Repaid 31

Chapter 31

Cordy was speechless-she was under the impression that John had missed her message "Then what are you doing here?"

"Dinner

Cordy somehow had no comeback against that.

"Where's the bathroom?" John asked.

"My room," Cordy replied-she was living alone and did not need a shared bathroom, so she just had it cleared for a study instead.

John entered, glancing at Richard, who was sleeping soundly in bed, before heading inside the bathroom.

Cordy was going to turn and leave when she remembered something, and she dashed toward the bathroom just as John was about to close the door

John raised a brow "Ms. Sachs ""

Cordy flushed again-she had left her clothes and undergarments in the bathroom after showering

flustered as she held

was looking with a

to turn and leave again, he called out, "Ms

her bra, even flapping them between his well-

And he picked

be simply picked up

off his hands and left

the bathroom, Cordy was on the couch, having calmed

it was nothing to be

about to send John away, she noticed in surprise that he was carrying

hairdryer

power socket and plugged it in before saying, "I'll help you dry

thanks for taking care of Dicky, and for personally making

way more than

boutique about the payment," John replied. "Even if I'd rather you didn't wear a gown bought with someone else's money,

was actually impressed that he could act so natural even when

time, John said nothing else and untied her hair to

there was only the sound of the hairdryer and a

Chapter 32

Ever since they met, John had never told Cordy about his family-only his name

"I am," he admitted regardless, and he asked, "When did you notice?"

"Just now," Cordy replied. "It's not that hard to notice. Your last name is Levine, you're a single dad, and there's your extravagance. The only thing that doesn't fit is..."

As John raised a brow, she finished, "You're better looking than the rumors say.

"You flatter me."

Cordy said nothing to that, but she was just spitting facts.

"I did not want to hide it for you," John said earnestly.

Cordy, however, did not mind-they were not close enough to have to tell each other everything.

In fact, she was just asking because Alan Levine's birthday was on the 17th, and she had been eager to find out why John had asked her to make time on that day.

"Well, there's this guy who keeps insisting that I'm a firefighter, and you might think that I'm deceiving you. That's why I planned to formally introduce myself on the 17th."

neutral tone, but

was not hard for Cordy to figure out who he

with her

Sachs. Please retire soon, though I'm afraid I'll have to leave Dicky with

nodded. "Bye, Mr.

Cordy returned

time there was someone else in her bed after so many years-it

dim light, the sight of Richard's little face as he

chest.

next morning arrived, Cordy made two portions of a very simple breakfast: toast, fried

milk.

it even if she obviously

had just finished breakfast when

his face. "Good morning, Ms. Sachs. Master John has asked me to pick

not attending kindergarten?"

just returned to the country," Winston replied. "However, he will be attending grade school around July-Master John has already found a private

Cordy said nothing.

just asking offhandedly-Winston did not have to

Chapter 33

"Really?" Richard asked.

"Of course," Cordy replied-it was Alan's seventieth birthday tomorrow, after all.

And with that assurance, Richard happily left with Winston, while Cordy quickly got changed, put on makeup, and went to work.

She had just entered her office when Vince Cartman approached her and presented an invitation. "Ms. Sachs? Mr. Alan Levine from Levine Ventures is celebrating his birthday tomorrow, and he has sent you an invitation."

Cordy opened it casually, and saw her name written on the card with outrageously artistic calligraphy

For some reason, she was sure it was John who wrote it.

The door suddenly opened, and Cordy looked up to see Noel entering. I need to talk to you, sis."

Cordy sent Vince out of the room while handily hiding her invitation.

Noel snapped right then, "I had something to do and left work early! You didn't have to put on notice that I skipped work on the company's administration portal, did you?"

She flew into a rage the instant she saw the notification on the company's official portal-she was the CEO! Being reported for skipping work? Everyone would be laughing at her!

regulations, and everyone is treated

you skipping

leveling a cool look at Noel. "In other words,

but she had no

you are free to leave the company." Cordy

thought to

seize any chance to

was not about to

in, Noel said, "I was at fault for skipping work. I won't do it ever

sneered. "You may

leave, her teeth clenching and her eyes flashing

would return all the indignation and humiliation she suffered in Cordy's hands by

she was fuming even as she returned to her

a long while to calm down

to attend Alan Levine's

it. "Dad never told me that she's

face."

was saying that bringing

be of the highest order," Noel added. "Any company or

Chapter 34

The regal banquet hall was already crowded, as almost everyone in North City's high society showed up.

Noel appeared utterly excited as she entered with Simon Sachs, Sue Yorkman, and Sonny Sachs.

When it came to an event organized by the Levines, the average enterprise would never make it in, just as bigwigs would refuse to bring a child they did not like. As such, being able to show up here was a status of one s status and importance.

It was the greatest honor!

"Noel!" Mandy was calling to her from a distance.

"Dad, I'm joining my friend now."

"Go," Simon told her, not forgetting to remind her, "Be careful. It's not your usual banquet tonight-watch your manners."

"Don't worry," Sue assured him proudly. "Noel has been a good girl ever since she was a child."

Simon nodded in pride as well, while Noel made her way toward Mandy.

Mandy, and he was surrounded

"Kyle," Noel greeted him.

he did

as he and Cordy did not formally announce their breakup, he and Noel must keep things quiet- and their Levine himself!" one of the rich kids suddenly

"I have," Kyle replied.

the best among us." The rich kid

"I don't

compare to Kyle?" Yet another rich kid chimed in. "He brought Jessop Corp back to life, all by himself. He's an important man in North City, unlike us-we'd just roll over and die if

certainly

you see him later, Kyle. My dad insisted that I make his acquaintance, saying that I should learn from you as

that's right. We're bros, aren't we? Kyle would

was left a little awkward

time he visited John, all he had was a distant sight of the man, let

himself and agreed to

"Alright."

"That's a promise!"

Chapter 35

Mandy suddenly had an idea. "Maybe she slipped in?"

Noel realized with a start-it was certainly a possibility.

Before the two of them could react, they saw Kyle heading straight toward Cordy

As for Cordy, she felt countless stares at her as she entered the banquet hall, but she remained calm and composed until she saw Kyle

"What are you doing here?" he asked quietly.

"I don't think you have a right to ask that," Cordy asked. "This event is organized by the Levines, not your family"

"The Sachs didn't bring you here, and Starstream Group would never receive an invitation. How did you get in?"

"So, you're doubting me?"

"It's embarrassing if you're caught sneaking into a private banquet, Cordy!" Kyle snapped viciously.

just stay with me, and I'll tell anyone who asked that I brought you in. To the public, we're

he spoke, he reached out to take her

she avoided him

face fell. "This is for your own good. I'm helping

said, refusing

off as he looked on, his face contorting

that accentuated

can't stand it," Mandy growled as she saw the exchange between her brother and

about her!"

certainly indignant too-they had already broken up, but Kyle still could not let

about to

other woman's ear then. "Cordy sneaked in, so

and she smiled cunningly

the entrance

corner of the banquet hall, taking sips from a glass of champagne

the highly civilized banquet with

had seen many of them

Chapter 36

One of the rich kids nearby suddenly said, "Hey, isn't that Kyle's girlfriend?"

He was acquainted with Kyle and had therefore met Cordy a few times. While he knew that she was beautiful, Cordy was so dazzling tonight that he almost did not recognize her

"Did you come with Kyle? I'll go get him."

He was certainly kind enough-anyone would have a heart when it comes to beauty, and he felt a hint of sympathy for her.

Even so, another woman nearby scoffed. "I wonder what Kyle was thinking, falling for her!"

"Their wedding was canceled because of a fire, wasn't it? Someone up there didn't want Kyle to ruin. himself over her..."

Cordy listened to the mockery with apathy and no reaction.

Having gotten used to it, she genuinely thought nothing of it.

However, just as she was about to reach into her bag and take out her invitation, Kyle arrived with the rich kid.

greeted him respectfully "We received a tip that Ms. Sachs came in without an

savagery in his eyes

looking utterly surprised

sneered he was clearly denying

at first, since she had a hard time accepting that Kyle tried to help

his reaction now

everyone that Cordy sneaked in, and she would be humiliated if

in!" The woman nearby

really is the joke

of us. The Sachs disowned her years ago-no one would remember her if she wasn't

out of

the attendant in turn told Cordy bluntly, "I'm sorry, Ms. Sachs, but you can't attend this banquet

finish, Cordy had already taken out her golden invitation and held

not believe that Cordy had

came along with their parents

verify it?" Cordy snapped coolly at

it respectfully and

a look, and they all saw the neat

Chapter 37

Pm

Cordy smiled in disdain and strode off as Noel and Mandy looked on.

Mandy almost screamed at the sight of her smugness.

"That's enough!" Kyle snapped right then, his expression sinister as he placed all the blame on Mandy Hadn't you embarrassed yourself enough, messing around as much as you like? Don't pick up her bad manners, Noel."

With that, he strode off angrily.

Mandy's eyes were red.

Her own brother scolded her when it was Noel who suggested that they report Cordy!

She snapped viciously at Noel, "Why didn't you defend me?!"

"1, I..." Noel looked utterly wounded. "Kyle left before I could say anything."

As such, Mandy could only bear with the grievance and storm off

interlude involving Cordy did not affect the

and the powerful were all still busy socializing while waiting for the Levines to

men in black strode inside from

toward the imposing new arrivals and the hall

most who were present had never met John Levine in person. Even if they suspected

sure

Kyle alone walked up to the group

looked on, offering a handshake as

natural.

eyes widened slightly in turn, wondering what was wrong with

then turned toward his

and his face fell right

sneaked in as a bodyguard, standing

gave

cue, Randy

word, the men in black all left the crowd, heading straight

the banquet hall was

at Kyle, and some of

a personal introduction

Chapter 38

So what if he did?" Kyle was still mocking Cordy "He's still a dog!"

Cordy looked coolly at him but said nothing.

John suddenly stepped out of the lounge, and Cordy turned toward him.

Kyle saw him too, and his smirk was even broader as he watched the other man.

Kyle's rich kids friends joined them just then, and they noticed the man beside 'John Levine' making his way toward Kyle. Under the impression that he was passing a message to Kyle, they want to be a part of it, while trying to make John's acquaintance.

"Who is he, Kyle?" one of the rich kids asked-there was no question that the man carried a presence, making them uncertain of his identity.

Kyle spared him a glance and said in disdain, "One of John's bodyguards. He used to be a firefighter

"Really?" one of the rich kids exclaimed in surprise, even commenting. "They really make them too handsome these days."

"And what good is that?" Kyle snorted nonchalantly.

shot Kyle a look before walking up to Cordy and telling her softly, "Dicky will soon be here with my "Okay" Cordy nodded.

so I

Cordy naturally understood-being the host, he would naturally have to meet

guests.

kids could not help being impressed even as they watched him leave. "Is

he probably was not as simple

quiet again, as the main

once towards the entrance-the

in his wheelchair, surrounded by a large

guest in the hall promptly approached him to greet

as well

Kyle stopped her,

and shook him off as

yourself" Kyle snapped, clearly noticing that

our elders or our elders' elders get to greet him.

Chapter 39

Cordy led Richard to a comer of the banquet hall, with his bodyguard in tow but keeping a distance

Ri, hard did not like him getting too close, after all

You brought hem here, sis? Noel exclaimed just then.

She was there with Mandy to get some desserts.

Though the debacle earlier left them infuriated, they calmed down after considerable effort only to run into Cordy again.

Still, Cordy promptly growled a warning. "Noel Sachs, your father should have told you that you shouldn't embarrass yourself at this banquet. If you keep messing with me, I can't guarantee I'll keep holding back from doing something outrageous!"

Noel's face fell-she was definitely afraid to upset Cordy.

Mandy was not, but she left them, having seen Jay Parker arrive at the banquet hall just then.

He was the reason she came here tonight.

she was removed from. Naturally, a mere director would not be allowed in this banquet as well,

he was a child.

held him in high

Mandy greeted

moment-they were naturally acquainted since they were both

Jessop," he replied

was suddenly taken

executive decision. I don't know the

shareholder of

I mean to say is that Levine

muttered,

Windmill Pictures had always been

the last time she interrogated

behind her, where Bob and Sam Saunders

not like such an outrageously serious party However, they attended this party because it was an important day for John,

"Mr Parker"

stopped him from

impatience in Jay's eyes,

Chapter 40

Mandy's face turned green even as she glared at Zoe's haughty figure.

What right did she have to attend the banquet tonight? Was she brought here to sing and dance for Alan just because she took the role of that Windmill Pictures TV series?

Even if Mandy did not actually have any status in showbiz, she got to belittle others-even A-list stars like Zoe-because of her family connections.

And Zoe must have taken the casting couch countless times over her long career. What right did she have to mock Mandy?!

"Please show some dignity, Ms. Jessop," Jay said, leaving without taking her note.

Mandy was shaking with rage-the banquet tonight certainly left her with a belly full of grievances!

Even Noel did not want to stand by Mandy's side now. She was keeping her distance-not because she was worried that she would upset Mandy, but because Mandy might embarrass her as well.

the emcee began to speak at that

stage by instinct, just as a man in

made the opening speech in

your emcee for the night. Thank you for taking the time to attend. this banquet, held in honor of our host Alan Levine's seventieth

wheeling Alan to

were

he had been, even Kyle's face fell as he

It's just in the blink of an eye!"

voice certainly reflected his age, but he was still brimming with vigor. "Well, since it's my birthday, it's the perfect occasion to introduce everyone to my grandson, John. He will be staying in North

that John would be taking charge of Levine Ventures from now

emcee then passed the mic to John, who

his devastating good looks certainly made him appear

John Levine." His