, so we should have fun together!"

Peter stepped forward and said, "This bar is too small. Since it's rare for us to meet, how about we go to Club Aurora? It'll be on me!"

"Haha, since it's Peter's treat, we have to go!"

Everyone agreed with a smile.

Ashley was the only one hesitant to agree. "I'll just..."

Just as she was about to decline, Lucas said, "Since it's rare for you guys to meet, let's go together!"

Hearing Lucas agree on her behalf, Ashley naturally wouldn't object. She nodded and agreed, "Okay then, let's go together."

The girl who had been chatting with Ashley was named Allie, and she had been paying attention to Lucas from the moment she arrived. Seeing Ashley comply after Lucas spoke, she couldn't help asking, "Ashley, who is this handsome man beside you? You haven't introduced us yet!"

Ashley glanced at Peter. Since she had lied that Lucas was her husband in front of Peter, she could only continue with the act.

She held Lucas's arm and said somewhat shyly, "This is my husband, Lucas Gray."

"Huh? Ashley, you're married?" Allie's eyes widened in disbelief as she stared at Lucas.

The others around them were also surprised. They looked at Lucas and sized him up one after another.

Lucas felt rather helpless. Although he was married himself, he couldn't tell the truth in front of Ashley's classmates, lest he embarrasses her.

But he just had to pose as her husband for tonight. Leila had gotten him to pose as her boyfriend for a day, so he wasn't inexperienced doing this.

The group walked out of the bar merrily and headed to Club Aurora.

But at this moment, a discordant voice suddenly sounded. "Ashley, I heard that you, your immediate family got kicked out by the Steeles. Is that true?"

As soon as the question was asked, everyone fell silent and turned to look at Ashley.

Ashley's face immediately turned sullen.

Getting kicked out of one's family was nothing to be proud of, and anyone bringing up the matter obviously had ill intentions and was out to hurt Ashley.

Allie chided with displeasure, "Carrie, what nonsense are you saying? Ashley is a direct descendant of the Steeles. How could she be kicked out?"

Carrie, who was wearing thick makeup, had high cheekbones and thin lips. She looked like a mean person.

She glanced at Ashley and said firmly, "Of course I'm not talking nonsense. This isn't a secret in DC anyway. We heard about it when news spread from the Steeles a few days ago. If you don't believe me, you can ask Ashley!"

Allie looked surprised and asked Ashley, "Ashley, is that true? Your family really... got kicked out?"



Ashley seemed extremely sullen, but this was the truth. Since she couldn't hide it, she could only bite the bullet and nod.

She admitted to it!

All of a sudden, many people looked astonished. It turned out that Ashley, who had always seemed so glorious, had really been kicked out by the Steeles!

Ashley's former classmates, who had been respectful and flattering toward her, immediately had a change of expression and looked at her gloatingly.

"Ashley, you used to be an heiress of the Steeles, a wealthy and noble lady. No wonder you're wearing ordinary clothes today and no longer wearing designer clothing like you used to. It turns out you've been kicked out! Tsk, I wonder what your family did to get kicked out!" A petite girl with several moles on her face immediately mocked.

Carrie chimed in with a gloating smile, "Look, I wasn't lying, was I? Ashley Steele, I really want to know what you did to get kicked out by your family. Did you anger your elders because you're too incompetent and married a penniless man?"

She deliberately turned to look at Lucas.

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1185

1185 Getting to the Bottom of the Truth

Lucas had always dressed low-profile and rarely wore designer apparel. But the quality of his clothes was not inferior to that of luxury brands. Only those with truly good taste and knowledge would be able to tell.

Clearly, these mercenary and superficial snobs weren't knowledgeable enough to discern the quality of Lucas's clothes. Instead, they simply thought that they were from cheap brands.

Thus, they self-righteously assumed that Lucas was low-class and penniless.

Ashley was displeased. She could turn a blind eye to them making sarcastic remarks about her, but she couldn't tolerate hearing them mocking Lucas.

She glanced at Allie, who had just spoken, and said coldly, "My husband is a great guy, and he's not poor. You guys don't have to worry about it!"

Carrie covered her mouth and laughed. "Ashley, there's no need to say that. We were college classmates, and we only asked you out of concern. If we weren't classmates, it would have nothing to do with us who you married. We wouldn't have been bothered to ask!

"Besides, now that you've been kicked out by the Steeles, you're not a wealthy heiress anymore, and you don't have to continue pretending in front of us. Your man does look very poor. I'm not slandering him!

"Ah, you used to be the school belle, and you came from a wealthy family. You had so many suitors. Even though you've been kicked out by your family, you didn't have to marry such a loser.

"With your looks, you can easily find a good man. I advise you to get a divorce as soon as possible. I can introduce you to wealthy businessmen who are much better than this pauper you married!"

What Carrie said made Ashley extremely sullen.

Back in college, Carrie had sucked up to her in all ways and had never dared to speak to her with this tone. But now that Ashley had been expelled by her family, she wanted to kick her when she was down.

Moreover, she even said that she would introduce her to wealthy businessmen like a pimp. What did she take her for?!

Carrie even despised Lucas and called him a pauper, making Ashley feel extremely uncomfortable.

Even if Lucas was really penniless, she didn't want to hear them insulting him. Besides, he was the chairman of the Stardust Corporation, whom these people didn't even have the right to speak to usually!

Just as Ashley was about to lose her temper, a girl named Zoey hurriedly said, "Hey, Carrie, what are you saying?! You don't need to introduce Ashley to anyone. We have a good candidate right here!"

Zoey looked at a male in their group. "Silas is a mid-level manager at a big company, and he has a six-figure income. Why don't we just matchmake the two of them?"

Zoey said with a smile, "Silas, do you remember how much you adored Ashley back then? Surely you won't mind if she remarries."

Silas was a chubby man who was less than 1.7 meters tall. Although he was only about 25 years old, he had a huge beer belly and looked quite old.

He glanced at Ashley and licked his lips, making his not-so-handsome face look lecherous.

"Haha, why would I mind? She was a campus belle back in college! As long as she divorces this poor man, I'll marry her immediately!" Silas said.

Hearing this, a few male classmates chimed in teasingly. "I'm single too! Ashley, you can consider me as well!"

"Haha, forget it. Are you as rich as Silas? You make less than 50k a year. Don't bother competing with Silas!"

"Hey, so what if I'm poor? I'm inferior to Silas, but at least I'm much better than this pauper. Since Ashley was willing to marry him, why can't I marry her?"

"Hahaha, you have a great plan in mind!"

...

For some time, everyone was talking and laughing without any regard for Ashley's intentions and her 'husband', Lucas.

Even Allie, who had spoken up for Ashley, laughed along with them before saying to Ashley, "Ashley, you heard them. Although what they're saying may not be appropriate, it's all for your own good! You're such a pretty girl. Even without your family's support, you can still marry a good man! Why do you have to be with someone like him? You'd better divorce him quickly and find another man!"

They all claimed to be giving her advice out of goodwill, but the contempt and humiliation in their tone were obvious. Ashley wasn't a fool, so she obviously sensed it.

Looking at her former classmates laughing and mocking them, Ashley finally lost her temper and snapped, "That's enough! Yes, I'm no longer an heiress of the Steeles, but you guys are in no place to mock me! I have my husband, and I don't need you to introduce me to other men!"

"Since you look down on my husband and me so much, I don't see a need for us to stay here and tolerate it!"

"Honey, let's go!"

Ashely held Lucas's arm and planned to storm away furiously.

"Hey! Wait! Ashley, don't be angry!" Allie panicked and quickly rushed forward to grab Ashley's arm.

"We're all classmates. What's the point of doing this? I doubt they meant it. If it upsets you, we'll stop, okay?"

"It's not easy for us to meet up. Don't be such a killjoy and spoil the mood!"

Allie persuaded repeatedly, not wanting Ashley to leave.

Right from the start until now, Ashley's ex-boyfriend, Peter, had stood silent at the side. He didn't join in the mockery nor stop Ashley from leaving.

Watching all of this coldly, Lucas suddenly said, "Ashley, since your classmates have said so, let's stay."

Of course, Lucas didn't actually intend to get close to Ashley's snobbish former college classmates.

He decided to stay behind because he wanted to know the truth about Peter.

If Ashley didn't get a clear idea of what had happened, she would probably never get over it.

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1186

1186 Divorce Her

Hearing Lucas persuading Ashley to stay, her former classmates looked at him with even more disdain and contempt.

How dare this pauper try to use Ashley to get into our circle? He must be dreaming! they thought.

To put it bluntly, if it wasn't because Ashley was their former classmate, Lucas wouldn't even have the qualifications to speak to them because he was so poor.

A few of them rolled their eyes, completely despising Lucas.

Ashley was stunned to hear that Lucas wanted to stay, but she immediately understood why.

If not for her, he wouldn't have deigned to interact with them and put up with their insults and mockery.

Thinking of this, Ashley felt touched.

Seeing this, Allie hurriedly said, "Ashley, since your husband has agreed, just come with us!"

After thinking about it, Ashley said firmly, "Okay, we'll go with you guys on account that we were classmates. But first things first, if you guys continue to be rude to my husband and insult him, I will sever all ties with you!"

Hearing this, everyone showed some disdain on their faces.

If Ashley was still an heiress of the Steeles, they would have definitely agreed. In fact, even if she didn't say anything, they naturally wouldn't offend her and Lucas.

But Ashley had already been driven out by her family and couldn't even compare to them in terms of family background now. What right did she have to put on airs and give them orders?

Two impatient people immediately wanted to retort.

Allie said, "Alright, everyone. Since we're classmates, let's not spoil the atmosphere anymore!"

She glanced at her classmates, telling them to stop angering Ashley at this juncture. Then she said, "Ashley, we drove here, so you can go with us! Let the men go in their own cars. We don't have to worry about them."

She pulled out a car key and pressed it. Soon, the lights of a white BMW 7-Series sedan lit up.

"Ah, Allie, did you get a new car?"

Some classmates immediately praised her with looks of envy.

Allie said proudly, "It's just an ordinary car that costs around a hundred grand. Next year, I'll get a more expensive car and take you guys out for a spin!"

Allie's family was quite affluent, though it was only a third or fourth-rate family. But no matter what, they still had a net worth of tens of millions, so Allie wasn't actually bragging about buying a more expensive car.

Carrie immediately moved to Allie's side and held onto her arm affectionately. "Allie, you're amazing. Since you're so rich, don't forget us old classmates when you come across any good opportunities in the future."

Meanwhile, a few of the men changed the way they looked at Allie.

Although Allie's looks were average, she was rich, so it wasn't a bad idea if they could get together with her.

Ashley looked at Lucas hesitantly, wondering what Lucas would do if she left with the women.

Carrie grabbed Ashley's hand and said impatiently, "What are you hesitating about? Let's hurry up and go in Allie's car! Surely you and your boyfriend aren't going to take the bus, right?"

Lucas said to Ashley, "Go ahead with your classmates. I'll go with your male classmates."

Peter said, "Lucas can take my car!"

Hearing this, Ashley nodded and got into the backseat of Allie's BMW.

A few of her male classmates had driven here, so they got into their respective cars and took those who didn't drive here. Soon, they left.

Lucas, Peter, and his wife, Vanessa, were the only ones left in the parking lot of the Blue Duke bar.

"Vanessa, wait for me in the car. Lucas and I have a few words to say," Peter said to his wife gently.

Vanessa looked displeased, but she didn't lose her temper at Peter and got into their luxury car.

Looking at Lucas with raised brows, Peter asked, "Are you really Ashley's husband?"

Lucas naturally wouldn't reveal the true relationship between him and Ashley at this time, so he just nodded and said, "Yes."

"Divorce her immediately and stay away from her!" Peter said tyrannically.

Lucas burst into laughter.

Indeed, Peter wasn't as calm and composed as he had shown earlier. But why did he want Lucas to divorce Ashley since he was already married?

He couldn't possibly divorce his wife and get back together with Ashley.

More importantly, Lucas couldn't see any love for Ashley in Peter's eyes at all.

When he saw Ashley insulted by their classmates just now, Peter remained silent and even smirked with some contempt. He didn't seem to have any feelings for her.

"Why should I divorce her?" Lucas asked unhurriedly while standing in front of Peter.

"Because I said so. Stop wasting my time with your nonsense," Peter snapped in annoyance. Then he took out a bank card from his pocket and threw it to Lucas. "There's one hundred grand in this card. Take it as compensation for your divorce from Ashley. As long as you divorce her and never show up in front of her again, the money is yours. You hear me?"

His tone was extremely condescending, as if he was doing charity. He added, "This is probably a few years' worth of wages for you."

"Pfft!" Lucas laughed uncontrollably again.

Lucas had only witnessed such scenes in corny TV shows and novels. He didn't expect to be involved in a similar situation one day.



To make things worse, someone actually threw a bank card with 100,000 dollars at him and ordered him to leave a woman.

He really couldn't help himself from laughing out loud.

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1187

1187 Absurd Reason

"What are you laughing about?" Peter frowned with displeasure and stared at Lucas with a gloomy gaze.

While fiddling with the light bank card, Lucas asked with a smile, "You're already married, but you want me to divorce Ashley? What are you trying to do? Do you want to find a chance to rekindle your relationship with her because you can't forget her?"

Peter sneered disdainfully. "Hah, a shameless woman like Ashley isn't worth my feelings. Rekindle my relationship with her? I just want her to be single and unwanted forever!"

The resentment in his tone surprised Lucas.

Lucas didn't expect Peter to bear so much hatred for Ashley. Even though he was already married to another woman, he didn't want her to marry another man and wanted her to stay single and alone forever.

There had to be a reason for his hatred!

Lucas frowned. "As far as I know, after you two graduated from college three years ago, you two were going to get engaged. But you backed out at the last minute and disappeared without a trace during the engagement party. You even spread fake news about your death to make sure Ashley heard it, right? Why do you hate her so much?"

Lucas was truly puzzled. According to Ashley, Peter was obviously the one who had let her down, so she should be the one hating him. But why did Peter hate her so much that he wanted to destroy her life and make her suffer?

“Because that woman is a liar!” Peter said through gritted teeth. “She’s a liar through and through. She cheated me out of my feelings and caused me to treat her well for a few years for nothing. She almost ruined my life. Why shouldn’t I hate her? As long as I’m alive, I’ll make sure she doesn’t live well!”

Lucas’s frown deepened. Could there be some secret between Peter and Ashley?

Although Lucas hadn’t interacted much with Ashley, he could tell that she wasn’t a scumbag who liked to toy with other people’s feelings. So he wondered if there was a misunderstanding between them.

Although Lucas didn’t want to get involved in the affairs of Ashley and her ex-boyfriend, she was his subordinate now and would be expanding the company’s business abroad soon. So Lucas hoped that he could resolve the matter between them so that she would no longer be affected.

“What’s the point? I don’t know what happened between you two, but you have both clearly moved on with your lives. Can’t you just let go?” Lucas asked.

“No way, absolutely not! I’ve hated her for years. How can I let it go so easily?” Pete hollered at Lucas angrily. “Who do you think you are? Since you don’t know shit, just shut up and do what I say!”

Lucas smiled helplessly. Clearly, Peter was full of hatred and didn’t plan to let it go.

Lucas said, “Peter, you said that Ashley cheated you out of your feelings and wasted a few years of your life. Is there some misunderstanding behind this?”

“As far as I know, Ashley was devastated after hearing about your death three years ago. She even suffered from severe depression and tried to take her own life a few times. Do you really think someone like her cheated you out of your feelings?”

After hearing what Lucas said, Peter became even more furious. “Haha, bullshit! Of course she cheated me out of my feelings. She told me that she was a direct descendant of the Steeles, one of the eight top families of DC, and that her brother and father had high statuses in the family. She even claimed that they might be the future helmsmen of the family, but what happened in the end?”

"Her father died! And her brother doesn't have any recognition or power in the family at all. He has a low status in the family and will obviously never take over as helmsman!

"And now, she and her immediate family have been kicked out by the Steele family! Haha, this is her retribution for lying to me! Fortunately, I didn't get engaged to her and marry her back then. Otherwise, I would have been kicked out by the Steeles together with her. How could I accept that?!

"Besides, I treated her well with all my heart when we were dating in college, but the Steeles despised me and didn't want to let her marry me. Even when I visited them with gifts, they never took me seriously!

"That's why I stood Ashley up at the engagement party and left her there to embarrass her! This is what she and her family owe me!

"You're right. I faked my death and got the news to spread to Ashley because I wanted her to regret what she had done and put her through so much misery that her life would be a living hell!"

Hearing Peter's complaints, Lucas had a stunned expression.

He originally thought that there was a misunderstanding between Peter and Ashley or that there was something he didn't know. But it turned out that Peter's reason for hating Ashley was so... absurd!

He thought that Ashley had cheated him out of his feelings simply because he didn't feel that the Steeles valued him and that his expectations of Ashley's father and brother becoming the helmsmen were ruined. So he wanted to take revenge on her and make her live in misery for the rest of her life.

Peter's way of thinking was completely detached from that of ordinary people.

After his greedy plan to gain power and wealth by marrying Ashley failed, he blamed her for cheating him out of his feelings. He was simply a scumbag among scumbags!

Seemingly hearing a name she didn't want to hear, Vanessa, Peter's wife, immediately urged impatiently from inside the car, "Honey, why do you bother wasting your breath with him? Aren't we going?"

After hearing Vanessa's voice, Peter finally calmed down and threatened Lucas, "Punk, one hundred grand is as much as you make in a few years. You'd better be content and divorce her tomorrow. Do you hear me?"

Lucas sneered, "One hundred grand is peanuts. Keep it for yourself!"

With that, he flicked the bank card back at Peter, took out his car key, and pressed the button.

Soon, the black Land Rover drove out of the parking spot nearby and stopped next to Lucas.

This scene left Peter so shocked that his eyeballs almost fell out!

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1188

1188 Own Business

It was a Range Rover!

And it was the latest model, which was worth at least 250,000 dollars!

Moreover, Peter could tell at a glance that the chassis and tires of this car were different from ordinary Range Rover models. This car had been modified, and it was also equipped with automatic driving functions, so it cost more than a million dollars!

This car actually belongs to this shabbily-dressed pauper? Peter couldn't believe his eyes.

Even he couldn't get such a high-end customized Range Rover!

Peter stared enviously at the car and Lucas.

Lucas opened the car door. "I have to give you a warning. I don't care how twisted your mind is, but Ashley is under my protection now. If you dare to harm her, you will suffer the consequences!"

Then Lucas got inside the car and drove away.

Watching Lucas drive away, Peter bit his lip with shocking murderous intent and hatred in his eyes. I don't care who you are. Since you dare to threaten me, you're my enemy, and I won't let you off!

...

Lucas was driving speechlessly.

He originally thought that there was some irresolvable enmity between Ashley and Peter or some huge misunderstanding that caused them to turn from college sweethearts to what they were now. But he never thought that it was because of such an absurd reason.

Lucas had seen many strange things and mentally unsound people in his life. But he had never met a scumbag like Peter, who didn't recognize that he himself was a terrible person but instead accused Ashley of deceiving his feelings and hated her for things beyond her control.

Since Peter was such a scumbag, there was no need for Ashley to feel sad because of him.

Ten minutes later, Lucas drove his Land Rover to the most prosperous area in DC and arrived at the parking lot of Club Aurora.

It was already past 9 p.m. For many people, it was already relatively late, and some were already preparing for bed.

But for a globalized metropolis like DC, 9 p.m. was the prime time when nightlife just started.

Therefore, there were countless cars and a lively crowd outside the resplendent Club Aurora.

Lucas walked to the entrance and saw a red LED sign with the words 'The Parkers' hanging below the giant glowing signboard of Club Aurora.

Lucas raised his brows. Turns out Club Aurora used to belong to the Waltons!

This morning, Albert, the helmsman of the Waltons, had brought several lawyers and all the relevant documents with him to the Stardust Corporation to transfer the Waltons' assets to Lucas.

But Lucas couldn't be bothered to deal with it and let the Parkers run the businesses under their name.

Because the handover time was too short, there was no time to make major changes, so the Parkers just added the words 'The Parkers' under the signboards of all the businesses they took over. It meant that these businesses now belonged to them.

For a business like Club Aurora, which enjoyed a high reputation in DC but didn't have a name that indicated its origin, there was no need to change its name, lest it affects the customers.

But there were some businesses whose names contained the word 'Walton', so they would have to rename them to get rid of the Waltons' influence.

Kenneth had asked him for permission about this early this morning.

So Lucas immediately knew that Club Aurora actually belonged to him when he saw the red LED sign with the Parkers' name on it.

Unexpectedly, the place Peter had randomly chosen turned out to be his turf. This made Lucas feel a little emotional.

Lucas didn't linger at the entrance for long. While he was driving here, Ashley, who had arrived in advance, had sent him the number of the private room they had booked here, so Lucas went straight to the room.

"Welcome, Mr. Gray!"

As soon as Lucas entered Club Aurora, the two beautiful attendants and two guards at the door immediately bowed and greeted him respectfully.

“Do you know me?” Lucas was surprised.

One of the pretty girls, who had a V-shaped face, said smilingly, “Mr. Gray, it’s because the first thing Mr. Parker did after taking over the club today was to send your photo to all the employees. He told us that you’re the most distinguished guest of the club and that we had to serve you with the best treatment no matter when you visited. That’s why we know you.”

Lucas immediately realized what had happened. He reckoned that Kenneth was the one who had given these instructions.

This young man, who had once been at odds with him, had gotten much better at handling things. Kenneth had only said that Lucas was the most distinguished guest of Club Aurora and instructed the staff to serve him well without revealing his identity. This was in line with what Lucas preferred.

Furthermore, the staff of Club Aurora were probably not the only people to receive these instructions. Likely all the employees of the businesses that Kenneth took over had received the same instructions to treat him as the most distinguished guest.

This indeed saved Lucas some trouble, and he would no longer be in situations where he was stopped from entering his own company like before.

The other beautiful lady stepped forward and asked respectfully, “Mr. Gray, the most prestigious King’s Room has been prepared for you. Would you like us to take you there now?”

Lucas shook his head. “No thanks. I came here with some friends today. Please take me to the Rose Room.”

“Alright, Mr. Gray, please come with me!” The beautiful lady led Lucas to the door of the private room that Peter had booked.

Lucas waved his hand and gestured for the lady to leave before pushing the door open and entering.

"Lucas, you're here!"

As soon as Lucas entered, Ashley walked over to greet him happily.

Ashley felt regretful now. She had arrived a few minutes earlier than Lucas, and her former classmates had surrounded her and urged her to get a divorce and marry another man, making her very upset.

Upon seeing Lucas, Ashley's eyes lit up as if she had finally seen her savior.

She really wanted to take Lucas away immediately.

She was going abroad with her mother and brother tomorrow. She had planned to spend some time alone with Lucas today to relax before going abroad. But she didn't expect to meet her former classmates and end up stuck in such a situation.

Her friendship with her former classmates was no longer like it used to be, which made Ashley feel terrible.

Seeing Lucas enter alone without Peter and his wife, Silas immediately frowned and asked him, "Why are you here alone? Where's Peter? Did you do something to him?"

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1189

1189 Full of Flattery

Lucas sneered. But before he could speak, Carrie butted in sarcastically, "What can a poor loser like him do to Peter? Besides, Peter's wife is from the esteemed William family. This punk would never dare to do anything to them!"

Zoey also mocked, "The differences between some people are vast. Some are bottom feeders of society who get stepped all over by everyone, while some are elites above everyone. They are people that the average joe can never match up to."



She glanced at Lucas smugly. "You're probably too poor to know who Peter is. He married the only heiress of the Williams, and he's back in DC to get ready to start handling the family business. He definitely isn't someone that ordinary people can compare to! Some people can die trying, but they'll never catch up!"

"Wow. Doesn't that mean Peter might become the future helmsman of the William family? Once Vanessa's father passes away, the Williams' businesses will all belong to Peter, huh?" one of the men in the room said in astonishment.

"Duh? That's why I say that despite coming from an ordinary background, Peter is really smart to have found such an impressive wife. It beats working hard for decades! On the other hand, some people came from a rich family during college, but look at what happened now."

While speaking, Zoey looked at Ashley from head to toe, almost explicitly saying that she was talking about her. Ashley pursed her lips together tightly without planning to say anything.

A few men revealed looks of envy and jealousy. People like Peter were simply the object of their envy.

But there was nothing they could do about it since they weren't as suave and smart as Peter to know to please a wealthy heiress.

However, even if they didn't have the chance to marry someone rich, they might be able to get some help from Peter in the future as long as they kept in touch with him. After all, Peter now had a much superior status than before, and he might even become the helmsman of the Williams. It would be great if they could get some benefits from their friendship with him!

While they were chatting, the door of the private room was pushed open. Peter and his wealthy wife, Vanessa, finally arrived.

All of a sudden, almost everyone rushed over to surround them and greet them enthusiastically. It was as if they were afraid that Peter had suffered during the short ten-minute drive.

Naturally, Lucas and Ashley didn't follow them and instead stood indifferently at the side, watching them behave deferentially toward Peter and his wife.

"Haha, sorry I'm a bit late. What were you guys chatting about?" Peter was now amicable and cheery again, just like Lucas had seen before.

Carrie hurriedly said, "We were all just praising you! We said that you're the most promising one among our former classmates. You managed to become a mid-level manager of a Fortune 500 company at such a young age. You're back in DC because you're probably going to get a promotion, right?"

"Hahaha, you're right!" Peter laughed joyfully. "I'm back to serve as the general manager of the Williams Corporation. My father-in-law wants me to get some training in this position before taking over more important duties and helping him manage all the businesses."

As soon as Peter said this, there were exclamations of shock in the room. "You're going to become the general manager of the Williams Corporation?! Oh my god, Peter, you're really impressive. You're only twenty-six this year, and you've already become a general manager of a Fortune 500 company. That's amazing! Most undergraduates don't even qualify to work as an ordinary employee at the Williams Corporation, yet you've already climbed so high!"

"Peter, I'll have to rely on your help in the future!"

"Yeah, my family and I too. If you have any lucrative opportunities in the future, don't forget to help the Kellers out!"

"Don't forget about me! Peter, if you have any need for me in the future, I'd be happy to work for you!"

...

For a while, they flattered Peter and showered him with endless compliments.

Peter really enjoyed the flattery and praise. He said with a smile plastered all over his face, "Haha, sure, sure. We're former classmates. If there are any opportunities in the future, I definitely won't forget you guys!"

"Peter, thank you in advance then!"

Everyone smiled happily and thanked Peter.

“Don’t just thank Peter. We have to thank Vanessa too!” Silas suddenly said to Vanessa, who was standing next to Peter.

They were so preoccupied with flattering Peter just now that they almost forgot about the person with the highest status. It was quite negligent of them.

Everyone quickly returned to their senses and praised Vanessa too, complimenting her for her beauty, talent, and elegance, as well as for being a grounded and amicable wealthy heiress. Their compliments made her face beam with joy.

“Since you guys are Peter’s former classmates, you are my friends too. You don’t have to be so formal. If we have any relevant business opportunities in the future, we will prioritize you and your families. Don’t worry!” Vanessa said with a smile.

“You’re so nice, Vanessa! Thank you!”

Everyone thanked Vanessa, and the atmosphere was very lively.

Vanessa looked around the room and suddenly said, “There’s more than ten of us here. Isn’t this room too small? I remember that there are large VIP rooms here and a King’s Room that’s much bigger than this. Shall we change to another room?”

Silas hurriedly said, “I wanted to book a larger room, but the manager told me that the VIP rooms were already booked. So I could only choose a random one. I thought we could make do.”

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1190

1190 Distinguished Guest

Vanessa frowned. “That won’t do. Peter and I came back today, and we happened to get together with you guys. You’re Peter’s friends. How can we settle for a random private

room? Besides, we agreed that it was Peter's treat today. How can we squeeze into this tiny room?"

It cost about 10,000 dollars to book a large VIP room here, which was peanuts to a wealthy heiress like Vanessa. In fact, she would feel upset and displeased if she couldn't book one.

Peter chimed in, "Yeah, we're not short of money. We have to get a larger and better room!"

He said to Silas, "Speaking of which, I've spent the last two years out of town, so I don't know much about the nightlife here. I only know that Club Aurora is the best place for it in DC now. What's the best private room here? Is it the prestigious King's Room you mentioned?"

Silas nodded and sighed before saying, "Yes, the King's Room here is the best, and it's the only ultra luxurious room here. It's at least four times the size of this one!"

"But I heard that the owner of Club Aurora changed hands this morning. In the past, you'd only need to pay about fifteen grand to book the King's Room. But starting today, there's a new rule saying that the King's Room is reserved exclusively for the club's most prestigious guests and that it won't be open to others for any amount of money!"

Hearing this, Vanessa sneered. "A private room that isn't open regardless of the amount of money? Haha, that's the first time I've heard of such a rule in DC! I refuse to believe that they won't open it for a million dollars! This is nothing but a gimmick to raise the price!"

Peter frowned too. "Club Aurora has a new owner? I remember it used to belong to the Waltons. Who does it belong to now?"

Allie replied, "I saw a red LED sign with the 'The Parkers' written on it outside the club. This family should have taken over."

She had strong observation skills and had noticed this detail when they entered.

"The Parkers?"

Everyone felt bewildered.

None of the top families in DC had the name Parker.

Vanessa asked doubtfully, "Is there a Parker family among the upper-class circle of DC?"

Silas shook his head. "I know a little bit about this family. Actually, the Parkers aren't from DC but from California. Over the past few months, they've been developing extremely quickly and opened countless stores and businesses in the US. For example, the Hampton Restaurant, a top dining spot in DC now, belongs to them.

"Apart from this, they also have some jewelry and antique stores. The Parkers have always kept a low profile and don't do anything conspicuous, so many people in DC aren't aware of them.

"But just last night, I heard the Parkers offended a big family, and there were dozens of trucks and thousands of people gathered outside the Hampton Restaurant. Many people thought that they were in trouble and that they would be eradicated from DC.

"But this morning, many people discovered that the Hampton Restaurant was not only fine, but many of the businesses in DC now have an additional red LED sign with 'The Parkers' on it.

"These businesses used to belong to the Waltons, which means that the Waltons probably lost to the Parkers last night and the Parkers have taken over their businesses instead!

"But many people are saying that the Parkers aren't actually that strong. They're just managing these businesses on behalf of a big shot who's so powerful that even the eight top families don't dare to offend!"

Silas was a local of DC, and his family was decently affluent. Although they weren't that rich and powerful, they were well-informed in various aspects.

After Silas revealed all the information he knew, many people in the room were surprised.

The mysterious Parker family actually took over so many of the Waltons' businesses overnight.

The Waltons were not pushovers but one of the eight top families of DC, and they had owned half the entertainment joints in the state!

Yet they transferred all their businesses to the Parkers without creating a scene in DC. This just meant that the powerful figure or force behind the Parkers was really not to be trifled with.

“So, let’s not try to move to the King’s Room today, lest we create unnecessary trouble for ourselves. We’ll have to make do though,” Silas said.

Peter fell silent in thought.

Sitting on a couch by the wall, Lucas smirked a little.

If these people knew that the big shot behind the Parkers they were discussing was sitting right here, whom they had insulted as a penniless loser, who knew how they would react?

Suddenly, someone knocked on the door of the private room, and a middle-aged man in a black suit with a chrome-plated ‘manager’ tag walked in.

“Mr. Gray, welcome to Club Aurora! The King’s Room on the top floor has been prepared for you. You and your friends may enter at any time! As the manager, I would like to apologize for failing to receive you immediately! Please forgive me.” The manager bowed to Lucas respectfully.

This scene dumbfounded everyone.

They had just learned from Silas that only the most distinguished guests of Club Aurora could enter the King’s Room, while everyone else would be refused entry regardless of how much they spent.

However, the manager of Club Aurora actually came over personally to invite Lucas to the prestigious and luxurious King’s Room.

If the manager had said this to Peter or Vanessa, they naturally wouldn’t be shocked.

But he actually said it to Lucas and even bowed to him.

In their eyes, Lucas was just a penniless loser. How could he possibly be among the most distinguished guests of Club Aurora?

Lucas frowned slightly.

When he entered earlier and the two beautiful women at the entrance wanted to lead him to the King's Room, Lucas had already turned them down. He didn't expect the manager to show up suddenly and invite him to the King's Room.

In that case, wouldn't these people suspect his identity?