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A Cue for Love chapter 261

Chapter 261 Vengeance On Scumbags 3

Just from appearances, the red wines in the ten decanters did not look much different from each other.

Under the light of the crystal chandelier, they all looked pretty similar in color.

As soon as Hector finished his introduction, several of the socialites with half-baked knowledge of wine had the urge to back out.

They had thought that it would just be a casual game, and never expected Susan to take it so seriously.

Now that their families had gathered to watch, they felt caught in between a rock and a hard place. They did not have much choice but to do their best to get through it and hope that they made it to the second or third round at the very least.

Natalie swept her gaze over the ladies, who were looking rather out of place, and sighed inwardly. They were in the wrong place at the wrong time. Phoebe and Susan deliberately dug a hole for me, and there was nothing I could do to avoid falling into it. But these ladies jumped in without knowing what they were really getting themselves into.

As she thought about how the prize for the winner was the chance to dance the opening dance with Samuel, she could not help but roll her eyes.

What's that saying again? Men are nothing but trouble? Well, I've truly experienced it today. I can't believe how many ladies are willing to go through with this just for the chance to be

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Samuel's partner for the opening dance. If it were a chance to spend the night with him, they'd probably even be willing to go through hell and high water.

Meanwhile, Susan and Phoebe were feeling relaxed and confident.

It may be something that runs in our blood, but every generation of the Leister family loves wine. All of us would run around the winery and plan when we were kids, so we grew up surrounded by the aromas of wine. There's nothing we know better than wine. We even asked Hector to set the rules to show that it's a fair game and that we're not cheating.

Although each of them secretly hoped that they would be the one to win and get the chance to dance with Samuel during the opening dance, they were united by a common goal—to humiliate Natalie in front of everyone and put her in her place.

An ugly orphan like her doesn't deserve Samuel. In fact, she isn't even worthy to stand among the Leister family at a banquet like this.

Soon, the game began.

The waiters tied a strip of red silk over each of the seven ladies' eyes, blindfolding them to heighten their sense of smell.

Then, the waiters poured out the first wine from its decanter into seven glasses and let the ladies sniff it. Once they had gotten a good sniff, they were to write down their answers.

The first bottle of wine was a 1983 Lafite, which was not too difficult to identify. Although some of them took longer than others to write their answer, all of them got it right.

Phoebe and Susan were slightly surprised that Natalie had answered correctly, but they were not too perturbed yet. It's just the first round. According to Hector's rules, the difficulty level will gradually increase with each round.

However, things took a turn over the next three rounds.

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One of the ladies had the wrong type of wine for the third bottle, while another put down the wrong vintage for the fourth wine.

Meanwhile, Natalie was still going strong, having answered all of them correctly.

The blindfolds prevented Susan and Phoebe from observing the crowd's reaction, but even so, they felt their dismay increasing. The first guess may have just been luck, but what about the others? Don't tell me she really does know a thing or two about wines.

However, they dismissed that thought just as quickly as it popped up in their mind, suppressing the worry in their hearts.

So what if she does? The other wines will be much harder to guess. She may be better at this than the other ladies, but there's no way she can beat us! Hmph! Just wait and see!

Susan and Phoebe were oblivious to how the game was panning out due to their blindfolds, but those who watched the game closely had a good grasp of each of the seven ladies' capabilities.

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Chapter 262 Mesmerized

After catching up with Alfred, Samuel entered the hall with Wyatt.

Since they had not been in the hall earlier, they were unaware that a wine guessing game was underway. When they passed through the crowd, they saw the ladies with red silk blindfolds over their eyes, smelling glasses of wine.

While Samuel only had eyes for Natalie, Wyatt was staring at Susan and Phoebe.

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“What has Sue dragged her cousin into this time?” Wyatt muttered. Frowning, he turned to a waiter standing nearby and asked, “What’s going on? What are they doing?”

The waiter answered, “They’re playing a wine-guessing game. They have to guess the wine by its aroma.”

“Guess the wine by its aroma?” Samuel murmured, staring at Natalie with an unwavering gaze.

She was sitting up straight with a piece of red silk over her eyes. Her black, lace-trimmed gown contrasted sharply against her skin. The red and the black together made a striking visual impact.

A waiter held a wine glass up to Natalie’s nose. After taking a sniff, the corners of her lips curved upward slightly, and she picked up her pen to write her answer.

Then, all the answer sheets were displayed. Compared to the others, Natalie’s handwriting was the clearest and neatest, showcasing her excellent penmanship.

Suddenly, he recalled what Natalie had said earlier with a mischievous twinkle in her eyes. She said she wouldn’t pick on others, yet she wouldn’t allow others to pick on her either. Susan wants to humiliate Natalie in front of everyone, but her plan appears to have backfired. If I’m being honest, even I don’t know just what Natalie is capable of. However, Susan dared to challenge Natalie. Well, all I can say is that Susan has dug her own grave.

Mesmerized by Natalie, Samuel’s thoughts began to drift.

I wonder what it’ll feel like to have her lying on top of me with that red silk over her eyes...

As the thought crossed his mind, his gaze deepened.

The game continued, and eventually, two of the five ladies made wrong guesses. The last three people that remained were Natalie, Phoebe, and Susan.

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The Leister family had long been known for being a connoisseur of wines, so the other guests were not surprised that Phoebe and Susan were still in the game.

However, the fact that Natalie was also among them was beyond their expectations.

Phoebe and Susan felt their confidence waning as the game proceeded to the ninth bottle of wine.

Finally, they realized that they had underestimated Natalie. Natalie didn't drink all that wine because she was a glutton and trying to take advantage of all the good wines we put out. It's because she knows the wines. There's no turning back at this point. Whatever it is, we can't lose the next two rounds to that orphan.

Soon, the waiters poured the ninth wine into glasses and held it up to the ladies' noses.

Natalie took one whiff and was the first to write down her answer.

It was not a deliberate attempt at stealing the limelight since she was blindfolded and had no way of knowing whether the others had already written their answer or not. She had merely written her answer as soon as she identified the wine by its aroma.

Susan and Phoebe took a long time to answer. Their hesitation was not only because it was getting harder to identify the wine, but also because their confidence had suffered a blow.

Phoebe wrote down her answer first, closely followed by Susan.

After checking their answers, Hector announced, "Phoebe and Natalie have answered correctly. Susan got the vintage incorrect. This bottle is a 1988 La Romanee Conti, not 1991."

Susan could not believe her ears.

Did I lose? How can this be possible? What's more, I lost to a good-for-nothing orphan! This was supposed to be a trap to humiliate her, but why has it backfired?

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A Cue for Love chapter 263

Chapter 263 Strip Her Of Her Defense

Susan pulled off the red silk covering her eyes and glanced at Natalie and Phoebe with a bitter expression.

Spotting Wyatt standing next to Samuel, the color drained from her face.

When did he get here? What should I do? He must've seen how I have lost!

As she gazed at Samuel worriedly, she realized that he was not looking in her direction. His eyes were fixed on Natalie instead!

I meant to humiliate her and take her down a peg, but look at what has happened... I've actually created the perfect opportunity for her to show off!

Susan bit her lip angrily, her eyes reddening as fury raged within her.

With that turn of events, only Natalie and Phoebe remained to identify the tenth wine.

The guests gathered around them were abuzz, split into two camps by their differing speculations on the result.

"The Leister family was the one who provided all these wines. Susan just came of age, so she can't have had much exposure to wines. It was only natural that she lost. However, Phoebe is slightly older than Susan, so she should have better knowledge and experience of wines. I think Phoebe will be the winner," a man remarked, giving his two cents.

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Another guest countered, "I beg to differ. That other lady has been answering every round without hesitation. They've been using a pen to write their answers, and you can see that she has written her answers clearly without crossing anything out. She may be young, but she seems much more knowledgeable about wine than the two Leister ladies."

Natalie and Phoebe could vaguely make out what the guests were saying.

The former's expression remained as calm and composed as before, radiating an intimidating aura.

On the contrary, Phoebe's nervousness was causing her palms to sweat. Even if Natalie loses now, it won't be embarrassing for her. But if I lose, I won't just be embarrassing myself. I'll also be humiliating the entire Leister family! I have to win the next round. I just have to do it!

Hector motioned for the waiters to pour the wine into two glasses and hold them up in front of the ladies.

Their reaction that time was nothing like the other nine times. As soon as Natalie and Phoebe smelled the aroma, their brows drew together sharply.

Phoebe felt that it smelt familiar but try as she might, she could not recall what type of red wine it was, let alone the location of production and vintage.

Meanwhile, Natalie only pondered briefly before writing her answer.

As she wrote, she could not help chiding Hector inwardly for doing something so brazen.

Even after Natalie finished writing, Phoebe still had not picked up her pen yet.

Hector asked, "Phoebe, do you have your answer?"

Not daring to admit that she did not have a clue, Phoebe had no choice but to say, "Just a minute."

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Phoebe picked up her pen and wrote something, then crossed it out and wrote something else. She repeated the process a few times, unsure about her answer. In the end, she decided to go with her instinct and wrote her final answer, then passed it to the waiter standing next to her. It's up to fate now.

The guests in the hall started chattering among themselves.

"Hector must've given them a tricky one. Did you see how both of them hesitated?"

"Yes! What wine could've confused them both?"

"I wonder who got the right answer."

Susan stared at Phoebe with her hands balled into tight fists. She had completely forgotten all about her embarrassing defeat. I pray to God that Phoebe doesn't lose to that b*tch!

The air was thick with anticipation as everyone waited for the results.

Standing not too far away, Wyatt was also getting nervous.

Meanwhile, Samuel stood with one hand in his pocket. There was a hint of a smile in his eyes as he gazed at a calm and composed figure.

She probably knows the correct answer, yet she still manages to put on a calm and unfazed expression. How intriguing. She's good at concealing her thoughts and emotions.

However, it was for that very reason that Hector felt an overwhelming desire surge within him—the urge to strip her of her defense.

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A Cue for Love chapter 264

Chapter 264 Shocked

Hector was the first to see the answers, and a look of disbelief flashed across his eyes.

This tenth round was more of a prank than a test. Whoever managed to pinpoint at least one of its contents correctly would be named the winner. But I never imagined that one of them would be able to list out the contents of the glass perfectly!

"I announce that the winner is Ms. Natalie!" Hector declared, turning toward Natalie with unbridled awe and admiration in his eyes.

The waiters displayed the answers for everyone to see. Natalie had listed three types of red wines with their corresponding location of production and vintage. After changing her answers a few times, Phoebe had only written one type of red wine.

Seeing the puzzled looks on the guests' faces, Hector explained, "The tenth wine was a mixture of Pétrus, La Mondotte, and Valandraud. Not only did Ms. Natalie get the types of wine correct, but she also identified their location of production and vintage to a tee."

Shocked, a collective gasp rose from the crowd.

A mixture of three wines! What an unpredictable thing to do!

Phoebe's answer was not even remotely accurate, but that just showed how difficult the last round had been.

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"I have to compliment Ms. Natalie's knowledge of wine," said Hector, clapping his hand.

That led the other guests to burst into applause as well.

"The two ladies from the Leister family failed to figure it out, but that lady got it right! That's incredible!"

"She came with Samuel, didn't she? Well, well... It's always the quiet ones that surprise you."

"I'm more interested in that lady's penmanship. It's simply amazing!"

"She's just good at everything!"

Just like that, the scornful gazes the guests once directed toward Natalie turned into looks of admiration.

Phoebe pulled off the blindfold and scurried over to Susan. "I... I never thought it... it would end up like this..."

"You were the one who came up with the brilliant idea! Look at what happened! This is supposed to be my coming-of-age party, but she's the one hogging all the limelight!" Susan hissed. Having nowhere to vent her pent-up rage, she could only unleash a verbal tirade at Phoebe.

Although Phoebe was also devastated that she had humiliated herself in front of everyone, she dared not say anything for fear of offending Susan. Hence, she could only grit her teeth and put up with Susan's rebukes.

When Natalie took off the blindfold, she realized that everyone was looking at her.

Natalie was satisfied that she had succeeded in getting back at Susan and Phoebe in her own way.

However, the eyes on her made her feel uncomfortable. After giving the crown a slight nod, she walked to a less conspicuous corner.

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"Ms. Natalie," a voice said.

She turned and saw Hector beaming at her.

Hector hurried over to Natalie and said with a smile, "I'm curious to know how you managed to guess that the last wine was a mixture of a few different wines?"

Natalie's eyes flashed as she explained, "It wasn't a guess. I really could smell the aroma of three different wines. Your rules only mentioned that we were to identify the wines through smell, but there was no mention that it would only be one wine per round. I merely wrote down what I smelled, that's all. Actually, the other lady also realized it too. However, she was too focused on winning that she didn't even consider that you would come up with something so... unusual."

Hector could not help laughing heartily after hearing her reply.

This has nothing to do with her appearance, but I can sense something special about her. In fact, I've realized that she's just like fine wine. There's more to her than meets the eye.

His eyes sparkled as he looked at her. "It's rare for me to meet a like-minded person, and I certainly didn't expect that I'd meet someone like you here tonight. It truly is a blessing!"

However...

Before Natalie could respond, she felt a man's arm circle her waist possessively.

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A Cue for Love chapter 265

Chapter 265 Declaring Dominance In Public

Turning around, Natalie saw Samuel.

Even with a layer of lace in between, his fingers were still gently rubbing her waist, seemingly filled with rage but carrying a tinge of flirting to it.

“It’s only a few bottles of wine, and you’re treating her as your bosom friend. Aren’t you a little too hasty, Mr. Lightwood?” Samuel’s grim tone revealed the immense fury in him.

At once, Hector’s body stiffened for a brief moment. Even the bright smile on his face froze.

He could not figure out why Samuel acted that way as he could clearly sense his animosity toward him.

Being extremely sure that he had never offended Samuel, Hector figured that the only possible reason was how he treated Natalie as his bosom friend.

Of course, he could not deny his admiration for her.

But after having a taste of Samuel’s excessive domination toward Natalie, he dared not express his feelings.

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"I didn't mean that, Mr. Bowers." Hector cleared his throat before he continued, "I see Ms. Natalie as a friend. I wanted to treat her and let her have a taste of a bottle of wine that I've treasured for years since I know she loves wine so much."

As soon as Natalie heard that there was good wine, her almond-shaped eyes lit up at once.

"Great! I'm sure Mr. Lightwood's wine is a precious and rare one."

"If you like it, I'll..."

Before Hector could finish his sentence, Samuel grimly interrupted, "There's no need."

"Says who?" Natalie's eyes were as wide as saucers as she threw Samuel a pouting look. I've already agreed to the gift. Why is this man rejecting it in my place?

"You don't want it," Samuel suddenly uttered.

"I want it," Natalie argued.

Samuel tightened his grip on her waist as he called her name out with his deep voice.

"Nat."

"I do want it..."

Standing awkwardly in front of the two, Hector felt sidelined while watching Samuel display his affection for Natalie.

Ahem! Ahem! Hector deliberately cleared his throat again before he interjected, "I guess I'll have to take my leave first. My friend seems to be looking for me."

After coming up with an excuse, he grabbed the chance to slip away from the awkward situation.

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“Don’t go, Hector! He doesn’t want the wine, but I want it!” At the thought of how the chance to receive a good wine was going down the drain, Natalie felt her heart wrenched.

“How dare you still call his name?”

Samuel’s eyes darkened as he grabbed Natalie’s face in an attempt to shift her sight away from Hector.

“It’s all your fault! He wanted to gift me his treasured wine. But thanks to you, I ended up getting nothing!” Natalie rolled her eyes at him.

“If he purely wants to give you the wine without harboring any ulterior motives, why would my few simple words scare him away?” Samuel furrowed his brows. “I’m pretty sure he’s up to no good.”

“He can plot whatever schemes he wants; it’ll be fine as long as I don’t let him get his way. But he’s gifting good wine. Why would anybody not want it?” Natalie retorted as she could not get over it.

“Why are you so stubborn? And you’re even trying to twist the facts unreasonably?” Samuel bit her earlobe.

Her heart was thumping erratically as his warm breath stirred her emotions. “S-Samuel Bowers! There are so many people around! What are you doing?”

“I’m marking my territory. You are mine.”

“Y-You... hmm...”

Before she could continue any further, Samuel’s lips came crashing on hers.

Since Samuel’s existence had perpetually been the center of attention, everyone had their eyes on the two of them as soon as he kissed Natalie.

Does this man not feel shameful at all?

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While she tried to struggle free, the man pressed his lips against hers even more firmly. There was simply no way she could refuse his passionate kiss. Ultimately, she allowed him to do whatever he wanted, except that her slender body was extremely stiff the whole time while in his embrace.

Some distance away, Susan and Phoebe saw that steamy kiss scene too.

Why would someone like Samuel swallow his pride and kiss a woman like her?

The eyes of the two women were burning with jealousy in unison.

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