

The Man's Decree 126

Chapter 126 Taking Your Life

"Jared, forget it." Hilda pulled Jared's arm back.

When he saw the look on Maria's face, he finally put his hand down.

If their relationship was strained, Franklin would definitely tell his parents about it, causing them to worry.

When he saw Jared put down his hand, Zayne regained collected himself but didn't dare say another word.

At that moment, a Bentley drove swiftly in their direction and screeched to a halt in front of them, causing everyone to be stupefied.

Jared too was taken by surprise. He had not expected Tommy to be waiting for him all this while.

As for Hilda, she screamed in delight when she saw it. "It's this car! This is the same one Jared came in earlier."

The next moment, the Bentley's door opened, and a young man in a suit alighted. Walking up to Jared, he invited respectfully, "Mr. Chance, at your service."

Jared grinned slightly, as he hadn't expected Tommy to send someone else to pick him up instead. Looks like he is cognizant that I don't want to be seen with him given his notorious reputation.

"Hilda, let's get in and find a place for supper," Jared plainly suggested.

With her eyes glistening in surprise, Hilda nodded in delight. After all, she had never ridden in a Bentley before.

Once they got in, Jared wound the window on purpose. With a sarcastic smile, he bid them farewell. "Bye..."

Soon, the Bentley left Zayne and the others in the dust while they were still in shock.

"Wow, he really came in a Bentley. That's unbelievable."

"Can that Bentley be his friend's?"

Everyone was amazed.

"Sheesh, what's the big deal? All he did was rent one."

Zayne spat on the ground before getting into his car to leave.

With that, everyone else went their separate ways.

Meanwhile, back at Vintage Restaurant, Xavier was fuming when he met Felix in his office.

“Mr. Lawson, I have always heard about how effective the Crimson Dragon Gang is that they have never failed in their missions. But why is Jared still alive? Moreover, he doesn’t seem to even have a scratch on him,” Xavier demanded.

Faced with Xavier’s questions, Felix gradually stood up. After walking up to him, he slapped Xavier forcefully on the face, sending him falling onto the ground.

The moment he landed, the four burly men pressed a dagger against his throat, striking terror into him.

“Da*n it, you almost sent me to my death. And yet, you dare question me? If not for the one million you paid, I would have fed you to the crocodiles,” Felix thundered.

In response, Xavier was utterly confused. He didn’t understand what was going on and why Felix was so furious at him.

“Mr. Lawson, p-please don’t hurt me. Since you couldn’t complete the job, shouldn’t you return the money to me? You can’t...”

Before Xavier could finish, one of the burly men gently adjusted his dagger, causing blood to flow from Xavier’s neck.

“How dare you speak to Mr. Lawson like that? Don’t you know what the rules are? Whatever you have paid will never be returned,” one of the burly men bellowed.

Utterly terrified and threatened by the cold steel pressing against his throat, Xavier didn’t dare say another word, let alone want his money back.

“Get lost now! If you dare to talk about what happened today, I will end your life,” Felix threatened.

Even though what they were doing was illegal, they still had a reputation to uphold. If word about what happened got out, no one would hire them anymore.

Chapter 127 Bottoms Up

If not for the fact the target was Jared, Felix wouldn’t have behaved that way.

As for Xavier, he was visibly depressed after being thrown out of the office.

Not only did he lose a million, but he also didn’t manage to land a scratch on Jared, which was a terrible shame to him.

“Ahhh!” Xavier screamed at the top of his lungs to vent his frustration after leaving Vintage Restaurant.

Meanwhile, Fellon Street in Horington was famous for its street food.

During the day, it would be deserted. But come night time, it would be filled with crowds and stalls on both sides of the street.

Jared and Hilda found a stall that looked good and took their seats. After ordering their food, they began to wait patiently.

Given how busy the stall was, they ended up waiting quite a long time.

“Jared, the ride in the Bentley was sublime. Does it really belong to your friend?” Hilda asked excitedly.

“Of course. Why would I lie to you? The driver is my friend’s employee.”

Jared was technically telling the truth. After all, beyond just being his subordinate, Tommy was also his friend.

“Is your friend a businessman? He’s really rich.”

Hilda was curious as to what Jared’s friend did for a living.

“I’m not really sure. He’s probably involved in trading and is still single. However, if he wasn’t much older than us, why don’t I introduce him to you...”

Jared thought that it wasn’t a bad idea if not for the age gap.

“No. If it were up to me, I would prefer someone like you,” Hilda replied with a longing look in her eyes.

Nevertheless, Jared quickly averted his gaze, not daring to look into Hilda’s eyes.

“The food is here. Let’s order some beer.”

At that moment, the food’s arrival rescued Jared from his awkward predicament. Or else, he really didn’t know how to respond to Hilda.

Her affection for him was so obvious that even a fool could see it.

“All right then. Let’s drink till we’re drunk!” Hilda nodded happily.

Jared ordered two cases of beers. After all, Hilda was capable of drinking a case all by herself.

With that, both of them sat and chat. They talked about the time when they were teenagers. Back then, Jared had moved to Horington from the village with his parents. As for Hilda, she had lived in Horington her entire life.

The neighborhood where they stayed then was considered decent. However, due to the rapid development in the area, the continuous building of skyscrapers made their neighborhood look dilapidated in contrast.

“Jared, do you remember standing up for me every time I was bullied when we were kids? I would always hide behind you, and it really gave me a sense of security,” Hilda reminisced.

All Jared did was chuckle in response.

“Also, I remember you picking bird eggs for me, and being punished by your dad for it. Furthermore, you even brought me sweets from your home...”

Hilda continued to recall all the things Jared did for her.

Suddenly, a blonde lady in a skirt and stilettos stood in front of their table.

“Hilda, what a coincidence. I didn’t expect to run into you eating at a street stall,” the blonde commented as she patted Hilda on the shoulder.

Looking up, she sprang to her feet. “Yolanda, aren’t you supposed to be overseas? When did you return?”

Yolanda smiled awkwardly. “What do you mean overseas? I have always been here all this while. That was a lie I told my parents.”

“In that case, what are you doing now?” Hilda asked as she scrutinized Yolanda.

After a brief silence, Yolanda answered hesitantly, “I’m in PR.”

After giving her a good look, Jared could tell what Yolanda’s job was. There was definitely a seedy element to it.

Chapter 128 Class Reunion

Meanwhile, Hilda too could tell what line of work Yolanda was in. Hence, she fell silent and didn’t know how to respond.

“So, who is this? Is he your boyfriend?” Yolanda asked in an attempt to defuse the situation.

“No, this is my friend,” Hilda explained, blushing at the same time.

Standing up, Jared offered his hand to shake. “Hi, I’m Jared.”

“Hi, I’m Yolanda. I was Hilda’s classmate and dormmate,” Yolanda replied as she shook Jared’s hand.

Nevertheless, Yolanda could see from Hilda’s expression that she clearly had feelings for Jared. Just that she was hesitant to make things clear.

When Jared invited Yolanda to join them, she readily agreed.

“Hilda, there’s a class reunion tomorrow. Are you going?” Yolanda asked after taking her seat.

“A class reunion? Who organized it?”

Even though they had graduated for about three years, no one had organized a class reunion before. Therefore, Hilda was surprised to hear about it.

“Oh? Did no one inform you about it?” Yolanda was stunned.

Hilda shook her head.

Yolanda sighed. “It’s not a surprise as it was organized by Michelle. She is together with Lincoln now.”

The moment she heard Lincoln’s name, Hilda’s body trembled while her face flushed with anger.

Noticing the change in Hilda’s expression, Jared asked, “Who’s Lincoln?”

Yolanda didn’t reply right away. Instead, she looked in Hilda’s direction for her permission.

“Lincoln is my ex-boyfriend,” Hilda replied instead.

“The guy who cheated your money?” Jared knew that Hilda worked as a hostess to pay off the debts that her ex had tricked her to take on.

Hilda nodded.

“Hilda, Lincoln cheated your money?” Yolanda was surprised to hear about it.

After hearing the entire story from Hilda, Yolanda fumed, “I knew from the beginning that he was a douchebag. Also, Michelle has been assailing you since we were in school, even though she’s your dormmate too. It’s obvious that she got together with Lincoln just to spite you. Well, we can let that scumbag Lincoln teach her a lesson!”

“That’s in the past now. I no longer want to have anything to do with Lincoln. Hence, I’m not going to the reunion, and please don’t tell them you saw me.”

Hilda didn’t want Lincoln to know that she didn’t attend the class reunion because of him.

“Since you have decided not to go, I won’t go too, as it will be meaningless. Class reunions nowadays are nothing but an opportunity for those who do well to show off.”

Yolanda shared Hilda’s sentiments.

“Hilda, why don’t you want to go? Isn’t this a wonderful opportunity to show that scumbag how wonderful you’re doing?” Jared advised her.

“What do you mean?” Hilda gave him a puzzled look as she had no idea what was on his mind.

“I’ll go with you. Besides, it’s a chance for me to enjoy a free meal,” Jared explained with a smile.

Hilda’s momentary surprise quickly turned into delight.

“Hilda, your boyfriend is right. Let’s go together tomorrow and show the douchebag what a great life you’re having now,” Yolanda egged her on.

This time, Hilda had no objections and nodded instead.

Just when the three of them were drinking and chatting, a big fat man who was wearing a gold chain walked over. Without saying a word, he gave Yolanda a tight slap.

Chapter 129 Do Not Be Afraid

“F*ck you! I paid you money to drink with me, and not to drink with others. And here I was wondering where you have gone to!” the fat man ranted.

Responding to the situation, Yolanda quickly got to her feet and apologized, “Rhino, I was just chatting with a friend I ran into. I’ll go with you right away.”

Meanwhile, Hilda had sprung to her feet the moment she saw Yolanda being hit. With an upset expression, she snapped, “Why do you have to hit her? So what if you paid her? It doesn’t mean that you own her.”

Given that she had worked as a hostess before, she knew how men like them thought. They treated the girls as their private property just because they paid for them.

Rhino’s expression darkened in response to Hilda’s words. “Lady, you have got some guts to talk to me like that. Considering how pretty you are, why don’t you spend a night with me? I can have a threesome with both of you.”

Just as Rhino spoke, he reached out to touch Hilda, ignoring Jared’s presence.

Stopping Rhino, Yolanda assuaged him, “Rhino, this is my friend, and she doesn’t know any better. I will spend the night with you, and make sure you have an exhilarating time.”

At that moment, Yolanda was no longer worried about revealing her job to Jared and Hilda.

“Move aside. I insist on having a threesome tonight. I’ll kill you if you try to stop me.” Rhino shoved Yolanda aside.

However, Hilda quickly stepped forward to catch her and stared daggers at Rhino.

She knew that when faced with a bully, she couldn’t show any fear, as they would take advantage of it.

“You really do have some guts, girl.”

When he saw how Hilda was glaring at him, Rhino broke into a smirk before trying to grab her.

Bam!

Splash!

Before Rhino could make contact, Jared grabbed a beer bottle and smashed it onto his head.

With blood oozing out, Rhino held his head with both hands and squatted down in pain.

At the same time, Yolanda’s face turned pale at the sight of Jared striking Rhino.

“Rhino, a-are you all right?” Yolanda inquired as she quickly helped him up.

“F*ck you!” Rhino shoved Yolanda aside and scowled at Jared. “Da*n it, kid, how dare you hit me? That’s some nerve you have, and I’m going to kill you for it!”

When Jared saw how defiant Rhino was, he picked up another bottle, causing Rhino to recoil a few steps back. “Just you wait, kid. I’ll come back with my men!” Rhino bellowed before fleeing.

After that, Jared looked at Hilda and Yolanda as if nothing had happened. He then suggested, “Come, let’s sit down and continue with our meal.”

“What? We should leave quickly. Do you know who that guy is? This entire street is his turf, and he has more than ten thugs working for him. Why did you have to hit him? This will only bring more trouble.”

Given how anxious Yolanda was, she no longer had any appetite.

“Don’t worry, let’s just continue. There’s no need to be alarmed,” Jared reassured her.

When she saw how fearless Jared was, Yolanda asked Hilda curiously, “Hilda, what does your boyfriend do? Is he someone powerful?”

Chapter 130 Be A Hero

Having noticed that Jared was unfazed by Rhino’s status, Yolanda surmised that he wasn’t an ordinary person.

“We work at the same office and are neighbors since our teenage years. Hence, I can tell you there’s nothing particularly special about him,” Hilda replied with a frown.

“Impossible! How can he not be afraid if he doesn’t have some strong backing?”

Yolanda was unconvinced. If Jared was someone ordinary, he would have already been frightened to death.

“He really doesn’t have any patron. In fact, Jared has just been released from prison.”

From Hilda’s perspective, Jared’s jail stint was probably what made him tough, which was why ordinary citizens have an inherent fear of ex-convicts.

“No wonder. I’m sure you must have gotten to know someone when you were in prison. Nonetheless, Rhino isn’t just an ordinary street thug. He’s actually a member of the Crimson Dragon Gang. That’s why I urge you to leave with Hilda right now,” Yolanda pleaded with Jared.

“Crimson Dragon Gang?” Jared was intrigued. In fact, he was surprised at the fact that he kept running into them that day.

“Why? Are you scared already? The Crimson Dragon Gang is Horington’s biggest gang. The gang whom you are involved with is so insignificant that they can’t protect you. Hence, you should just take Hilda and leave. I’ll see what I can do to pacify Rhino. At most, I’ll not take any payment for the night.”

Yolanda planned to beg for mercy on their behalf.

“What?” Jared laughed out loud. “They’re the ones who should be afraid of me. In fact, they will flee the moment they see me.”

“Afraid of you?” Yolanda scrutinized Jared before sneering, “This is not a joke. If you want to be a hero, be my guest, but don’t drag Hilda into this.”

Just as she spoke, Yolanda held Hilda’s hands. “Hilda, let’s go. He can stay and play hero as much as he wants. That aside, what kind of boyfriend have you found yourself?”

Initially, Yolanda had a good impression of Jared when he tried to convince Hilda to attend the class reunion. But now, she had changed her view and simply saw him as someone hot-headed.

“Yolanda, Jared isn’t someone like that.”

Despite her refusal to leave, Hilda was dragged away forcefully by Yolanda.

“Hilda, don’t be a fool. You don’t mingle with the underworld and naturally aren’t aware of how powerful the Crimson Dragon Gang is. Everyone in Horington fears them. As for Jared, he is deluded about his own capabilities just because he spent a few years in prison.”

Yolanda refused to let Hilda go.

Just when Hilda was struggling to free herself, a group of men suddenly appeared. In their lead was Rhino, who had his head bandaged.

At the sight of the men, Yolanda began to panic. Her face turned ashen as she released Hilda’s hand.

Hilda was petrified too when faced with the large group of vicious-looking men.

In contrast, Jared remained seated calmly.

“Kid, I gotta give it to you for not fleeing. But today, I will show you that I mean business!”

With that, Rhino bent down to grab a beer bottle and charged at Jared.

“Rhino!”

Worried for her friends, Yolanda hurried forward to block him. “Rhino, please calm down. Just a while ago, he was utterly terrified and has regretted his actions after I told him who you were. On my account, please show him mercy just this once. I’ll not only spend a few nights with you for free, but I’ll also get him to pay you compensation.”

Initially, Rhino was in no mood for forgiveness. However, the mention of compensation caused him to lower the beer bottle in his hand. Turning to Yolanda, he asked, “How much can he pay? This head of mine costs a lot!”