

## The Miraculous Simone Gray by Opal Reese Chapter 151-160

### Chapter 151 Humiliating

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After Zac finished speaking, he glanced at Jodie. "Sorry, I'm a straightforward person who likes to speak the truth. I hope you don't mind."

Simone glanced at Zac. To her surprise, this guy not only had a sharp tongue but also knew how to play dirty. If he had not said that, Jodie might have used some clever words to salvage her failure.

However, he preemptively chose to use dirty tactics against her. How cunning! As expected, this statement left Jodie stunned. She had originally planned to say she was not in a good mood today, which affected her performance, and then apologize to Zac and everyone else.

This way, the audience would understand, and her apology would make her appear humble and open to criticism. If he continued to be aggressive, it would only make her seem weak and helpless. In comparison, they would appear excessively mean and bullying.

Who would have thought that Zac would say something like this? Where was his arrogant and domineering tongue? Why did he stop? At that moment, Jodie felt a different kind of frustration.

He continued to act. Are you not speaking because you're angry? From now on, don't ever ask me if I'm satisfied. I'm afraid to be too direct, and you won't be happy about it."

In other words, it was your insistence to ask me, and now that I'm being honest, you're not happy. Don't

blame me.

It was then Jodie wanted so badly to punch Zac. She forced a **smile** and replied, 'No, I'm not angry. I was just reflecting on my mistakes earlier. I wasn't in a good mood today, which affected my performance. I'll pay more attention in the future.'

At that moment, she regretted suggesting to work at this restaurant. These three must have deliberately come here to eat and mess with them. Since Zac started the dirty tactics first, the audience did not understand Jodie's explanation and did not sympathize with her.

When Luca saw his sister bullied like this, he felt heartbroken and thought Zac was going too far. He did not show any gentlemanly demeanor at all! To bully a girl like this was truly despicable.

Afraid that Zac would continue to mess with Jodie, Luca said, "Let me play the second piece." He also graduated from a music academy and passed all the professional levels for the cello, He was confident in himself and played with a stylish demeanor, even closing his eyes indulging in the music.

and

Simone looked at Sc\*mbag No. 3 **and** could not help but feel like laughing.

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After finishing the piece, he looked at her and Zac, asking, "Are you satisfied now?" He deliberately ignored Harry, feeling **that** this person was unworthy of his **inquiry**.

One thing Simone disliked most about Sembag No. 3 was that he liked to look down on people. She had heard Harry and Se'mbag No. 3's original songs, as well as their covers of other people's songs. Whether it was singing skills, vocal tone, sense of rhythm, or songwriting and composing abilities, Harry surpassed Sembang No. 3 by a mile.

I don't

know why, but Sembag No. 3 always thinks he's much better than Harry. Who gave him such confidence!

Simone asked Zac and Harry, "What do you think?"

Zac was honest. "The playing was just at the level of a student, but the important thing is that it looked kinda corny."

Harry nodded. "Agreed."

The way Luca looked lost in ecstasy earlier annoyed him. To be corny in such a setting was

too much.

Simone laughed. "You spoke my mind."

The words of the three suddenly made the people present, as well as the audience, feel that Luca's actions earlier were indeed a bit cringe.

Luca did not expect the three to evaluate him like this. They said he was corny ! Was there no

end to it?

He looked at Zac and asked, "If I'm just at the level of a student, then what level is a top: player?"

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Zac candidly replied, "I'm just an amateur. I said it earlier."

'My Zachy's cello level is indeed quite amateur. He only won first prize in an international cello competition when he was young

'My Zachy **is** still at level zero. He's never taken an exam. So amateur

'So, our Zachy really can't compare to Luca, who is so professional.

Zachy once collaborated with a top international cello master on a piece, but he was freeloading

'Zachy's level is not good. Bad review!

It had to be said that there were fans of every kind for idols. Zac's fans always had a unique

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style, and their self-deprecation approach was also hilarious.

The other fanbase was speechless. You guys are *like* dogs, just like your idol!

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Zac's words made **Luca** unable to retort. He had already admitted that he was at **an** amateur level, so what else could he do?

Luca did not want to argue with the three of them anymore. "We're done playing. Can we leave now?"

**Simone** reached into her bag and took out 30 dollars before handing it to him. "Here, this is your tip. You deserve it."

Seeing her gesture, Zac could not help but laugh. "Indeed, you deserve it." He asked for another thirty from Simone and handed it to Jodie. "Here, this is my tip. No need to thank

me!"

Harry did not move. He did not have any money on him and did not feel comfortable asking directly like Zac.

Luca was so angry when he saw Simone handing him the money that he felt like spitting blood. "Simone, you're going too far."

A 30-dollar tip? Who are you humiliating?

She looked innocent and said, "I enjoyed your performance, so I gave a tip. How is that going too far?"

He sneered. "Nobody cares about your tip. Keep it to yourself." He could not stand the humiliation from his sister and turned around to leave quickly.

Jodie looked at the money handed to her by Zac and also felt humiliated. Her eyes turned red as she bit her lip, saying, "I didn't play in the right mood earlier."

r, so there's no need for a tip." She would not accept a tip that came with an insult.

Zac saw that she did not want it and handed the money back to Simone, saying, "If they don't want it, forget it. We can save 60 dollars."

Of course, Simone had no intention of giving them any money, not even a penny. She had already anticipated that they would refuse, given their personalities.

With a smile, she put the 60 dollars in her bag. "Alright, we saved some money!"

At that moment, the dishes started to arrive. She told Jodie, "It's time for our meal."

In other words, go back to where you came *from*.

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Jodie suppressed the urge to approach Simone and scratch her flirtatious face, She could not pretend anymore and say something like, "Enjoy your meal. Instead, she looked deeply at Simone and turned around with her cello, Once again, she made a mental **note** of Simone.

"I've noticed that spending time with Zachy made wifey more aggressive, too. I like it!"

"Haha, you guys deserve it. The attack may not be strong, but her destructive power is impactful. Go wifu!"

"The two of them are so well-matched.

"Have you noticed how Zachy shamelessly asked wifey for money? It's just like how my husband asked me for money!"

'Harry never dared to ask waifu for money, but Zachy does it so naturally. It makes me smile. like I'm their mother.

'It's not for everyone to be a kept man.

Simone's fans and supporters jokingly teased.

Jodie's fans and supporters, on the other hand, came out to criticize Simone and Zac. However, they were immediately attacked by the fans of the two.

They played so poorly, yet they still dared to ask if their customers were satisfied. Why couldn't they speak the truth? And even though their performance was not great, Simone and Zach still politely gave a tip.

It was the two who were arrogant and snobbish and chose to leave. **Was** there a problem with that? Did they give the tip to the wrong person?

Jodie's fans and supporters were left speechless and could only ask. Where is the courtesy?'

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## Chapter 152 Revealing the Juice at the Perfect Time

Luca seethed with anger as he sat in the staff rest area at the back of the restaurant. If it were not for the fact that he was holding the restaurant's cello, he would have completely lost his temper.

Before long, Jodie walked in with red eyes and seriousness on her face. Given her upset state, he **refrained** from going over to hug and comfort her this time. Raising an eyebrow, he asked, "Why didn't you play another tune?"

She had found it satisfying when her older brother teased others with sarcasm. But now **that** let her

it was directed at her, **she** found his words piercing. However, she knew she could only "that

anger escalate into a fight with him, knowing the Gray Family brothers well. They did **spoil** her, but they did not have the patience to indulge her tantrums all the time.

**Just** like Titus, who had stopped paying attention to her. Thus, she could not help but shed tears of grievance. Luca, we were live just now. If we leave in a **huff**, the fans and audience will criticize us. Otherwise, I wouldn't have endured Simone's humiliation."

At **that**, Luca's anger diminished quite a bit. The live broadcast camera had not followed them, so he reached out and pulled Jodie over, making **her** sit on his lap. He wrapped his arm around her and said, "Alright, stop crying. When we find the opportunity, we'll repay her tenfold the humiliation."

That was the first time he had been humiliated like this, and it was from **his** sister! He did **not** know if people he knew would see this 30-dollar tip and make fun of him when he returned home.

Jodie leaned against him and sobbed softly. Sob. I'm just upset. She pretended not to understand and asked. "We're family. Why would she treat us like this?"

Luca did not feel good hearing those words either, snorting. "We treat her as family, but she treats us as enemies."

How did a family end up like this, constantly cornering each other?

When Jodie heard the dissatisfaction and resentment in his words, she continued to provoke him, "If she doesn't like me, she can target me. Why does she have to humiliate all of you well? After this variety show ends, I'll leave the Gray Family when I return to Cebros. That way, Simone should be willing to return to the Gray Family and stop venting her anger on of you.

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Knowing her older brother's impulsive nature, she said this, hoping that in future live broadcasts, he would find more faults with Simone.

Luca had always believed his younger sister was deliberately being willful and causing

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trouble so she could find an excuse to return home. However, after the incident with Aaron's prank, Titus' assault, Leon getting dumped, and him being humiliated, he was not so sure

anymore.

He sighed. "She's been hanging out a lot with Zac lately. That's why she's acting so willful and arrogant. The

more we indulge her, the cockier she'll get. Let her **make** a scene. And when her arrogance is suppressed, she'll return obediently. You're **also our** sister, so there's no need for you to leave for her. Once she learns her lesson, you should try to get along with her. She'll surely see your goodness."

He had always hoped that his younger sister would come back home, and even though he was just humiliated a while ago, it had not changed that sentiment. After all, she was family, so how could she be left wandering outside?

But Simone had indeed become more willful, and they could no longer tolerate her arrogance. Otherwise, when she returned home in the future, she would lead them by the nose every day.

*Why can't Simone learn to be obedient like Jo? She's rebellious, to begin with, and she's now hanging **out** with someone like Zac, just turning worse! Sigh, it's distressing*

Jodie was speechless. What does Simone's arrogance have to do with Zac? Luca sure is good at finding reasons to defend *her*.

She was about to speak when the cameraman walked in. Then, the audience saw Jodie sitting on Luca's lap, being held by **him**.

She was leaning against him.

"Wow, exciting!"

Tsk tsk. After being driven away, they actually came here to have an affair!

'Seeing how intimate they are, have they gone from foster siblings to lovers?'



My boyfriend and I have never embraced each other like this when we're outside. Their relationship must be complicated."

In the previous episode, she was kissing Aaron, and now, she's being hugged by another brother. Jojo the fairy is amazing!

This is no fairy. She's a black widow,"

'Could she be a foster daughter-in-law of the Gray Family?'

'No way, we have monogamy now. Can the two brothers share a wife?'

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'Can we watch this? This is hurting my eyes.

'Oh, Jojo suddenly stood up and moved away from Luca.

We all saw it. There's no need to cover it up."

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I wonder what Aaron, who's still playing the piano outside, would think when he sees this.

They'll probably join in the fun together."

This time, it was not the photographer deliberately ambushing them. There was a problem with the equipment earlier, and the technical department came to fix it. When it was repaired, he came in to continue the live broadcast.

Who would have thought that they would see such an exciting scene?

The cameraman entered, and Jodie quickly stood up and wiped away her tears with a tissue. She put on a smile for the live camera and looked like she had just cried from being wronged and was pretending to be strong.

If it were not for the earlier scene of her in Luca's embrace, there might still be many who could not help but sympathize with her.

But now, everyone believed she was just pretending.

Luca was handsome, and with the previous marketing of Gray Entertainment, he was considered a top star in the music industry with many fans. Most of the m dreaded to be **his**

partner.

Previously, these people had always supported Jodie and criticized Simone and Zac's fans. Now, they had all turned against her. Not only did they not sympathize with Jodie, but they also left all kinds of insults in the comment section and live chat.

"This shameless woman actually seduced our **baby** Luca.

'Oh my god, Jodie is so shameless and has no limits. This is her foster brother!'"

'She seduced Aero in the last episode, and now, she's seducing baby Luca. Jodie is shameless.'

What kind of person is this? It disgusts me."

"What sister would sit on her brother's lap and flirt with him? This woman should stay away from my husband."

Baby Luca must've been fooled by her."

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'Even Jojo, who appears innocent in front of others, is shameless behind our backs.

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Not only were Jodie's fans criticizing her, but Aaron's fans could not help but join in.

In the previous episode, Jodie had already put all the blame on their Acro. They were so close that many fans speculated whether they were already a couple in private. Who would have thought Jodie had interfered in Leon and Simone's relationship, causing them to break up?

That made **fans** resent Jodie even more.

However, they still saw her as Aaron's partner.

Now, they saw her not only cozying up to Luca but also sitting on his lap!

That made Aaron's fans furious.

What did she think Aero meant to them? Did she want to have both Luca and Aaron on her side? How delusional!

Mr. Wills and his team had been watching the live broadcast, waiting for an opportunity. When they saw the picture of the two embracing, they quickly recorded

videos and took screenshots. Then, he sent a message to the team. "The time has come. Release the juice

now.

Chapter 153 Exploding With Anger

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Wills and his team had anticipated a few days for an opportunity to arise. However, unexpectedly, it came on the very first day of the variety show. They released the recorded video and screenshots, creating a buzz.

Jodie and Luca Live Intimacy' quickly became a trending topic.

Many were familiar with Luca, and Jodie was not unknown either. She was an adopted daughter from a wealthy family and had previously been rumored to be involved with the popular actor, Leon.

As a result, many clicked on the link to watch. After watching, they were all shocked. How could a normal brother and sister be so close? Many wondered if they were secretly dating.

Although Jodie and Aaron had been close before, she and Luca seemed more like a couple. Then, everyone started a heated discussion about who she was truly in a relationship with. Before they could conclude, a verified influencer who specialized in exposing secrets posted a grid of nine photos.

In one of the photos, Jodie was being embraced by a young and handsome man in a bar. Their actions were intimate, and there was even a photo of her feeding the man a drink, which was highly suggestive.

As soon as these photos were released, the public started investigating who that young man was. It did not take long for them to uncover Titus' identity.

'Wow, it's that talent agent, Titus.

'He looks pretty **good**, except for his blind eyes.

'Omg. Jodie Gray is something. She has control over all three brothers.'

Isn't he the womanizer? No wonder these three are so hostile toward Simone. Turns out it's because of their love for her.

'The truth has been revealed. I knew those foolish brothers were capable of betraying their sister for the acceptable.

sake of their adopted sister. If it were their love interest, it would be more

‘Don’t you find it disgusting?’

Tsk **tsk**, three men and one woman. And they’re all siblings. Of course, it’s disgusting.

‘I can only say one thing: the entertainment industry is chaotic.

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Chapter 153 Exploding With Anger

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I should say the Gray Family is chaotic. They truly deserve to lose their biological daughter and replace her with an adopted one in their prestigious family.

I used to like Aaron and Luca, but they’ve disgusted me. I’ve turned from a fan to a hater!

‘I’m also disgusted. Why would they choose to be intimate with Jodie instead of finding someone else? And all three brothers together.

‘It’s too chaotic. I’ve lost my appetite for dinner.

“I’m unfollowing them.’

As soon as the photo of Titus embracing Jodie was released, it quickly became a trending topic. She had always wanted to go viral and trend on social media. Today, following the incident with Leon, she successfully occupied one-third of the trending topics once **again**.

Like last time, the comments section was filled with nothing but criticism for her. She had completely become the target of public outrage.

Many looking for attention quickly shared intimate photos of Jodie and her three brothers, adding various captions and posting short videos. Several video-sharing apps were abuzz with the news of the three siblings.

This incident had become widely known across the internet. Soon, even the elite circles of society became aware of it. No one had expected that the adopted daughter and three brothers of the Gray Family would have such a relationship.

Even one of them being involved with the adopted sister would be considered inappropriate. Not to mention all three being involved with her at the same time! It was simply outrageous!

Had this not been exposed, they would have suspected the other two Gray brothers of having questionable relationships with Jodie as well. After all, they had already heard that the five brothers had driven their blood sister, Simone, away from home because of Jodie.

As a result, those who had a good relationship with the Gray Family began calling and messaging Steven and Salma to inquire about them. Those who had a bad relationship with them also called to mock and taunt them.

At that moment, Steven was abroad negotiating with a shareholder. Little did he know that his phone would keep ringing with calls and messages. When he finally learned about the online scandal from others, he immediately opened the trending topics to take a look. His face turned ashen with anger. This is outrageous, absolutely outrageous.”

He truly had not expected that his adopted daughter and three sons would have such an intimate relationship.

The shareholder also looked at the trending topics and then cast a sympathetic glance at him..

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Chapter 153 Exploding With Anger

“Your adopted daughter knows how to cause trouble in the family.”

**+15 Free Coins**

**This** adopted daughter was truly formidable, making all three brothers fall under her spell.

The Gray brothers were utterly out of line, lacking any sense of propriety or decency. Steven was so angry that he did not know what to say. "She knows how to cause trouble in the family."

If it were not for Jodie, his biological daughter would not have returned so furiously and severed their relationship; she would not have broken up with her boyfriend either. He had **never** realized before just how much trouble Jodie could cause.

"These disobedient sons are nothing but trouble."

If they were here right now, he would break their legs. On that day, the Gray Family had become the biggest joke in their social circle.

Then, his phone rang again. Judging by the caller ID, he knew it was his father. He felt a sense of embarrassment. At a time like this, the call was definitely about his sons and the adopted daughter.

Steven answered the phone. Sure enough, his parents took turns scolding him. They criticized him for raising such a 'good son' who would make a move on his adopted sister and cause such a scandal that became known to the whole internet.

The entire Gray Family had ruined their reputation.

The adopted daughter was not a good person either. She had seduced her older brothers, each one of them acting as if they had been enchanted,

What was the point of keeping such a shameless being in the Gray Family? Among his siblings, Steven had always been the most outstanding in every aspect. This was the first time he had been scolded so badly by his parents.

What could he do, though? He could only listen and promise to handle it properly.

After hanging up the phone, he immediately instructed his secretary to spend money to remove the trending topic and used his connections to suppress the matter. To his dismay, it had caused a sensation on the internet, and removing the trending topic did not mean everything was fine.

On various video apps, the whole feed was filled with this incident. Unable to hold back, Steven called Salma, who was also being bombarded by many at the moment, feeling extremely frustrated.

When she answered his call, he immediately scolded her. He pointed out that she was the **one** responsible for taking care of the family and raising the children.

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Chapter 153 Exploding With Anger

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How could she have not noticed the close relationship between the siblings? How did she raise the children? At the same time, he also reflected on his responsibility but emphasized that his wife had even more.

He could not believe that Salma, who was always around the children, had no idea about the intimacy between their son and adopted daughter.

As Steven scolded her, she trembled with anger. A few wives who had a strained relationship with her just posted about this incident in their social circle groups. They specifically mentioned her, accusing her of being aware of the situation.

More than a decade ago, she had already considered finding a wife for her son. It was even more ironic that their

Even in ancient times, it was in chaos, and they even entertained the idea of polyandry.

Even in ancient times, it was not this openly discussed.

Then, her family members took turns calling her to inquire and scold her.

At that moment, she was so angry that she felt like fainting. She never expected to be humiliated like this one day. Now, being scolded and blamed by her husband, she felt embarrassed and on the verge of exploding.



Right at that moment, Titus and Reuben returned together and entered the living room.

Salma saw Titus, and her eyes welled up with tears. Before the two brothers could react, she stood up and approached them. Then, she raised her hand and slapped Titus, chastising, “You ungrateful child! All of you ungrateful children! Do you want to drive me insane?”

## Chapter 154 We Go Down Together

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Titus was stunned when his mother slapped him **across** the face. “Mom, what did I do to upset you?” Throughout his life, his parents had never laid a finger on him. He never expected to be slapped like this.

Reuben had a suspicion. “Is it because of what’s been happening online?” They had been receiving calls and messages on their way back.

Salma’s face turned serious. “What else could it **be**?” She looked at her eldest son and asked, “Have you been intimate with Jodie, too?”

He was taken aback by the question **and** shook his head. “No.”

He had carried Jodie back to her room when she fell asleep before. Occasionally, he would hug her shoulders to comfort her. Due to their age and personalities, their relationship was never as close as the younger brothers’ with her. He had **never** kissed her on the cheek or carried her on his lap since they grew up.

Salma looked at him sternly. “You better not have, and you better not in the future. Don’t forget, you’re engaged. No wonder every time Valerie comes to our house, her relationship with Jodie seems distant. She must’ve noticed something between you and her that goes beyond just being siblings.”

She had not been happy about the strained relationship between her future daughter-in-law and her adopted daughter before. But now, she realized she might have been wrong. Jodie, their adopted daughter, had completely influenced her sons.

Reuben was stunned by these words. It was true that Valerie had caused some conflicts with him before because of their special relationship as siblings. They had crossed the line with their excessive pampering of their adopted sister, but he had not paid much attention to it. After all, they had been living like this for over ten years, and it was normal for them to show some extra care for their sister.

At this stage, he could not help but think about it more. Seeing his younger brothers hugging and comforting Jodie at home did not bother him because he was used to it. When he saw the photos online and the various captions, however, he realized something was off.

His younger brothers and their adopted sister were being overly intimate in public. The kisses from Aaron, the closeness at the bar from Titus, and Luca cuddling her on his lap. These photos were stitched together and shared on social media and video platforms, and it did not sit right with him.

Salma saw her eldest son's expression and trembled with anger once again. "Do you also have inappropriate thoughts about Jodie?"

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Chapter 154 We Go Down Together

Reuben immediately denied it. "No, I truly see her as my sister"

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Over the years, many actions and words had become habits of affection, but he had no romantic feelings for Jodie, only sibling affection.

Salma shifted her gaze to Titus and asked, "And what about you? What is your relationship with her?"

Titus saw his mother so furious that his previous anger from the fight dissipated. He did not expect

that the photo from that day at the bar would be posted online. Without even checking, he could guess that it was most likely Simone and Gwen who did it.

He cast a sarcastic look and asked, “Besides a sibling relationship, what other relationship could there be?”

She was so angry that she fell back. Just a sibling relationship? Going **to** a bar, hugging and cuddling in front of so many people. Do you have any shame? I warned and advised you at home before. You’re already adults. You can’t engage in those intimate and ambiguous actions with your sister, but you treated my words as if they were nothing. Now, everyone on the internet knows about the good deeds you’ve done. People in our circle, relatives and friends, have been calling and messaging, asking about me and your father. You’ve embarrassed yourselves, and you want us to be embarrassed as well! After today, our family will become the biggest joke in our circle.”

**Titus** sneered. “Since Simone cut ties and left, our family has already become a joke in our circle. Jodie was brought in by you. In the beginning, it was you who kept insisting that we treat her as a sister. And now that it has turned out like this, how can you solely blame us?”

It was ridiculous. It was not like he was the only one intimate with Jodie, so why was he the only one being singled out and targeted?

Salma did not expect him to say such things and shifted the blame on her. “Y— You ungrateful child! Are you blaming me?”

He shrugged. “I didn’t say it’s all your fault, but in a situation like this, isn’t everyone responsible? Jodie has always been proactive in being intimate with us since she arrived. She even guided us and coaxed us to hug and kiss her.”

It was only after Harold’s reminder that he carefully recalled everything. Only then did he realize that Jodie was not as innocent and obedient as they had thought. From the moment she arrived at their home, she deliberately acted intimately with them, replacing their biological sister’s position.

After Simone returned to the Gray Family, Jodie often privately complained and hinted that Simone was bullying her, trying to drive her away. They thought she was unwilling to let Jodie keep her status as the adopted child and wanted to take everything from her.

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## Chapter 154 We Go Down Together

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That was why their resentment toward Simone grew. Otherwise, excluding the drama, they had treated Simone well.

She only became close to them after she started making herbal medicine and pills and giving massages to them. It was because of this that Jodie began to feel threatened. So, behind their backs, she often badmouthed Simone, causing them to misunderstand and become angry.

When he looked back from a rational perspective, he realized how terrible it was. With Simone's straightforward personality, she would not secretly do these little tricks to deal with Jodie.

When Simone was good to them, they tended to side with Jodie and accuse her, and she would coldly refute them. If they wanted her to give in to Jodie, she would refuse. Then, they would have a falling out. Afterward, Jodie would subtly imply things in front of them.

Their perception of Simone was that she was willful and liked to cause trouble. So, as Harold had said, they had been playing into someone else's hands all these years.

He glanced at Salma and said. "You've seen it before, haven't you? But you didn't say anything, did you? Now that everyone knows about it, you feel embarrassed and blame me. Why?"

She choked. "Back then, you were still young, **and** your actions were more affectionate. I thought you had a close relationship."

At that time, she was somewhat relieved that her sons took good care of their adopted sister. She also transferred her feelings and longing for her biological daughter to her adopted daughter. Only recently did she realize that their actions were too intimate, but it was already

too late.

Titus impatiently adjusted his tie. “The fact is what it is. If you’re embarrassed, then we all are. It’s not like we haven’t been embarrassed before. I’m going to my room.”

The family would go down together.

After saying that, he did **not** wait for Salma to respond and turned to go upstairs. She was once again angered by her second son’s attitude. Then, she looked at Reuben and asked, “What should we do now?”

He looked weary and helpless. “I don’t know either.”

“Well, let’s just leave it at that. Once the controversy dies down, no one will mention this again.”

Then, his phone suddenly rang, and he saw that it was a call from Valerie. As soon **as** he answered, the other person started scolding him mercilessly. She said the relationship between their brothers and Jodie was inappropriate and that she wanted to break up

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Chapter **154** We Go Down Together

him and cancel the engagement.

Without waiting for him to speak and explain, she hung up the phone.

Reuben was completely stunned by this turn of events.

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Chapter 155 What Would You Think?

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It took Reuben a long while to snap out of his thoughts. He hadn't expected his fiancée to break off their engagement just because of something she saw online.

Seeing his expression, Salma couldn't help but question him.

"Who called?" Reuben didn't bother to hide anything from Salma.

"It was Valerie. She wants to break up with me," he replied.

Salma was stunned for a moment. "Why would she do **that?**" she asked. "Are there intimate photos of you and Jodie circulating online?" That was the first thing that came to her mind.

"There weren't any," he uttered while shaking his head.

She was confused. "Then, why does she want to break up with you? It was Valerie who first showed interest in you, and her family was the one who proposed the marriage." The two of them had been together for over two years, and **both families** had planned for them to get married next year.

Why would they break up all of a sudden? Reuben couldn't understand either. "She scolded me because of the online incident, and then she told me that she wanted to break up. But the online incident has nothing to do with me!"

The photos that went viral were of his second and third brothers, not him. The key point was that he and Jodie had never been as intimate as his brothers were with her.

Salma thought about the matter for a **while**. "No, I'm going to ask her about this," she decided. The two families had always had a good relationship, and their companies had a partnership, as well. If her husband found out that their eldest son was being dumped, he would definitely be furious.

So, she called Valerie. Soon, someone picked up on the other end.

"Mrs. Gray!" Valerie tried to make her voice sound gentle and affectionate.

"Valerie, I just heard from Reuben that you want to break up with him," Salma uttered. "Did you two have a fight? If he made you unhappy, you can just tell me about it. I'll deal with him."

"We didn't fight. I just don't want to be with him anymore," Valerie replied.

Salma furrowed her brows, "Can you tell me the reason? Regarding the online incident, Titus, Luca, and Jodie did cross the line. But Reuben **has** never been as intimate with Jodie as Titus and Luca were," he explained.

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## Chapter 155 What Would You Think?

There was a moment of silence on Valerie's end before she finally spoke.

"Since you insist on asking, then I'll be straightforward with you, Mrs. Gray. I do like Reuben, but we've been together for over two years, and he has always been distant. Every time I came to visit the Grays in the past, there was never any intimacy between him and Jodie like there was between Titus and Luca. But they were also very close, and it didn't look like the typical relationship between siblings.

"Every time I sat down to talk with Reuben, Jodie would always find a way to interrupt us. And then, right in front of me, Reuben would show how much he adored her and how important she was to him," she said with some anger in her tone. There were two occasions where I almost broke up with Reuben because of Jodie. One time, I asked Reuben to accompany me to meet a close girlfriend. He agreed, and I made plans with my friend to meet at the Gray Family's place and leave together with him. **But** Jodie deliberately fell down and pretended to be in pain right in front of Reuben. Reuben immediately carried her to the hospital, leaving me alone to meet my friend. And in front of my friend, I **had** to come up with an excuse for Reuben's sudden work emergency that caused him to cancel our plans"

Valerie sneered. "And then, on my birthday this year, I invited many friends to celebrate with me. Reuben brought Jodie to celebrate with me. During the party, my friends teased us, asking when we were getting married and urging Reuben to kiss me. Suddenly, Jodie complained to Reuben about her severe stomach pain. Again, without any hesitation, Reuben took care of Jodie and rushed to the hospital. I felt so embarrassed in front of my friends.

"Mrs. Gray, what would you think if you were in my shoes? Can there really be so many coincidences Every time something intimate happens between Reuben and me. Jodie seems to insist on taking my chance away," she complained. People who didn't know about their sibling relationship would think they are lovers. Furthermore, why doesn't Simone behave the same way as Jodie When

my stomach was hurting. Simone even made some herbal pills for me. I have a good relationship with Simone, but I can't get along with Jodie.

"Why can't we get along? Isn't it because Jodie has no shame? Isn't it because she treats my fiance like he belongs to her?"

This made Valerie angry. She had endured the **previous** two incidents because she genuinely liked Reuben and **had** high hopes for their relationship. After Simone was forced to leave the Gray Family, Valerie felt **like** Reuben and his siblings favored Jodie too much.

Previously, Valerie even tried to remind Reuben of who his real, biological sister was. Simone's personality was much more likable than Jodie's. Valerie and Simone got along well in private. But with Jodie, there was just no chemistry. Initially, because Reuben doted on Jodie. Valerie tried to get along with her, but she soon realized that Jodie was just a pretentious woman who acted innocent all the time.

Every time Jodie was around. Jodie would show off how good her relationship with Reuben was. She would flaunt how much Reuben doted **on** and accommodated her needs. It was clear that Jodie wanted to emphasize the fact that Valerie, Reuben's fiancée, wasn't **that**

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Chapter 155 What Would You Think?

important to **him**.

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**No** woman could tolerate such a thing. Being from a wealthy family herself, Valerie naturally couldn't bring herself to accommodate Jodie. So, both Jodie and Valerie obviously couldn't get along with one another.

On top of **that**, Salma and Reuben were also unhappy about their strained relationship. Previously, Reuben and Valerie had countless arguments over Jodie. It made Valerie seem petty as if she couldn't show any compassion for her



sister-in-law, but there was such a huge difference between the two sisters-in-law!

If Jodie were more like Simone, Valerie wouldn't have an issue with her! Valerie was truly disgusted by what she saw online this time around.

When she paid visits to the Gray Family, she had witnessed Jodie's intimate actions with a few people, but she hadn't seen anything that extreme. However, it wasn't hard for her to imagine how intimate they could get behind closed doors.

If Titus, Luca, and Aaron were exposed, wouldn't Reuben and Andrew have something to hide as well? One way or another, she couldn't believe Reuben anymore. Her best friend advised her that a man like Reuben simply wasn't worth it. In the future, if they were to get married, would he drop everything and leave with just one phone call from his adopted sister? If even a biological sister could be driven away by them, then **as** a woman who was merely a marriage partner to him, wouldn't her life be even more miserable?

The more she pondered, the more it made sense. She came from a good family background, and she had good looks. Couldn't she find someone better? Simone and Leon were childhood sweethearts. It was all because of Jodie that she decisively broke up with Leon and discarded him like garbage. *Why should I stay engaged to a fiancé who has such a murky relationship with his adopted sister? He only makes me feel disgusted!*

She could discard Reuben like garbage, too. Therefore, after discussing it with her parents, she called Reuben to break up and call off the engagement. Initially, she didn't want **to** say much, but Salma kept pushing for an explanation. So, she decided to lay it all out. After all, the ones who would be embarrassed were Salma's children.

Sure enough, Salma's face turned sour after listening to Valerie's words. She truly didn't know that there were so many issues between her eldest son and Valerie, as well as Jodie.

"I can assure you that there is no murky relationship between my eldest son and Jodie." Salma tried to persuade Valerie. "Valerie, I understand that you're angry because of what happened online, but can't you think about it calmly? Have you discussed this with your parents?"

“I have already discussed this matter with my parents, and they agreed,” Valerie replied firmly. “So, I’m sorry, Mrs. Gray.”

## Chapter 156 The Gray Family’s Toxic Child

After ending her call, Valerie sent Salma her blessings and hung up. Although she felt that Salma was a bit confused and unopinionated, she still treated her with respect as an elder.

Valerie’s parents were beside her when she made the call. Valerie’s mother spoke up. “I never realized that the Gray Family was so chaotic. I don’t believe that Mrs. Gray is unaware of all this, Valerie’s mom commented.

“Exactly, she must know. Otherwise, she wouldn’t have allowed the adopted daughter to force her biological daughter away. Simone was so good to the Gray Family, but they didn’t appreciate it. They chose Jodie, who’s all words but no action. All the troubles in the Gray Family are related to Jodie. This adopted daughter of the Gray Family is toxic.” Valerie didn’t just feel repulsed by Jodie; she felt a burning sense of hatred.

Seeing the photos and videos online made her even more nauseated. Valerie’s mother had met Simone and Jodie before, and her impression of Simone had improved after that meeting, “It’s a good thing you didn’t marry Reuben. Otherwise, having such a confused mother-in-law would be troublesome, Valerie’s mom commented. “In our group, many people are mocking her. They say that it doesn’t seem like she has adopted a daughter. Instead, she seemed to have completely raised a woman for her son’s pleasures. We never realized it before. When Simone left the Gray Family, many people didn’t understand why she would give up her position as the Gray Family’s daughter. Now it’s clear that she couldn’t stand that family.”

Valerie agreed. “Yes, Simone had enough. Before, I felt a bit awkward contacting Simone because of my relationship with Reuben. But now **that** I’ve divorced Reuben, I’ve decided to communicate with her actively. We can still be friends even if we can’t be sisters-in-law.”

This time, they were on the same side. Valerie's mother nodded. "Simone seems like a good person." She questioned Valerie's father next. "Do you think Mr. Gray knows about all this?"

"He probably doesn't know. Mr. Gray wouldn't be so clueless if he knew," Valerie's father replied. "He's always focused on Gray Corporation, so he probably doesn't pay much attention to the matters between his son and adopted daughter. But now that this has happened, his reputation has taken a hit."

"Will the divorce affect the cooperation between our company and the Gray Corporation?" Valerie's mother asked **again**. Valerie's father shook his head, "Mr. Gray wouldn't be so foolish. I'll give him a call to let him know"

"Go ahead. Don't let the broken engagement affect the cooperation between the two companies, Valerie's mother said.

Valerie's father then called Steven and told him about the broken engagement. Although he didn't mention the online incident, he did mention how Jodie intentionally called Reuben

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## Chapter 156 The Gray Family's Toxic Child

away and showed affection in front of their daughter. He implied that his daughter couldn't stand Jodie's behavior anymore, which led to the broken engagement.

Steven was surprised that the Knowler Family would break off the engagement. After listening to Valerie's father's words, he became very angry. However, he wasn't angry at the Knowler Family but at his eldest son and adopted daughter. He apologized to Valerie's father several times. After hanging up his call with Valerie's father. Steven was about to contact his eldest son when he received a call from Salma.

Her voice was nervous. "Honey, the Knowler Family wants to break off the engagement with our eldest son." They couldn't keep this a secret, so she had to bring it up proactively. They also wanted to see if Steven could salvage the situation.

“Mr. Knowler has already told me about it.” Steven replied coldly. “I always thought our eldest son was mature and sensible, but I didn’t expect him to be such a jerk. He has abandoned his fiancée several times for the sake of his adopted sister, so it’s no wonder she wants to break off the engagement.”

Salma couldn’t help but question Steven. “So, should we let them break off the engagement?” The Knowler Family only had one daughter, and they doted on her. Although the Knowler Family wasn’t as powerful as the Gray Family, the marriage would still be beneficial in allowing their eldest son to inherit the Gray Family in the future.

As soon as Steven heard Salma’s words, he knew what she was thinking. What else can we do? Our sons have a complicated relationship with Jodie, and they are the ones in the wrong. Let’s not waste a good woman’s time. Tell Reuben that if he can’t figure things out in the future, the position of the heir is not necessarily his.”

“My second brother’s third child has been performing well in the company, and my father also thinks highly of him.” Steven wasn’t trying to scare Salma and Reuben. In the Gray Family, after designating an heir, they would allocate resources and time to focus on nurturing the new heir. But for the sake of Gray Group’s future, if the heir couldn’t handle such responsibilities, they would have to find someone else. Of course. Steven would prefer his eldest son to take over his current position in the future. But if his eldest son continued to act this way, he would have no choice but to change the heir for the sake of Gray Group’s future. After returning to the country, he planned to pay more attention to and nurture his nephew.

Salma’s expression changed when she heard this. “I understand; I will talk to him.”

“Tell him to stop trying to win Valerie back and to not make the Knowlers unhappy. This would affect the cooperation between the two companies.” He understood that his wife would definitely not give up on Valerie as a daughter-in-law. But his family couldn’t afford to lose their reputation, and he didn’t want things to become ugly.

Salma Johnston responded reluctantly. “Okay.” After hanging up the phone, she relayed Steven’s words to Reuben. Reuben didn’t expect his father to bring up his cousin. His cousin’s

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talent and strength were **on** par with Reuben and the **rest** of his brothers. "Mom, I got it." At that moment, Reuben felt a sense of urgency. He reassured Salma before heading back to his room. Salma sat alone in the living room, feeling both angry and regretful.

On the other side, Simone and the other two spent over 6,000 on dinner. After finishing their meal, they took a cab back to the hotel. Jodie and Luca, in the meantime, finished their staff meal an hour later and left after receiving their wages. Then they took a cab to the hotel where Simone and the others were staying to clock out from their job.

The four of them worked for two hours and earned 4000. However, due to the earlier comments from Simone and Zac, Jodie and Luca didn't receive many tips while playing the cello. When they counted their earnings, they only had 400. They were all very disappointed.

Since Jodie was unable to afford the hotel where Simone and the others were staying, she had **to** discuss with the three of them and suggest sharing a room that cost 1,200. She also suggested to Aaron and Luca that they share a room.

But Luca Gray disagreed. "I don't like living with other people, and aren't you and Leon already staying in separate rooms? Simone and the others booked such an expensive hotel, and even they each have their own room. On this point, he was somewhat dissatisfied with Jodie Gray's approach. The money they earned included his and the youngest brother's share. Why should Leon Foster get his own room while he had to squeeze in with the youngest brother? He didn't want that.

Aaron also voiced out. "If we each get our own room, the money will be just enough." In the situation where he could have

is own room, he also didn't want to stay with his third brother. Jodie Gray didn't expect the two of them to oppose her, and she felt rather sorry for herself. She just couldn't show her emotions on the livestream, so she cursed inwardly at the two for being overly sensitive. It's *just* a few nights of *staying together*, what's the big deal?

On the outside, however, she let out a laugh. "I thought you guys wanted to talk at night. Well, in that case. I'll book four rooms. Aaron and Luca glanced at each other, both showing disdain for each other. Who would want to talk to their brother at night?"

At the square where the fireworks show at the hotel was taking place, there were already many people. Luca and the others didn't really want to squeeze in, but they had to go up and check in, so they were annoyed by the crowd. Just then, they heard several notifications from their phones.

Chapter 157 You Just Realized, Huh!

Chapter 157 You Just Realized, Huh!

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The four individuals took out their phones and opened the group chat. They noticed Simone mentioning Eric, Keira, and Brandon in the group. She asked if the three of them would like to join them in their room to watch the fireworks show together. Zac also sent a photo. They had bought a table full of snacks and warmly welcomed the three of them to watch the fireworks together. Eric and the others, of course, agreed without hesitation. They all went to Zac's room together. **Zac** even intentionally took a group photo and posted it in the group.

Luca and the others were speechless. Zac was definitely doing this on purpose. "What do they mean by this? They only invited the other group and ignored us," Luca commented angrily. He didn't want to squeeze **into** the front row of the crowd just to take a photo. Watching the fireworks show in the room would allow them to take a photo right in the center of the show. Not only did they get to avoid the crowd, but they also got to sit comfortably on the couch and eat snacks.

Aaron sighed. "You just realized, huh! This is how they've been treating us from the beginning." Jodie deliberately sighed in front of the live camera, "They have already formed their own group. Don't think about it, Luca. They won't invite us."

Leon glanced at Luca. "Have a little self-awareness," Leon said. Then he put on a mask to cover his face and walked towards the crowd first. Although he couldn't muster any enthusiasm for anything, he still had to take a photo. Luca was speechless for a while. "They are being unfair!" he protested. Aaron shrugged. There's nothing we can do about it. They simply don't care about us. Let's go and take a photo." He also put on a mask and followed Leon.

Jodie felt a sense of helplessness and anger towards Leon and Aaron. We are all being excluded and isolated. Is this it? Luca was also speechless and annoyed. "Let's go. After taking the photo, let's go somewhere else." Jodie didn't know what to say. Luca's words also sounded like a half-hearted solution. Since there was nothing else that she could do, she had no choice but to follow along. The fans of the four of them were not happy about this treatment.

'Simone and Zac are being unfair. They invited the other group but deliberately ignored this

group.'

"Yes, it's really rude."

"They are openly forming a group and isolating them!"

Simone's fans and fans of the other group also quickly voiced their opinions.

"Zachy already said it before; they are forming a group!"

They tore each other apart in the first season, so why should they pretend to be friendly?"

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Chapter 157 You Just Realized, Hubl

Zachy

and his wife are not the kind of people who would compromise themselves.

Simone and Zachy don't owe anyone anything. They earn their own money to stay in a hotel where they can watch the fireworks shows. Why can't they decide who to invite to watch with them?'

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just like how clear they are about their likes and dislikes. If they dislike something, they dislike it. Why should they compromise?"

"I just want to say, well done!"

This variety show is all about authenticity, isn't it? Some fans still haven't figured it out... The fans of the two of them disliked all four people, so of course, they wouldn't want their idols to be unhappy. Since they had already shown blatant dislike toward the other party from the start, there was no need to pretend anymore.

The fans of the four people were rendered speechless. It was the first time they'd seen such a united and confident group of netizens. Soon, the fireworks show begins. Simone and the other five sat by the window, taking pictures with their phones and posting them on social media. They watched and chatted while eating snacks. Half an hour later, the fireworks show ended.

Zac looked at his watch and suggested a plan. "It's still early. Should we go to a bar?" He just wants to find an opportunity to spend more time with Simone. Simone was very indulgent and doting towards the people she was fond of, so she agreed. "Sure!"

Harry smiled. "I'll follow your lead."

Brandon grinned. "I want to go too," he said. Eric and Keira went along with anything naturally. So, Simone checked some places, and the six of them headed to an affordable bar. After they sat down at the bar, Zac took a photo and sent it to the group chat. He deliberately wanted to provoke the other group of people. Knowing Luca's personality, Luca was likely to come after them.

By then, the four of them had already squeezed out of the crowd and were about to go to the hotel. When they saw the photo of the bar that Zac posted, Luca was not happy. "Let's go to the



bar, **too,**" Luca suggested. "You don't mean you want to go to the same bar as them, do you?" Aaron asked. Luca raised an eyebrow. "Yeah, if they can go there, why can't we?"

"Do we have enough money?" Aaron asked helplessly. Because Zac's photo had the name of the bar, Jodie used an app to check its details. "The expenses at this bar are not high. As long as we don't order expensive drinks, we have enough money."

She hoped that her third brother would step up and find an opportunity to regain their reputation. So, she supported going to the bar. Leon also wanted to see Simone, so he agreed, as well. "Let's go." With this result, Aaron, who didn't want to go, could only reluctantly follow along.

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Chapter 157 You Just Realized, Huh!

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The bar was not far away, and they arrived in ten minutes by cab. Coincidentally, the table next to Simone and the others **was** empty, so they walked over and sat down. Luca deliberately walked to Simone's table. "What a coincidence!" He wanted to annoy them. Zac smirked and said, "Indeed, quite a coincidence." This guy *fell for it*. It's just as *expected*.

Simone looked at Luca with a smile. "Welcome!" As expected, Luca, the third sc\*um of **the** Gray Family brothers, couldn't resist the temptation to join them impulsively. Why did Simone choose this bar? Besides the good value for money, she also wanted to set a trap for Luca.

Zac was great. She didn't need to say anything, and he could still keep up with her thought processes. If he couldn't get her, she had been prepared to post a few pictures in the group chat. Luca noticed Simone and Zac's attitude and found it a bit strange. He could sense that the two of them were in sync and that they also seemed to have some ill intentions.

Luca awkwardly smiled and returned to his seat. He sat there and drank for a while. Right then, a beautiful lady walked up to the stage in front of the bar. Guests who enjoyed singing were allowed to go up and perform together.

This bar had a unique feature. Each table was equipped with two buttons, one red and one green. If someone sang and the majority of people thought it sounded good, they would press the green

button. If more than one-third of the people pressed it, the person on stage could continue. If they thought it sounded bad, they would press the red button. If more than half of the people pressed it, the bar's staff would ask the person to leave.

Finally, the two individuals who received the highest number of green-button presses would have a duel. Once the singing began, the bar became lively. The lady was from Slovance and spoke in her native language, so Zac translated for the people at the table. Then, Simone looked at Harry. "You go up. I believe in you."

*Doesn't Luca always think that he's good and that Harry is overshadowing him? Let the random customers in the bar evaluate them to see who is better. And let the viewers in the live stream see for themselves.* Based on Simone's understanding of Luca, as long as Harry was onstage, he would definitely become more confident to go up as well. Then, he would fall into the trap that she had set up for him.

She would create this opportunity for Harry to step on the person who had struck him down. and for Harry to come up as the victor in the end. Harry now had some understanding of Simone's tactics. Just by looking at the smile in her eyes and the look she gave him, he could guess her plan. He felt some warmth in his chest. "Alright, I'll go first."

He wouldn't disappoint his boss. So, he stood up and took the lead on the stage. The bar's customers cheered when they saw a young, handsome guy on stage. Luca, seeing this, felt disdainful. At the same time, he decided that he would also go up later and put Harry in his place. He wanted Simone to see that she had picked up a piece of junk.

## Chapter 158 She's Exposed as a Fraud

Harry stepped onto the stage and picked up a guitar to test the sound. Then, he began playing and singing simultaneously. He performed a sentimental new song that he had written himself. His voice was ethereal and pure, creating a

pleasant listening experience. As soon as he started singing, the noisy bar gradually quieted down.

The live camera also focused on Harry. Rather than deliberately following the camera, he immersed himself completely in his own song. He sang about his initial success when he entered the entertainment industry, followed by his descent into darkness. Toward the end of his piece, he described how someone reached out and pulled him out, allowing him to see the light of the future. Harry was completely engrossed in his song.

He sang about the ups and downs and experiences he had encountered in the industry, from all the highs to the lows, and back to the highs again. Most of the people in the bar were captivated by his performance. People kept pressing the green button on the table, and soon enough, more than two-thirds of the bar had given him green lights. In the end, over ninety percent of the people pressed the green button.

After Harry finished singing, Simone's smile became even more radiant. He was indeed the right choice, and he didn't disappoint her. This song was exceptional, and with the high publicity from the variety show, it had the potential to become popular. She led the first clap, and then the entire bar erupted into thunderous applause.

Zac smiled as he praised him. "Harry's voice is truly a gift from heaven. It's so pure."

Keira, a singer herself, nodded in agreement. "Yes, his voice is incredibly beautiful. He doesn't just have technical skills in singing, but he also conveys all the emotions. As soon as he started singing, I had only one thought. I want to incorporate his voice into my new song. She looked at Simone with a smile. "Simone, after this variety show ends, can Harry come with me to record a new song?" she asked. "Of course. That won't be a problem," Simone replied.

Keira was a talented and popular singer in the industry, with a large fan base. If Harry could collaborate with Keira on a song, it would be a great opportunity for him to increase his popularity. "Then it's settled!" Keira said. She really liked Harry's voice and felt that it was a perfect match. Of course, Keira also did this with the intention of repaying Simone. Previously, Simone helped her avoid the fate of being betrayed by a scumbag, and she had always wanted to repay her..

Harry returned to the group after leaving the stage, and they raised their glasses to praise him for his beautiful singing. Ah! Ah... Harry's voice is so beautiful, one commented. 'His voice is ethereal and pure; he's capable of both low and high notes, and thankfully, this song is filled with emotions. Great! I noticed before that his voice is very pleasant to listen to, but the songs he sings are always either too intense or too wordy, giving me a headache and leaving me at a loss for words, another netizen said.

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## Chapter 158 She's Exposed as a Fraud

Those songs were simply not suitable for him."

Exactly, when he debuted, he sang a sentimental song that fit him. Who would have known that later on, he ended up singing all sorts of other nonsense.

Those were all arranged by his former company and manager, and Harry couldn't do anything about it'

Yes, that's why Simone is better. After saving Harry, he finally returned to his own style.

"Many people said that he reached his peak as soon as he debuted, which is why he quickly fell into obscurity. But now it seems that it's not true at all.

"I can't help but shed tears while listening to his lyrics. Harry's talents were by certain people before this.

Thank you, Simone, for giving Harry hope to stand up again.

Thank you, Simone, for giving Harry the opportunity to sing the songs he likes and is good

at

And for allowing us to hear our favorite songs again!'

"We hope that the future Harry will bring us surprises once again! All the best, Henry!" Harry's fans expressed their gratitude to Simone. Many of them were crying in front of their screens. This also prompted many random netizens who stumbled upon the livestream to join in and show their support for Harry.

Thanks to Simone, a lot of people started following Harry on Facebook. Because his singing was so good, many people became fans of him.

Meanwhile, at the other table, Luca heard Harry's song. He had to admit that it was indeed good. However, he believed that he was even better. Seeing Harry receive over 90% of the green buttons gave Luca the urge to show off himself. He didn't immediately go on stage, as it would make him seem too eager. Instead, he looked at the other three people. "Do you guys want to go up and sing?" he asked. Leon shook his head, "I don't sing."

Leon came to the bar to see Simone, and he wasn't interested in this. Aaron also wasn't very interested. "I won't sing either. He had been singing a lot during the day, and his throat wasn't feeling well. Plus, he could tell that Harry's singing was excellent, so there was no chance for him to surpass him. So, he decided not to embarrass himself.

Jodie, on the other hand, hesitated. Seeing this, Luca spoke to her directly. "Jodie, how about we go up and sing? Since we're here at the bar, let's go with the flow."

Jodie had wanted to show off herself anyway, **and** with Luca's offer, she could sing the song that her older brother wrote for her. She pretended to think for a moment before smiling at

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Cons

Luca. "**You're** right. Since we're already here, let's go up and sing. You got this, Luca. The host just said that if we win the final duel, we won't have to pay for all the drinks at our table."

She also wanted to participate in the final duel, but she didn't **want** to say it outright. **Upon** hearing her words, Luca's eyes were filled with ambition. "Alright, I'll do my best. Didn't you create a new song? It would be a perfect opportunity to sing it for everyone. Harry sang at scif-composed song, too."

The song was originally written by Luca for Jo to perform on this variety show. They didn't have a chance to showcase their talents during the day, so the stage at the bar was a good opportunity. Jodie had the same idea. She smiled and nodded. "Alright. Let's go with your plan."

She immediately gave Luca an opportunity. "**Are** you going to sing as well? The new song you composed?"

Luca smiled. "If everyone **is** singing their new songs, then I will sing mine too." This conversation between the two left Leon and Aaron speechless. *Why* do they have *to go through* so much discussion when they can simply sing? Aaron didn't try to discourage them from participating, even though he knew that they might not be able to surpass Harry.

He understood that these two couldn't be stopped. Leon, on the other **hand**, didn't care whether they could qualify for the duel round or win. He simply sipped on his wine and glanced at Simone occasionally. A bitter taste filled his mouth when he saw her smiling and chatting with Zac.

After a few more people went on stage, Luca asked Jodie to perform. Jodie stood up and walked towards the stage. Since the bar often hosted singing performances, there were plenty of instruments on stage. Jodie didn't use a guitar but instead sat at the piano and tested the sound of it for a while. Then, Jodie introduced herself and the song she was about to sing in Slovence's native language. She began playing the piano and singing simultaneously.

She sang beautifully, with her lovely appearance and the sight of her playing the piano in a flowing gown adding to her charm. Soon, more than half of the green buttons were pressed for her. Although Zac was an esports player, he had taken singing and dancing lessons before entering the industry.

**As** he listened, he couldn't help but comment on the song. "Her style seems soft, but the son

song gives me a more masculine feeling. It makes the whole performance rather conflicting." He turned to Simone. "Didn't she introduce the song as her own? I didn't mishear, did I?"

Simone nodded. "You didn't mishear **anything**. That's how she introduced it. I feel conflicted, too, especially with the lyrics in her verse. It feels more like it's written for a male protagonist."

Jodie had only sung the beginning, but she could already tell. This song was written by **Sc** mbag N

3, and it reflected his style. Jodie was really ambitious to have Sc\*mbag No. 3.

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### Chapter 158 She's Exposed as a Fraud

write a song for her to showcase on the variety show. It was as if she didn't have any about it backfiring.

worries

Zac was perceptive, and he was able to sense the masculine vibe in the song.

There were likely other professionals in the live-streaming room. It seemed like Jodie was going to be exposed as a fraud today.

### Chapter 159 Miscalculated

People who were not familiar with music still found the song quite enjoyable to listen to. However,

they also had this strange, indescribable feeling. As soon as Zac and Simone spoke, it became clear where that strange feeling came from. **It** turned out that the artist's style contradicted the piece itself, and Jodie failed to convey the essence of the song.

Keira was a professional singer. From the moment Jodie started singing, she could tell that something was off. "Jodie's style is very different from the style of this song. She sings this song in such a gentle way. It sounds really unsuited for the song itself. The song doesn't feel very suitable for her personality either." She had her suspicions, which only made her even more disgusted with Jodie.

Harry also added on to the conversation. "Her songwriting style is quite unique. It leans more towards a masculine style. With that said, Eric and Brandon also understood what was going on. Jodie's 'self-

composed new song had many flaws. The audience in the live broadcast room also started discussing this matter. Some people suspected that Jodie might have hired a ghostwriter for the song, but there was no evidence, so it was hard for them to tell.

After Jodie finished singing, she received slightly fewer green button votes than Harry. However, she ranked second for the time being. She returned to her seat, and Luca took the stage. He picked up the guitar and started singing. He was also singing a new sentimental song. Gray Entertainment had invested all its resources in him, disregarding other similar artists from the same company who could have made a name for themselves.

But he did have some talent. Otherwise, he wouldn't have so many fans. His singing technique and tone were flawless, but he lacked emotion. His voice was also inferior in comparison to Harry's. He sang better than Jodie, so he received more **votes** than her. After listening to Luca's song, Zac smiled thoughtfully. "Jodie and Luca truly live up to being siblings. Their songwriting style and their tiny musical habits are exactly the same." He turned to Simone and Keira. "Have you noticed the little habits in their songs?" Simone knew that Zac was being intentional.

"Yes, we've noticed. The ending of every line in their songs... I've been paying attention to the similarities in their singing, so when you asked, I could easily point out most of them," Simone replied with a smile. Keira was left to answer the rest. Someone with her talent was naturally able to notice the tiny details. Sure enough, Keira commented on the other half of the similarities.

She then sighed. "If one didn't know, one would think they were a duo. Their songwriting style and habits are exactly the same." After listening to Luca's song, her previous suspicions were confirmed. Jodie didn't write this herself. *Luca* helped her write it. She despised this kind of singer, which was why she deliberately pointed out the similarities to Zac and Simone.

There were also professionals in the live chat. "The style and habits of songwriting cannot be exactly the same. It's obvious that one person wrote the song, one commented.

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+15 Free Cons

Chapter 159 Miscalculated



After listening to Zachy's analysis, I specifically looked for Luca's songs and studied them. I found that he has these habits in every song, another said.

I am a professional, and I want to expose Jodie. The song she just sang is clearly written by

Luca.

Agreed, it's too obvious.

Let me add that out of the eight songs that Jodie claimed to have written, four of them have this style and the same habits."

The other four songs by Jodie also have two different styles and habits.

"Someone who can write and arrange their own songs shouldn't show such a big difference in their styles.'

Yes. Even if the style of the songs is very different, there should still be some traces of their own style in them, but hers doesn't have any

I've said before that Jodie's songs are most likely written by ghostwriters, but then I got attacked by internet trolls and her fans on Facebook. Now there are finally other people who understand.

Other viewers were also speechless.

'Although I don't understand music very well, listening to Jodie and Luca's singing does make me think that their style feels very similar.

'No wonder that middle part sounded like the male lead! Because it actually was!"

Jodie sure is amazing. She made a top singer act as her ghostwriter."

'I don't understand. Isn't Jodie a graduate of a music school? Can't she write her own songs? Furthermore, she started her career with acting. If she can't write songs, she should just sing other people's songs. Why does she have to use someone else's to show that she's a talented

woman?"

'But this is what Luca is willing to do.

Think about the relationship between Luca and Jodie. For people like them, using each other's work is normal, right?'

Exactly. If the cameraman hadn't come in early, they would've probably been all over each other. What's the big deal about them using each other's songs?'

This is disrespectful to professionals and other singers.

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Thu, 7 Dec

Chapter 159 Miscalculated

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**+15** Free Coins

'I used to think that Luca only cared about singing and was a good singer, but now it seems that I was wrong!

I didn't expect my idol to be like this. I was wrong.

'Does he help others as a ghostwriter? I'm so disappointed. I'm unfollowing him.'

Some fans who liked Luca because of his songs couldn't help but unfollow him in disappointment. Luca's biggest fans immediately came out to appease the situation. Some brainwashed fans jumped out to defend him, saying that Luca was just helping Jodie write a few songs. "What's wrong with that?' some fans commented. But they were immediately countered by others.

'Just helping Jodie with writing her songs is indeed not a problem. But Jodie put her own label on it. Doesn't that count **as** deceiving people?'

'Luca is not innocent either. He is helping Jodie deceive and manipulate everyone, which is an immoral act'

Both sides were arguing, but no one denied the fact that Jodie's song was written by Luca. It proved that the exposure of Jodie's deeds had been

successful. The criticisms Jodie received sent her up on the list of trending topics. Aero and Luca's fans were among the main forces who criticized her.

In the meantime, Jodie, who was still at the bar, was unaware that her name was trending again. Upon seeing the results of the voting, she congratulated Luca with a smile on her face. However, she felt a bit sad inside. She couldn't believe she didn't make it to the duel round. She was extremely frustrated. For some reason, she felt like something bad had happened to her.

She entered the entertainment industry not just to distinguish herself from Simone but also to surpass Simone and become famous. That was also why she chose to go to music school in the first place. Only by becoming a top star and gaining more and more fans could her luck improve. If this had been in the past, she would have undoubtedly reached the finals today. However, her luck has clearly taken a turn for the worse, and she made a miscalculation.

She glanced at Simone, her eyes filled with disdain. Simone was entirely to blame for ruining her plan. Simone was the one who led to her being attacked and her reputation being tarnished. Now, salvaging the situation wasn't as simple as she had imagined.

In the upcoming days, she had to excel in whatever she did in order to alter the audience's perception of her. After Luca's performance, a few more individuals took the stage to sing. Harry received the highest number of votes, with Luca coming in second. As per the rules of this bar, the two of them had to choose the same song to compete against one another. Subsequently, everyone would vote to determine who performed the best.

III

Chapter 160 There Is No Foulest, but Only Beyond!

Luca was disappointed and dissatisfied as he didn't expect that the votes he received for the song he had just sung weren't as high as Harry's. As a result, he entered the final contestant versus—

contestant round with a strong fighting spirit, believing that he could outshine Harry.

With great confidence, Luca stood up first and made his way back to the stage. Similarly Harry confidently stood up and returned to the stage.

Both had their phones and Bluetooth earphones on. Since they couldn't understand the language spoken in Slovence, they relied on Jodie and Simone to help translate from their phones.

The young female show host appeared on stage. Instead of allowing them to choose a song, she opened the computer and played a song in Corynthean language.

"To ensure fairness, you two will learn this song and perform it in half an hour. Accompaniment and the lyrics will be provided when you sing later."

It was a song written by a resident singer in their bar, and it was exclusively for Corynthean customers participating in the singing battle.

If the contestants

were from other countries, songs in their familiar languages would be used, and songs in Interlingua would be used if they were from different countries.

Harry and Luca remained calm and nodded in agreement. "Okay

With that, the young female show host handed each of them a headset.

The two sat separately, attentively listening and learning the song.

Zac, who enjoyed the excitement, smiled and asked, "Who do you think will win this round? How about we make a bet? The loser will have to drink a glass of alcohol."

"I bet on Harry," Simone replied without hesitation. Unafraid of offending Gray Entertainment, she added, "If it weren't for his previous company deliberately suppressing him and his manager intentionally giving him unsuitable songs, he would have achieved success long ago. Today's situation can prove his talent."

"I also bet on Harry. Regardless of which aspects, his skills are better than Luca's," Zac echoed, agreeing with Simone's statement.

Like Simone, he didn't fear offending Gray Entertainment or Luca. Furthermore, he was stating facts.

Just then, Keira chimed in, "I have more confidence in Harry as well. He is highly skilled, and

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Chapter 160 There Is No Foulest, but Only Beyond!

his voice is my favorite. So, I bet on him,"

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Eric smiled. "I don't know much about music, but since you all have faith in Harry, I shall bet **on** him too"

"Siner all of you are betting on Harry, I will follow suit, of course, Brandon said.

Deep down, he, too, had more faith in Harry.

However, unlike Simone and the rest, he was merely a newcomer and couldn't express his opinion too frankly.

Seeing that everyone placed their bets on **Harry**, Zac **couldn't** help but laugh. "You're all betting on Harry. It seems like none of you want to drink."

Sure enough, his remark sparked dissatisfaction among Luca's fans.

At once, they scolded Zac for jumping to conclusions before the final battle even started. Simultaneously, they insulted Keira and others, calling them Simone's followers and condemning them for joining in the discord between Simone and the Gray siblings and belittling Luca. They even declared that their baby Luca would certainly win the battle.

Fans of Simone and the others didn't argue with them. They simply commented that they were waiting to see the results and who would be proven wrong.

In truth, anyone with a bit of musical appreciation could tell from the song they just sang that Harry was superior to Luca.

Can't Zachy and his friends speak *the* truth? Many of Simone's and Zac's fans joined in, unafraid of intensifying the heated argument.

Zachy, no one at your table is going to drink, but the ones at the other table will!"

Zachy, rock the boat. Rock the boat!"

Zachy, hurry up and look to your side!"

Upon seeing the fans kicking up a stink, others also joined in.

They hoped Zac would stir up more trouble.

As for the man himself, he certainly didn't disappoint. He turned to Aaron. "Hey, A-Bear, you probably will bet on Luca winning, right?"

Instead of swiftly responding to his question, Aaron cursed silently. To hell with A-Bear! Are we even that close c

this b'stard to call me like that? Judging from his smile, I can tell at a glance that he's up to no good.

III

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With a mirthless grin on his face, he asked, "What's the matter?"

+15 From Cons

Zac smiled and said, "We're betting on the winner of **this** final battle, and the loser has to drink three **glasses** of alcohol.

“Everyone in both teams has placed their bets on Harry. So, who are you betting on?”

Flabbergasted. Aaron questioned, “When did we say we were betting?”

Upon hearing that, Zac raised an eyebrow. “So, you also don’t believe that Luca will win?”

Aaron choked. *I can’t just say it out loud, even if I secretly don’t believe Luca will win!* “I have faith that Luca will win, but that doesn’t mean I have to bet with you guys.”

Zac laughed. “A–Bear, you’re being gutless.”

His remark made Aaron speechless. *How dare he say I’m gutless! I am a tough guy!* Annoyed, he glared at Zac. “F\*ck off! You’re the one being gutless!”

“I dare you to place a bet then. If you don’t dare, it means you’re a coward and that you also. think Luca will **lose**.”

At this rate, Aaron wanted to punch him so badly. *The way Zac put it, I will be seen as cowardly and thinking that Luca will lose if I don’t bet.*

But then again, what choice do I *have*? *Even though I know Zac is provoking me, I can only play along*

with it.

Thus, he sneered, ‘**Fine**. I’ll bet. I bet Luca will **win**.’

Zac gave him a thumbs up. “What a real man you are, A–Bear! Later, you have to finish each glass of alcohol in one shot. So, three glasses mean three shots.”

Once again, Aaron rolled his eyes at him. “I got it. You don’t have to emphasize it.”

In his heart, he prayed hard for Luca not to mess up. Come on, Luca! *Try to win the battle!* After tricking Aaron, Zac looked at Jodie and Leon, asking, “How about you two? Who are you betting on?”

Since Jodie wanted to catch Zac's attention, she naturally wouldn't refuse. She smiled sweetly and said, "I'm also betting on Luca."

Zac thought to himself, Great! I have successfully tricked another one.

Giving Jodie a thumbs up, he said, "Great! A true ma'am, indeed!"

When Jodie heard what he said, she was at a loss for words. What the hell is a true ma'am?

3/5

+15 Firm Coin

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Besides, *I'm far* from being a madam. Can't he speak politely?

Zac's words made the others hold back their laughter. On the other hand, the live chat was already filled with amusement.

'A real man. A true ma'am. Zachy, are you trying to crack me up to death so that you can take over my bank account?'

'F\*ck! I was drinking water just now, and I laughed so hard that the water came right out of my nose.

Zachy: 'Wow! I have successfully tricked another one.

Zachy: 'I got another one with a flex of my finger

'Zachy, there's one more. Don't leave him out.'

Zac looked at Leon and asked, "Mr. Foster, what about you?"

Instead of answering, Leon asked, "Didn't I hear you guys say earlier that the loser has to drink a glass of alcohol? How did it become three glasses when it came to us?" As he had been paying attention to Simone, even though the others weren't speaking very loudly, he heard them.

On the contrary, Aaron and Jodie were engaged in conversation just now, so they didn't hear this.



Both had speechless expressions as they looked at Zac in unison.

Zac grinned and said, "I just changed the rules!" His words also amused the viewers.

Zachy: T'm invincible as long as I'm the most shameless one in the room."

Zachy: 'It's embarrassing for others, but not for me.'

'How evil!'

Today, I finally understand why everyone says Zac is evil.

'There's no such thing as the foulest play, but only beyond!'

Aaron glared at Zac. "Do you have to trick us like this?"

Zac confidently replied, "Since you two have already agreed, the rules shall apply to you."

**Aaron** choked. "How shameless!"

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Zac **paid** no attention **to** him and turned to Leon again, asking, "What about you, Leon? Are you also betting on Luca?" Leon raised an eyebrow and said, "Who **said** I'm betting on **Luca?**" Then, he calmly added, "I don't want to be a fool, so I'm betting on Harry."

Zac was tongue-tied for a moment. *Dmn!* This guy is also pretty *wicked!*

Aaron and Jodie, who were regarded as fools, were bereft of speech. Leon! Can't you at least interpret the situation and side with us?

The audience in the live chat also went speechless. All they could conclude was that Leon had also gone astray.