

Secret Admiration Finding True Love After Prison

Chapter 301 – 310

Chapter 301 Give Herself Away

1/4

As Meryl and Chandler left together, Dalton instinctively began to follow. Lydia immediately grabbed his sleeve.

“Dalton, even if you’re harsh with me, what about our child? The baby is innocent. Don’t you want him?”

“Look at all the doctors and nurses, and your mom—everyone wants to save him. As his father, how can you be so heartless?”

Dalton gently patted Lydia’s shoulder, signaling her to let go.

He pulled his hand away and sat back down, his tone turning serious. “Just now, Meryl asked you for Rocky’s number. You said you didn’t have it. Is that true?”

A flicker of guilt flashed in Lydia’s eyes, but it was gone in an instant.

Dalton didn’t notice.

“Why would I have Rocky’s number? You’ve forgotten that three years ago, Meryl bribed him to kidnap me? We’re enemies. I hate him,” Lydia said, her voice steady.

Dalton’s fingers tapped lightly on the table. “But last night, while you were asleep, I got a call from a man. Guess who he said he **was?**”

Chapter 301 Give Herself Away Lydia’s face suddenly darkened.

She asked, “...Who?”

Dalton chuckled, but there was no warmth in his eyes. He glanced at Lydia, his gaze sharp. “What do you think?”

Lydia fell silent.

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“Lydia, so you’ve been secretly in contact with Rocky all this time? Didn’t he try to kidnap you three years ago? Why would you be in touch with someone who tried to kidnap you? Don’t you think you owe me an explanation?”

“What did he say to you? Dalton, it’s not what you think!”

Lydia’s mind raced, spinning a lie as easily as breathing. “Rocky called to harass me. He’s been bothering me privately for years!”

Dalton laughed upon **hearing** this.

“So, if you knew Rocky’s number, why didn’t you tell Meryl when she asked?”

Some things were best left unexamined; once one dug into them, all one found were red flags.

Dalton didn’t know which of Lydia’s statements were true and which were false.

He didn’t say **more**, leaving behind a look of disappointment before walking **away**.

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Lydia was stunned, a cold sweat breaking **out** on her back.

3/4

She grabbed her phone from the table and scrolled through her call history.

No sign of Rocky’s call.

Clutching the phone, Lydia called Rocky immediately.

The phone rang for a while before being answered.

A groggy, barely awake voice came through. “Hello?”

“Rocky, did you call me last night?”

“Nope!”

Hearing this, Lydia felt a chill of realization.

She thought, “Dalton was testing me!

He was checking if I had **any** contact with Rocky!”

Lydia's face fell because she realized she had walked right into Dalton's trap.

Although she claimed that Rocky had been harassing her, it was clear from Dalton's departing look that he didn't believe her.

"What's the deal? Waking me up at the crack of dawn just to ask if I got a call from **you**?"

Chapter 301 Give Herself Away

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Fuming over her recent near-miscarriage, Lydia shifted all her anger onto Rocky. "Why did the kidnapping go wrong last night? Why was I also taken? Shouldn't you give me an explanation?"

"Is it that my payment wasn't enough? You took my money and didn't deliver, Rocky—you're a piece of crap!"

Write your comment

Chapter 302 Ignore Your Brother's Bad Temper

Rocky felt thoroughly humiliated after being scolded by a woman.

1/4

Especially since he'd never been known for his patience.

"Lydia, who do you think you are? Just a piece of trash I've used up, and you dare to curse me out? Damn it!"

When Lydia heard Rocky's crude words, her face instantly drained of color.

She shouted into the phone, "Shut up! Stop spouting nonsense!"

"Nonsense? Back when you were beneath me, you were..."

At that moment, Malcolm and Bianca walked in from the hallway.

Seeing Lydia shouting at the phone, Malcolm asked, "Lydia, who are you talking to?"

"Nobody... nothing," Lydia stammered, quickly hanging up in her panic.

Malcolm didn't press further.

Chapter 302 Ignore Your Brother's Bad Tem... Instead, he noticed Lydia's swollen belly.
"You're pregnant?"

Lydia nodded.

2/4

The Stone family had heard about the kidnapping, so they came early in the morning to visit her.

Malcolm said with genuine delight, "That's great!

"Take good care of yourself. When the baby's born, you'll really hold your head high in the Aniston family."

Lydia bit her lip, struggling with her unspoken troubles.

She hadn't told her family about the divorce drama with Dalton.

Of course, she couldn't tell Malcolm that Dalton wasn't thrilled about the baby and had even suggested she get an abortion.

Being a woman, Bianca was more perceptive than Malcolm.

Noticing Dalton's absence, she asked, "You're carrying Dalton's child. Why is it so quiet here? Where's Dalton? Why isn't he here with **you**?"

Lydia lowered her head slightly. "He had to leave for something."

Malcolm said, sensing something was off, "What could be more important than being with his pregnant wife?"

"Even if he's busy, what about the rest of the Aniston family?"

3/4

Chapter 302 Ignore Your Brother's Bad Tem... Where's his mother? Why **haven't** I seen any of their servants?"

Lydia bit her lip again. "I prefer peace and quiet. I didn't want any servants around."

Bianca clearly didn't buy that.

She felt Lydia was hiding something.

“Lydia, is the Aniston family treating you poorly?”

Lydia’s eyes welled up with tears.

Malcolm immediately grasped the situation.

“This is outrageous. The Aniston family can’t treat my daughter like this. Do they think we’re nobody?”

Malcolm was about to storm out, ready to confront the Aniston family.

Just then, John, leaning against the doorframe, spoke up. “Lydia’s just a mistress. What kind of family do you think the Aniston family is? They’d be nuts to care about her.”

“Watch your mouth about your sister!” Malcolm glared at John.

John smirked. “Sister? She’s no sister of mine. I don’t have **any** mistresses as my sister.”

Malcolm was taken aback. “You...”

Chapter **302** Ignore Your Brother’s Bad Tem... John, as arrogant as ever, made a rude gesture toward Lydia with a sneer.

Malcolm, despite his irritation, couldn’t bring himself to be harsh with John..

John’s comment had, however, calmed Malcolm down a bit.

4/4

He knew better than to start trouble with the Aniston family at this moment.

“Lydia, ignore your brother’s bad temper. He’s just joking around. Don’t let it get to you.”

Lydia’s face was a mix of anger and distress, her stomach aching from the stress.

Write your comment

Chapter 303 Deserve It

“Get out, all of you. I need to sleep for a bit!”

1/3

If this had been before, Lydia would have said she didn't mind, but now she couldn't even be bothered to pretend.

With everything in chaos and her stress level through the roof, she had no time to deal with the Stone family.

After leaving the hospital room, Bianca thought about Meryl, who had also been in trouble last night. "I wonder how Meryl is doing."

Malcolm interjected, "It's Christmas time, and she hasn't even bothered to wish us well. Why are you still worried about her?"

Bianca didn't respond, but John's eyes gleamed with concern.

"Mom, can I borrow your phone?"

Bianca handed over the phone, puzzled. "Where's your phone?"

"Lost it." John shrugged.

It was bizarre. He had lost his phone two days ago and still hadn't found it.

"Trying to call your sister, **right?**"

Chapter 303 Deserve It

Seeing that the call went unanswered, Bianca sighed, "You're barking up the wrong tree. Meryl blocked me and your dad a while ago."

2/3

John said coldly, "Are you feeling sorry for yourself now? You and Dad did enough to help her to deserve it."

Malcolm frowned, "Watch your tone. What have I done wrong?"

John snapped, "You don't know? While I was studying abroad, you sent my sister to prison and lied to me, saying she was in the military with no phone. Is that right?"

Malcolm retorted, "It was because your sister messed up with Lydia!"

John sneered, saying, "Lydia cries, and you fall for it every time. Do you even know who your real child is? Trusting an adopted daughter over your own? No wonder Celestial Ventures Group is always struggling."

Malcolm was livid. “John, how dare you speak to me like that!”

“Unless you can make things right with my sister, you’re not my dad. If you keep letting her suffer, you’re nothing to me.”

Bianca quickly stepped in to smooth things over. “Enough from both of you. Let’s just calm down.”

“Look at how you’ve spoiled him, making him impossible to handle!” Malcolm’s anger shifted to Bianca.

Chapter 303 Deserve It

Despite his anger, Malcolm couldn’t bring himself to punish John, so he took out his frustration on Bianca instead.

Bianca was taken aback, feeling the unfairness.

“Spoiled him? Yes, I’ve raised a son who earned a full scholarship to prestigious university. That’s my great crime?”

Mention of John’s full scholarship softened Malcolm’s expression.

3/3

Only a few students each year got that, and Malcolm was proud. Within days, everyone knew, and his ego had soared.

This was one reason Malcolm indulged John.

John stared coldly at Malcolm and Bianca.

“I’m going to bring my sister home myself. You two need to apologize to her sincerely. This is your only chance. If you blow it, neither she nor I will ever come back.”

Write your **comment**

Chapter 304 First Time

The next day, John arranged to meet Meryl for a meal at a private dining room in the Kingdom Hotel.

He drove to pick her up himself.

When Meryl saw her long-lost younger brother, she was momentarily stunned.

1/4

She thought, “Has John really grown this tall? At over 6 feet, he has clearly outgrown his childhood, and his face is now showing signs of maturity.

It has been five years since we last saw each other.”

“Hey, Meryl.”

As soon as Meryl stepped out, John’s eyes locked onto her, and only when he saw she was in one piece did he finally relax.

John had heard that Meryl had a rough time in prison, and just thinking about it filled him with guilt.

“I’m sorry, I...”

Meryl gently patted his shoulder, not wanting to dwell on unhappy topics.

John wasn’t to blame; the Stone family had kept him in the dark,

Chapter 304 First Time

so he knew nothing.

“This is my husband, Chandler Aniston,” Meryl introduced.

John’s attention shifted to the man standing beside her.

2/4

In the days leading up to this meeting, John had reached out to old friends to find out more about Chandler.

All he had heard was that Chandler was a stand-up guy with no scandals.

Despite the positive reports, John couldn’t help but scrutinize Chandler with a critical eye.

He needed to see for himself.

John gave a brief nod, barely hiding his youthful arrogance.

Noticing this, Meryl gave him a light tap on the forehead. "This is my husband. Stop acting like you're inspecting the place! Show some respect and greet him properly."

Caught off guard by Meryl's reprimand, John felt displeased.

He thought, "I've grown up! Why does she still treat me like a kid?"

He glanced at Chandler, who seemed to be stifling a smile, and felt even more embarrassed.

"Chandler!" John grumbled begrudgingly.

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Chandler patted him on the shoulder. "Good boy."

John thought, "What's this? Am I being treated like a kid?"

"I'm your wife's brother!"

Fuming inside, John struggled to keep his composure in front of Meryl.

He thought to himself, "I even opened the front passenger door, and Meryl pulled Chandler into the back seat.

Does she see me as just the driver now?"

With a scowl, John drove in a mood that matched his frustration.

When they arrived, Chandler deliberately lagged behind.

"What do you think of the limited-edition Lamborghini that just came out last month?" Chandler asked.

John blinked in confusion. "What?"

Chandler tossed him a set of car keys.

John caught them reflexively. As he saw the Lamborghini logo, his mind went blank for a few seconds.

Chandler said with a smile, "Consider it a welcome gift.

Chapter 304 First Time

“The car’s parked at the underground level of Kerry Mall. Go pick it up yourself.”

With that, Chandler walked into the Kingdom Hotel.

John was slow to process what just happened.

He thought, “Chandler is giving me a car?

A limited–edition Lamborghini from last month?”

“Chandler, wait up!”

Write your comment

Chapter 305 Talk Nonsense

When they arrived at the private room, Malcolm and Bianca stood up to greet them, seeing that Chandler had also come.

Meryl wasn’t particularly surprised.

She knew that today’s dinner was a strategic move by Malcolm and Bianca to ease the tension between them through John.

“Meryl, you’re finally here! Come on, let’s order,” Bianca said, signaling the waiter to bring the menu.

Meryl took the menu, selected a few of her favorite dishes, and then handed it to Chandler, maintaining an air of cool detachment throughout.

She barely acknowledged Bianca and Malcolm, focusing solely on catching up with John.

She asked John about his school life and his dating status. Chandler sat quietly, listening to the siblings exchange, occasionally smiling at Meryl’s comments.

After John glanced at Malcolm for the third time, Malcolm, clearly reluctant, nudged Bianca with his elbow.

Bianca said, “Meryl, **we** invited you here today to apologize. It’s clear that we weren’t fair to you. We hope you can overlook the past, and just enjoy **this** meal as family. **Is** that alright?”

Chapter 305 Talk Nonsense

Meryl seemed not to have heard, asking John, “Lost your phone? Is it possible you didn’t lose it outside but at home instead?”

2/4

“Home?” John frowned. “But I’ve searched everywhere at home. Who would have taken my phone?”

Suddenly, John’s eyes widened with realization. “Lydia?”

“Meryl, don’t ignore me. I’m trying to mend our relationship. Will you talk to **me**, please?” Bianca pleaded.

Meryl continued to ignore her, instead pulling up a chat log on her phone and pushing it towards John.

“A few days ago, I got a message from your number, asking me to meet for coffee at a café on the west side of town. When I arrived, it was Lydia waiting inside.”

John took the phone and looked at the screen.

It was indeed his number!

Confused, John asked, “But **why** would Lydia steal my phone?”

By now, even Bianca had fallen **silent**, her apology forgotten.

“When I got to the café, I was kidnapped. What do you think Lydia wanted with your phone? She used it to lure me out and let the kidnappers grab me.”

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The room fell silent, each person’s expression different from the next.

Malcolm frowned, “Meryl, stop with the wild accusations. This isn’t something to joke about! Why would Lydia do this? What’s in it for her?”

“Whenever I speak, you just dismiss me as talking nonsense. Fine, if you don’t want to hear it, I see no point in staying for this meal!” Meryl snapped, reaching for Chandler and making a move to leave.

Bianca quickly stepped in her way. “Meryl, hold on! Let’s talk this through.”

Bianca shot Malcolm a reproachful look. "Can you let your daughter finish her story?"

Bianca had always suspected Malcolm was overly protective of Lydia, but now she was convinced he had a bias towards Lydia, even more so than towards his own wife.

"Meryl, if Lydia was behind the kidnapping, why was she also taken?" Bianca asked, puzzled.

"Because the kidnappers weren't sure who was who, they decided to take both of us," Meryl explained.

Malcolm smirked, clearly mocking the explanation.

"Listen to this, she's claiming Lydia orchestrated the kidnapping but then says the kidnappers didn't recognize Lydia. Isn't that

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contradictory? If Lydia hired the kidnappers, how could they not recognize her and end up kidnapping her too?"

4/4

Meryl retorted, "The kidnappers Lydia hired were Rocky's crew. Rocky gave the orders, but it was his men who carried out the abduction. They wouldn't have known us apart. Isn't that logical?"

Malcolm questioned, "That's even more far-fetched. How could Lydia possibly be connected to Rocky?"

"Three years ago, you and Rocky teamed up to kidnap Lydia. If there's any connection, it should be between you and Rocky."

Meryl, clearly frustrated, threw her cup to the floor.

"I've said it before, the whole thing three years ago was a setup by Lydia. Malcolm, do you have trouble understanding plain language? Whether you believe me or not is irrelevant. I'm going to find evidence to clear my name."

With that, Meryl made it clear she had no intention of staying any longer.

She stood up, ready to leave, but Bianca grabbed her by the wrist. "Meryl, the meal isn't even served yet. Where do you think you're going? Sit down and eat first."

Write your comment

Chapter 306 Why Should I Forgive You?

At that moment, the waiter served the meal.

Bianca took a spoon and personally filled Meryl's bowl with a spoonful of the soup, placing it before her.

"I remember how much you loved clam chowder when you were a kid. You'd have a big bowl nearly every day after you returned," Bianca said with a hint of motherly affection.

In a VIP-only restaurant like the Kingdom Hotel, every ingredient was premium grade.

1/4

A wide array of exotic dishes graced the menu, but such a simple clam broth wasn't listed.

Meryl hadn't seen it when she placed her order.

Yet, after giving Bianca a glance, acknowledging her gesture, Meryl reluctantly sat back down.

Bianca sighed in relief upon seeing Meryl settle back in her seat.

In that fleeting moment, Bianca felt a pang of guilt.

She had thought about Meryl's words from three years ago, "I've said it before, the whole thing was a setup by Lydia. Whether

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you believe me or not is irrelevant. I'm going to find evidence to clear my name," which Meryl had said tearfully back then.

At that time, no one had believed Meryl and given her the opportunity to prove her innocence before they sent her off to prison.

Now, three years had passed, and many doubts lingered in Bianca's mind.

Considering Lydia's recent odd behavior, Bianca began to question if she might have been wrong after all.

She thought, "If that's the case, then how desperate must Meryl have been in those three years?"

She was surrounded by those she was closest to, yet no one believed her. She suffered so much inside the prison.”

Throughout the meal, Bianca felt a mix of emotions, feeling **so** complicated that by the end, she even avoided looking directly into Meryl’s eyes.

The dinner was filled with an eerie silence.

Malcolm had attempted to start a conversation with Chandler about company matters several times, but with the previous argument with Meryl still fresh in his mind, he felt it was undignified to approach Chandler now.

He felt like an elder playing a subordinate role, wishing that Bianca would bridge the conversation for him, but Bianca

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seemed lost in her thoughts, giving him no attention.

3/4

John kicked Malcolm under the table, an obvious signal for him to apologize to Meryl for his earlier behavior.

Malcolm remained silent, his black leather shoes turning white. from John’s kick, yet he showed no sign of contrition.

John wanted to lash out at Malcolm, but he worried that his sharp-tongued behavior in front of Chandler might reflect poorly on his upbringing, and thus stopped himself.

The most important thing was not letting Chandler get the impression that the Stone family’s offspring were poorly

mannered, capable of rudely confronting their elders, and thus disrespecting his sister.

After the meal, Chandler happened to meet a business associate and went off to a private room to toast a couple of glasses of wine.

Malcolm and John headed for the restroom.

Bianca, seeing no one around, approached Meryl immediately.

“Meryl, can we talk?” Bianca said, her eyes red with unshed tears, holding the bracelet Meryl had given her on her birthday.

Seeing the bracelet, Meryl finally acknowledged Bianca with a glance. "About what?"

Bianca, with red-rimmed eyes, said softly, "When I talked to you

Chapter 306 Why Should I Forgive You? earlier, it wasn't just for show. I genuinely want to mend our mother-daughter relationship."

Bianca felt a pang of unease, especially as she considered the possibility that there might be things going on between Lydia and Malcolm that she didn't know about.

With no one else to confide in, she turned to Meryl, her own flesh and blood.

4/4

Bianca thought perhaps only Meryl could truly understand her.

"Meryl, I'm willing to do anything to earn your forgiveness. Meryl, I think there might be something going on between your dad and Lydia..."

Meryl looked at Bianca and replied coldly, "You're only thinking of repairing our relationship now? The damage has already been done. Why should I forgive you and forget about the past just because of one sentence?"

→Write your comment

Chapter 307 Damned Wasteful Kid!

Bianca let out a deep sigh.

Meryl pulled her hand away from Bianca's, took a step back, and walked out of the private room.

Bianca's eyes welled up, her nose tingled, and she suddenly buried her face in her hands, collapsing onto the table in tears.

She thought, "What have I done! Meryl is so unwilling to even exchange a few comforting words with me!"

When Malcolm and John returned from the restroom, they were met with the sight of Bianca sobbing uncontrollably.

Malcolm raised an eyebrow. "It's a holiday, and you're crying? What's got into you?"

Bianca shot Malcolm a look of utter disappointment.

She thought, "How can he be so indifferent? If it were Lydia, crying, Malcolm would be rushing to comfort her."

The thought only made Bianca angrier.

She yelled at Malcolm, "Why did you secretly give Lydia money behind my back? Why is there suddenly 30 million dollars missing from my account?"

Chapter 307 Damned Wasteful Kid! Malcolm's face twitched with guilt.

John's expression grew icy.

2/3

He said, "Malcolm, you gave Lydia 30 million dollars? I only got 10 million dollars! Have you lost your mind?"

Malcolm hadn't expected Bianca to reveal this in front of John.

He stammered, "Lydia needs the money since she's with the Aniston family. What's wrong with giving her a bit more?"

"Lydia needs it, but so does Meryl! She's an elder in the Aniston family, so she needs more money to give to the junior! Why didn't you give her anything?"

John immediately reached over and started rummaging through Malcolm's pockets, pulling out an unlimited card.

"What are you doing?" Malcolm tried to snatch it back.

John, taller and stronger, held the card high above Malcolm's head.

Malcolm couldn't reach it.

"Either you give Meryl 50 million dollars **now**, or I'm taking this card. Your choice!"

Fuming, Malcolm retorted, "Why does Meryl get 50 million dollars? What has she ever done for me?"

Chapter **307** Damned Wasteful Kid!

3/3

"Because Meryl is your family, and because you owe her! You're not keeping a penny!"

Minutes later, Meryl, scrolling through her phone, noticed a 50 million deposit in her account. She was perplexed.

She thought, “Why is Malcolm suddenly transferring so much money? Does he think he can make it up **to** me with cash?”

The transaction had a note: [My dear daughter, here’s your Christmas gift. Don’t think it’s too little; accept it. I love you.]

Meryl thought, “What the heck? Malcolm actually said that?”

She accepted the money, still bewildered, and replied with a cheeky message: [So you know it’s too little. Why not add a bit more?]

Receiving the message, John, holding Malcolm’s phone,

transferred another 50 million dollars to Meryl, adding: [My baby girl, you’re absolutely right.]

Malcolm thought, “What a spendthrift! This damned wasteful kid!”

He watched in dismay as his secret savings, painstakingly hoarded over the years, vanished before his eyes.

Write your comment

Chapter 308 A Voyeur

Meryl lingered in the hallway for a moment as Chandler emerged from his business partner’s private room. A man, clearly the big boss, came out to see Chandler off. Chandler nodded to him, saying, “No need to see me out, Mr. Cole.”

1/4

David Cole immediately noticed Meryl standing nearby. Adjusting his glasses slightly, he asked, “Is this Mrs. Aniston?”

Chandler confirmed with a simple “Yes.”

Instantly, David stepped forward and greeted Meryl warmly. “Mrs. Aniston, it’s a pleasure to meet you. I’m David Cole from Horizon Global Group. I’ve heard so much about you.”

Meryl was taken aback. She glanced at Chandler, who nodded encouragingly, prompting her to respond, “Nice to meet you.” She was familiar with Horizon Global Group. Not long ago, Galaxy Holdings Group

collaborated with them on a project. It was likely due to Chandler's connection that David was so courteous to her.

David said, "You performed a cello piece at Galaxy Holdings Group's annual event. My wife was truly captivated by it and has been hoping to meet you. Oh right, her birthday is just around the corner. I was wondering if you might do us the honor of attending as our guest?"

Meryl was stunned. She hadn't expected anyone to appreciate

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2/4

her cello performance so much. She knew that wealthy families often get together to socialize, so she readily agreed, "Of course, I'd be happy to."

"Wonderful! I'll send an invitation in a few days, see you!" David said before returning to his dinner party, leaving them alone.

As soon as David was out of sight, Chandler gently placed his arm around Meryl's shoulder. "You don't usually enjoy those gatherings."

"Since you're working with Mr. Cole, and he extended an invitation in person, wouldn't it be rude if I didn't attend?" she replied, looking up at him.

"You don't need to worry about that. I don't want you to do things you don't enjoy for my sake," Chandler said.

Meryl smiled faintly, "Let's just say I'm expanding my social circle and gaining a little experience."

Chandler's expression darkened as he shifted the conversation. "Earlier at dinner, you mentioned that Lydia was behind your kidnapping?"

He had been distracted that day after being betrayed, and the kidnappers who took Meryl to the abandoned building were remnants of a gang he had failed to capture during a police academy mission. Because of this, he had overlooked the other group of kidnappers. He never imagined Lydia would be bold enough to interfere with someone close to him.

Chapter 308 A Voyeur

Chandler asked, "Do you need my help?"

3/4

Meryl shook her head. "I'll handle this myself. This is between Lydia and me. There's no need for you to get involved." It would be like using a sledgehammer to crack a nut.

Meryl felt that someone like Chandler was overqualified for dealing with someone like Lydia. Besides, he was a man, and it didn't seem right for him to meddle in a conflict between women. It would only dirty his hands.

Seeing her resolve, Chandler didn't push further. They were married, and he respected her decisions.

Moreover, when it came to settling scores, doing it yourself was the only way to savor the satisfaction of revenge. If he interfered, it would rob Meryl of that experience.

They left the Kingdom Hotel together. They were too engrossed in their conversation, unaware that Dalton had been watching them at a distance not far behind them.

Dalton had been there for quite a while.

Since John brought them to Kingdom Hotel, Dalton had followed them closely. He saw Chandler gift John a sports car and watched Chandler dine with the Stone family in a private

room.

While they ate inside, Dalton stood outside, staring at the closed doors from a short distance away. He didn't know what they were talking about, but he knew the man standing by Meryl's

Chapter 308 A Voyeur

side should have been him.

Dalton felt like he was losing his mind. He felt like a voyeur.

4/4

He would do anything if Meryl would just turn around and look at him again.

Write your comment

Chapter 309 Stalking

After receiving a generous sum of 100 million dollars from Malcolm, Meryl headed to the mall and bought a designer handbag to gift Anne as a Christmas present.

Anne had first learned about Meryl's kidnapping through the news on TV. She immediately called Meryl, accusing her of not telling her such a big incident.

It wasn't that Meryl didn't want to tell her. She had been too shaken by the ordeal. Plus, Chandler had been injured, so she hadn't had a chance to process everything. By the time she realized she hadn't informed Anne, two days had already passed since the kidnapping.

When Anne saw the limited-edition handbag worth millions of dollars in front of her, she raised an eyebrow in surprise. "What's going on? Is this really for me?"

Anne, well-versed in fashion, instantly recognized it as this season's hottest item, one that couldn't be bought even with extra cash.

Anne said, "I know Chandler's wealthy, but isn't this a bit extravagant? Buying such an expensive bag for your best friend. Won't Chandler mind?"

"I bought it with Malcolm's money," Meryl said, casually mentioning the 100 million dollars she'd received as a Christmas

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gift.

2/4

Anne was shocked at her words. "Wow, the Stone family actually gave you that much? Then I really can't accept this bag. After everything they put you through, I can't take advantage of that blood money."

Anne wasn't the type to benefit from her friend's past pain.

"Take it. It's Malcolm's money, so I don't feel bad about spending it at all," Meryl said generously.

Anne didn't refuse any further, and the two continued to shop together for a while longer.

As they were parting ways in the underground parking lot, Anne suddenly said, "After Christmas, I might be heading abroad for a while."

Meryl's gaze drifted to Anne's belly. "You're almost four months. along, right?"

Anne nodded. She had paused all work because she was starting **to** show. Although she was slender and her small bump wasn't too obvious, as **a** model, even the slightest weight gain was noticeable on camera.

It was winter now, and the heavy clothing concealed her pregnancy. But once spring arrived and the coats came off, there would be no hiding **it** anymore.

Meryl quickly figured out why Anne was planning to go abroad.

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Anne didn't want to have the baby under Dante's watchful eye, and her parents were living overseas.

Just then, Yancey appeared behind Anne, holding a bouquet of flowers. Upon hearing Anne mention leaving the country, he was shocked. "Anne, when are you leaving?"

At Yancey's words, Meryl and Anne turned around.

Yancey stepped forward and grabbed Anne by the wrist, pulling her into his embrace. "Don't go. I can be there for you when the baby comes. I'll take care of you both."

Not far away, Dante was sitting **in** his car, watching the scene unfold. He lit **a** cigarette, biting it.

From his perspective, Yancey had come to take Anne home, and they had given in to their emotions, embracing right there in the underground garage.

For the past two months, Yancey had been living at Anne's place. Their relationship had clearly progressed quickly, and from the looks of it, whatever was bound to happen had already happened.

Dante hadn't expected Anne to be this ruthless. He had initially thought she was only keeping Yancey around to spite him. But now, it seemed she was serious.

Watching Anne and Yancey hold each other so intimately, Dante didn't rush over this time. He had been impulsive, calm, wild, and obsessed **in** the past two months. Now, his heart was **just**

Chapter 309 Stalking

still.

4/4

As Anne and Yancey remained locked in their embrace, Dante slammed his foot on the gas and drove away.

Dante's car sped off, exposing the **car** behind it. It was Dalton's.

Meryl decided to head home to give Anne and Yancey some privacy. However, just as her car reached the alleyway, another vehicle cut her off, blocking her path.

It was Dalton.

Meryl immediately slammed on the brakes and rolled down her window, irritation clear in her voice. "What do you think you're doing? Trying to pull a stunt?"

Their cars would have collided if she had been distracted for even a second.

But to her surprise, Dalton opened the passenger door and got into her car. "Meryl, we need to talk."

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Chapter 310 Strange Logic

Meryl frowned at Dalton for sitting down in her passenger seat. Her eyes were cold and distant. "Dalton, what is there left for us to talk about?"

Dalton replied, "Aren't you looking for Rocky? I know where he is." He pulled out his phone and opened a QR code as he spoke. "Add me back, and I'll send you his location."

Meryl had deleted Dalton from her contacts long ago, so she found it amusing when he mentioned adding him back. "If you know where he is, just tell me. Do I really need to add you again?"

Dalton insisted, "There are too many turns and side roads. If I don't send you the detailed coordinates, you won't be able to find him."

Meryl was skeptical. She didn't **want** to add him back but knew she had to meet Rocky, so reluctantly, she scanned his QR code.

Dalton pocketed his phone as soon as he added her to his

contact.

Meryl's brow furrowed. "What are you doing? Weren't you going to send me Rocky's location?"

“Don’t worry,” Dalton said calmly. “I told you I’d send it, and I **will**. But first, there’s something else I want to talk about.”

Chapter 310 Strange Logic

2/3

Dalton suddenly recalled the moment he had seen Chandler and Meryl kissing **in** the backseat of this very car. The thought made him feel irritated and uncomfortable.

“It’s stuffy in here. You should step out first,” Dalton said as he opened his door.

When Meryl didn’t move, he walked to her side and opened her door. “Step out.”

Meryl couldn’t figure out what Dalton was scheming. But she knew that meeting him alone wasn’t right, especially after what had happened at the Aniston Villa not long ago.

Dalton was drunk and talked to her for a long time, begging her to come back to him. Although it was just the ramblings of an intoxicated man, there was truth in wine.

Moreover, Chandler had caught them. Afterward, Chandler had been merciless with her **in** bed, leaving her body aching. The memory alone made Meryl wary of the situation.

She didn’t get out of the car but looked up at Dalton. “Dalton, this isn’t proper. Your Uncle Chandler **will** get jealous.”

When Meryl mentioned Chandler, Dalton’s expression turned cold. “Are **you** afraid of Uncle Chandler? Did he ever force you? If he did, just tell me, and I’ll...”

“And you’ll do what?” Meryl stared at **him** for a few seconds, finding his words out of place.

Chapter 310 Strange Logic

Dalton pressed his lips. “Although I can’t beat him, I’d risk everything to protect you.”

3/3

Meryl found Dalton’s logic strange. Clearly, she and Chandler were married, but how Dalton spoke made it seem like she was closer to him.

Not wanting to dwell on this topic with Dalton anymore, she asked, “So, Dalton, what do you really want to say? Why are you stopping me?”

Seeing Meryl avoid talking about Chandler, Dalton grew

more convinced that his suspicions were right. To him, their public displays of affection were just for show. A spark of hope. reignited in his eyes.

Dalton said, "Meryl, when you were kidnapped, did you get hurt? I tried to save you, too, but Uncle Chandler got there first. You have no idea how worried I've been about you these past few days."

Dalton had been following Meryl to see whether she was hurt or

not.

"Worried about me?" Meryl's tone remained calm. "Your wife is **in** the hospital trying to keep her pregnancy. Shouldn't you be more concerned about her?"

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