After Prison 71

Chapter 71

Patrick looked at Diane. "All right, all right. I won't pressure you to drink anymore. We'll have that chat once you've finished this glass of wine, and it'll only take a few minutes. You will then be allowed to leave with your husband and daughter!"

Diane was under the impression that Patrick was the establishment's owner, since he looked the part due to his fat figure and pot belly. She did not dare to reject his request, so after giving it some more thought, she gritted her teeth and drank her third glass of wine in one gulp. "There. Can we start talking now, Mister Patrick?"

Patrick finally said, "Hehe, you do realize that you've eaten close to a hundred and sixty thousand dollars' worth of food, right? That's a lot of money. What I want from you can't be simpler. I'll just come right out with it if you don't mind. Now that you're here, I want you to do you. You can leave once I'm done!"

He could not help but ogle Diane's thigh after saying that, and he even hinted as clearly as

possible to her. "Tsk, tsk. You have a fantastic figure. I really do envy Severin for being able to get someone like you."

Diane was so incensed by his request that she immediately stood up and glared at him. She refused outright. "I'm sorry, but I'm not that sort of woman. Had it been some other request, I might still be able to consider it. But doing it with me? There's no way in hell I'd say yes to that!"

"Hahaha, are you sure? Think carefully before you decide. What are your chances of getting out of this place in one piece when One—Eye and his men are all waiting down there?" Patrick chuckled, stood up, and doubled down on his threats. "Make sure you think long and hard, Miss Diane. We're all adults here. Having sex with me isn't that big of a deal, right? I promise I won't get you pregnant. Sound

good? All you have to do is let me have a taste of you, just once! You even get to save a hundred and sixty thousand dollars! Isn't that a good deal?"

"A hundred and sixty thousand? You've got quite the nerve to say that! Did you think we're stupid enough not to notice that you changed the menu?" Diane's anger grew with every passing thought. Although she had the hunch that he was up to no good, she was still hanging on one last bit of hope that it might not turn out to be as bad as she imagined.

Alas, the reality was far too cruel. She was firm in her convictions and would never be willing to offer up her body for any amount of money.

"Hehe, I wouldn't know if you people are stupid, but what I do know is that there are dozens of people down there that you can't afford to mess with!" Patrick laughed. He looked at Diane's sexy figure, gulped, and approached her like a pervert. "Be sensible. Don't make me use force! Can't you see what's happening right now? Just do as I say and all will be well!"

Without further ado, he reached out and squeezed Diane's breasts.

Easton gulped while he hid and observed everything in the dark. He was sure that Diane would give in just so the bill would be waived and her entire family could leave the restaurant safely. Whatever tough attitude she had then was probably nothing but a farce, in his opinion. After all, she was once a rich family's eldest daughter and she had seen a lot of money. When all of that was taken into account, it was only a matter of time before she would accept her fate.

However, the one outcome that Easton, Jada, and Lucy did not factor in was that Diane would slap Patrick as soon as he stretched his hand out. The slap was so loud it rang throughout the

room! 1

Patrick was stunned and wondered if he was dreaming. 'How dare she slap me? Did I just waste my breath by telling her all that? Isn't she woman afraid of being beaten to death by those people below?'

"F*cking b*tch! How dare you slap me! I might not be from an upper—class family, but I was still raised well. You, on the other, had been abandoned by your family, so you have no f*cking right to hit me! Where'd you get the guts to do that?" Patrick became enraged and shot Diane a glare." Take your f*cking dress off right now and let me f*ck the shit out of you. If you don't, it'll take only a snap of my finger to have your husband and daughter killed!"

"You..."

Chapter 72

Diane felt disturbed by his request, but the thought of Selene and Severin made her feel uneasy too. She bit her lips and said, "Severin promised to come up here if I'm not down in ten minutes. Time's almost up, so it's best if you let me go as soon as possible. If he has to come up here and fetch me, you can bet that he won't let you off that easily!"

Patrick cackled as if he had heard a joke. "Haha, do you think he'll even get the chance to come up here? Why would those guys downstairs even allow him to pass? Are you stupid? Well, whatever it is, tonight's the night I'll have a good time with Severin's woman!" he declared, then pounced on her like a wolf.

"Get off me, you b*stard!" When Diane saw that he was hell—bent on forcing himself on her, her face turned pale with fright and she dashed to the side at once. Unfortunately for her, the copious amounts of wine she drank left her feeling a little dizzy at that moment. Since she was wearing high heels, it was no surprise that she sprained her foot and tumbled down to the ground.

"Agh!" she cried out in pain.

Luckily, she managed to dodge Patrick's assault, at least for that moment. Patrick looked at Diane sitting helplessly on the ground and was even more stimulated by her painful cry hotter.

With even more of her skin being revealed under the dress, Patrick gulped a mouthful of saliva. Hahaha, be a good girl, and don't worry about everything else. I'll make sure to your meal with be free, and I can even give you another huge thousand—dollar tip!"

"Get away!" Diane looked up, gritted her teeth, and tried to stand up, but her ankle hurt so badly that she was forced to squat back down in pain as soon as she took one step.

"Hehe, what a stubborn girl. Let's see how stubborn you can be in front of me!" Patrick chuckled and was ready to pounce on Diane again.

Seconds later, a loud bang was heard and the door of the room was kicked right open.

"S—S—Severin? H—how did you get up here?" Patrick was still traumatized by what happened in the hotel that morning, and seeing Severin barge right in scared him out of his senses. He immediately retreated a few steps back and started to panic.

Severin had a cold expression on his face as he shielded Diane behind him and glared at Patrick. "Patrick, you bloody son—of—a—wench! Don't you know what'll happen to those who dare to touch my woman?"

Patrick straightened his body and said, "Hmph! I was the one who summoned all those guys down there! I dare you to touch a single strand of my hair! I swear you won't be able to walk out of this restaurant alive!"

Severin was in no mood to entertain Patrick's threats and immediately kicked his crotch!

Chapter 73

"AGHHH!" A blood—curdling scream was heard. Patrick clutched his nether regions and squatted down, nearly fainting from the pain.

"HRAAH AGHH!" His yells were unending, and he had an excruciatingly painful expression on his face.

Diane was still reeling from the immense shock, but that did not stop her from feeling a burst of joy. Patrick was a sleaze and a pervert, and it was her good fortune that Severin showed up in time, or else she would have been forced onto by Patrick.

"Let's go, Severin!" Diane endured the pain and stepped forward to tug on Severin's arm.

Severin smiled faintly, looked at the tightly–shut secret door in the corner, and said, "Show yourselves. Don't hide there like scaredy cats!"

The three people who were hiding inside paled in fright. They did not expect that Severin would be so ruthless as to deliver a kick that was strong enough to render Patrick's crotch useless. He was the epitome of fearless, and he began to walk up to the door when no one answered him. They started to fear that Severin would not kill him in one fell swoop. After all, a poor man like him would have nothing to lose against richer individuals like them.

"There are other people here?" Diane frowned in bewilderment. She had spent more time in that room than he did, but she did not notice anything out of the ordinary there, much less sense the presence of other people.

Severin could not care less to say anything further and walked over to face the secret door. He delivered a thumping kick that sent the door flying open and yelled, "Come out here!"

Easton, Lucy, and Jada were so frightened that they walked out tremblingly from the inner room with ashen expressions on their faces.

"Mister Easton? Lucy? And you're here too, Miss Jada?" Diane was far from pleased to see the three people of them there. It seemed as though they had hatched a plot from the very beginning and planned everything long in advance.

"Hehe, this restaurant is one of the Stones' properties, so why would it be weird for me to be here? "Jada chuckled. As the daughter of a third—tier upper—class family, she still tended to be arrogant around others.

"So that this is your restaurant! I take it that you had a part to play in scheming against my wife and me!" Severin walked up sullenly to Jada and glared icily at the vicious woman.

"Hehe, and what if I did? You probably already met those people downstairs, right? I was the one who called them all to come here. I don't know how or why they allowed you to come up to this floor, but you won't be able to step foot outside this restaurant if they don't receive my instructions!" Jada folded her arms in front of her chest, and said proudly, "I'm the eldest daughter of a third—tier upper—class family. What are you going to do, hit me? You should be kneeling right now to beg for my forgiveness! If you don't, well, let's just say that you, your wife, your daughter, and your parents, are all going to suffer today!"

In response, a tight slap landed right on Jada's face, and a red palm mark appeared on her cheek.

"How dare you slap me!" Jada covered her face in shock. She had expressly told him that she was the eldest daughter of a third—tier family, and yet he still did not hesitate to slap her. 'He's digging his own grave!' she thought.

"Did you really just threaten me with my family's well—being even though you're just a lowly third-tier family? You think too highly of yourself. I, Severin, are not easy to bully If you piss me off, I can always wipe out the Stones from Brookbourn's existence. If you don't believe me, you're welcome to try!"

If there was one thing Severin hated with a passion, that was when other people used his family to threaten him. Those who dared to make such remarks in front of him were as good as dead

"You!" Jada was fuming, since she had no idea what had transpired downstairs and why neither One— Eye nor his men had come up yet.

Chapter 74

Easton held Jada back. "Take it easy, Jada. This kid is just an impulsive hothead who does things without considering the consequences. Your status and family background doesn't matter to him, and he'll beat you up before saying anything. You shouldn't piss him off, because you're the one who will get the short end of the stick if he kills you!"

Jada knew that she would stand to lose a lot if she picked a fight with a brainless hothead like Severin, especially since her bodyguards and One–Eye were all still downstairs. She gritted her teeth and could only hold back her unhappiness.

"What are you going to do? Don't come near me!" When Lucy saw that Severin was staring intently at her, she was frightened by his gaze and retreated a couple of steps back.

Severin glanced at her indifferently. "Kneel and apologize to my wife!"

"Who do you think you are, telling me to kneel like that? Don't make me laugh!" Lucy glared at Severin. "Didn't you know Jada's men are waiting on her instructions downstairs? Are you sure you want me to kneel? Are you even able to handle the consequences?"

"Kneel and slap yourself ten times. Even though I'm fine with letting go of what you did to me in the past, that doesn't mean you can keep scheming against me in the future!" Severin's face turned cold as he warned Lucy. There was a faint murderous aura on his body that sent shivers down the spine of anyone who saw him.

Lucy glared at Severin in disbelief, for it had never occurred to her that he would dare to ask her to kneel.

"Like hell I'll kneel. I'd sooner kneel for someone else than a loser like you!" Lucy said, gritting her teeth. She knew kneeling to him would be the most humiliating thing she would have ever done.

Diane frowned. She initially wanted to persuade Severin, but when she recalled that all those people were hiding in that room with some nefarious plan, she was also a little traumatized by them and decided to let Severin have his way.

A loud thud was heard, and Lucy was seen kneeling on the ground. Invisible energy burst forth from Severin's body, and Lucy's knees struck the ground after her legs weakened from the strong and sudden pressure bearing down on her body.

"Hehe, you say you won't kneel, but your actions don't seem to reflect what you just said!" The corners of Severin's mouth curled up a bit, and his black pupils looked that much more enigmatic.

Diane did not know what was going on, only that the pressure on her body earlier was so strong. that she knelt unconsciously. However, she did not know how to describe what she had just experienced, and it was likely that no one would believe her even if she told them.

"The grudges I'm holding against you only get bigger if you keep pulling all these shenanigans!" Severin smiled faintly and finally turned to look at Easton, who was standing on one side.

Easton was terrified to see Severin's glare, and he immediately broke out in a cold sweat before retreating to a corner.

"W—what do think you're doing?" His broken finger served as a reminder that Severin acted without caring about the consequences.

Severin smiled in contempt when he saw the other person's look. "Look at you, nearly pissing your pants. You probably never stopped to think that you'd one day be so scared of me when you were threatening my parents and collecting debt from them. Trash like you aren't fit to go up against me."

After finishing his sentence, Severin snapped and sent a stream of light flying right into Easton's body. The light disappeared in a flash, and everything happened so quickly that no one seemed to notice it.

Severin walked up to Diane after completing that action.

"Come on, honey! Let's go home!" He looked at Diane's swollen ankle, lifted her in a bridal carry,

and walked down.

Chapter 75

"Ah!" Diane did not expect Severin to carry her up so suddenly, so she exclaimed in surprise and blushed.

As she felt the firm strength in Severin's arm and the faint aura of masculinity coming from his body, her heartbeat began to quicken.

"Why are you carrying me up? I can walk on my own!" Diane said in a soft and bashful tone.

"How are you going to walk when your ankle is swollen? Let me carry you back to the car!" Severin looked right ahead forward and strode forward without even looking at Diane.

Diane could only bite her lips and acquiesce to him in silence.

After Severin walked out of the room, the tremendous pressure that Lucy was feeling disappeared in an instant and she collapsed to the ground. It was a terrifying feeling, as if Severin was some. despotic ruler that left her with no choice but to submit to him. It was hard for her to wrap her head around why she felt that way.

Easton gulped and walked over to Lucy. He felt a little puzzled because he expected that Severin. would have done something to him on account of the bad blood between them. Oddly enough, Severin did not seem to have done anything to him.

He looked at Lucy on the ground, annoyed. "Did you just kneel for him? Aren't you ashamed of yourself for kneeling to an ex–convict?"

Lucy did not know how to explain the weird occurrence she experienced earlier. Her mouth was wide open but she did not continue her sentence.

"Jada, my wiener might not be functioning anymore. Bring me to the hospital right now! This is the end for me. What am I going to do if I can't use it anymore!" Patrick, who was curled into a ball on the ground, begged Jada for help.

Jada touched her reddened cheek. Her anger level had shot through the roof after Severin slapped her and threatened her. She still felt confident that there was nothing a loser ex—convict could do to her family!

She looked at Lucy and chided, "Why are you still sitting on the ground? Aren't you embarrassed? Call an ambulance for Patrick. I'm going down to check on the situation. We shall see if Severin. will be able to step out of this restaurant tonight!" She then strode down to try and catch up to Severin.

"Call an ambulance, Lucy!" Easton said, then followed Jada immediately. Deep down, he was secretly pleased because Severin has thoroughly pissed Patrick and Jada off. Offending Patrick was probably not that big of a deal, but Jada was the eldest daughter of a third—tier upper—class family. She would certainly not let Severin off just like that. From then on, Easton would not need. to do anything to get rid of Severin, because someone else would be doing the dirty work for him.

At that moment, however, a group of men was squatting motionlessly on the ground with their heads in their hands. They were none other than One–Eye and his subordinates. Meanwhile, another group of people was pointing machetes at those who were squatting, ready to give them

a slash if they so much as moved an inch.

Those who were standing far outnumbered those who were squatting. Inside the restaurant were about a hundred people, and more than a hundred others were guarding the restaurant to prevent any strangers from getting close.

The diners had been evacuated from the restaurant long ago, and the 200 or so men had been brought over by none other than Blade. He and some of his men had passed by the restaurant sometime earlier, and as soon as he glanced in and saw that Severin was in trouble, he immediately made some calls and ordered more men to come over.

Chapter 76

On the other hand, the one—eyed man's group surrendered as soon as they saw that Blade had brought so many people there. After a brief conversation, they squatted on the ground and put down the weapons in their hands. When Blade arrived, he addressed Severin respectfully as 'Mister Severin' and assisted Severin with subduing the entire group. Severin then thanked them and went upstairs alone.

When Blade saw Severin coming down the stairs with Diane in his arms, he immediately stepped forward and asked concernedly, "Mister Severin, is your woman all right? Just saw the word and I'll make sure these people won't live to see the sunrise tomorrow!"

Severin smiled faintly. "Thank you for the gesture. My wife is fine, but I'm just curious why you. were willing to help me?"

Blade grinned sheepishly, and came up with a random excuse: "Well, the main reason is that Draco Hall has beef with the Cedar Gang."

"I don't think it's that simple," Severin remarked pointedly.

Ιt

was then that Blade answered him awkwardly. "Would you be okay with coming to Draco Hall tomorrow? Our supreme commander wishes to meet you. We have been searching for you everywhere today, and we went to your house to look for you! That's when we found out that moved, and our lead ended right there!"

"Oh, your boss wants to see me?" Severin frowned and was a little surprised.

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Blade's heart skipped a beat and he secretly thought to himself, 'This man really does keep a super low profile. Doesn't he know that he's the supreme leader of Dracodeus Temple? Why is he still trying to play dumb at this time?"

Nevertheless, he did not reveal Severin's true identity to anyone there since he knew that the supreme leader of Dragondeus Temple had always been an enigma. Revealing Severin's identity might well make

him unhappy. As a result, he could not answer that question directly and merely smiled awkwardly while saying, "Yes. He wants to see you. You'll know why once you go there tomorrow!"

"Sure. I'll visit you tomorrow when I have the time!" Severin agreed with a smile. In all honesty, he was also a little curious about Draco Hall, and since their men had lent him a hand earlier and saved him a lot of trouble, it was only right that he should thank their boss in person.

"What happened?" Jada and the others had finally arrived downstairs, and the scene before them left her completely speechless. Some of the people were injured, while others had been subdued and were squatting on the ground without daring to move.

The total number of people from Draco Hall was quite intimidating, as the entire restaurant was filled with their people and many more were standing outside. Blade glanced insipidly at Jada and said, "Sorry to cause trouble, Miss Jada, but we've got some scores to settle with One–Eye's people."

Once he said that, he turned to Severin and urged him. "You can leave with your family now, Mister Severin!"

"That I will!" Severin nodded. He turned around, glanced indifferently at Jada's group, and said to Judith and Maurice, "Mom, Dad, Selene, let's go, go home!"

"Oh, okay!"

Judith and Maurice had never seen something like that happen before, and they were drenched in a cold sweat due the sheer fright. Once they heard that they could leave, they nodded immediately and carried Selene out.

Severin glanced at Blade, smiled once more, and walked out with Diane in his arms.

"What's the meaning of this? If you've got some scores to settle with One—Eye, then why'd you let Severin and the others leave? I'm keeping them here because they wanted to do a dine—and—dash! They haven't even paid for their meal yet!" Jada demanded an answer from Blade because she was peeved to see Severin and the others leave just like that.

Blade might be a tough guy, but he was very careful with his words. He smiled at her. "Your restaurant is running a scam. The cost of their meal was sixteen thousand dollars, but you asked them to pay a hundred and sixty thousand dollars. Where did you get the nerve to accuse them of doing a dine—and—dash? The situation I saw today left a bad taste in my mouth, so if you want to remain in business, I suggest you'd better keep your mouth shut instead of spouting all that nonsense. If you shoot your mouth off again, you might as well say goodbye to your restaurant. I'll let everyone know that your restaurant has a reputation for scamming its customers. I remember your restaurant brand having several stores. About a dozen, if memory serves?"

Chapter 77

Jada was so angry that her face was turning red. She never once thought that those from Draco Hall would interfere with their business and be so intolerant of such issues that they felt the need to step in.

Alas, she knew that her only option that night was to admit defeat. Though she came from a third-tier family, Draco Hall was an entity that they did not dare to and could not afford to provoke. After all, not even a second—tier family would have the guts to challenge them.

"Hehe, Blade...sir, I only did that because I wanted to teach Severin a lesson after he embarrassed me today. I swear that our restaurant doesn't scam people! But since you've decided to let Severin go, then we assure you that we'll respect your decision!" Jada smiled awkwardly and had no choice but to concede to him.

Before long, Blade left with his two hundred men.

When he was finally out of sight, Jada asked One–Eye, "What happened? Why did Draco Hall's people show up so suddenly?"

One—Eye signaled for his men to get up and then said viciously, "It's all because of one damn. underling that owed one of their men tens of thousands of dollars but still hasn't paid back. When they came, they grabbed that person and chopped one of his fingers off. They wouldn't even entertain my offer when I told them I'd pay back the money on my underling's behalf!"

As soon as Easton heard that, he said, "Damn! Severin always gets lucky! The debt that One—Eye's subordinate owed Blade is the only reason that Blade came in here, asked about the situation, and let Severin go because of the injustice!"

"Yeah! I wouldn't've let that kid leave if that didn't happen!" One-Eye was fuming with anger too.

"Okay. Thanks for your hard work. it's getting late, so you should bring your men back to get some rest. I'll transfer seventy thousand dollars to you soon. Treat it as medical expenses for the finger that your subordinate lost, plus all those other people who got injured today."

Jada frowned and finally allowed One–Eye and his men to leave.

"Severin was asking for it when he slapped you. If we happen to get a chance like this in the future, we need to make sure that he won't let go!" Easton said while gritting his teeth.

Jada, however, frowned and said, "I have a feeling that things aren't as they look. Blade wouldn't have brought so many people over simply to collect a debt that One–Eye's subordinate owed him. And why did they have to chop off that person's finger too? Don't you think that's going a bit too far just for the sake of some money?"

Easton expressed his disagreement with her. "What are you trying to say? Do you think that Blade might have come here specifically to help Severin escape? Why would he do something that would let Severin owe him a favor?"

Jada nodded. "Blade was very polite toward Severin and addressed him as 'Mister Severin', I fear that there's more to their relationship than we might expect. If we do anything to Severin in the future, I'm worried that I might offend Draco Hall. They're one of three underworld forces, and

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while the Stones are no pushovers, we wouldn't dare to go so far as to offend them!"

However, Easton laughed confidently. "Haha, you're being a little too cautious, don't you think? I know what kind of person Severin is. If he was as capable as you believe him to be, he wouldn't've been sent

to prison by us. Besides, he's only been back for a couple of days. How could he suddenly get to know someone like Blade?"

Jada frowned, still unable to shake off the feeling that there was a trace of respect from Blade to Severin, and a very noticeable one at that.

"But why would someone like Blade address Severin as 'Mister Severin'? The way he addresses Severin just doesn't sound right!"

Jada was a cautious individual, and he felt that the entire incident that night was not as simple as it appeared on the surface. It seemed to her that Blade specifically came to help Severin after seeing that the latter had been trapped.

Easton thought for a moment and said, "I know why. Because Severin knows Mister Henry, and Mister Henry is the head of the Longhorns! Who doesn't want to curry favor with someone close to a first—tier family? This Blade guy might look like a brute, but he's a meticulous person too. I bet he was polite to Severin because of Severin's relationship with Henry!"

Jada then shifted the topic. "By the way, why did Mister Henry treat Severin to lunch? You know what, lunch isn't even that big of a deal. It's the expensive villa that's bugging me. Why would he just give it to Severin? You should try and see if you can find out why Mister Henry gave the villa to Severin!"

Chapter 78

"You're right, it is very strange. Don't worry, I'll try and ask around!" Easton agreed.

Severin was driving home with his family after carrying Diane into the car.

"It's all thanks to Blade for helping us!" Judith was still rattled by that incident and could not help but sigh. "He rushed in with so many people that I thought he was targeting us! I didn't expect that he'd be helping us!"

"Do

you

know who this Blade person is, Severin? He looks like a really powerful person!" Maurice asked Severin.

Diane glanced at Severin and was a little puzzled too. Maurice and Judith were not there when Severin went to Easton's wedding, but she was. She remembered quite clearly that Blade owed the Loughs a favor, and it was Trevor who called in that favor by requesting that Blade deal with Severin.

Later that night, Blade seemed to side with Severin a bit more. Although she had no idea what happened downstairs, she found it a little weird that Blade addressed Severin as 'Mister Severin'. Most importantly, Blade came bearing a message that their boss wanted to see Severin.

Severin smiled. "I don't know what they're up to, but I'll pay Draco Hall a visit tomorrow and find out what's the deal!"

Diane frowned when she heard that. "You can't mess with Draco Hall, Severin. I'm worried might be in danger if you go there! Let me go with you!"

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Her words brought warmth to Severin's heart but he turned around and said to her, "I'm touched by your concern, but I don't think you'll be of any help if I encounter danger there. And judging from their attitude tonight, I think they have other reasons for wanting to speak to me. Everything will be fine! So don't worry!"

"If you're free tomorrow, you can tidy up the house with Mom and Dad, maybe even buy some new stuff for the home. We'll be calling our relatives over for a gathering in a couple of days!" Severin then added.

"Ah okay!" Diane nodded.

"What do you mean 'okay'? Didn't you sprain your ankle? You should rest at home for a few days or go get it checked at the hospital tomorrow!" Judith then exclaimed.

Severin smiled and said, "Don't worry, Mom. Did you forget that I'm a doctor? I'll check it later, and I promise she'll be fine by tomorrow!"

"Sprains take a long time to heal, Severin. How could it be that easy when Diane's ankle is swollen? * Judith smiled wryly, feeling that her son was too much of a braggart and frequently made outlandish claims.

"Well, I'm not an ordinary doctor. I'm a miracle doctor!" Severin explained.

Chapter 79

"We're home, honey!" After arriving at the villa, Severin carried Diane out of the car and to the second floor.

Selene followed obediently behind the two of them and said worriedly, "Does your ankle hurt, Mom?"

"Fret not, Selene! Mom will be fine. I'll heal her in a bit!" Severin looked at her adorable appearance and felt as if his heart was melting.

"Really? You're so amazing, Dad!" Selene looked admiringly at Severin and felt that there was nothing he could not do.

"Okay, you rest there for a while, Selene. I'll run a bath for you soon. We have a bathtub now, so you can bathe in a bathtub!" Diane looked at Selene and smiled tenderly. She never once regretted giving birth to her daughter, because even though life had been tiring and difficult, Selene had been her driving force to continue living.

To her surprise, the little girl folded her hands in front of her chest and pouted angrily. "No, I don't want you to bathe me. I want dad to bathe me!"

Diane was a little speechless. She looked at Severin and said, "She was making a fuss about wanting you to bathe her when you came back. I didn't think she'd ask for it on the same day you returned."

Severin stared at his daughter's adorable antics as she huffed and puffed in front of him. "Okay. Let me put your mother down on the bed, and then I'll give my precious little darling a bath!"

"Yay! That's great." Selene beamed with a smile and she ran around in circles while waving her little hands.

Severin carried Diane back to her room, put her on the bed, then filled the bathtub before bathing her. He did not expect Selene to be so cute and obedient, as she seemed to be very happy instead of fearing him. She must have been looking forward to receiving all that fatherly love from him. When the bath was done, he coaxed her to sleep and returned to Diane's room.

"Are you sure you can cure me? My foot is super swollen!" It had been many, many years since Diane was alone in the same room with Severin. At that moment, she somehow felt a little nervous and her heart was beating a little faster too.

She was even more nervous when Severin carried her up the stairs in a bridal carry.

"You'll know the answer to that soon enough. How did you think I managed to cure Henry? He wouldn't have given us such a big villa if I failed to cure him."

Severin smiled as he took a seat at the edge of the bed. He held up Diane's injured ankle and then placed it on his lap.

"What are you doing?" Diane was startled, not to mention a little scared.

"To cure you, of course. It's just a little out of place. I'll set it back for you and rub some ointment on it in a bit. Then everything will be fine!"

Severin smiled faintly. He could not help but smirk a little when he saw Diane's blush, and he said think that softly to her, "Honey, our daughter is already four years old. Why are you so shy? Did you I'd be fooling around?"

Diane said in irritation, "Hmph, I don't want to talk to you. It's not like I know what kind of person you are, anyway. If I wasn't drunk back then, I would not have even-"

All of a sudden, however, Severin seized the perfect moment to grasp her foot and give it a little. twist. An audible clicking sound was produced.

"Ah!"

Diane winced in pain and said angrily, "What kind of doctor are you? How could you do that without giving me a heads—up? You did that on purpose, didn't you?"

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Severin immediately ran to one side and said smugly, "It was on purpose. Come on and hit me then!"

"Severin!" Diane gritted her teeth angrily as she stood up and rushed over to pinch him.

"Wait! Does it still hurt?" Severin asked when he saw Diane running toward him.

"You're right, it doesn't hurt anymore!" Diane froze for a moment. Though she could not walk earlier, she was somehow able to run a couple of steps without feeling anything happen.

"What do you think? You do know how amazing I am right now, don't you? Hehe, would you have run over to me if I didn't provoke you? You probably wouldn't dare, right?" Severin remarked proudly.

"You! You've got skill, I'll give you that!" Diane walked a few more steps and could not resist praising Severin.

"Told you I'm a miracle doctor. Why wouldn't a miracle doctor have amazing skills?" Severin smiled, then looked at Diane earnestly. "By the way, you're always calling me Severin. Why can't you call me honey for once?"

"Nope! Not happening!" Diane immediately feigned anger. "Hmph. You were the reason I was kicked out of the Shanahans and suffered for so many years. I haven't forgiven you yet, you know.

There's no way I'm going to call you honey!"

"Sigh, it's fine. You'll end up calling me honey sooner or later!" Severin sighed and said in a serious tone.

"Oh? Well, show me if you can do that then!" Diane folded her arms in front of her chest and put on the cold and condescending look that was so typical of female presidents.

"I'll head back to my room to sleep now. You should rest a little earlier too!"

After Severin gave her words some thought, he finally said to her, "But if you're afraid of the dark, I can always keep you company too!"

"Go away! Keep dreaming!" Diane rolled her eyes at him.

Severin smiled, took out a small bottle of ointment, and said to her, "Sit down. I'll apply some ointment on your ankle. Even though I've already popped back your bones, the surrounding muscles are still a little damaged!"

"Okay!" Diane sat on the bed head while Severin squatted down and carefully poured some medicine onto the palm of his hand. He then began rubbing it on her ankle.

When she saw Severin lowering his head and carefully applying the ointment on her, she felt a faint warmth in her heart as she admired his beautiful side profile. She was glad that he did not disappoint her and showed a sense of responsibility instead of being a scumbag. Moreover, Severin's tone seemed to suggest that he had been tricked by Easton into signing an agreement

to sell off his fiancee.

After the ointment had beeri applied, Diane smiled at Severin. "Thank you. You should get some rest!"

Severin stood up and stretched his waist. "You're my wife. There's no need for you to thank me. I'm the reason you've suffered so much in the past five years, but you've still been helping my parents. You're

a good woman, and I promise that I won't let you down again! Mark my words, I'll give you a wedding that will make everyone in the world jealous of you!"

Deep down, Diane felt that he was really sweet, but she still smiled wryly at him and said, "Would it kill you not to brag so much? Go to bed! I'm already happy enough that we'd have such a big house!"

"But that's not enough, honey. It's barely even enough. Like I've always said, I'm not bragging!" Severin looked intently at Diane. "I want everyone to know that you've made the right choice in choosing me!"