

# **Bogus Billionaire by Shining Riviera ( Caroline Evans )**

## **Chapter 111**

Posted by **Hamaaa**, 169 Views, Released on October 7, 2023

### **Chapter 111**

**Damn**, they're giving Caroline tons of privileges, aren't they?

The first thing a large company like them did was welcome the design director  
Oh my 60% # starting to doubt the things I see on **the internet**

"The boss of this company is allegedly Mr. Eddy's second uncle if Mr. Eddy and Caroline have broken up, there's no way his second uncle would give her such a big privilege, right

"Exactly. That's why I'm doubting the authenticity of this post

The netizens were eating up the gossip from this particular post like a buffet.

However, it caused an uproar among the upper-class citizens, especially the bag four families, who had been kept in the dark about this.

The company merger proved that Eddy's second uncle had already infiltrated Easton's market. However, none of them had noticed anything before this.

Furthermore, the quick change in public opinion made them even more uncertain about whether Caroline would marry into the Morrison family.

Another shocking thing was that the Evans family members, who had mocked Caroline yesterday, were now praising her in the group chat as if nothing had happened

"I knew it. There's no way Caroline would lose to Layla. It **turns** out she lost to her own design

"Goodness, Layla. We know you want to beat Caroline, but how could you steal her work? You're both from the same family, but how are you two so different?"

**“You’ve** embarrassed the Evans family. Our family is really unlucky to have your

Layla tightly clenched her phone, reading the messages admonishing her. Her family was a

bunch of two-faced snakes!

Looking at Layla’s furious expression, the nurse hurriedly took her phone away.

**“Don’t be** angry, Ms. **Layla**. It’s just how they are. They’ll always back the **winning** side. You don’t need to bother with them.”

Layla angrily clenched her fists, digging her nails into the flesh of her palms.

I’m not mad at them. I’m pissed off at that **bitch**, Caroline! I destroyed her **laptop**, so where on

earth did she get those drafts?

She knew that I would use her draft in **the** competition, **so** she set me up and embarrassed me!”

she yelled, agitated. Then, she coughed.

The nurse softly patted Layla’s back and comforted her. “Calm down, Ms. Layla. Caroline is more

cunning than I thought. There’s no way you can beat her like this.”

Layla looked up **with** a deadly gaze.

She said. “You’re right. There’s no way I can beat a calculating woman like her. I don’t accept that

fact. Hurry up and give me my phone. I’m going to call Ed.”

Right now, only Eddy could save her from this predicament.

“No need to call me.” Eddy walked into the room. His leg had already healed, so he could walk by

himself.

“Ed. Seeing Eddy, Layla’s eyes became red. She said, “You’re here...”

“Layla, how could you do something so reckless?” Eddy reprimanded her coldly.

Layla hugged Eddy’s thighs, explaining, “I know I’m wrong, Eddy. I **don’t** know what came over me. When Caroline showed her work, I thought it would blow Grandpa away if I got first place. That’s why I stole her draft.”

The nurse helped Layla explain. “Mr. Eddy, Ms. Layla did such a reckless thing for your sake.”

Eddy relented, “Do you really know you’re at fault?”

Layla nodded desperately. “Of course.”

“**Good.** All you need to do is apologize to Caroline. Then, we’ll put this matter to rest.”

Layla’s eyes lit up, and she hugged Eddy’s legs even tighter. She asked, “Then, about my lawsuit

**At the** mention of this, Eddy felt his temple throb in pain.

“Did you really wreck Caroline’s home?”

“**No,**” Layla said, aggrieved. “**It** was already like that when I went into her house, but she insisted

that **I’d done** it. She didn’t believe me, no matter how much I tried to explain.

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She also see the last manage Eddy had sent to her "Congratulations on gettin  
g second place

Layla Blinked and cinched her fingers tightly When she'd gotten first place, sh  
e'd had to beg for Zecognition yen bestemd group. However Casoline hadn't e  
ven done anything and Eddy had

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Staked further, "Are are you really going to do that?"

Eddy's expression force, a trace of panic appearing is tus eyes

He explained. There are my Grandpa's codes, but don't worry, Layla Once I get her, I'll dump her

eduarly

**He** was simply willing to accept that the girl who'd always followed him like a puppy was gone.

**Layla dug** her nails into her palms once **more**. **She** had a horrifying look on her **face**.

**She couldn't** let Caroline live!

**Caroline** had won a prize and a job, so she wanted to treat Gwen to a meal. She also wanted to take

this opportunity to thank Kirk for his help.

"Then let's invite Sean too," Kirk suggested.

Caroline was okay with it. "Why **don't** you give him a call?\*

"Okay." When Kirk took out his phone, he realized it was out of battery. He charged his phone and

turned it back **on**.

He had several missed calls, and they were all from Sean. He called Sean back.

"You finally picked up!" Sean was worried sick. "Spill it. Since when did you have another woman?"

"He couldn't believe that Kirk hadn't told him anything.

Kirk frowned, thinking that Sean was drunk. He said, "Caroline is treating us to dinner. Are you coming?"

His words immediately drew Sean's attention. He asked, "What are we eating?"

Kirk said, "I think we're having a barbecue."

"Okay!"

Kirk hung up the phone.

Only then did Sean realize he hadn't asked Kirk about that woman! He lamented his mistake, but **he** vowed not to make it again tonight.

That night, Caroline and Kirk went to an outdoor barbecue restaurant. The restaurant was filled with people, and there were many shirtless men cheering and drinking. They were as noisy as a herd of elephants.

This was Kirk's first **time** in a place like this, and he had a big frown.

Caroline glanced **at** him, asking, "**Are** you unwell?"

Kirk looked at the food on the open-**fire** grill, still frowning "**No.**"

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force Sharing Gas getting wat of twistat, she asked 'fnd

"Yeah, bees morised Congratulations is Evans

Calling Geen a rage glance and sad to Sean, Thank you, Dr Yates, but you do n't have to

Just call me Carte frown no on

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As they talked the rest of them sat at a table  
From time to time, Kirk would look down at his

congratulations, Cassidine asked, "What's wrong?"

Eskal had been acting weird from the moment they'd arrived at the restaurant

Sean picked up saying. Just ignore him. A rich  
man like him is lowering his dignity to dine in this

barbecue restaurant. It's normal for him to be uncomfortable."

Sean was shocked to hear that "Kirk has never been to a barbecue restaurant  
before?"

Sean was about to answer when he noticed Kirk's warning look. Feeling a chill  
, he simply said, "

had his glasses like this"

"Domenico turned her attention back to Caroline and said, "Carol, congratulations  
on becoming

Director of the Reserve Corps. How you've got a secure job for life

Caroline tucked the hair the wind had blown into her face. She said, "I didn't expect  
the winner's

job to be a job postion it feels like it was made just for me."

She glanced at Kirk as he said. There wasn't a single change in his expression

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Chapter 114

Feeling a headache, Sean bit the bullet and said, “He goes by so many names that I can’t

remember his actual one”

“**What** name does he go by now? Caroline asked.

“Matthew,” Sean answered.

Then, he looked at Kirk smugly, raising an eyebrow.

He was telling the truth, Matthew was one of Kirk’s aliases.

“Matthew Caroline whispered in a clear voice.

Kirk’s heart skipped a beat when he heard her whisper his name. He looked at Caroline’s plump lips, feeling the urge to kiss her.

“Here’s the bread. The waiter put the plate of bread on the table, blocking Kirk’s view. When the waiter left, Caroline had already begun talking to Gwen about Layla.

“She must be so pissed right now! I’m happy just thinking about it!” Gwen took a bite of her bread.

“It’s so satisfying to see her suffer! If Layla had gotten the job, she would’ve acted all high and mighty, showing it off to you.”

Sean also took a slice of bread. He asked curiously, “Is Layla Eddy’s lover?”

“Oh, you know her too?” Gwen asked.

“I’ve been studying her medical records,” Sean explained. He chewed his bread slowly, in stark contrast to Gwen, who was gobbling her bread down.

“Why do you need to study them?” Caroline wasn’t familiar with medicine, so she didn’t understand. “Is there a problem?”

Sean explained, “Yeah, her records were normal for a few days. Logically speaking, this shouldn’t **even** be happening.” (@

“I told you there was something fishy about her illness.” Gwen commented, “If you keep studying **those** records, **I’m sure** you’ll be able to find something.”

Sean looked **at** Gwen with a **hint of** tenderness. “You’re not even a doctor. How can you tell?”

I may not be a doctor, but I’m a woman before this, whenever Carol and Eddy’s wedding was back

**on** the agenda, Layla would get seriously ill and he hospitalized

This time was even more outrageous because she apparently needs a kidney transplant

Gwen paused momentarily, then continued, “Besides, I’ve never seen a patient dying of an illness

running about and scheming against people. Sometimes, I genuinely think that she’s faking it!”

Sean’s smile froze, and a thought crossed his mind in the blink of an eye

He grabbed Gwen’s hand excitedly. He yelled, “You’re a genius, Gwen!”

His actions took Gwen aback. After a while, she, usually a flirt, blushed when she realized that

Sean was holding her hand tightly. “Let go of my hand!”

An Caroline watched from the sidelines, she couldn’t help raising her brows.

When Sean realized what he’d done, he quickly let go of Gwen’s hand and apologized. “I’m sorry. I

got too excited. I never figured out why her records were normal. If she’s really faking her illness,

everything would make sense.”

Gwen was shocked. “I—I was just rambling...”

Sean waved his hand. “I’m just speculating as well. If we want to find out whether she’s faking her

illness, she just needs a thorough checkup.”

Then, he looked at Kirk.

Kirk tapped his fingers on the table and asked Caroline, “Do you think it’s necessary?”

When Caroline heard his question, she put down her drink and said, “Yeah. I also want to know if

she’s faking her illness.”

“All right.” Sean flexed his muscles, feeling eager. “I’ll arrange a thorough checkup for her when I

get **back.**”

Then, they chatted about anything and everything. Gwen and Sean were the ones talking. Caroline

agreed with their words from time to time, while Kirk didn’t talk much.

**Noticing** the clean table and untouched glass of water in front of Kirk, she got up. “Go ahead and

**keep** talking. I’m going to buy something.”

“I’ll go with **you**.” Gwen and Kirk spoke, both standing up at the same time.

Amused, Caroline looked at them and smiled. “I’m not a child I’m just going to the convenience

store across the street.”

**111** go with you too Getting Sean’s signal, Gwen took Caroline’s hand and pointed “Come on, Carol

**Don’t** leave me **behind**”

Caroline relented, saying. “Fine, let’s go.”

Then, they left Kirk behind

“Quit staring at them.” Sean waved his hand in front of Kirk. “I have something to ask you.”

Kirk responded half-heartedly, his gaze still fixed on Caroline.

Sean asked, “Are you seeing another woman?”

Kirk frowned “Get some help. You’re obviously delirious.”

“Caroline said it herself” Sean said sternly, “Be honest with me.”

Kirk’s expression was sullen “Caroline told you?”

“Not to me, but to Gwen. Gwen said that Caroline saw you with another woman, and she also found lipstick in your pocket,” Sean explained.

“Did she really say that?”

“Of course. Why would I lie to you?”

Sean said, “Isn’t she giving you the cold shoulder because of this? Kirk, you’d better think this through. Do you want Caroline or that woman you’re seeing?”

Kirk said irritably, "I'm not seeing anyone else!"

"Really?" Sean asked doubtfully.

Kirk looked at him coldly.

**Sean** shrank **back**. He said, "If you aren't seeing anyone else, it must be a misunderstanding. Everything will be fine **after you** talk things through."

**Kirk** remained seated in his chair, motionless. The lights shone on his face, casting shadows over his facial features.

Posted by **Hamaaa**, ? Views, Released on October 7, 2023

## Chapter 115

**At the** convenience store, **Caroline** bought a few pieces of bread and a few bottles of water.

Gwen asked her curiously, "Why are you buying water?" There were cold drinks **at the** barbecue

**restaurant**.

Caroline couldn't help but blush. "I want some regular water."

Gwen sauntered to her, asking, "Is it for you, or are you buying it for Kirk?"

"It's **for** me, all right?" Caroline took another water bottle before asking Gwen, "What's going on between you and Sean?"

"Huh? Nothing!" Gwen felt a little sheepish. There really wasn't anything between her and Sean, so she had no clue why she was acting like this.

"Oh, really?" Caroline stared straight into Gwen's eyes, making the latter feel a little awkward.

"Carol, didn't I promise I wouldn't pursue him?"

Caroline said, "If you really like him, I don't mind."

Gwen waved her hand. "Forget it. Both his work and family are abroad. Who knows when he'll be leaving this place? Long distance relationships are too difficult."

Her friend's words took Caroline aback. Kirk's family was abroad as well. Would she be separated

from him in the future as well?

"Enough about me. What's going on between you and Kirk? And who was the woman from before?"

Gwen asked.

On the way here, Sean had asked Gwen about the woman Kirk was with. She'd said she didn't know who the woman was, but he'd insisted that she find out from Caroline, claiming that he

wanted to clear his friend's name.

The light in Caroline's eyes dimmed instantly.

"If you don't want to say it, forget that I asked," Gwen said hastily.

Caroline walked **out** of the convenience store with her bag in her hand, feeling **a** big weight on her

**chest**. She took a long breath, bracing herself, and said, "It's Brie."

Gwen's expression shifted "What the actual fuck! Why was he seeing her, of **a** **ll** people? Wait **right**

here I'm going to give him the scolding he deserves

After talking, she stormed towards the barbecue restaurant across the street.

Seeing this, Caroline hurriedly chased after Gwen, trying to stop her.

However, it was too late Gwen had already let her anger cloud her judgment.

Wanting to stand up for her friend, Gwen pointed at Kirk and yelled, "Are you doing this on

purpose? You clearly know that Carol and Brie don't get along, but you're still seeing a bitch like

her!"

Sean was stunned for a moment before realizing what Gwen was doing "She's scolding Kirk! Does she want to die?" he thought.

Sean stood up and held back the agitated Gwen. "Calm down, Gwen!"

Caroline rushed over as well. She looked at Kirk, out of breath.

Kirk narrowed his eyes slightly. He glanced at the agitated Gwen and then at Caroline. "Brie? Who said we were together?"

Although Sean had restrained Gwen, he hadn't covered her mouth. Kirk's question added fuel to the fire, making Gwen even angrier.

She yelled, "I can't believe you're still trying to deny it! When Carol took supper for you at work that night, she saw you two with her own eyes. Also, the lipstick you brought home must belong to Brie, right?"

The customers at the restaurant all turned over to look at the commotion.

Caroline blocked Gwen and said to Sean, "Sean, can you please take her away?"

Sean nodded and dragged Gwen away.

**The** people in the restaurant didn't take their eyes off Caroline's table. She quickly went to pay the

bill.

"Let's go."

**Kirk** sat still. He only looked at her when she pulled him up, and emotions **seemed** to be swirling in his **eyes**.

The two walked to the car one after the other. After getting in the car, they drove away from the

busy downtown area.

Caroline said bitterly, "I'm sorry. Gwen is just—"

Kirk interrupted her, his attractive voice echoing in the car. "Were you there just to bring me

upper that night?"

Caroline frowned and said stubbornly. "No."

Kirk leaned over and gently lifted Caroline's jaw with his fingers. His eyes showed a trace of

liveliness, and he was full of smiles. "But Gwen said you were."

"No—"

Caroline felt his lips pressing against hers, and all thoughts left her mind. She had already

forgotten what she **was** going to say.

In contrast to his usual heavy-handedness, Kirk was kissing her gently and delicately this time.

Caroline's breathing gradually became rapid, and she wrapped her arms around Kirk's neck. She

whispered, "Kirk."

Kirk looked back at her. In the cramped space of the car, his gaze looked ferocious. "Scream my

name."

Caroline bit her lip, shaking her head vehemently.

Kirk placed kisses on Caroline's delicate collarbone, gently nibbling on it. He looked at her bewitchingly. "Scream my name. I know you want to."

Caroline's lips parted slightly, and she said hoarsely, "You're bullying me again, Kirk."

Seeing this, Kirk hugged her dearly. "I'm not bullying you. I just miss you. Listen-\*

He hugged Caroline even tighter, and Caroline could feel his body heat and steady heartbeat thanks to how close their bodies were.

Her body stiffened, and she said sadly, "But I don't want to fight with Brie over you..."

Kirk bit Caroline's lips. He said, "There's nothing between Brie and I."

Looking **at** Kirk with tearful eyes, Caroline said, "I saw her wearing a diamond ring that day, and

she **said** that it was **from you**..."

A murderous glint briefly appeared in Kirk's **eyes**.

Then, **he caressed** Caroline's cheek with all the tenderness he could muster and kissed **away** her

tears "That ring is supposed to be for you."

Caroline blinked her eyes. She couldn't believe what she heard.

Kirk said, "We're already married, but I haven't bought you a ring. I'm a failure as a husband. That ring is still in my office. I'll get it for you."

Caroline blushed. She hadn't **expected** this to be the truth. In an instant, something filled up her **empty** heart.

She asked again, "So, there's really nothing between you and Brie?"

Kirk started the car. "Yeah."

**The** weight on Caroline's chest lifted, and when she quickly glanced at Kirk, her face turned bright red.

Kirk set up the GPS on the console. "Then, let's go home."

They were only ten minutes away from the villa, but it would take them half an hour to get to the company. He didn't want to wait any longer.

Caroline nodded. After getting her consent, Kirk stepped on the gas pedal. They arrived at the villa within just five minutes.

Kirk parked the car randomly and quickly walked into the villa with Caroline in his arms.

**The** two of them got started without even turning on the lights. They had waited for this moment for a long time.

Posted by **Hamaaa**, ? Views, Released on October 7, 2023

## **Chapter 116**

Meanwhile, Sean took Gwen home. Gwen was still protesting at the door, "Let go of me! I will give

that bastard the **verbal** lashing of his **life!**"

Sean held Gwen's waist with one hand and opened the door with the other. After he turned on the

lights, he told Gwen, "If you weren't Caroline's friend, you would have been a corpse by now."

Gwen wasn't convinced "Hmph Does he really have what it takes to kill me?"

Sean shrugged, saying nothing in response. He walked to the kitchen and poured Gwen a glass of

water

Gwen was still sulking "He's the one who cheated in the first place."

"I know Kirk very well, so I'm very sure that there's nothing between him and Brie."

Gwen took a sip of water. She retorted, "Of course you'll defend him. He's your friend, after all."

"I'm not defending him," Sean said.

He briefly explained what had happened when Brie tried to seduce Kirk in the private room that day.

“If there were really something between them, Kirk wouldn’t have thrown her out like that. I was the only one in the private room back then. It couldn’t have been just for show.”

Gwen was speechless. After a moment, she asked, “What about the day when Carol took food for him?”

“There must be some misunderstanding about that.” Seeing that Gwen had finally calmed down, Sean let out a sigh of relief.

“Enough about this. Kirk will explain it to Caroline, so we should leave them be. Do you want some more water?”

“Sure!” Gwen massaged her throat.

“I was **so** pissed off just now. My throat is dry from yelling.” As she spoke, she licked her dry lips.

**Sean’s** throat tightened at the sight. He quickly looked away, saying hastily, “I’ll get you some

water.”

When he entered the kitchen he still **couldn’t** get Gwen out of his mind. He massaged his temple

As he’d been so obsessed with food, and **he** hadn’t had a girlfriend for a long time. That had

to be the reason he was acting this **way**

What’s taking so long? Gwen walked to the kitchen seeing Sean staring at the kettle, she

approached him with a smile.

Smelling the flowery scent on her body, Sean nervously jumped back

“What’s wrong with you?” Gwen was surprised by his dramatic actions

Sean **stammered** “N—  
**nothing** I’m going to give Kirk a call and find out what’s going on “Then, he grabbed his phone and quickly walked to **the** balcony

Gwen shook her head and poured herself some water

When Sean reached the balcony, he felt the gentle night breeze cooking his body

He dialed Kirk’s number Kirk didn’t answer the first time or the second time It wasn’t until the third time that Kirk answered the phone, snarling, “What the hell do you want?”

Sean flinched “Don’t tell me you’re doing THAT Are you?”

Kirk gritted his teeth and looked over at Caroline

She was lying on the bed with her back to him, and he could see the smooth contours of her body from his spot on the balcony illuminated by the moonlight, she looked like a pure and sacred goddess

He hissed, “What the hell are you trying to say?”

“Nothing I just wanted to ask you *how* things are going with you and Caroline

Kirk’s expression darkened, and he yelled, “You’re crazy!”

“Hey, hang on Sean yelled anxiously “**You** haven’t given Caroline the ring have you?”

Kirk passed just as he was about to hang up the phone

Sean pressed, “You’re not thinking of just giving her the ring, are you?”

Kirk didn’t answer. That was what he **d planned** to do He felt the heat on his body fade away and

heat of a chair on the balcony

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Auer et male apprent **in** Sayla's eyes, but me sant. Thave no **idea** what grous e talking about"

"Os on." So we somiting **at** Laytals ear

When Layla heard her words, her face turned as **pale** as the color of **the** walls

Brie continued, "**If** you didn't want her dead, **why** would you do that?"

**Layla** relented. "**What** do you want me to do?"

Brie grinned. "A very simple thing I want **you** to set up a meeting with Caroline and her man!" Since Caroline's husband had dared to threaten her, he'd better be prepared to face her wrath.

Layla said reluctantly. “I—  
I don’t think I can do it. Caroline has blocked me on every single social media platform”

Brie smiled in return “Oh, you can do it. In fact, you’re the only one who can. I’ll give you three days. If you don’t do this, I’ll spill your secret to Eddy”

Layla grabbed Brie’s wrist nervously. She begged, “No! You can’t tell him!”

Brie yanked her hand away. “Then, you’d better get to work.”

After that, she turned around and left.

Layla glared at Brie’s retreating figure, clenching her fists tightly.

After a moment, she slowly relaxed her fists. With a cold smile, she took out her phone and dialed Sarah’s number.

As soon as Sarah picked up, Layla said with feigned sadness, “Aunt Sarah, can you contact

Caroline for me? I know I did something wrong, and I want to treat her and her husband to a meal and ask her to forgive me. Is that okay?”

Posted by **Hamaaa**, ? Views, Released on October 7, 2023

## **Chapter 117**

Early the **next day**, Caroline woke up. She hurriedly lifted the blanket, only to find her clothes

intact. They **hadn’t done** anything last night.

“**You’re** awake?”

Caroline looked up and saw Kirk coming out of the bathroom with only a towel wrapped around

his hips.

Cold water fell from his hair, dripping down his well-defined muscles before getting absorbed by

the towel.

The sight bewildered her. She answered, "Yeah."

Kirk approached her and sat down on the bed, which dipped under his weight. His movements

made Caroline's heart pound, and her face turned crimson.

Kirk fiddled with Caroline's earlobes, saying, "You fell asleep last night."

"Huh?" Caroline remembered what had happened last night. Kirk had left the room to answer the phone, and... she'd fallen asleep.

Her face reddened even more as she apologized, saying, "I'm sorry!"

Kirk pulled her into his arms, asking, "How do you plan to make it up to me?"

Caroline quivered and said shyly, "C—close your eyes."

Kirk listened to her and closed his eyes.

Mustering her courage, Caroline propped up her body **and** kissed Kirk on the cheek. Then, she

quickly backed away.

Kirk pinched her waist **just** as she was about to cover her flushed face with the blanket. He

tapped Caroline's nose. "That's it?"

Caroline buried half of her face in the blanket. Her eyes were watery, and she said meekly, "Kirk..."

Kirk gently pulled the blanket **off** her face and gave her a big kiss on the lips. "That's more like it."

His voice was uncomfortably hoarse.

**Just** when Caroline thought Kirk would take things further, he slowly stood **up**. “Go and have

Only **then** did Caroline remember that she’d accepted a job offer **at** Thorne Corporation She had **to**

handle the employment procedures today and would officially start work after returning from

abroad

Okay Caroline got out of bed to wash up

After that, Kirk drove her to work

On the way, Caroline asked him curiously, “Don’t you need a GPS?”

“Nope, Kirk replied. He’d picked the location of Thorne Corporation himself “You can take a stroll nearby after you’re done I’ll pick you up tonight”

“**It’s** fine. I can go home by myself Caroline refused his offer.

Thorne Corporation’s new office was in a new district. Although it was far away from home,

transportation was very convenient.

“Listen Kirk said, “I’ll pick you up for dinner tonight”

“Dinner?”

“Yeah”

“Where are we going?”

“You’ll find out when I take you there.” Kirk didn’t say much.

Caroline was puzzled about why Kirk was so mysterious about where they were eating. Then, she nodded obediently, saying, “Okay.”

She would meet Kirk’s family in two days, so she could buy some gifts for them.

**Seeing** that Caroline didn't ask any more questions, a smile appeared on Kirk's face.

When they arrived at the entrance of Thorne Corp, Caroline got out of the car and waved goodbye **to Kirk**. Then, she walked into the building.

As expected of a company that had the **means** to buy out several makeup brands in one go, the new building was extravagant and magnificent. It wouldn't be long before this building would **become a** landmark in Osbury.

**Caroline** reached Jules' **office** without any problems. Jules was in a meeting, but when he saw

Welcome, **Ms.** Evans.”

Caroline **looked at** the elegant man in **front** of her with a **smile**. “Hello, Mr. Hawkins.”

“No need **to** be so formal. Please come in.”

**When** Jules closed his office door, the eavesdropping crowd finally started discussing among

themselves. \$1

“Does Mr. Hawkins need to be so polite? This woman is talented, but she has zero work

experience. He doesn't have **to treat** her like a VIP.”

“He even gave her a lifetime contract as the design director. Since he handed over the design

department to a newcomer, it won't be long before that department ruins this new company.”

“Do you guys think Mr. Hawkins values her so much because of her connection with the

Morrison's?”

“Of course. Otherwise, Viv would have been the design director instead of her.”

Vivian Patterson, the person in question, happened to pass by **just** then. “What are you guys doing?”

Don’t **you** have work to do?”

One of Vivian’s close companions quickly walked up to her and explained, “Viv, the design

director is here. She’s in Mr. Hawkins’ office.”

Vivian smiled disdainfully. “I see.”

“We’re just upset for you. You’ve been in charge of designing packaging for Venusta, and your

designs always get rave reviews. You have much more experience in design than her.

“Why does she get to be design director the moment she joins the company, while you-”

“While I’m just the assistant director?” Vivian finished her colleague’s words with a smile.

“Viv, we’re not trying to discredit you. We just think that this decision was too hasty. **You** need at

least ten years of experience to be the design director. It’s unreasonable for a rookie to become one.

Vivian said, “Don’t you know? God despises those without virtue. Caroline has neither work nor leadership experience. Just bide your time, and she’ll eventually make a fool of herself. What’s

the rush?”

Everyone **laughed**.

**At this time**, Jules **escorted** Caroline out of his office. Seeing that Vivian was there, Jules **called**

her over **and** said, “**Vivian, you’re** here. Let me **introduce** you two.”

**There's no need to** do that, Mr. Hawkins. Isn't she Caroline Evans, the distinguished competitor

**from** the Novitius Contest? Everyone in Osbury knows her since she's the person who only

**pursues** Mr. Eddy."

Jules looked embarrassed. "This is Vivian, the assistant director of the design department."

Caroline didn't take Vivian's words to heart. She extended out her hand. "Hello. Let me **introduce**

myself again. I'm Caroline."

Vivian didn't take Caroline seriously at all and shook Caroline's hand condescendingly. "Vivian.

Vivian Patterson."

Caroline looked back at Jules. "I'll be leaving now. I'll meet my colleagues at the design

department on my first day."

"All right." Jules walked Caroline to the elevator.

After she left, he turned around and said to Vivian, "Vivian, I know you're upset with Caroline, but let me give **you** some advice as a superior. In your career, the more friends you make, the more

options you have."

Vivian handed a design draft to Jules, saying sarcastically, "Thank you for your sweet reminder, Mr. Hawkins. But you know that I let people's abilities speak for themselves. Since Caroline wants to be the design director without having what it takes, she has to bear the consequences."

Jules was about to lecture her some more, but she'd already gone into another elevator. Looking at the descending elevator, he shook his head helplessly.

Posted by **Hamaaa**, ? Views, Released on October 7, 2023

## Chapter 118

**When** Caroline arrived downstairs, she called Gwen, asking if she wanted to go shopping for gifts

together.

**On** the other end of the line, Gwen mumbled, "I have to work overtime today, so I can't come with

**you, Carol."**

Caroline replied, "It's okay. Go ahead and work."

After hanging up the phone, she looked up nearby places where she could buy gifts. By the time

she was done buying and wrapping the gifts, it was already evening.

The store did home deliveries, so Caroline gave the staff her address. Then, after checking the

time, she was about to call Kirk when her phone rang.

Caroline's eyes turned cold when she saw the caller ID. She answered it after some hesitation.

"Carol." Sarah asked flatteringly, "Are you free?"

Caroline answered coldly, "No."

Sarah explained diffidently, "Layla knows she's at fault for what happened at the competition.

She wants to treat you to dinner and apologize. Carrie, you should forgive when you can. Do it for

me..."

Caroline refused without hesitation. "No thanks. If she really wants to make it up to me, she just

has to leave me alone. That'll make me happy."

“Carrie!” Sarah raised her voice. “Eddy will be there too! This is your last chance. Don’t be stubborn!”

Caroline clenched her fingers. Her mother had clearly only called her because she wanted her to

**be** part of the Morrison family.

She immediately hung up the phone and blocked her parents’ numbers. Even after that, her body **was** still shaking in anger. From now on, she had nothing to do with the Evans family!

**At** that moment, a black car drove up to Caroline. Two powerful men stepped out of the vehicle. ”

Caroline Evans?”

Caroline backed away cautiously, asking. “Who are you people?”

The two men looked at each other, and without saying a word, they forced Caroline into the car

and drove away. They moved so quickly that no one noticed what they were doing, despite it being

rush hour.

Soon, the car stopped.

Caroline was forced out of the car.

When she **saw** the building in front of her, her heart sank. She was at the Saint Pierre Grand Hotel,

which was owned by the Collins family.

Their business here was morally dubious, so the hotel had been built in a secluded place in the suburbs. It would be difficult **for** someone to find this place.

Caroline gritted her teeth and struggled with all her might. However, the two men were too strong,

and they easily restrained her.

“Who the hell are you people?” she questioned.

The two men ignored her and took her to the 29th floor. When Caroline got out of the elevator, she saw two rows of bodyguards standing in the central hall.

Before she could react, the two men pushed her toward the bodyguards. One of the men said, “We’ve brought the girl.”

The leader of the bodyguards nodded slightly. Looking at Caroline, he said politely, “Please go this way, Ms. Evans.”

Caroline stayed rooted on the spot.

“Our boss is waiting inside. Please go in.” The bodyguard once again gestured Caroline toward the room.

Caroline looked around. She was already surrounded by people who were closely guarding her. It would be foolish to try to escape. She bit her lips unhappily and strode into the room.

When Brie heard her come in, she looked at her with a smile, swirling her wine glass. “You’re here.

Seeing that Caroline was alone, the smile on her face faded slightly. “Why are you alone?”

Caroline frowned. So, Brie was behind this.

**She asked,** “What are you **trying to do by** kidnapping me and bringing me here?”

Brie waved her hand. “**No**, no. I didn’t kidnap you. That’s against the law. I’m just inviting you for dinner. How **you** arrived here has nothing **to do with** me.”

Caroline **didn’t** want **to** listen to her **nonsense**. She said coldly, “Let me go. You don’t want your crimes **to be broadcast on** the news tomorrow, right?”

**Brie sneered**, walking up to Caroline. “This is my territory. Not even an insect could get in here. Even if I killed **you**, no one would ever find out.”

Caroline clenched her fists.

“**If** you want to blame someone, blame that wonderful husband **of** yours. He actually had the gall to threaten me, ordering me to leave you alone.”

Brie tightly gripped Caroline’s chin and said mockingly, “Well, let’s see how he’s going to kill me

for this!”

Caroline was about to raise her hand to retaliate when she heard Brie’s warning. “Don’t move.

There are bodyguards outside. They’ll crush you like an insect.”

“What are you planning?” Caroline questioned. She took a deep breath, calming herself down.

“Call your husband and ask him to come over!”

“No way in hell am I doing that,” Caroline refused. Considering there were so many bodyguards outside, Brie had obviously come prepared. If Kirk came here, he wouldn’t leave this place alive.

“**You’re** more stubborn than I thought. Fine! Come in here, **boys!**”

Two bodyguards entered the room.

Brie ordered, “Take care of Ms. Evans!”

Caroline’s face turned pale as she backed away steadily. “Don’t! Stay away from me

Looking at Caroline getting cornered, Brie smiled disdainfully.

“**Do** whatever **you** want with her! You don’t have to worry about her status! As long as you clean up the evidence from her body, the police will have a hard time getting proof! Even if she tells the world about this, **you’ll** be fine!”

After **that**, she **proudly** told Caroline, “Let’s see how stubborn you really are!”

Brie **left** the room, closing **the** door behind her. **Seeing** this, Caroline wanted to escape, but **the**

bodyguards carried her like **a** sack of potatoes and threw her into a corner. 4

“Sorry about **this**, Ms. Evans!” Then, the bodyguards **began** tearing Caroline’s clothes.

In a restaurant, seeing that everything was ready, Gwen said excitedly, “We’re ready!”

Standing behind Gwen, Sean also looked at **the** balloons in the air with **a** smile. He asked Kirk, ”

What do you think, Kirk?”

**Kirk** had sweat on his expressionless face, but it was clear how happy he felt.

“If there are no problems, let’s call the woman of the hour!”

Gwen was excited. Now that she knew Kirk wasn’t cheating on Caroline and was even planning a surprise proposal, she no longer hated him. She’d even volunteered to help with setting up the scene.

Kirk took out his phone and called Caroline. However, even though he’d tried several times, she still hadn’t answered.

“Let me try.” Upon seeing this, Gwen also called Caroline, but her call couldn’t get through.

“Didn’t you tell her you’d pick her up?” Sean asked.

Kirk frowned. After a moment, he walked out of the restaurant and called Jules.

On the phone, Jules told him in fear and trepidation, “Mr. Kirk, Caroline left the building a long time ago.”

Kirk felt a trace of panic and called Charles.

He ordered sullenly, "Go and retrieve security footage from the surveillance cameras near Thorne Corp. I want to know where Caroline is in three minutes!"

## Chapter 119

## Chapter 119

Stop Caroline cried out, feeling the coldness of the hands gripping **her**. I'll do it I'll call him!"

Upon seeing this, the two bodyguards looked **at** each other, unenthused Then, they left the room

unhappily

After finding out that Caroline had finally agreed to make the call, Brie walked into the room

triumphantly

With a bright smile, she looked at Caroline, whose clothes had been torn into tatters. "See? You

should've agreed sooner Give her the phone"

Caroline hugged herself tightly and didn't take the phone the bodyguard handed her.

"What's wrong? Did you change your mind?"

Caroline sniffled She looked at Brie, asking, "At least let me wear some clothes"

"You're not trying to stall, are you?" Brie scoffed. "This is my family's territory. Never mind your husband, even Eddy would have a lot of trouble getting here. There's no point in stalling."

Caroline smiled coldly, tears still in her eyes. "**I just** want some clothes. What are you afraid of?"

“Fine.” Brie didn’t have time for her nonsense and ordered someone to bring some clothes. The bodyguard brought in a flowy, long dress.

Caroline put it on. She had beautiful features and a well-proportioned figure.

Even in this situation, it didn’t downplay how beautiful the dress looked on her. There was an air of vulnerability in her appearance that could stir up anyone’s protective instincts.

Brie urged, “Go ahead and call him!”

Caroline said, “Wait.”

“What are you trying to pull now?” Brie became impatient. “Caroline, my patience has its limits. If you **don’t call** him, I’ll-”

“**Do** you know why everyone praises me while they criticize you?” Caroline interrupted, looking **her** straight in the eyes.

**Feeling** nervous, Brie blurted out, “Why?”

Cece chose d’you want to fit out

She heatated momentarily, and she couldn’t resist walking toward Caroline  
Hurry up and ES

Sering the opportunity, Careline quipped files neck and pushed her to the floor  
in calling

window with all her strength

Carolion YouB-

b

Hearing the commction, the bodyguards rushed into the room. Seeing Carolin  
e **holding** Bow

bostage, they froze

“Don’t come any slower Caroline was trembling as she pushed open the wind  
ow the theatement,

# you come any closet, Ill take her down with the

The bodyguards mediately stopped moving

“Cantine. You’re nuts past want to meet your man f–  
you don’t **have** to struggle **su**

desperately Sove wheezed almost losing her breath ban Caroline’s ham grip

Caroline was amused “re, we’ve known each othee for years. Don’t think I don  
’t know what you’l

do to tum I won’t let you hart ham? Order them to leave this roo

She glanced out the window. They were on the 29th floor. She wouht become  
maced new if she

jumped out the window Her hands trembled even more  
She couldn’t back down, even if the wate

sfrand

The bodyguards looked at Brie for instructions

Boxe could feel Carole tressbling, and she snailed, “Slay where you are! doub  
t a take woman

fake her would die for a man She could tell how aliaid Caroline was

“Go abeat and jump Bne said smugly. “Don’t you want to take me down  
with you? Come—anal

Satore she sold even tish, Caroline grabbed her hair and chaibed up the hand  
rail

Brie could ten the cold night breeze on her face, and she was so frightened th  
at het legs weat

unb. She fough “This bitch is crazy!

Castle was no better ter face was a pair e a ghust’s She bit her tongue brings  
that ste

so as to

introduce Her Tom her fear but she was fulfilling a person  
who had made it dirt that tea

**Seeing** an opportunity, a nimble **bodyguard** quickly dragged **Caroline** off the  
handrail, and her

head hit the **ground**.

Caroline felt a surge of pain in her **head**. She struggled to get up. Everything a  
round her was

**spinning**, and she could **even** see afterimages.

**Then**, she felt someone lift her head.

**Brie frantically** slapped her face. “How **dare** you try to kill  
me, you bitch? I’m going to kill **you!**”

The sound of hard slaps filled the room. Caroline’s lips were bleeding, but she  
gritted her teeth,

remaining silent.

After a **long** while, Brie finally got tired of hitting her and stopped. Panting hea  
vily, she ordered

the bodyguard, “Get her phone and call her husband!”

Caroline was barely conscious, but she still struggled. She said weakly, “N–  
No...”

Soon enough, the call was connected.

“Carrie!” Everyone heard a man’s anxious voice.

Brie mocked, “Oh, how sweet. He calls you Carrie.”

“It’s you!”

“That’s right!” Brie leisurely sat on a chair with her legs crossed, smoothing he  
r messy hair.

“Didn’t you tell me not to mess with Caroline if I wanted to live? Well, not only did I mess with her, but I also beat her within an inch of her life. What are you going to do about it?”

Kirk felt his heart tighten, and his voice turned as cold as ice. “You’re dead, Brie!”

Following these words, someone kicked the door open with a bang.

Caroline was struggling to stay conscious and raised her head with difficulty. When she saw Kirk

standing at the door, her breath hitched, and she passed out.

Brie’s **face** turned pale in an instant. “Mr. Kirk! W—what are you doing here?”

Kirk violently grabbed Brie’s neck, his eyes frosty. The bodyguards wanted to intervene, but the

men Charles had brought quickly restrained them.

Brie was about to suffocate. Seeing her men getting taken down one by one, she waved her hands

“I told **you**. You’re dead!” Kirk gripped Brie’s neck **even** tighter, looking like he wanted to eat **her**

**alive.**

Brie’s lips parted in shock and disbelief. She gasped. “Y—You’re... Caroline’s husband?”

**That** was impossible! How could Kirk be her husband?

“Kirk.” Sean checked Caroline’s wounds, saying urgently. “We need to take her to a hospital!”

**Out** of control with rage, Kirk squeezed Brie’s neck even harder.

Brie was in so much pain that she couldn’t utter a single word.

Sean urged, "We have no time to lose! Caroline hit her head! It'll be bad if she has a concussion!"

When Kirk heard his friend's words, he snapped out of his rage. He let go of Brie and pushed her away.

He turned around and carried Caroline in his arms. He ordered, "Lock up everyone who was involved in this!"

After that, he strode out of the room.

Brie fell to the ground, pathetically gasping for air. Her eyes were fixed on Kirk.

She couldn't accept the fact that he was Caroline's husband!

Posted by **Hamaaa**, ? Views, Released on October 7, 2023

Chapter 120

**The** hospital **staff** took Caroline to the operating room. Kirk wanted to follow her in, but Sean **stopped** him.

"**Kirk.**" Sean tried **to** calm his friend down. "Caroline will be fine."

Kirk looked back at him. His eyes were still red from anger, which made him look terrifying.

Despite being his longtime friend, Sean was also a little scared of him. He knew Kirk too well.

He was always calm and composed; he'd never lose his composure unless someone hit his trigger.

Without him realizing it, Caroline had become his soft spot at some point.

It seemed like Kirk himself didn't know about that.

“How is Carol?” Gwen asked Sean as soon as she arrived. She’d rushed to the hospital as soon as

she’d heard what had happened.

Sean glanced at Kirk, then looked at Gwen and answered, “She just went into the operating room.”

“Which bastard did this to her?” Gwen growled.

Sean said, “Brie.”

“That fucking bitch!” Gwen turned around and was about to leave.

Sean stopped her. “Where are you going?”

“To get even with Brie, of course! That crazy bitch is nuts! She always causes trouble for Carol!”

“Don’t **do** anything for now.” Sean persuaded her, saying, “Kirk will handle this.”

“How is he going to do that?” Gwen questioned.

**It wasn’t** that Gwen didn’t believe in Kirk, but Brie was from one of the big four families. On top of

that, She was Howard’s precious daughter, and he was the current head of the Collins family.

Even if **Jude** stepped in, Brie might not necessarily be punished. Kirk was just an ordinary person.

There was no way he could do anything to Brie.

“Just don’t worry.” Sean didn’t know what to tell Gwen. He gave her a look and said, “Let’s wait

here for now.”

Cars was loud She wanted to say shit between the saw Kurk standing rigidly at **the**

getting to do, she felt rahiming peesware

The mullenly kepa her mouth shut and stayed by Sean's side, waiting quietly.

After whet

beersed to **be** a infetame the doctor finally **came** out of the operating room "T  
he patient

is fine the has a few bruises on her head and the past needs to rest and recov  
er

Gwen let out a sigh of relief

Then, she looked back at Kuk He was still standing there with his fists clenche  
d, **and** his eyes

were terrifyingly dark

She wordlessly looked at Sean

Sean said cautiously. "Hey, Kirk Since Caroline is fine, Gwen and I are leaving  
"

With that said, he pulled Gwen away.

Gwen said anxiously, "Hey' Why are you dragging me away? I haven't even s  
een Carol yet!"

Sean pulled Gwen into the elevator. He asked, "Why on earth are you so dens  
e?"

"Aren't you giving Carol and Kirk some time alone?" Gwen asked, rubbing her  
tender wrist.

Sean's eyes dumed, and he said hoarsely, "Since you know, why aren't you pl  
aying along?"

Gwen pouted unhappily "Hmph If Kirk hadn't saved her, I wouldn't have even  
given him this

chance

Sean's lips curled into a smile. "Of course. Thank you for your generosity, Ms Jameson "

Gwen felt a tenderness in her chest, but she said. "But don't celebrate so soon. Although I've

accepted Kirk as Carol's husband, Carol has long lost interest in love since Ed dy hurt her So, Kirk

**will** just have to face disappointment."

The smile on Sean's face disappeared.

**In** the hospital room, Caroline lay on the bed, unconscious. Her head was wrapped in gauze, and her cheeks were pale. She looked fragile, like she could fall apart at any moment.

Kirk held her hand, his eyes filled with distress.

"**Sir.**" Charles walked in quietly. He said, "I have the surveillance footage at the time of the

Kirk's grip on Caroline's hand tightened, **a** trace of anger appearing **in** his eyes. "Leave it here,

Yes, sir." Charles **put down the** tablet **next** to Kirk and **left** the room.

Taking **a** deep breath, Kirk looked at the surveillance footage sullenly.

His **eyes** darkened upon seeing Caroline getting dragged to the hotel room. As he watched the

video, **the** atmosphere in the room became colder and colder.

**When** he saw Caroline refusing Brie's **order** to call him, he felt as if his heart was being pricked by

**tons** of needles.

She'd been protecting him.

He clenched his fists tightly, his entire body itching for violence.

Then, when he saw the two bodyguards tearing Caroline's clothes apart, he snapped. "Charles!"

Charles immediately walked into the room.

Kirk ordered, "Cut off these two men's hands."

Charles wanted to remind him that they were in Easton, but when he saw Kirk's livid expression.

he relented. "Yes, sir." Then, he left the room.

Kirk was still gripping the tablet so tightly that cracks appeared on the screen. Finally, the screen.

shattered under his grip, and the tablet couldn't work anymore.

The rage disappeared from Kirk's gaze as he slowly regained his composure. However, when he **saw** Caroline's pale face, his murderous intent returned in full force.

"**Carrie**," Kirk called her name softly, gently holding her hand.

His heart ached. He looked at her slender hands. He couldn't imagine how Caroline used those very hands to grip Brie's neck, threatening to take her down with her.

She'd wanted to protect him, even if she lost her life.

**Kirk felt** a recklessness he'd never felt before.

He took out a ring from his pocket and got down on one knee. Right now, there were no balloons, fancy music, or cake. **There** was even the smell of disinfectant in the air, but this moment was

**more** romantic than any other moment in his life.

"Marry me, Carrie," Kirk whispered His lips trembled, and his eyes were teary Without waiting for an answer, **he** slipped the **pink** diamond ring on Caroline's finger. It seemed like the ring had been made **just** for **her**, and **it fit** her like **a** glove.

At last, a **soft** smile appeared on Kirk's **face**. He lowered his head, kissing Caroline's fingers.

**K** Kirk Caroline's fingers moved.

Kirk looked up and saw Caroline looking at him. He didn't know when she'd woken up

**A** trace of panic appeared in his eyes, and he quickly got up. "When did you wake up?"

**There** was a smile on Caroline's face as she asked, "Were you proposing to me?"

T-I... For the first time, Kirk discovered that he could get tongue-tied as well.

Upon seeing the blush on Kirk's face, Caroline felt the pain in her body fade away

She' could've never guessed that the cynical and indifferent Kirk could blush like that. It was pretty cute.

"Kirk." She said softly, "I accept your proposal"

Kirk looked at her, the coldness in his gaze faltering "What did you say?" His mouth was parched

He gripped Caroline's hand with trembling hands.

Caroline looked at him with a smile "Yes, Kirk. I want to give us a chance