# Adorable 341

# Chapter 341 Birthday

In a few minutes, the car pulled over at the driveway of the Blooming Restaurant. Corbin promptly stepped out of the vehicle and opened the door for Eliana.

Wearing a slight frown, Eliana seemed adamant about staying inside.

But Corbin stared at her grimly as if warning her that something terrible would happen if she didn't get out of the car immediately.

Fearing for the worst, Eliana sighed and finally relented.

She slowly exited the vehicle and walked towards the restaurant reluctantly with each step. Based on her terrified expression, it seemed like a dangerous beast was waiting inside the restaurant to devour her.

"Eliana, wait a minute!"

When she was near the entrance, Corbin suddenly called for her attention.

"Before you go inside, there's something important I need to tell you. Please be patient and kind towards Mr. Moran today. He's been depressed since waking up this morning."

It appeared that Corbin wanted to say something more but stopped on second thought as he looked at Eliana.

Why was Maurice in low spirits today?

Was there something wrong?

Confused at his words, Eliana didn't say anything to Corbin. Instead, she turned around and walked into the restaurant.

Empty tables and chairs greeted her eyes. After a few seconds, Eliana slowly realized there were no other customers inside. It seemed that Maurice had booked the entire restaurant.

It sure was good to be rich.

Taking a deep breath, Eliana walked towards the only occupied table at the end of the hall.

With his hands clasped together, a brooding Maurice looked up and beckoned her to join him.

"You're finally here. Come sit."

Maurice stared at Eliana with dull eyes.

Seeing the gloomy figure in front of her, Eliana immediately sensed that something was wrong indeed.

Maurice was not acting like himself. He was usually cold and indifferent, but today he seemed to be dead inside. Like an isolated island that was separated from the rest of the world, Maurice looked dreary and lifeless.

The table was filled with all kinds of delectable dishes. In silence, Eliana pulled out a chair and sat across Maurice.

This was the first time the pair had a normal meal after the shocking revelation of Maurice's other identity.

With a flurry of thoughts in her mind, Eliana didn't know what to say. She didn't know how to act around the man who played her for a fool.

Looking down at her plate in silence, Eliana started to eat her food. No matter how tasty the dishes were, she had suddenly lost her appetite.

"What did you and Kimora talk about?"

Maurice broke the silence first, but Eliana didn't like the topic one bit.

"Mr. Moran, all you have to do is ask someone to monitor me. Then you would have all the answers to everything."

Eliana rolled her eyes and glared at him. She still had a grudge against Maurice for controlling her life and violating her privacy.

Ignoring her sarcasm, Maurice asked indifferently, "Did you give Kimora some money?"

"Wait, how did you know about that?" Eliana's eyes widened in surprise. "Are you really spying on me?"

"The moment Kimora left your house, she went to a shopping mall to buy several items for her grandchildren. If you hadn't given her money, how could she have purchased expensive things on a whim?"

When he heard this report from his detectives, Maurice was already angry, so he decided to vent all his pent-up fury at Eliana.

"You love Jonathan so much that you gave a generous sum of money to his subordinate. But why are you still so mean to me?" Maurice sneered in disdain.

How could this man always bring up Jonathan every chance he got?

"I was just returning a favor to Kimora. It had nothing to do with Jonathan." Eliana was quickly losing her patience. "Besides, you already have so many riches and assets at your disposal. You basically have everything that other people can only dream about. Why do you still care about a nanny's dismissal wage?"

Maurice paused and chuckled at himself. "Even if I have the whole world in the palm of my hand, so what? I have yet to attain my heart's deepest desire."

He gazed longingly at Eliana with his dark eyes. It felt hypnotic and intoxicating.

Seeing Maurice stare at her intently, Eliana felt her heart skip a beat, and she subconsciously avoided his sight. But her emotions were slowly getting out of control.

What was it that he wanted most?

No matter how hard she tried not to think of it, Eliana already knew the answer.

But things were now even more complicated between them. She was confused on how their relationship could progress from here. Considering everything that had happened, how could she possibly give in to what he wanted?

"Mr. Moran, stop playing games with me. With your immense wealth and status, what can't you get?"

Eliana could only continue to play dumb. It was the best approach she could think of without submitting again to his control.

"Do you really think that life always works that way?" Maurice replied in a colder tone.

Eliana's eyes fell to her plate, and she stayed silent to appease the volatile man in front of her.

The growing tension between the two finally dropped.

Just then, a waiter came over. He cleared his throat and bowed respectfully at Maurice.

"Sir, we learned that today is your birthday, so the restaurant has prepared a special cake for you to celebrate the wonderful occasion. Do you want us to serve it now?"

A birthday cake?

It was his birthday!

At that moment, Eliana finally understood what Corbin meant before she entered the restaurant.

"Maurice, is it true? Is it your birthday today?"

Chapter 342 Shell Out Some Cash

Instead of answering her inquiry, Maurice turned to the waiter.

"I do not wish for a cake."

"That's all right, sir."

The server was a bit astonished, but he had to leave once the guest refused.

"Hold on!" The waiter was halted by Eliana. "Please bring the cake."

"I don't see myself celebrating a birthday," Maurice replied carelessly.

Eliana felt uneasy, so she said obstinately, "I'd want to have some cake."

The waiter nodded and walked away when he saw that Maurice had no objections.

Again, there was a void of stillness between them. For some reason, Eliana instantly remembered that Maurice had celebrated her birthday as Preston.

Given that Maurice could spend her birthday with her, why did he not want to celebrate his own?

Eliana couldn't help but inquire, "Why can't you celebrate the day you came into this world?"

"There's nothing noteworthy about it. Simply said, it has been a long time since I had a birthday party. My parents observed my birthday when I was little. It was Rosina who organized my birthday celebrations after my parents died. Rosina, sadly also died. My birthday has never been a special occasion for me from then," Maurice said as if the past had faded away, even though he had personally experienced it.

Eliana's heart ached for no apparent reason, though.

Her thoughts rushed back to the family portrait she'd seen at his house.

The beaming Maurice must have been overjoyed back then to have his loving parents and adorable sister at his side.

After seeing such heartbreaking events, no one could go on to lead a normal life. How many scars had Maurice concealed in a corner where no one else could see them for all these years?

While Eliana contemplated this and stared into Maurice's ice-cold eyes, her heart warmed.

She spoke her thoughts on the spot. "You may have a birthday party. If no one is available to celebrate with you, you may..."

The moment Eliana realized what she'd spoken, her pupils constricted dramatically.

What a load of bullshit had she just uttered? She could not suggest that he found her.

"Where can I find someone to celebrate with?"

Maurice's eyes had a subtle sparkle to them.

There was no going back on what she had said. When Eliana's nerves got the better of her, she caught a glimpse of Corbin, who was peering at them not far away. Her whole face lighted up.

"How about Corbin? Isn't he your assistant?"

Corbin?

Why did she finally come to this decision after giving it so much thought?

The color on Maurice's face deepened.

"There isn't any need for it. There will be no repeat of this."

Eliana wiped the nonexistent perspiration from her brow in silence. Thankfully, she responded fast just now.

The waiter finally brought the birthday cake after a while.

Eliana initiated the addition of candles to the cake. "I'll light the candles for you, Maurice. Will you follow the tradition of making a wish?"

She lighted the candles with care.

"To hell with the wish. There would be less unhappy individuals in the world if everyone's wishes would come true."

Eliana's mood deteriorated as a result of Maurice's moodiness.

"Why are you so sulky? You've deteriorated much further since your gigolo days! Your looks are somewhat unappealing."

Her remarks had left Maurice out of words. With a melancholy expression on his face, he blew out the candles.

"What wish did you just make, Maurice?"

Eliana's face was etched with interest as she glanced at Maurice.

With a subtle change of expression, Maurice's features loosened somewhat. "Perhaps you can assist me in getting my wish..."

"Seriously?" Eliana seemed to be intrigued. "Let me know then..."

"Hmm... I wish that... I would want to know what you wished for on your last birthday." Maurice's face lit up with a grin.

Eliana's reaction was immediately full of shock.

Couldn't he do better than that?

He couldn't possibly make her say what she wished.

Eliana could not help but recollect her birthday from some months ago. Preston suddenly emerged with a gigantic cake, which touched her.

So she wished that Preston and the children would be able to live together as one family.

Well... Her desire appeared to have come true in a different manner.

Preston, on the other hand, was Maurice's masquerade to tease her. Maurice had put a stop to disguise at this point. From this point, it appeared as though Eliana's wish would never be fulfilled.

The light in Eliana's eyes began to wane. "That desire will never come true; therefore it's pointless to tell you now."

"How so?" Maurice had a scowl on his face.

"I just think that ... Preston won't be returning."

Did her desire at the time include Preston in any way?

Momentarily moved, Maurice questioned hesitantly, "You want to see Preston return?"

Eliana had a good chuckle. "To what end am I putting this effort in my mind? Nothing could be farther from the fact."

"As long as you're prepared to pay the price, it's not impossible." Maurice paused.

Eliana's eyes widened in astonishment as she glanced at him with wide-eyed wonder.

What plot was he employing?

"Consider it. What exactly did Preston do? If you want him to join you, you'll have to shell out some cash."

Maurice had a foxlike grin.

Chapter 343 To Pick Up Women

Eliana had to spend money on Preston.

She didn't expect that this would be the price.

Was money enough for her to get Preston back? What if Maurice was lying?

However, Eliana still subconsciously put her hand into her pocket. She took out a few coins.

These were actually given to her by the kids for her bus fare.

She was so poor now that she couldn't even pay for her transportation.

Eliana still owed Maurice several millions of dollars.

And now, he asked her to spend money on Preston.

Was he deliberately making fun of her?

Seeing the coins that Eliana had taken out of her pocket, Maurice almost burst into laughter.

But the embarrassed look on her face made him realize that if he laughed out loud, she would fall out with him on the spot.

So he took the coins from her hand and said solemnly, "These are enough. Let's have fun for a while."

Maurice was always a man of his word. So after taking the coins, he took Eliana to the Imperial Golden Club.

Looking at the luxurious and magnificent entrance of the club in front of her, Eliana suddenly felt as if it had been a lifetime since she last came here. When she knew that Maurice and Preston were actually the same people, she thought she would never come here again.

Unexpectedly, Maurice took the initiative to bring her here. But not as Maurice but as Preston.

"What are you thinking?"

At this moment, Maurice had put on Preston's mask.

Eliana stared at him in a daze, lost in thought.

"What's wrong? Don't you recognize me anymore?"

Maurice raised his eyebrows. He looked as if he had completely changed into a different person.

Eliana blinked her eyes several times. She felt so incredible that she couldn't help stretching out her hand.

She wanted to touch his face.

However, Maurice suddenly grabbed her hand and joked, "Oh, you just want Preston to come back? If I had known that's what you wanted, we wouldn't have come to the club. We could have just gone home directly."

Eliana was stunned. What is wrong with him? He only changed his face, right? Why does he become so shameless all of a sudden? She thought inwardly.

She pulled her hand back shyly and angrily and didn't dare to look at him.

There was a trace of amusement in Maurice's eyes. "Let's go."

He then walked forward and swaggered into the Imperial Golden Club. Eliana and a group of bodyguards followed behind him.

Looking at his back, Eliana couldn't help but disdain herself.

She must have been blinded back then. Judging from Preston's aura, he was obviously the boss here. How could she think of him as a leading gigolo?

As soon as they entered the Imperial Golden Club, Maurice took Eliana directly to his favorite private room. And the moment he sat down, someone brought wine respectfully.

Sitting on the sofa lazily, he picked up a glass of wine and drank it.

Eliana looked at the wine greedily and then looked away firmly.

She had been drugged several times through wines. So this time, she really couldn't drink anymore.

"Eliana, why are you not drinking? What are you afraid of? You already know the true identity of the man next to you anyway."

As he spoke, Wyatt walked over with a smile. It was as if he was eager to stir up trouble.

"What are you doing here?"

Maurice glared at Wyatt. He brought Eliana here because he wanted to be alone with her. He didn't want someone else to accompany them, especially if that person just wanted to watch the fun.

Instead of getting angry, Wyatt teased, "You're such an ungrateful man. If it weren't for me, you wouldn't be able to get Eliana."

When Eliana saw the implicit attitude of the two men, she immediately understood something.

It seemed that Wyatt already knew about Maurice's two identities all along.

So, she was the only one who was kept in the dark. These two men fooled her.

As Eliana thought that she was deceived, anger surged up in her heart again. She was so upset that she wanted to scold Wyatt.

But before she could do so, Wyatt seemed to see something and hid behind the sofa. It was as if he had seen a ghost.

"If someone comes to look for me, don't say you have seen me, okay?"

As soon as he said this, two sweet and hot young models came over. "Excuse me, have you seen a handsome man in a wine red shirt? He's about 1.8 meters tall and has a pair of pretty eyes."

It turned out that they were looking for Wyatt. Obviously, he had attracted one or both of them.

Eliana was suddenly enlightened.

Maurice lowered his eyes and took a sip of his wine quietly, totally ignoring Wyatt's trouble.

Eliana came up with an idea to play a trick on him. But she suddenly remembered that Maurice had told her that Wyatt and Nicole used to be a couple.

So for Nicole's sake, she decided to help Wyatt.

"Yes, I did. He went in the direction of the restroom just now."

"Thank you," said the two young models in unison. Then they immediately turned around and strode towards the restroom.

When the crisis was over, Wyatt walked out from behind the sofa and couldn't help complaining, "Whew! It's so hard to get rid of those two women. Thanks, Eliana. Maurice is really smarter than me. He avoids such trouble by using two identities to pick up women."

Wyatt spoke casually, but Eliana took his joke seriously.

Could it be that Maurice only used two identities for this purpose?

Did he really do this only to pick up women?

Chapter 344 He Is Not A Gigolo But My Boyfriend

"Maurice, tell me the truth. Why do you use two identities to appear in front of people? Is Wyatt right? Is it really because you want to pick up women without being caught by them?"

Eliana's voice unconsciously raised.

Her questions stunned Maurice for a moment. And when he finally realized her accusations, his handsome face darkened at once.

"Do you even know what you're talking about?"

Actually, Eliana didn't think much before she opened her mouth.

However, she didn't like the self-righteous look on Maurice's face. So she suddenly lost her temper. Of course, she didn't want to be outdone. She retorted, "Yes, I do. You also used two identities to approach me, right?"

"Yes. But you also enjoy being involved with my two identities, right? You even found it exciting, didn't you?"

While Maurice and Eliana were bickering, the air suddenly became tense.

And this was all because of Wyatt. When he saw that things were not going well, he immediately ran away.

But after taking just a few steps, he unexpectedly bumped into Corbin, who had been wandering around outside the private room.

"Corbin?" He was obviously surprised. "What are you doing here? Are you here to watch the fun too?"

Doesn't my boss have a reliable friend? Corbin complained inwardly. Wyatt always wanted to stir up trouble and thought that everyone was like him.

"I'm here to check the situation. My boss and Miss Pierce don't look happy."

Corbin was really worried about Maurice's happiness.

"Oh, I see. Then you'd better stay away from them now. Don't disturb them because they haven't reconciled yet," Wyatt reminded him.

"Weren't they fine just now?"

"Ahem! Ahem! Ahem!" The culprit, Wyatt, coughed guiltily. "Don't worry about this. Leave it all to me."

Corbin looked at Wyatt suspiciously, thinking that Wyatt was really unreliable.

"What if we just let them be?"

Wyatt patted Corbin on the shoulder, smiled faintly, and said, "Trust me this time. I promise to reconcile them right away."

Eliana and Maurice got into a disagreeable conversation again.

Eliana glanced at the wine on the table. She was so upset that she picked up the glass and was about to gulp it down.

But before the glass could touch her lips, it was grabbed by a big hand.

"You just had a stomachache. Are you trying to kill yourself?"

Maurice snatched the glass and glared at Eliana gloomily.

"What does my stomach have to do with you? It's none of your business! I want to drink."

Eliana picked up another glass of wine, but Maurice took it away again. They kept doing this as if they were competing with each other.

"Maurice! You..."

Eliana was about to lose her temper when Maurice suddenly saw several strong men in black walking towards them.

Upon seeing his expression, Eliana's anger froze on her face.

She turned her head and saw several strong men approaching them aggressively.

Then they slowly made their way, and a middle-aged woman wearing luxurious jewelry came out from behind them. Judging from the mink she was wearing, one could say that she must be a rich woman.

What did this woman want? Was she here to make trouble?

Eliana was at a loss.

The middle-aged woman stopped in front of Eliana, looked her up and down, and laughed horribly. "Miss, what's your name?"

"Excuse me, but do I know you?" Eliana asked in confusion.

"Miss, let's get straight to the point. I'm interested in the gigolo you ordered. Name your price and give him to me."

The middle-aged woman clapped her hands, and her subordinates immediately brought a large box. When they opened it, Eliana saw that it was full of money.

Wow! That's a lot of money! Eliana thought as her eyes opened wide.

The middle-aged woman smiled proudly. "See this stack of money? You can have them if you give him to me. Think about it, miss."

"Of course, I..."

The rest of Eliana's words were stuck in her throat.

If this was in the past, she would give up the man without hesitation.

But now...

She looked at Maurice stealthily. His expression clearly told her that if she dared agree, she would be doomed.

"Of course, I... I can't do that!" Eliana refused solemnly. "I'm sorry, but he is not a gigolo. He is actually my boyfriend."

# Chapter 345 He Is Really My Boyfriend

"He's your boyfriend?" The middle-aged woman looked Eliana up and down, and then her gaze moved to Maurice. She couldn't help laughing. "Girl, you are lying. I can tell at a glance that the man behind you is a gigolo. How can he be your boyfriend?"

Indeed, this middle-aged woman was hard to deal with.

Eliana glared at Maurice secretly.

She couldn't help blaming him in her heart.

If it weren't for the strong gigolo smell on him, they wouldn't be in this trouble now.

"Yes, he is really my boyfriend. You can't take my boyfriend away from me in broad daylight."

Eliana had no choice but to protect Maurice behind her.

"Well, I don't believe you. Not just because you claim him to be your boyfriend already means he is your boyfriend. Unless you can prove it to me. Otherwise, don't even think about leaving this place today."

As soon as the middle-aged woman finished her words, the strong men behind her stepped forward and surrounded Maurice and Eliana.

"Are you trying to snatch my boyfriend away from me? Honey, call your bodyguards."

Eliana had been so polite, so the middle-aged woman might think she was weak.

She sneered. Maurice also brought some bodyguards here today, so she was not afraid.

Eliana looked back confidently.

But much to her surprise, there was no one else behind her except Maurice.

What the hell was going on?

She looked at Maurice desperately, trying to ask through her eyes where his bodyguards were.

Maurice was still in a daze, thinking about Eliana's words just now. And when he came to his senses, he looked around.

There was really no one else around. Where were his bodyguards?

Maurice's eyes narrowed slightly. Damn it! He seemed to have seen Wyatt take his bodyguards away just now.

Seeing that there were no bodyguards to back them up, Eliana was a little scared now.

She looked at the tall and muscular bodyguards beside the middle-aged woman, silently comparing

them to Maurice.

Obviously, Maurice was no match for them.

Eliana fell silent for a while.

Then she slowly moved to Maurice and whispered, "If we really get into a fight later, can you beat them?"

Maurice moved his left hand slightly with a helpless expression on his face.

This woman really wants me to get in a fight. He thought.

At this moment, Eliana suddenly remembered that Maurice's left arm was injured. He definitely couldn't fight at all.

He had just recovered from an injury.

They were really doomed now.

Eliana had no choice but to give up. A wise person wouldn't suffer losses for nothing. So she raised her head and smiled.

"Well... You want me to prove that he is my boyfriend, right? How do you want me to do it?"

"It's up to you." A glimmer of shrewdness flashed through the middle-aged woman's eyes. "I'm not an unreasonable person. As long as you can prove that he is your boyfriend, I'll let both of you go."

Eliana's face turned livid, and she was a bit hesitant.

Maurice just looked at her leisurely as if what was happening had nothing to do with him.

"Okay. But make sure you keep your words. Watch carefully."

Since the middle-aged woman was looking for proof, Eliana would give her what she wanted.

She gritted her teeth, wrapped her arms around Maurice's neck, and stood on tiptoe. Then she kissed him on the lips.

Maurice was stunned for a moment. But he soon recovered and responded to her initiative.

The two of them kissed passionately in front of everyone.

They only stopped and let go of each other when they were both out of breath.

Eliana's face flushed, but she didn't mind it. She wrapped her arms around Maurice's waist and announced to the middle-aged woman aloud, "Indeed, my boyfriend used to be a gigolo. But since I became his girlfriend, he quit that profession. We are in a good relationship now. We are only here today to visit this old place and reminisce about the past."

The corners of Maurice's mouth twitched. Eliana's words were sonorous and powerful. If he were not the one involved, he would have believed her nonsense.

"Is what you said true?" Maurice asked in a low voice, staring at her with burning eyes.

"Of course... not! It was just a stopgap."

As she said this, Eliana lowered her eyes and stared at the floor.

Actually, she clearly knew in her heart that although she only said those words to escape from the middle-aged woman, she was not totally lying. But she didn't dare to think about how much truth her words had.

At this moment, an angry male voice suddenly rang out from the crowd.

"This is impossible! Eliana, how can you like a gigolo?"

#### Chapter 346 The Harrison Group Is Gone

When Eliana looked in the direction where the voice came from, she found it was Asher.

Why is he here? She thought in confusion.

It had been a long time since they last saw each other. And she could tell that he was not as energetic as before.

At this moment, his clothes were disheveled; his hair was messy, and there were dark circles under his eyes. His whole body reeked of alcohol. There was no trace of an elite businessman in him now. He was more like a terrible gambler or drunkard.

The middle-aged woman looked at Asher with confusion written all over her face.

Something seemed wrong.

How could there be another character in the scene? Wyatt didn't mention this to her.

She suddenly didn't know what to do.

The middle-aged woman and the bodyguards exchanged glances and tacitly retreated in silence.

In front of the astonished crowd, Asher staggered to Eliana.

Upon seeing this, Maurice immediately stood in front of Eliana to protect her.

His eyes were fixed on Asher.

However, Asher just turned a blind eye to Maurice.

It seemed that he didn't see anyone else around him except Eliana. He begged, "Eliana, I know I was wrong. But please, give me another chance. Let's start over again."

Eliana sneered, "Another chance? You expect me to give a scumbag who betrayed me another chance? You must be kidding me!"

Asher's eyes were bloodshot. He looked like a lunatic. "Eliana, don't worry. I've already avenged you. I punished Erica and sent her to a mental hospital."

Erica was sent to a mental hospital!

Eliana froze for a moment, and her heart skipped a beat. She was once again shocked by the ruthlessness of the man in front of her.

However, Asher didn't notice the disgust in her eyes at all. He continued, "I didn't believe a single word that mad woman said before. She said that the father of your children was not the gigolo. But..."

"Shut up!" Eliana interrupted fiercely. At this critical moment, she couldn't let him continue. "Asher, let go of the past and forget about me. The moment you betrayed me, we were destined never to be together."

As her secret was about to be exposed just now, Eliana's eyes widened, and cold sweat trickled down her face.

She thought she was doomed this time. Fortunately, she interrupted Asher in time.

Asher was stunned by Eliana's roar. Then anger, aggravated by his drunkenness, surged up in his heart. His face became extremely ferocious, and his eyes flashed with madness.

"You know what? I have nothing now, Eliana. The Harrison Group is gone. Maurice destroyed it overnight."

Eliana was utterly shocked.

Did Maurice really destroy the Harrison Group?

She looked at Maurice in astonishment. She had no idea about what had happened.

Eliana couldn't help wondering if Maurice did it for her.

Different kinds of emotions welled up in her heart.

"What? Are you going to blame me for a scumbag?"

Maurice looked at Eliana with eyes as deep as an unfathomable pond.

There was a complicated look on Eliana's face. Although she really hoped that Asher and Erica would get the punishment they deserved, she never thought of destroying their company. Wasn't it too much?

"That's not what I mean," Eliana said, shaking her head. "I just think it's unnecessary for you to destroy the Harrison Group for me."

Maurice sneered, "Don't flatter yourself too much. Do you really think I destroyed the Harrison Group for you? I was not so bored."

He didn't bother to explain anything. Instead, he turned around and left.

Feeling that she had said something wrong, Eliana followed him out remorsefully.

"Hey, wait for me!"

"Eliana, where are you going?" Asher called out.

But Eliana just ignored him, so he could do nothing but watch her run away. She didn't even spare him a glance. Her only concern was to catch up with the gigolo.

He didn't understand why.

He couldn't compare with Maurice. And now, he couldn't even compare with a gigolo either. Eliana even expressed her love to the gigolo in public.

Asher clenched his fists tightly, and blue veins protruded on his forehead. The flame of jealousy flared up in his chest.

The excessive alcohol eroded his sanity, making him rush like a mad man in the direction where Maurice had left.

He wanted to teach that gigolo a lesson.

That gigolo must know that no one else could have Eliana except him.

### Chapter 347 Beat Up The Scum

Eliana rushed towards Maurice's side, reaching out to stop him from walking away.

When Asher ran outside, he witnessed the pair together, and his eyes widened in anger.

"Don't you dare touch her!"

With his heart filled with rage, Asher charged at Maurice with his fist.

Maurice's quick reflexes caught his attacker by surprise. He ducked effortlessly and grabbed Asher's fist tightly. The immense pressure of Maurice's grip was unbearable, causing Asher to cry out in pain.

"You're looking for a fight? You got it."

So much anger coursed through Maurice's veins that he needed an outlet to release it. To his delight, he found one in Asher.

Although Maurice's left arm had just recovered, he was still strong enough to overpower ten grown men.

"That's enough!"

Eliana couldn't stand it anymore. She needed to step in before all hell could break loose.

When Maurice was about to throw a punch of his own, Eliana got in the way and slapped Asher's face.

Eliana immediately followed it up with a devastating kick and knocked him to the floor.

"Snap out of it, Asher! Learn to take responsibility and don't blame others for problems that come your way. When the Harrison family was going bankrupt, you blamed Erica for spending too much money. Now that the Harrison Group had shut down, you said that Maurice was behind the company's downfall. When will you admit to your mistakes and take the blame for once?"

Asher sat motionless on the floor, looking weary and confused.

"But Eliana... I don't think..."

Asher wanted to retort, but he knew deep within that Eliana was right. He always wanted to escape from the consequences of his actions. But he couldn't keep on running from his mistakes forever. Sooner or later, reality was going to catch up with him, and he would have no choice but to pay the

price.

"We have nothing left to talk about. I've already said my piece. Behave yourself from now on."

After taking one last glance at Asher, Eliana held Maurice's arm and pulled him away.

Outside the Imperial Golden Club, Corbin was waiting for them by the car.

When Eliana opened the back door of the luxury vehicle, Maurice suddenly stopped her from entering.

"Go sit in the front."

Eliana stared back at him in confusion.

Then Maurice turned to Corbin and said, "I'll drive today. You can head back to the office and finish your work."

"Are you sure, boss? Alright then."

With a puzzled look on his face, Corbin gave up the driver's seat and left the area.

Something felt wrong. Eliana sensed that things were about to take a turn for the worse.

She reluctantly sat on the front passenger seat under Maurice's oppressive gaze.

As all the doors were shut, the atmosphere in the car became depressing.

Maurice leaned back against the seat and sighed. "Why did you get in the way, Eliana?"

"What do you mean?"

Pretending not to understand, Eliana clenched her clothes nervously. She was bracing herself for his eventual outburst.

Maurice turned his head and stared at Eliana quietly as if he was reading her innermost thoughts.

He knew that Eliana was actually looking out for Asher even though she made it seem that she hurt him.

If Maurice had gotten his way with Asher, then the stubborn fool would have ended up with a severe beating of a lifetime.

"You protected him."

Within seconds, a guilty expression broke out on Eliana's face. She quickly refuted his statement. "Of

course not! I've always wanted to beat up that scum ever since. He deserved it."

But it was far too late. Maurice had already seen through her.

It was true that Eliana felt it right that Asher got his ass kicked. But she could not ignore the fact that Maurice could determine the life and death of an enterprise. Not only Asher's future was destroyed, but also countless families were severely affected, just like what happened to the Pierce Group back then.

Eliana suddenly fell silent, lost in her thoughts.

It was clear that she lied.

This woman not only lied to him but also was distracted. It seemed that he was not important to her at all.

Maurice closed his eyes to conceal the mounting fury in them, trying to keep his temper in check. The next second, he pressed the lock button.

With a click, the car doors were locked instantly.

The sound brought Eliana back to reality. Realizing that she was trapped inside with a madman, she tried to push the door open with all her might, but to no avail.

"Maurice, what has gotten into you? What are you going to do to me?"

To her utter dismay, Maurice didn't say a word. Instead, he stepped on the gas pedal, and the car sped away.

#### Chapter 348 How Did You Meet Jonathan

The car sped away, leaving Corbin alone behind.

Based on the present circumstances, his boss and Eliana had reconciled.

Corbin didn't expect that Wyatt would be so good at mediating love affairs. He could even think of such a brilliant idea. He asked someone to pose as a wealthy woman and flirt with Maurice so that Eliana would intervene.

Corbin breathed a sigh of relief and smiled brightly. He even waved at the car enthusiastically.

It was definitely a great development.

His boss would no longer torture him every day.

Meanwhile, inside the car, Eliana was dumbfounded when she saw through the rearview mirror that Corbin was waving at them excitedly.

Why was he so happy?

Didn't he realize that Maurice had "kidnapped" her?

The car accelerated, and the scene outside became increasingly remote as it was approaching an unknown destination.

Eliana was sitting in the front passenger seat and feeling uncomfortable with the hair on the back of her neck standing up.

Where on earth would Maurice take her?

Her phone rang just as she was getting antsy.

Eliana was taken aback. She took out her phone and saw that it was a video call from the twins.

Should she answer it or not?

Eliana took a stealthy glance at Maurice and noticed that he was still focused on driving, so she answered the phone.

"Mommy! Where are you? Why haven't you returned yet?"

On the screen, Aileen's adorable face immediately appeared.

Looking at the child's innocent and lovely face, Eliana instantly relaxed. Unconsciously, she smiled.

"What's wrong, my dear?" Eliana asked in a soft voice.

"Aileen is a coward. She said the new room is too big for her. She is afraid and wants you to accompany her," Adrian complained.

"No!" Aileen blushed. "Adrian, you're talking nonsense. I'm not going to talk to you anymore. I... I just miss Mommy!"

"You're right. You're not afraid at all."

Eliana felt sorry for Aileen and Adrian as she listened to them bicker.

Her children were too young. Surely, they would feel afraid if they were suddenly brought to a strange location and their mother was not by their side.

"Don't worry, kids. I will..."

Eliana wanted to say that she would be back soon, but she abruptly stopped speaking. Looking at Maurice, who was obviously still in a bad mood, she dared not say anything about coming back.

"What are you looking at, Mommy? Is there anyone beside you?"

Aileen noticed Eliana taking a glance at her side.

"Are you with someone?" Adrian immediately showed his face to the screen. "Mommy, who is that? Is that your boss? Does he ask you to work overtime again?"

Eliana didn't know how to explain it to them. So she just smiled awkwardly. "No. I'm alone."

Adrian was skeptical. "Mommy, give the phone to the person next to you. I want to talk to him," he said, frowning.

Eliana was afraid to hand over the phone to Maurice. She wouldn't be able to get out of the car if Adrian said something that would infuriate Maurice again.

"Adrian... what did you say? The signal here is not good... I have to hang up. Bye!"

"Mommy!"

Eliana quickly hung up the video call, her heart pounding against her chest.

She took a glance at Maurice and noticed that he looked ever angrier.

What was wrong with him?

She didn't do anything.

Maurice grimaced as he gripped the steering wheel more firmly.

He was in a very bad mood now.

Maurice had just heard the two children call Eliana "mommy", and their childish voices sounded like a harsh reminder to him.

The word "mommy" kept ringing in his ears, reminding him that Eliana had been with another man during the five years he had been away from her.

It was Jonathan.

Suddenly, Maurice stepped on the brake and stopped the car.

Surprised, Eliana's body leaned forward and she nearly hit her head.

"Maurice, what are you doing?"

Eliana was very terrified, her hand on her chest.

"Let me ask you, Eliana," Maurice said, staring at her. "How did you meet Jonathan?"

# Chapter 349 The Only Woman

Maurice carefully thought about it. According to Asher's and Erica's words, it had been after his onenight stand with Eliana that she had fallen into the ocean.

She had then disappeared for five years, and when she came back, the twins were already five years old. Which meant that Eliana should have been with Jonathan as soon as she was rescued from the sea.

Was she really so eager?

Maurice's question caught Eliana off-guard. "Why... Why are you asking about that?" she stammered.

She recalled the terrible past. She had drowned in the sea, and had fallen into a coma because of Asher and Erica. By the time she had regained consciousness, a few months had passed.

And at that time, the babies in her belly had already grown up, and she could even feel their heartbeats.

It was their soft heartbeats that had melted her heart.

Although the real father of those kids was unknown, and it was also difficult for Eliana to live alone in a foreign country, she had been unwilling to abort the babies.

And till date, those kids had been her driving force in her life.

Maurice found her avoidance a little suspicious.

Although it seemed like the twins were Jonathan's, he had known Eliana for a long time, and he had never heard her even mention a word about Jonathan.

He could not help but wonder if she did not talk about Jonathan because she did not get along well with him.

Then how did she get pregnant with his kids?

Maurice had a guess in his mind. "Eliana, did Jonathan force you?"

Eliana didn't understand what he meant.

Force me? How could he have forced her?

It never happened! No matter how much she thought about it, she couldn't slander Jonathan against her conscience.

But if she did not agree with Maurice, then how could she possibly make up a story that never happened?

In the end, her conscience prevailed, and she said vaguely, "He didn't force me. It was just... We were together and nature took its course."

Had she really fallen in love with Jonathan at that time, then?

Thinking that Eliana and Jonathan had been so happy together and had sex, Maurice felt like there was a small, sad stone in his throat.

For a moment, the atmosphere in the car was as cold as ice.

Looking at Maurice's indifferent expression, Eliana was confused.

Why did he care so much about her relationship with Jonathan?

They had no contact for five years, so she thought that it was only normal for them to have dated other people.

Unless...

Maurice had never been with a woman in the past few years.

Thinking of that, Eliana suddenly gloated.

"Maurice, I want to ask you something..."

After a pause, Eliana gulped and continued, "It has been several years since then. Haven't you had sex with any other woman since?"

She thought that that should not be the case at all.

The last time she had sex with Maurice, she felt like... His skills in bed had improved greatly.

Maurice's expression darkened when he heard her question.

Judging from his expression, she figured that she must have said something wrong again.

In other words, she was the only woman he had ever been with.

So she was wrong to think that he was a dirty gigolo.

Maurice had only slept with her in the past five years.

For some reason, Eliana found that to be quite sweet and smiled unconsciously.

Maurice was looking at her from the corner of his eye, and when he saw her complacent smile, he became more depressed.

He felt as though he had suffered a great loss.

Her smile made him uncomfortable.

As anger rose in his heart like a tide, he leaned over her, pressing his body on hers...

#### Chapter 350 Buy Medicine

With her eyes wide open, Eliana saw that Maurice was pressing on her. Panicking, she felt like prey cornered by a beast.

As she shuffled to try and find the lock, she remembered that the door was locked.

Eliana had no way to escape.

"Maurice, calm down! Stay back!"

Seeing her shudder under his intense gaze, Maurice smirked with satisfaction.

He wanted to make fun of her.

"Why are you afraid now? Weren't you acting all conceited just now? Don't you wanna know whether I have had any other woman or not?"

As he spoke, he kept getting closer to Eliana, who kept retreating until her back was against the door.

In the narrow space, their breaths intertwined with each other.

Maurice's strong smell pervaded Eliana. She could even clearly see his thin lips and prominent Adam's

apple.

She felt like a crab in a steamer that was about to be cooked.

The atmosphere suddenly became very intimate. Maurice's nose touched the tip of her nose, and as soon as he tilted his head a little, he would be able to kiss the red lips of Eliana.

"No!"

Eliana snapped off the temptation and stopped him just in time.

"Why?"

Maurice's voice was hoarse and sexy with desire.

"Just... No!"

With a deep breath, she pushed him away with resolution.

"You hate me so much?"

She could sense the suppressed anger in his voice.

He had never touched her since he locked her up. But now, he couldn't help but think that she hated him so much that she didn't want to have any physical contact with him.

Afraid that he would blow up, Eliana looked down as she stuttered, "I don't hate you... I just have my period. I'm not feeling well."

The evident fury on his face melted away in an instant, and judging by the pale look on her face, he knew that she was indeed telling the truth.

"Why didn't you say that before?" Maurice frowned.

"I was afraid of you!"

She curled her lips as she didn't want to get on his bad side and get him to lock her up again.

Was this woman really that fearful of him?

She wouldn't even tell him that she had her period.

As his expression turned gloomy, Maurice sat back in his seat and started the car without another word.

Carefully observing the look on his face, Eliana felt speechless.

Did he need to be so angry just because she couldn't have sex with him now? He was like an animal, inhumane.

After a while, Maurice drove over to a petrol station.

After parking the car, he took off his coat and draped it on Eliana's legs. Then he opened the door and left.

With a confused look, Eliana sat on the passenger seat.

What does he want to do? She wondered.

She turned her gaze to the unlocked car door.

It didn't matter what he wanted to do. What was important was that the door was open now. She could just run away.

Then what was stopping her?

With a rush of adrenaline in her veins, she threw the coat away and unfastened her seatbelt. Without a second thought, she opened the car door and stepped out.

After a few steps, she couldn't help but look back in the direction Maurice had left and found that he was heading to... A pharmacy which was right next to the petrol station they were at.

Seeing that, Eliana felt her feet frozen to the ground. She could no longer run away. Did he go to buy her medicine?