

A Farewell 51

Chapter 51

Jan Ignored Shane.

Downstairs, Terry was cleaning up. They walked out of the bar.

Sage hastily shook off Ian's hand.

Ian's expression shifted a little. Then, he said in a cold voice, "Give your car keys to the driver. You're getting in my car."

Sage was puzzled. "How did you know that I drove here?"

Ian said in an unfriendly tone, "Anyone with eyes will notice the striking color and license plate of your car!"

Sage fell silent.

Her Maserati was one of the wedding gifts from her grandfather.

The color of the car was a bright red, and the license plate was a combination of her initials and birthday.

It wasn't low-profile, but it definitely wasn't as flashy as Ian had described it to

1. be.

The driver had already gotten out of the car. Without thinking too much about it, Sage handed the car keys to him. Then, she tactfully got into the passenger seat

of Ian's car.

After Ian started the car, Sage couldn't help but ask, "Why were you in the area at this hour?"

This place was quite far from Holcomb Corporation, and Ian wouldn't pass by this place on his way back to Solaris Estate.

Ian glared coldly at her. "Why don't you explain yourself first? Why would you come to Shane's bar and even sit in the same booth as him? When did you get so close to him?"

Before the car crash last time, Ian had asked Sage the same question.

Back then, she answered that she wasn't too close to Shane at that moment. So, had they gotten close to each other now?

Of course, Sage wouldn't be so stupid as to tell Ian that she was joining hands with Shane to go up against Bolton Investment.

If their partnership was established, she might mention it to get back at Ian. But now, they had turned against each other, and Shane even tried to harm her.

Because of her pride and reputation, she refused to say it.

Sage said calmly, "Thank

obliged to tell you who I am for helping me out in time just now. But I am not

another person."

here for, or how things are going between me and

Sage's words sounded like she was silently agreeing to it. Ian was extremely pissed at that. "Sage, don't forget that you're a married woman now."

Sneering, Sage retorted, "Well, then, when you ate and showered at Ivy's house, did you remember that you're a married man too?"

Even though Ian wasn't sure what Sage meant by the showering, it was Ivy they were talking about. Ivy always liked to make mountains out of molehills.

Ian frowned. "I've known her for years. It's not like you've never heard of our friendship before!"

Sage smiled in frustration. "I've known long ago that you two know each other and have a strong bond with each other. But this doesn't mean that I should tolerate your disloyalty!"

Ian had nothing to say in return. "Sage, I'm asking you to explain yourself right now. Don't change the subject!"

Sage replied, "They're the same thing to me. I won't interfere in your business, so I don't need you to mind my business either."

Ian was furious when he saw the distant and cold look on Sage's face.

He had just returned from the airport when he received news that an emergency

had occurred at Bolton Investment.

BONUS

So, he decided to rush there. When Ian passed by this place and was waiting for the Haine lights to turn green, Terry happened to catch sight of Sage's car.

Terry even quickly tyrest out that the bar belonged to Shane!

Teating that Sage might be at a disadvantage, Ian set aside the matter with Bolton Investment and tobl Terry to make arrangements as quickly as possible.

In the end, Ian didn't even get a word of thanks. Sage even put a distant look on her face as if he was meklling too much!

"Sage, in't you retain from doing meaningless things?"

Jan gritted his teeth "I met by last night to talk about official business. Did you think that Shane is a decent person? How can you come here to put yourself in danger just because you're mad?"

Sage knew what Ian was saving

Ian tolt that she was upset at him to meeting Ivy, and that was why she chose to meet Shane here. She would put herself in danger and force him to show up.

Since Shane said that he was going to kidnap her, it made sense

Sage sasi, "It you're so reluctant to do it, you can choose to ignore it completely."

Chapter 52

Ian could barely suppress his anger. He said in a cold voice, "If I could afford to let others tarnish your identity as Mrs. Holcomb, do you think I'd spend my time bothering about your business?"

Sage knew it.

That must also be why he had such a concerned look in his eyes when he arrived at the second floor.

Fortunately, Sage wasn't as presumptuous as she used to be. If not, Ian would be leading her by the nose again.

Sage retorted carelessly, "If you don't want to bother about my business, hurry up and sign the divorce agreement. I've said before that you'll regret it if you don't sign the agreement!"

"You..." Ian's expression turned foul when he heard those words. Then, he slammed the brakes!

Sage grabbed her bag. Ian didn't even have to say anything before she got out of the car.

In the end, Ian got out of the car as well. With a dark expression on his face, he disregarded her shouts as he stuffed her into the driver's seat. Then, he fastened the seat belt around her.

"Go straight back to Solaris Estate. My car has a GPS. If you still refuse to stop this behavior, I'll get your grandfather here to teach you a lesson!"

After Ian coldly said those words, he slammed the door shut.

Sage was speechless as she thought, "He's out of his mind."

Noticing that Ian was still looking at her with a foul expression, Sage hastily stepped on the gas pedal.

Once back at Solaris Estate, Sage tossed her bag away as she slumped onto the couch.

ROMU

Her sixth sense was useless.

In her subconscious mind, she always thought that Shane's nonchalant and rebellious attitude was just a facade he portrayed. However, reality had proven her otherwise.

Setting aside the partnership, Sage was even more conflicted about whether she should tell Priscilla about Benjamin or not.

As she was a woman too, Sage wished that she could tell Priscilla right away,

Still, this matter was between Priscilla and her husband. Also, Sage had only ever met Priscilla once, so she wasn't sure if Priscilla would trust what she said.

She also wasn't sure if Priscilla already knew about Benjamin's actions. Maybe she had chosen to ignore it.

Sage found Tiana's number. She wanted to call Tiana to ask for opinions, but then, she remembered that Tiana had gone to Lathuyria today.

Sage set down her phone and felt a headache coming on.

Ian arrived at his office in Bolton Investment.

"If the founder has bad conduct, it'll become a potential problem when the company tries to get listed in the future.

"Don't you even know that? Where's your common sense?" Ian reprimanded with a cold expression.

Ivy and the other higher-ups were sitting at the table in the small conference hall, and they all had nervous looks on their faces.

“Mr. Holcomb, I was the one who made the decision to help Benjamin solve his

troubles. Please don't blame them for it.’

The other higher-ups secretly sighed in relief when Ivy volunteered to take responsibility. They were a little grateful to her as well.

“I'll give you a reasonable explanation for this.”

With that, Ivy gestured for the other higher-ups to leave. In the meantime, she poured a cup of water for Ian.

“You've been on the plane for the whole day. Have some water.”

Ivy asked, “How's it going with Mrs. Holcomb? I hope she's alright.”

When Ian thought of Sage, his already suppressed rage began to boil.

He accepted the cup of water but avoided the question. He said, “Tell me about Benjamin.”

“Sorry, I made the decision on my own.” Ivy looked apologetic. “I originally wanted to wait until you came back to make the decision.

“But Benjamin said that he was framed. Someone had purposefully stuffed a woman into his house when he was drunk.

“At this point, many people are indeed setting their sights on Mimosa. Someone may have framed him.”

Ivy said, "Even if we don't make a move, Farsight Investment and even the other investment companies will. Benjamin contacted us right away, so this also means that he trusts in our capabilities.

"He even promised that as long as we help him resolve this problem, he'll sign the contract with us right away. This is the commitment letter he wrote himself."

Ivy grabbed the commitment letter and tried to sit next to Ian.

But before she could take a seat, Ian looked at her with his dark eyes.

Chapter 53

There was a distant look in Ian's eyes.

He even frowned a little,

Ivy was stunned when she saw that reaction.

She began to feel a little awkward.

Still, Ivy didn't reveal her emotions on her face. She straightened herself as she apologized gently.

"Ian, no matter what, I'm the one at fault for what happened today. I'm willing to take any punishment or reprimand."

With the explanations so far, Ivy's actions seemed excusable.

Ian didn't probe further. He said in a cold voice, "We can't afford any mistakes in this matter. Get someone to look into Benjamin. If he wasn't framed, cancel the investment plans."

Ivy hastily said, "Don't worry, I've already asked someone to look into it. If there really is something off with him, you don't even have to say the word. I won't dare to partner with him."

Ian's expression relaxed a little. He rubbed his temples for a bit. "If there's nothing else, you can leave now."

Ivy could see that Ian was experiencing discomfort. She asked gingerly, "Ian, you don't seem well. Shall I massage your head?"

"Every time my dad gets headaches, I'll massage his head for him. He says that I'm like a professional."

"It's okay," Ian declined. "Ask the driver to take me home."

Ivy said gently and casually, "It's getting late, so why don't you put up for a night here? We have a meeting about Benjamin tomorrow morning, anyway. You don't have to rush back and forth."

Ian still declined. "It's alright."

If Sage got herself into trouble again, Ian wouldn't have the energy to deal with it.

Ivy maintained a gentle smile on her face, but her heart was already filled with jealousy.

These days, it was obvious that Ian was beginning to care about Sage.

If the incident tonight had happened in the past, Ian wouldn't have bothered with Sage at all.

Ian had always been strict with work. Mimosa was an extremely important project, so Ian wouldn't delay it.

But today, he had chosen Sage over work.

Also, it had been a few days, but even until now, he had never mentioned the incident where Delilah rushed into Ivy's house to humiliate her.

He had even intentionally avoided her.

This wasn't a good thing.

Ian returned to Solaris Estate.

"You're back, Mr. Holcomb." Wanda was already used to it by now. "I'll make you some refreshing tea."

Ian sat on the couch and asked tiredly, "Where's Sage?"

"She has returned to the bedroom to rest.

Ian held his forehead. He didn't say anything more.

When Wanda had prepared the tea, she found Ian already asleep on the couch. He was propping up his head, and he seemed to be extremely fatigued. His eyebrows were tightly knitted together.

Wanda said softly, "Sir, the tea is ready."

Ian didn't respond.

After thinking for a moment, Wanda went to knock on the door to Sage's room.

+ BONUS

“Who is it?” Sage’s wary voice sounded from within the room.

“Mrs. Holcomb, it’s me.”

In her pajamas, Sage opened the door. “What’s the matter, Wanda?”

“Mr. Holcomb has fallen asleep on the couch downstairs. Since it’s nighttime, he might catch a cold. Would you like to get him back into the room to rest?”

Wanda could see that Ian and Sage were getting along better now. It was especially obvious in Ian’s case. He was tired out, but he still asked about Sage.

At this point, if Sage slightly cared for him a little, he would be touched for sure.

So, Wanda came to talk to Sage.

When Sage heard Wanda’s words, she wanted to say that it wasn’t her business whether Ian caught a cold or not. But then, she remembered that Ian had indeed helped her out just now.

She had to repay his kindness. So, she turned around and went into the room.

Wanda thought that Sage had gone to make the bed so that Ian would sleep more comfortably when he came up later. So, she felt comforted as she waited.

Soon, Sage came out with a thin blanket in her hands. “Here.”

Chapter 55

“Even though Sage is quite annoying about it, you haven’t divorced her yet. Isn’t it a little inappropriate?” Calvin asked.

Ian was irritated. “If you have something to talk to me about, speak right now. If not, get lost.”

Just then, the secretary came in with the coffee. So, Calvin pleasingly handed it to Ian. “Ian, have some coffee. Don’t let your throat go dry.”

There was indeed some discomfort in Ian’s throat. So, Ian accepted the mug.

“Heh. Ian, I’m sure you know why I’m here.”

After the secretary had gone out, Calvin began to plead his case. “My dad is very serious about the gulf project. If you turn it down, I’ll lose my freedom for the next few months. No, I’ll lose it for the whole year!

“He’ll drag me to the company and force me to take lessons!”

Ian said, “Great. Then I won’t have to listen to you yapping anymore.”

“Ian, you can’t do this.” Calvin sobbed, “Remember when you and Shane got into a fight at school back then? Who rushed forward to help you with abandon?”

“Do you mean that time when he kicked you to the ground? When you grazed your skin and bled, and you fainted at the sight of the blood? When I almost lost. because I was distracted by you?”

Calvin fell silent. “But you have to admit that I was loyal enough to help you out, right?”

Ian massaged the space between his eyebrows. “Write another detailed and plausible letter of intent on your own. Then, deliver the presentation on the project yourself.”

Calvin put on a sour expression. "I don't know how!"

"Then take your loyalty back to your dad's company and work there."

"Fine. I'll do it!"

Calvin had always been strong in the mental aspect. He accepted it after a mere fleeting moment. Then, he was even in the mood to keep gossiping.

"Ian, even though it's a good thing that you've met a woman you like, you shouldn't be a two-timer. Should I help you talk to Sage so that she'll let go of you sooner?"

Ian glared at Calvin. "Get lost. In the future, you're not allowed into my office without my permission."

Calvin couldn't understand why Ian became so contradictory.

He had mentioned Sage twice, and Ian got angry on both occasions. Ian was probably troubled because he didn't know how to get rid of her.

"Got it, Ian. I'll leave right now."

Before leaving the office, Calvin added, "Don't worry, I'll always support you. I'm always on your side!"

Ian closed his eyes. He didn't have the energy to humor Calvin anymore.

By the time Sage woke up, it was already almost noon.

Last night, she kept wondering if she should tell Priscilla about Benjamin. Then, she finally went to sleep in a daze in the morning.

After getting out of bed, Sage washed up and went downstairs. Wanda was preparing lunch.

“Mrs. Holcomb, have some soup first. You’ll have to wait a little longer for the meal.” Wanda ladled some soup into a bowl for Sage.

“What’s that?”

Sage pointed at a package on the dining table as she asked.

Wanda replied, “They’re medicinal herbs from Mrs. Holcomb Senior. She asked someone to deliver them this morning.”

Sage was puzzled. “Why would Grandma deliver herbs out of the blue?”

Wanda told Sage that Linda had heard from someone that Ian’s health wasn’t too great. So, Linda told Wanda that the medicinal herbs would help strengthen Ian’s body.

Hence, Wanda was to make herbal soup for Ian every day.

Sage immediately recalled Ian’s wet pants in the restaurant back then. She couldn’t help but burst out laughing.

By the looks of it, the relatives weren’t good at keeping secrets at all, for the news had reached Linda’s ears so soon. Linda had even believed it and gotten some medicinal herbs for Ian.

Sage wondered how Ian would react when he heard of this.

“Mrs. Holcomb, why are you laughing? Is there something wrong with the herbs?” Wanda asked.

Sage shook her head. “It’s nothing. I just suddenly remembered a joke.”

Wanda went back into the kitchen. Sage drank the soup as she unlocked her phone.

Tiana had posted something on her social media page.

Other than some photos of beautiful scenery, she also uploaded some selfies she took with her husband.

SURPERISE GIFT: 3000 bonus free for you,activity time is limited!

Chapter 56

Tiana was standing in front of the camera. Behind her, her husband had his head lowered as he looked at the documents in his hands.

It wasn't quite a group photo, but Tiana was smiling happily.

Sage couldn't bring herself to disrupt Tiana's sweet holiday. After thinking about it, Sage sent a message to Priscilla.

"Mrs. Xenith, do you have time this afternoon? Would you like to go for a full- body spa day?"

"I'm not trying to rush you about the matter with Mimosa. I just heard that there's a newly opened beauty salon which is quite decent. I want to invite you to try it out with me."

Sage felt that it would be too sudden to tell Priscilla straight away, but she would feel bad if she didn't say it. So, she wanted to see how Priscilla felt about

Benjamin before deciding on her next step.

After a while, Priscilla replied, "Sure."

Sage sighed in relief. After settling on a time with Priscilla, she sent her the address of the beauty salon.

Just then, Wanda served lunch.

"Let's eat together, Wanda. There's just the two of us, anyway," Sage invited her.

Wanda felt that Sage had gotten friendlier and more casual than before, so she didn't decline

"Mrs. Holcomb, Mr. Holcomb had spent the whole night on the couch last night. When he went out this morning, I heard him coughing a little. I wonder if he caught a cold," Wanda said.

Sage simply gave an "Oh" before enjoying the meal.

Wanda fell silent. She had a feeling that Sage didn't care about Ian that much anymore, but she had no idea why.

14

Wanda continued, "Mrs. Holcomb, why don't you call Mr. Holcomb and ask him to come home early? This morning, Mrs. Holcomb Senior asked that you make sure Mr. Holcomb drinks his herbal soups."

It would be quite an interesting task to make sure that Ian drank his herbal soups.

"Wanda, is the herbal soup ready?" Sage asked.

Wanda nodded. "I've placed it over low heat on the stove, so Mr. Holcomb can drink it whenever he likes after he comes back."

“Let’s not wait for him to come back,” Sage said. “Herbal soup is only effective if you take it on time. Wanda, please put some in a container. I’ll deliver it to Ian!”

Sage would pass by Holcomb Corporation on the way to the beauty salon. She had quite some time to kill before she met up with Priscilla, so she felt that she could watch Ian’s expressions while she was at it.

Ian might feel so embarrassed that he would want to sign the divorce agreement in a fit of rage.

Wanda felt very comforted when she heard Sage’s words. She thought that she was looking too much into it and that Sage still cared a lot about Ian.

After the meal, Sage drove to Holcomb Corporation.

Sage was holding the container of herbal soup and was about to enter the building when she saw a man walking in her direction.

His hair was combed back, and he was wearing branded clothing. He was dressed up just like an idol.

Sage knew him. He was Calvin.

Calvin was two years younger than Ian, and Sage heard that he had idolized Ian since young.

Ian was dissatisfied with Sage, so Calvin also refused to acknowledge Sage as

Ian’s wife.

Sage felt that she was not obliged to humor people who didn’t acknowledge her.

+16 BONUS

Hence, she looked up and decided that she would pretend to be a stranger.

Of course, Calvin spotted Sage as well.

He was waiting for Sage to greet him enthusiastically, just like before.

But in the end, Sage kept walking without even sparing him a glance.

Sage was about to walk past him when Calvin let out a loud cough.

Sage heard it, but she hastily stayed away from him as if she didn't want to catch the virus. She decided to walk around him instead.

Calvin was speechless.

"What are you doing here?" In the end, Calvin stopped Sage.

When he noticed the container in her hands, Calvin snorted. "You're going to pester Ian again, huh? He's very busy, so he doesn't have time for you!"

"Sage, you can't force someone to like you. Can't you fall for someone else and set Ian free?"

Chapter 57

When Sage heard Calvin's words, she didn't get angry and embarrassed like she used to.

Instead, she asked him earnestly, "You're close to Ian, right? Can you persuade him?"

Calvin said arrogantly, "Of course, I'm close to Ian. But I will never persuade him to fall for you!"

"I mean, help me persuade him to sign the divorce agreement."

"I will never—Huh?"

Calvin thought that Sage would keep begging him, but what did she just say?

"Divorce agreement? Are you saying that Ian wants to divorce you?"

"No, I want to divorce him." As Sage corrected Calvin, she stuffed the container into Calvin's hands.

Then, as she took out the divorce agreement from her bag, she said, "No matter what tactics you use, as long as you can get him to sign this, I'll be very grateful

to you."

"You... I..." Calvin was so shocked that he could barely think.

He wished that someone could tell him what was going on.

Why was Sage the one who wanted to get a divorce now?

Why would she carry the divorce agreement with her everywhere?

Just then, Calvin suddenly caught a whiff of a familiar scent coming from Sage.

He shuddered.

The blanket in Ian's office had the same scent.

It was faint, but Calvin was very sure that it was the same scent.

So, the blanket Ian told him to put away actually belonged to Sage?

Then, two days ago, Ian's relationship troubles might very well be because of... Sage?

"I can't take this!"

When Calvin saw Sage trying to stuff the divorce agreement into his arms, he dodged it as if it were a hot potato.

"I don't know you that well, anyway. I can't possibly help you!"

With that, Calvin shoved the container back to Sage and escaped.

Sage was speechless.

After putting the divorce agreement away, Sage continued walking toward the

hall.

As always, the receptionist greeted her warmly.

Without anyone leading the way, Sage got into the elevator and went upstairs

herself.

Perhaps because of a notice from the receptionist, Terry wasn't surprised by Sage's visit. He even told her that Ian was resting in the inner office.

Sage opened the door and walked in. Ian was asleep in the armchair.

He had leaned his head against the back of the couch, and his brows were slightly furrowed. His lips were a little dry, and his breaths were heavy as well. He looked

like he was ill.

Sage had never seen Ian look so tired before.

Usually, when he worked, he would behave like a robot. He could work overtime for many consecutive days,

Out of basic decency, Sage didn't wake him up. She even walked up to him and checked the temperature of his forehead.

Indeed, he was burning up a little.

Sage wanted to go out and tell Terry to buy some medicine, but she had just started moving when Ian took her hand.

When Sage turned around, she saw that Ian had already opened his eyes. There was an ambiguous look in his eyes.

"Were you pretending to sleep?" Sage shook off Ian's hand and questioned him in dissatisfaction.

Ian adjusted his posture. He still didn't look too good as he said, "Sage, if you're upset about anything, just tell me. You can't keep waving the divorce agreement around."

By the looks of it, Calvin had told Ian about the incident just now.

Sage didn't mind either way.

She said, "The thing I'm most upset about is your hesitation to sign the divorce agreement!"

"Is that so?" Ian looked at her calmly. "Weren't you the most upset about the fact that you were the only one having wishful thoughts about our marriage?"

Sage was stunned.

As it turned out, her senses that night were right. Ian had really overheard what she said to Tiana.

Sage admitted frankly, "I was upset about it, but now, I've gotten over it."

"If you've truly gotten over it, why would you care about me while insisting on the divorce? You didn't even dare to let the elders know the truth," Ian said.

Sage laughed in her heart.

In the end, Ian still didn't believe that she would file for divorce.

Perhaps everyone who knew her wouldn't believe it.

This was the result of her obsession with love.

It would be too difficult for her uncle and aunt to agree to her divorce.

They were also currently managing the Joyners' company. For the sake of her grandfather, she couldn't cause a ruckus.

Chapter 58

To make sure that her uncle and aunt wouldn't be able to protest, Sage would have to become so powerful that she had the final say in things.

So, she had to work on her career as soon as possible.

"When you said that I care about you, you were referring to this, right?"

Sage pointed at the container. "I have indeed come here to deliver this to you, but that's because Grandma wants me to make sure that you finish the soup."

Ian thought that it was the special concoction from before. He felt a headache coming on as he said, "Take it away. I don't have time to fool around with you."

Sage said, "That won't do. You must drink it."

When she opened the container, a strong herbal smell wafted out of it.

"These are body-strengthening herbs Grandma got from a famous doctor." Sage emphasized the word "body-strengthening." Then, she said, "I'll watch you finish it, and I'll also record a video for Grandma."

When Ian heard Sage's tone, he thought of something. His expression and gaze darkened. "Dump it."

Sage felt a little sad. "It's a sincere gift from Grandma. Are you sure you want to waste it?"

Ian closed his eyes. "Sage, if you keep this up, I don't mind showing you physically whether I need strengthening or not."

Sage could hear the threat Ian was hinting at. She

put down the container and

said in concern, "I know that you can't afford to ruin your manly pride.

"It's okay, I'll leave the soup here. When there's no one around, you can drink it

in secret."

When Ian trained his cold-gaze on her, Sage hastily retreated to the office door.

"Who cares about you anyway? You think too highly of yourself!"

With that, Sage snorted and then left with her head held high,

Terry watched as Sage left. Then, he entered the office and asked, "Mr. Holcomb, is Mrs. Holcomb alright?"

"What does that have to do with me?" Ian felt irritated, and his head was hurting as well. "Take this container and dump it outside!"

Terry picked up the container, which exuded the strong smell of herbs, "Mr. Holcomb, what do these herbs help with? Why won't you drink it?"

Ian was exasperated. "If you're so curious about it, you can drink it yourself to find out."

Terry fell silent.

“I’ll throw it out right now.”

“That damned Ian! He listened in on my conversation, and he still thinks he’s all that!” Sage thought as she furiously got into her car.

She cursed him to be weak in that aspect for real. Then, even if Ivy got married to him, she wouldn’t get any satisfaction at all!

Around ten minutes later, Sage arrived at the beauty salon.

After registering a card, she sent the room number to Priscilla.

Soon, Priscilla arrived at the VIP room as well.

Priscilla was wearing a more formal outfit compared to the clothes she wore at home last time. She was wearing a Chanel–style black coat paired with a Hermès bag. She looked both wealthy and elegant.

Sage greeted her with a smile. “You’re here, Mrs. Xenith.”

Priscilla chuckled as well. “I was in a little bit of a traffic jam just now. Sorry for being late.”

“It’s okay, I’ve just arrived as well. Let’s get the spa day going, then. I’ve booked the best beautician here.”

After a simple shower, the two lay on the beauty beds.

Sage pretended to be casual as she asked, “Mrs. Xenith, Mr. Xenith has been busy. lately, hasn’t he?”

Priscilla replied, “Yes, quite.”

The two had a few simple exchanges before enjoying the
massage.

After the massage and application of body lotion, the beautician left.

Sage handed a cup of skin–nourishing tea to Priscilla as she started the conversation. “Mrs. Xenith, how long have you and Mr. Xenith been married? You must be quite close to each other, right?”

Priscilla smiled a little. “Intimacy has nothing to do with how many years the marriage has lasted.”

Sage wondered if she was seeing things, but she felt as if Priscilla wasn’t in a good mood today.

Priscilla was too calm. It reminded Sage of the calm before the storm.

Could it be that Priscilla had noticed something off about Benjamin as well?

Or was Priscilla just in a bad mood?

“Ms. Joyner, do you have another reason for asking me out today?”

Priscilla accepted the tea and glanced at Sage. There were slight wrinkles near her eyes. “If you have something to say, you can tell me straight away.”

Sage was amazed at Priscilla’s observation skills. She didn’t deny it as she said, “I do indeed have something I want to tell you, but I don’t know if it’s rude.”

Chapter 59

Priscilla chuckled. “You know about Ben being blackmalled, right?”

Sage was startled. "So, you knew about it, Mrs. Xenith?"

"Just call me Priscilla." Priscilla had a mocking look on her face. "I don't think the title of Mrs. Xenith suits me anymore."

Priscilla said that she had only learned of Benjamin's terrible deeds after receiving the news last night.

"What do you plan to do, then, Priscilla?"

Sage knew that in their more than 20 years of marriage, they were joined by familial ties, children, and benefits. It wouldn't be easy for them to file for

divorce.

This was also why many women chose to silently endure it even after they found out that their husbands were cheating.

It was especially so for people with a high status and reputation like Priscilla. She would be even more reluctant to show her bad sides to the public.

Priscilla drank some tea. She didn't intend to hide her decisions. "I refuse to tolerate any infidelity. Ben has to pay the price for this incident."

Even though this was only their second meeting, Sage admired Priscilla a lot for her fearless personality.

"Have you thought it through? Mimosa is about to finance and go public. It cannot afford even the slightest mistake, or all the effort will be in vain."

Reality was the biggest problem, after all.

Not everyone was capable of destroying the foundation they had painstakingly built just because they were furious.

“Are you telling me to endure it?” Priscilla returned the question.

Sage shook her head. “I won’t persuade you to make any decisions. But I know, that no matter what decision you make, you definitely have a reason for it.

“If there’s anything I can help with, feel free to tell me.

Priscilla smiled. “Ms. Joyner, you’re a kind woman, just like Tiana. However, I’m very sorry that for now, I cannot make good on my previous promise to help you.

“It’s okay.” After what happened, Sage couldn’t possibly opt for Benjamin

anymore.

“I have something to deal with, so I’ll be off now.”

Priscilla got up and walked to the door. Then, she suddenly turned around and asked, “Ms. Joyner, if Mimosa changes its flavor, do you think it’s still worth investing in?”

Sage immediately understood what Priscilla meant.

“Do you mean that Mr. Xenith might withdraw his formula technology?”

“Think about the solutions and strategies in this regard.”

With that, Priscilla walked out of the VIP room.

Sage had a vague sense of Priscilla's thoughts, but she wasn't very sure about it.

Mimosa was famous because of its long-standing history and its status as an intangible cultural heritage. If it lost that part of it, Sage couldn't tell what would become of it in the future.

In her previous life, Benjamin's matter wasn't exposed, and she didn't know Priscilla either. Mimosa had successfully gone public as well.

In this life, because of Sage's changes, many things had changed too.

When Sage left the spa, it was still early.

So, she decided to visit her grandfather.

Donald was elated at Sage's sudden return.

As Sage dined with her grandfather, she asked casually, "Grandpa, how's the company doing?"

"Your uncle is in charge of most things. I'm getting old now, so I can't handle so much anymore."

Donald found it strange. "What's the matter? Are you trying to join the company? That'll be wonderful! You'll be Maven Corporation's official perfumer!"

"Grandpa, I only dabble in perfumes as a hobby. I don't want to turn my hobby into a job!" Sage said playfully.

Donald sighed. "What a pity. You're so talented too!"

Either way, she was the best and the most talented in Donald's eyes. Sage was already used to it.

“Grandpa, many people have handed their companies to professional management teams. Why don’t we give it a try and hire some professional managers?” Sage asked.

“Why would we hire management teams out of the blue?”

Chapter 60

Sage smiled and said, “The company has been at a standstill for the past few years. If it weren’t for the fame of the Holcomb family, it’d probably be even worse off than it is right now.”

Ever since her uncle, Owen Joyner, took over the company, he grew overly ambitious. He had also switched out some veterans and replaced them with his confidants.

So, Maven Corporation was doing worse every year.

Fortunately, Donald still held some prestige, so many people would give him some credit. That was why the company didn’t plummet.

However, Donald wasn’t in great health, and his energy levels were failing as well. Even though he often reprimanded Owen, the effects were miniscule.

Last year, after Sage got married to Ian, Owen signed some partnerships by making use of the fact that their family was in-laws with the Holcomb family. It was only then that business started looking up.

“We can’t depend on the Holcomb family forever. This isn’t a long-term solution.

Sage continued, “Even though we will spend quite a lot on the management team, they’re professionals, after all. They can help us earn back quite a lot of

money.

“You and Uncle Owen won’t have to work so hard, either. It’s not a bad idea, right?”

When Donald heard that, he was a little surprised. “Sage, you’ve matured a lot. You were quite earnest when you analyzed the business stuff!”

“Come on, Grandpa, stop teasing me,” Sage said playfully. “Grandpa, just consider my suggestion, okay?”

Donald couldn’t resist his granddaughter’s plea at all. “Fine, you do have a point..

I’ll discuss this with your uncle soon.”

“You’re the best, Grandpa!” Sage was elated. “Grandpa, be sure to convince Uncle Owen so that he agrees, alright?”

Donald poked Sage on the forehead. “Tell me, why do you suddenly care about the family business so much? You’ve always had eyes for Ian only, haven’t you?”

“You said it yourself. I’ve matured!”

Sage leaned against Donald’s arm as she said softly, “Grandpa, I want to protect you and the things you care about.”

In her previous life, after she was admitted to the mental hospital, Donald passed away not long after that. Of course, Owen couldn’t manage the company well.

Before Sage ended her own life, Maven Corporation was already nearing its end.

Maven Corporation was Donald's life work. Sage didn't want it to be ruined like that.

So, she hoped that the company would get back on track with help from professional managers.

"Oh, Sage is here!"

Sage and Donald were chatting happily when an elegantly dressed woman walked

Sage looked up. It was her aunt, Susan Turner,

Owen and Susan had a house in the city, so they rarely visited Donald.

Sage wondered what brought Susan here today.

"Aunt Susan," Sage greeted politely.

Susan's smile was a little exaggerated. "You're such a good child, Sage. You'd drop by to keep your grandpa company from time to time. No wonder he loves you so much!"

Indeed, Donald pampered Sage more than he did her cousin, Layla Joyner. That was why Susan never liked Sage.

Still, because of Donald's prestige, Susan didn't dare to make it too obvious.

Sage didn't play along with Susan. Instead, she said adorably to Donald, Grandpa, it's getting dark outside. I'll be going home now."

Donald nodded lovingly. "Alright, take care on your way home,"

"I've just arrived. Why are you leaving already?" Susan stopped Sage. "Hold on. Take these home."

Susan handed a luxuriously wrapped box to Sage.

"I've spent a lot on this premium wild herb. Bring it home for Ian, will you?"

Sage realized then that Susan had rushed here on purpose.

Susan was motivated by benefits. Since she had suddenly gotten a gift for Ian, she must have something to ask of him.

Sage declined. "It's okay. Ian never takes supplements. Moreover, he rarely comes home for meals, so it'll only be a waste if I bring it home."

"Come on. He's very busy, right? Then he definitely needs supplements. Take it and tell him that this is a sincere gift from your uncle and me!"