

Chapter 81 Prove It

Alicia bit back her frustration. "If I were good at sweet-talking men, do you think Joshua would've left me?"

All of a sudden, Caden chuckled.

"Fair point."

To keep her interested, he said, "When Joshua was building his business, he needed serious financial backing, so he had to work closely with the banks. A lot of his dealings were handled through Randolph."

Alicia asked, "Did Randolph take his cut and cover things up for him?"

"Yes."

Her heart sank, confirming what she had feared.

Randolph had indeed been involved in underhanded deals.

Getting close to him and Rachel had been the right move.

She leaned in closer to Caden and asked, "Can the deleted transaction records be recovered?"


He gave her a knowing smirk.

Alicia's heart skipped a beat under his gaze.

"Why are you looking at me like that?"

"I wasn't sure why you were trying to get near Randolph. But now I get it," said Caden.

Alicia was speechless yet again.

"Damn! He tricked me into showing my true intentions," she thought. 



Her face tightened. "You said you could help me. That means you know something, right?"

"I did consider that, but at first, I thought you were just interested in Randolph."

Alicia instinctively responded, "Why would I settle for less? I've been with better men."

Caden remained composed and almost humble. "I appreciate the compliment."

Once again, Alicia found herself speechless.

She blushed, turned away, and thought that she should really stop talking.

Afterwards, Caden sent something to her email.

Alicia quickly checked her inbox. "What's this?"

"I sent you some info on Randolph."

Her eyes lit up. "You're giving this to me just like that?"

Caden spoke with a pointed tone. "What do you think?"

Alicia clutched her phone tightly, feeling uneasy.

She tried to sound hopeful. "You've already given it to me. Isn't it too late to set conditions now?"

"I only handed over a third."

Her frustration grew.

She didn't expect him to hold back some information, and she threw a sharp glance in his direction.

Caden's voice remained calm. "Do you want to know the rest, Ms. Bennett?"

Alicia narrowed her eyes, biting her lip as she stared at him.

Of course, she wanted the rest of the information.

Her plan had been to go after Randolph through Rachel, but Rachel's complete devotion to him made that impossible. Rachel wouldn't help. In fact, she might even defend him against Alicia.

Caden wasn't a good person, either. He clearly had his own agenda.

But for the most part, he was always honest about his deals.

Compared to Rachel, he was the better option.

Alicia wasn't naive. She understood exactly what he wanted. She twisted her fingers in silence for a moment.

After that, she slowly said, "Yes."

"Prove it," he answered.

His words left Alicia momentarily speechless. Then, in a quieter voice, she answered, "Alright."

Caden was pleased with how quickly she adjusted.

He smirked. "Do you know what I'm asking for?"

Alicia's eyes flicked toward Hank, who was still driving.

She felt uneasy, struggling to find her voice. "Shouldn't we discuss this somewhere more private?"

Caden chuckled, clearly enjoying her reaction.

After they reached the apartment building, Hank left, but Caden didn't seem in any hurry to take Alicia upstairs.

"Did we forget to buy something?"

Even though it was the middle of the day, Alicia felt a wave of nervousness. "What is it?"

Caden didn't answer directly. Instead, he let out a light cough.

Alicia's eyes were drawn to the movement of his Adam's apple, her thoughts drifting to places she didn't intend.

She quickly rubbed her forehead, avoiding eye contact. After a pause, she said, "I'll go get whatever it is. You head up."

"Where exactly are you planning to buy them?"

Alicia paused for a moment and said, "The supermarket?"

Caden raised an eyebrow.

"That's a bit far. There's a pharmacy close by."

He then gave her his apartment number and walked away.

Afterwards, Alicia walked to the nearby pharmacy.

Even though she had been intimate with him several times before, she couldn't help but feel nervous.

What was about to unfold with Caden felt like opening Pandora's box.

She knew it was dangerous, but the temptation was too strong to ignore.

She wanted to open it and claim whatever was inside.

The shop assistant greeted her with a warm smile, "What can I help you with, Ma'am?"

Alicia didn't spend much time deciding and grabbed the most expensive box of condoms.

She wasn't concerned about the experience, just the protection.

When she reached Caden's apartment, the door wasn't locked, so she stepped inside.

It was her first time there, and the massive floor-to-ceiling window immediately caught her attention, reflecting the bright sky like a giant mirror.

A desk was nearby, and behind it, a tall bookshelf stretched upward,

filled with books and scattered machine parts.

The apartment's design mirrored Caden's personality.

It was sleek, minimalistic, luxurious, and impressive.

But for some reason, it also felt distant and cold.

There were barely any signs of someone living there.

Alicia figured Caden probably didn't spend much time in this space.

Maybe he spent the night here once in a while.

Had he ever brought women here? She had no clue.

Alicia opened the shoe cabinet, looking for a pair of slippers.

It was completely empty.

Thus, she decided to walk around barefooted.

The dark floor tiles made her toes stand out even more.

Caden stood nearby, silently admiring the contrast of her skin.

"If there are no slippers, you don't have to take your shoes off," he said.

She didn't even notice when he got so close. "Aren't you concerned about the dirt my shoes would leave?"

Caden didn't seem interested in continuing the conversation.

"Did you get them?"

Alicia's unease returned, and she gripped the bag tighter.

The soft rustle of plastic was the only sound that could be heard.

"Yes." Her voice was tense, but her words came out boldly. "I bought the extra-large ones."