Chapter Four

**Scene: MC’s Suite. Day.**

My suite has been ransacked!

There’s furniture upended, shards of broken vases littered the floor, expensive pieces of art have been destroyed.

(Who would do such a thing?)

Zachary

“The Degas!”

Zachary

“Oh, my goodness, they destroyed the Degas!”

Zachary

“And the Picasso!”

MC

“Who do you think did this?”

Bullet

“You really need to ask?”

MC

“Kendra?”

Bullet

“More like Nigel under Kendra’s orders.”

MC

“This is way out of line!”

Stefan

“She’s making good on her promise. She’ll do anything to get back her position.”

Stefan

“This, what she did here is an act of war.”

MC

“But that’s insane. She’s insane!”

I can’t believe she would go this far to harass me into quitting.

Bullet

“Which is why you can’t let her get what she wants.”

Bullet

“You wouldn’t want your grandfather’s legacy to fall into the hands of a batshit crazy person like her, do you?”

MC

“You’ve got a point but I can’t quite wrap my head around the reason why she would act this way.”

MC

“Perhaps there’s a deeper reason? What do you think?”

Bullet

“Yeah, I can think of one reason.”

Bullet

“Because she’s Kendra.”

I just shrug in frustration. I don’t like the idea of having an enemy around here.

I survey the mess one more time.

MC

“It’s going to take us hours to clean up everything.

MC

“Good thing I’m used to doing chores around the bakery. Where can I find a broom?”

Zachary

“Oh, no, no, no, no! As a Lady, you are not to do chores. You leave the cleaning to your butlers.”

**Choice: What should I do?**

1. *Insist on helping*
2. *Let them do their job*

**1.**

MC

“But I want to help.”

Stefan

“My lady, we’ve already talked about this. You need to let us do our job.”

MC

“All right, if you say so.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**2.**

MC

“Oh, all right, I’ll leave you to it.”

MC

“I’m sure you won’t let me help you even if I wanted to.”

Zachary

“Just leave everything to us.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**BACK TO MAIN DIALOGUE**

Stefan

“Bullet, go get our tools.”

Bullet

“I’d rather get Nigel. Please let me get Nigel.”

Stefan

“As much as I want to get him for this. We can’t do that. It will only make things worse.”

Bullet

“Right. Tools it is.”

Bullet disappears into the east wing.

Zachary

“Now, my lady, if you would just step into the lift for a few moments.”

Zachary

“You can press the down button and then go back up.”

MC

“Oh… All right.”

Confused, I step into the elevator and do as I was told.

(Why would they need me to go down and then back up again?)

(These butlers can be so weird sometimes.)

**Scene: Main mansion. Hallway on the ground floor. Day.**

The elevator reaches the ground floor and the doors open.

I hear voices down the hall.

It appears that they are arguing and I’m pretty sure I heard my name.

???

“But I can’t stand her!”

As I try to listen more closely, I recognize the voice.

(It’s Kendra!)

**Premium Choice: What should I do?**

1. Listen in on Kendra’s conversation about me.
2. Ignore her.

1.

I sneak out into the hallway, trying not to make a sound as I possibly can.

(What could she be talking about?)

The fact that my name came up piques my curiosity.

I follow which direction Kendra’s voice is coming from into an adjoining corridor.

I take a quick glimpse, careful not to get discovered, and I see the butler Nigel and Kendra, who’s on a video call with someone on a mobile phone.

Kendra

“She doesn’t belong here!”

Kendra

“She’s a commoner, for crying out loud!”

Grandfather’s voice echoes in the cavernous hall.

Brandon

“She’s Errol’s daughter. That makes her your cousin.”

Kendra

“For all we know she could be a con-artist.”

Brandon

“DNA tests prove that she is indeed a Seymour.”

Brandon

“She’s my granddaughter, Kendra.”

Brandon

“I’ve had no doubt the moment I saw her. The DNA test just confirmed my intuition.”

I remember the medical tests that I had to go through at S Group Tower.

One of the samples they took was for DNA testing.

Kendra

“She may be a Seymour but she was still raised a commoner.”

Kendra

“I don’t want to live in this mansion with someone like her.”

Brandon

“Instead of targeting [namae], why don’t you just focus all of your energy in running your department?”

Brandon

“Do I need to impress upon you that I am not pleased with the recent numbers your department turned out this quarter?”

Kendra

“That commoner’s future in the company is going to be detrimental to our business, mark my words.”

Brandon

“Kendra, can you dispense with the attitude? Do not test my patience.”

Brandon

“[namae] will not leave the mansion.”

Brandon

“And my decision is final.”

Kenda lets out a scream in frustration as the call is terminated.

(She really wants me out of here.)

(Is her position as successor really that important to her?)

Kendra

“I can’t believe my grandfather is doing this to MY company!”

Kendra

“That commoner sure has grandfather completely wrapped around her little finger.”

Nigel

“Well, the Chairman has spoken. Lady [namae] is here to stay.”

Kendra

“Not if I can help it, Nigel. Not if I can help it.”

I decide to head back to my suite before I get discovered by them.

I hurry back to the elevator as fast and as quiet as my stilettos would carry me.

(Thank goodness, they didn’t see me!)

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**2.**

I don’t care whatever it is that Kendra is saying about me. That’s her business.

It’s not in my nature to listen in on someone else’s conversation. I’m not about to stoop down to that level.

(I need to get back to my suite as soon as possible.)

(I can’t be gone for too long or my butlers might start a search party.)

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**BACK TO MAIN DIALOGUE**

I press the button to take me back to my suite.

When the elevator once again returns to the suite’s designated floor, the doors part open and I am in for another surprise.

(Oh, my god!)

(What just happened?)

I enter the suite and everything is back to normal like nothing happened.

New paintings adorn the walls. New furniture, vases, and décor replaced the broken ones.

The suite is magically clean again!

MC

“Is this for real? How did you guys do it?”

MC

“What kind of tools did you use? Magic wands?”

(It’s unbelievable.)

Bullet

“It’s a trade secret, little miss.”

Zachary

“You wouldn’t believe the amount of rigorous training we had to undergo during our apprenticeship.”

MC

“To be honest, at first I thought all you’re going to do is stand all day long and follow me around. But this… This is amazing!”

Stefan

“Thank you, my lady. Whatever it is that you need, we’ll provide it. All you have to do is ask.”

My stomach starts to grumble.

MC

“Well, I didn’t really get to eat anything at brunch, I’m kind of hungry right now.”

Bullet

“Say no more, little miss. We got you covered. Come.”

Bullet leads me to the dining area, where they have a setup a scrumptious spread of mouth-watering food on the table.

Bullet

“We kind of figured out that you must be hungry.”

Bullet

“So we already set up your very own brunch here at the suite.”

I take a sit on the dining table and begin wolfing down a club sandwich.

MC

“Thank you for this. I’m starving!”

Zachary

“Please don’t talk while your mouth is full, my lady.”

MC

“Sorry.”

Stefan

“So, after what transpired during brunch today, we’ve decided to postpone your training until tomorrow.”

Stefan

“You can just rest here at your suite.”

Zachary

“And tomorrow I believe we should start with teaching you proper dining etiquette.”

Bullet

“Yeah, because you eat like a construction worker, little miss. No offense.”

MC

“Oh, shut up, Bullet.”

MC

“Wait. So we’re not going to do anything today? You expect me to hole up in my room all day?”

MC

“Oh, come on, guys. I’m not under house arrest.”

MC

“This is a mansion! It’s made for snooping! I want to explore!”

Bullet

“That sounds like a good idea. We can give little miss the grand tour.”

Stefan seems to consider it for a moment.

Stefan

“All right.”

MC

“Yes! Thank you, Stefan!”

**Scene: Main mansion. Day.**

The tour starts at the west wing of the main mansion.

Zachary, who’s more knowledgeable of the Seymour family history, leads the tour.

We are walking down a great corridor, its walls are lined with paintings of my ancestors.

Zachary

“This is the Seymour Chairman’s Hall as we like to call it."

Zachary

“And here is the portrait of the Chairman on the day he became the head of S Group.”

MC

“Speaking of grandfather, why didn’t I see him today at brunch?”

Zachary

“Oh, the Chairman actually spends most nights at his penthouse at S Group Tower. He’s rarely home at the estate.”

MC

“That’s too bad because I was really hoping to spend some time with him.”

Bullet

“Don’t worry, little miss, I’m sure the Chairman will find some time to bond with you.”

MC

“I sure hope so.”

MC

“Well, is there any other relative of mine living in this mansion?”

Zachary

“At this time, most of your relatives are scattered around Europe, running different offices of S Group.”

Zachary

“So it’s just you and the Mistress living here at the moment.”

MC

“Oh.”

(Just my luck.)

(I guess I just have to live with the fact that I have to share this 46-suite mansion with someone who despises me with every fiber of her being.)

Stefan

“Here’s something I believe you’d be delighted to see.”

Stefan

“He wasn’t a chairman of S Group, but Master Brandon made an exception.”

Stefan leads me to a portrait of a handsome man in his 40’s.

Stefan

“This is Master Errol Seymour, Lady [namae]. Your father.”

For a moment, I am awash with emotions. I am looking at my father for the very first time.

MC

“Grandfather is right. He does have my eyes.”

MC

“Thank you for showing this to me.”

Stefan

“One day you will be the head of S Group and your portrait will be up on that wall. And you will make your father proud.”

MC

“I’ll do my best.”

I take a few more moments to look at my father, to study his features, and commit them to memory.

(I hope I can become the daughter he would have wanted me to be.)

We pass by another hall with portraits of the Seymour Women.

Zachary

“Now this portrait—”

???

“Excuse me!”

Somebody just hollered from the other end of the hallway and we all turn around to see who it is.

My heart starts to palpitate as I recognize the guy as he saunters over.

(It’s Jaxon Maddox!)

(The best-selling male artist of all time!)

(The rock god!)

(The guy whose life-size poster hangs on my bedroom wall!)

(And he’s coming towards me right now!)

Jaxon

“I was looking for my friend. I thought maybe she got lost, but then I think I got lost because this place is so damn huge.”

Jaxon’s face is a bit red. He may have had one too many glasses of champagne.

Jaxon

“I can’t seem to find my way back to brunch.”

(Oh, my god! Oh, my god!)

I take a deep breath to calm my nerves.

**Choice: What should I do?**

1. *Keep it cool and introduce myself.*
2. *Forget keeping it cool! It’s Jaxon Maddox!*

**1.**

I take a step forward and offer my hand.

MC

“Hi, Jaxon. I’m [namae], and these are my butlers.”

My heart skips a beat as Jaxon shakes my hand.

Jaxon

“Oh, so you’re a Seymour. It’s nice to meet you, [namae]. I’m Jaxon.”

I giggle like a total fangirl.

MC

“You said something about being lost? My butlers can help you with that.”

MC

“They can help you find your friend if you want.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**2.**

MC

“Oh, my god, Jaxon. I am such a huge fan!”

We shake hands and I feel as though my pounding heart is going to burst out of my ribcage.

MC

“Bullet, take our picture now, please!”

I slid my arm into his and smile for the camera as Bullet snaps a photo with his cellphone.

MC

“I’m [namae], by the way.”

Jaxon

“Jaxon Maddox.”

MC

“Pleased to meet you!”

(I can’t believe I’m officially meeting Jaxon Maddox!)

MC

“This is so cool!”

Jaxon

“It’s nice to meet you, [namae].”

(Jaxon Maddox just said my name!)

(I’m gonna die!)

Stefan

“Sir, you said something about being lost? We can help you find your way back or find your friend.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**BACK TO MAIN DIALOGUE**

Jaxon

“Forget my friend. I think I found a new one.”

He stares at me with a seductive grin.

(Be still my heart…)

Jaxon takes my hand and I feel my knees turn to jelly.

Jaxon

“What do you say we get outta here?”

MC

“Oh, me? Uhh—”

I look to my three butlers, hesitating for second.

(Will they allow me to come with him?)

Jaxon

“You seem like a nice girl. You can keep me company.”

(Oh, my…)

MC

“Well, I would—”

Stefan

“She can’t.”

Jaxon

“Why the hell not? It looks like she wants to.”

Jaxon kisses my hand.

MC

“Oh, and Jaxon Maddox is kissing my hand.”

(Be strong, girl.)

I feel like I am going to melt right this very second.

Bullet

“Sir, I would advise you to step away from the lady.”

Jaxon grabs me by the waist and pulls me closer to him a little too aggressively.

Jaxon

“She clearly wants to be with me. Who are you to deprive her?”

MC

“Uh, excuse me?”

Jaxon

“Why don’t you tell your butlers to back off, so I can show you a real good time.”

He begins to pull me closer to him that it hurts.

MC

“Can you let me go, please? You’re hurting me.”

Zachary

“Sir, you are quite intoxicated. Please, let the lady go.”

This encounter isn’t exactly the fangirl moment I imagined it to be.

Jaxon

“Oh, yeah? Make me.”

Jaxon leans in closer to me. His breath stinks of alcohol. He is about to kiss me when the unexpected happens.

Bullet punches him in the jaw, knocking him to the ground. Stefan catches me before I could fall onto the floor with him.

MC

“Oh, my god!”

Jaxon

“Son of a—Pfft!”

Jaxon spits blood.

Two security personnel suddenly appear in the hallway, and grab Jaxon Maddox.

Jaxon

“You are going to regret this. Expect to hear from my lawyer.”

Stefan

“Please escort Mr. Maddox out of the estate grounds.”

Bullet turns to me.

Bullet

“Are you all right, little miss?”

MC

“Just a bit shaken. But I’ll be fine.”

Bullet smiles in spite of himself.

Bullet

“I can’t believe I just punched a rock star.”

MC

“Well, in my book that makes you a rock star.”

**Choice: What should I do?**

1. *Kiss him on the cheek.*
2. *Give him a hug.*

**1.**

I give Bullet a peck on the cheek.

MC

“Thank you. It’s not everyday that someone punches a rock star for me.”

Bullet

“I was just doing my job, little miss. I’ll do it again in a heartbeat.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**2.**

I put my arms around Bullet in a tight hug.

MC

“Thank you, Bullet. No one’s ever punched a rockstar for me before.”

Bullet

“It’s in the job description, little miss. Glad to be of service.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**BACK TO MAIN DIALOGUE**

Zachary

“The legal team will take care of him if he decides to press charges.”

MC

“I think I’ve had enough fun for one day. I’d like to return to my suite and rest.”

(This day sure packed a lot of surprises.)

(And to think this is only my second day.)

(What’s next?)

**Scene: MC’s bedroom. Night.**

I decided to take a rest for the remainder of the afternoon.

I had been lying in my bed and had dozed off, when a soft knock on my door woke me up.

I walk to the door and open it to see Stefan standing there.

MC

“Stefan.”

Stefan

“My lady, can I come in? I have something to show you.”

**Premium Choice: What should I do?**

1. *Ask him to come back later.*
2. *Let him in.*

**1.**

I opened the door slightly.

MC

“Can you come back later? I still want to rest up for a bit.”

Stefan seems to hesitate for a moment.

MC

“Is there something wrong?”

Stefan smiles.

Stefan

“No, my lady, I actually just wanted to check up on you. And show you the spread we prepared for dinner.”

(I totally blanked out on the time.)

MC

“Oh, sorry, I didn’t realize it’s almost time for dinner. I’ll just freshen up a bit. I’ll be right out.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**2.**

I let Stefan inside and then he closes the door behind him.

MC

“What is it that you want to show me?”

Stefan

“Here you go.”

Stefan hands me a hard-bound book.

As it turns out, it is a photo album filled with pictures of my father when he was younger.

There’s also a picture of my father together with my mom.

MC

“Stefan, where did you get this?”

Stefan

“Your father gave it to me when I was younger.”

I turn the pages, and there are pictures of my father and Stefan in his teens.

MC

“You two were obviously quite close with each other.”

Stefan

“We were.”

Stefan

“I want you to keep it. So you’ll have something of your father’s.”

Stefan

“Treat them as windows to a happier time. A book of your father’s most cherished memories.”

MC

“Thank you, Stefan. You don’t know how much this means to me.”

What he did really touched my heart, that I couldn’t help but wrap my arms around him. I can feel my tears well up in my eyes.

MC

“Thank you.”

Stefan

“You’re welcome.”

MC

“Why are you so good to me?”

Stefan

“I’ve seen firsthand how your father longed for your mother. He loved her until the end.”

Stefan

“I saw how her absence left a void in your father’s life all those years.”

Stefan

“He’s been so good to me that I wanted to somehow fill that void. Sadly, I didn’t know how.”

Stefan

“Had he found out about your existence sooner, things would have been different.”

Stefan

“He would have done anything to make you happy. But since he’s gone, I just want to do the same for you.”

MC

“Oh, Stefan, I’m sure that in some way, you filled a void in my father’s heart.”

Stefan steps closer to me, peering into my eyes as if searching for something.

MC

“You are special. And I’m grateful for your presence in my father’s life.”

Stefan

“Thank you for seeing me that way.”

Stefan leans in closer.

I close my eyes in anticipation.

(Is he going to kiss me?)

Stefan suddenly steps aside and I open my eyes.

Stefan

“About this morning.”

Stefan

“I’m sorry if I didn’t act quickly.”

Stefan

“I shouldn’t have let that guy touch you.”

MC

“It’s okay, Stefan. Don’t worry about it. The three of you did your job in protecting. What matters is that I’m safe.”

Stefan

“I won’t let anything like that happen to you again, my lady. I promise.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**BACK TO MAIN DIALOGUE**

**Scene: MC’s suite. Dining area. Night.**

As always the butlers prepared a nice spread for dinner.

As I sit down on the table, I remember my grandmother.

(What’s the point of having this delicious meal if I don’t have someone to share it with?)

MC

“Would you guys like to join me?”

MC

“There’s plenty of food for everyone.”

The trio exchanged reluctant glances with each other.

Zachary

“My lady we are not allowed to dine with you, unless in a mentoring environment.”

MC

“Zachary, I know it’s the rules, but can we can make an exception? I’m not really used to dining alone.”

MC

“Back on Baker Street, I always have dinner with my grandmother.”

MC

“It’s our chance to talk about our day, and kind of bond with each other.”

MC

“Now I may be living in a beautiful mansion, but I don’t get to spend time with my grandfather. It feels kind of empty.”

Bullet

“Stefan, I think we can make an exception for the lady?”

Stefan

“All right, my lady.”

MC

“Well, what are you waiting for? Dig in, boys.”

My three butlers are about to sit, when the elevator bell goes off.

Someone’s coming!

The trio stand up in a line as somebody walks into the dining area.

It’s Nigel.

Nigel

“Good evening, Lady [namae]. Stefan et al.”

Bullet

“What are you doing here? Looking to trash this place again?”

Nigel

“I don’t know what you’re talking about. D’eagle? Forty-five? I know your name’s got to do with firearms.”

Bullet

“The name’s Bullet.”

Nigel laughs.

Nigel

“Right. Sorry about that. Anyway, I’m here to remind Lady [namae] about the 75th Annual S Group Gala, which will be attended by a plethora of important personages.”

Nigel

“The lady is of course required to attend.”

Nigel

“But I’m really here to inform her that she is also required to participate in the 3rd Annual S Group Urban Scavenger Hunt.”

Stefan

“What? It can’t be. Only members of the executive branch are allowed to participate.”

Stefan

“Lady [namae] is not executive yet.”

Nigel

“Well, since the lady is afforded the same privileges as that of a board member of the S Group, and more, then she is considered as such.”

Zachary

“It will interfere with her training as a lady.”

Nigel

“It’s one night, Zachary. Consider it as part of her training.”

Nigel

“Whatever objections you may still have, you can take it up with the Chairman. Good night.”

Nigel leaves the suite.

Bullet

“This has ‘Kendra’ written all over it.”

Stefan

“She’s challenging you.”

Zachary

“That’s because she’s confident she is going to win.”

MC

“Well, I’m up for the challenge. I mean, what could go wrong, right?”

(Now I have to worry about this challenge on top of protocol training.)

(What could go wrong indeed?)

*Read more to find out what happens next…*