

All Sins 281

Chapter 281

Tyler was struck by Olivia's wide, innocent eyes and paused before replying softly, "Sure." He then gently touched her stomach, whispering, "Be good."

Olivia looked down at his hand. Her stomach wasn't showing the pregnancy yet, so his hand covered most of it.

She felt the baby calm down under his touch.

The next day, Tyler took Olivia to her school to get some fresh air while he visited a club nearby. There, he met up with a couple of friends for drinks.

They cheered for him becoming a father, and he smiled warmly, sipping his wine. "She's just a few months along."

"You're keeping it quite low-key. I wouldn't have known you're going to be a dad if it wasn't for the rumor going around."

Dylan Reid, Tyler's longtime friend and former classmate, was the one who brought it up. He was confused by the situation.

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Tyler had previously been very open about Naomi's illness, consulting doctors all over the world to find a bone marrow match, which cost a fortune.

Everyone thought Tyler and Naomi's bond was unbreakable, even in the face of her illness. Yet, here he was, married and about to be a father in secret.

The news was shocking to them all.

Especially curious was who had quickly taken Naomi's place as Tyler's wife, a woman none of them had met yet, this mysterious Mrs. Harris. Tyler hadn't invited anyone to their wedding.

Sitting back with his wine, Tyler smiled as he listened to Dylan's questions. "The baby was a bit of a surprise, so I didn't rush to share the news. It's early days yet."

Dylan was dying of curiosity. Who could win Tyler's heart other than Naomi? He wanted to know who it was.

"Who is this Mrs. Harris? What does she look like? Is she from abroad? Can you show us a picture or something?" he asked.

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Tyler, still relaxed, responded, "She's not from abroad. She's quiet, not too active, not sociable. I'll bring her along next time."

His tone was calm, yet there was a hint of happiness when he spoke of her.

Dylan probed further, "How old is she? What does she do?"

At that, Tyler paused, his smile fading. "She's a lot younger than me. She's still in university."

"Damn, a university student?!" Dylan's jaw almost dropped, staring at Tyler in shock.

Tyler simply placed his wine glass down and didn't react to Dylan's astonishment.

Dylan decided he had to meet this woman himself. The idea of Mrs. Harris being just a

student seemed unbelievable.

That was just ridiculous.

Chapter 282

Olivia visited her school for fresh air. As she walked around, she noticed that the bridge donated by Harris Group was already being built. Even the lab building was under construction.

It seemed a lot had changed since she last visited.

Seeing the Harris Group's logo in front of the building suddenly made her feel weak. Everything was changing so fast, and she felt out of place, like she no longer belonged.

Olivia wandered until she reached the lake, where she sat on a bench, watching swans glide over the water glowing with the sunset.

Then, she heard someone call her name. "Olivia."

She turned to look. It was Sophie, standing just behind her.

Seeing Sophie after so long left Olivia momentarily frozen. Sophie didn't look too good either. They hadn't seen each other since the encounter at the mall.

After a moment of silence, Olivia stood up, and Sophie seemed to want to come closer but

hesitated.

"Olivia," Sophie said again, gripping her bag with uncertainty.

"Sophie," Olivia responded with a warm smile.

There was a lot Sophie wanted to ask, especially seeing how elegantly Olivia was dressed. It made Sophie wonder if Olivia had really stopped her studies.

“Aren’t you going back to school?” Sophie finally asked.

Olivia, who once feared Sophie discovering her secret with Tyler, now felt relieved of that fear. “Maybe later, after a long time,” she replied.

Sophie fell silent when she heard that before asking again, “Olivia, is it true that you’re now... Mrs. Harris?”

“I suppose so,” Olivia responded slowly.

This left Sophie confused. Tyler, previously engaged to Naomi and technically her brother-in-law, was now Olivia’s husband.

She remembered Tyler being kind to Olivia, but always assumed it was because of Naomi.

The turn of events baffled her.

Sophie carefully broached the subject, trying to sound as normal as possible, “Congratulations,” she said with a smile.

“Thank you,” Olivia replied with joy. Then she asked, “How are things with you and Jacob?” She still cared for her.

Sophie couldn’t contain her happiness, “We’re pretty good.”

Seeing Sophie’s blush made Olivia smile. “I’m happy for you. Honestly, I envy you, Soof.”

Olivia was envious because Sophie had everything she wished for: her own unique personality, freedom, a loving family, and being with the person she loved.

She had none of that.

But Sophie wasn't trying to make Olivia feel bad. Even though she tried to control her

feelings, she couldn't stop the happiness from showing on her face whenever she thought about Jacob.

"People actually envy you, Olivia. You're Mrs. Harris now, and that's something a lot of women dream about."

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The Harris family had been rich for generations. No one could match their status, Tyler was considered a dream man by many women. Even though Jacob was wonderful, he couldn't compare to Tyler.

Sophie knew this very well.

But for Sophie, Jacob was the only man she ever wanted, no matter how impressive others might be.

"Really, getting married into the Harrises is like a dream for many. We're the ones who should be jealous."

Olivia didn't argue. She just smiled and nodded.

Just then, Nina came over with a jacket and put it on Olivia. "It's a bit chilly today, ma'am. We should head back."

Hearing this, Olivia said, "I'm leaving now, Soof."

Olivia touched her belly out of habit and left with Nina.

Sophie saw that. She also noticed how slowly Olivia was walking and how anxious Nina seemed.

Suddenly, it hit her—Olivia was pregnant. This thought stunned her.

Olivia said goodbye again before she left. Sophie replied and watched her go.

Sophie stood there, lost in thought until her phone rang.

It was Jacob. Thanks to Sophie's family, he was doing well in a big company like Harris

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Group. This made her very happy.

"When are you done with classes today? I'll come pick you up. I'm finishing work early," Jacob said with a smile.

"I just saw Olivia, Jacob."

He fell silent hearing that. Sophie waited for a couple of seconds.

Then Jacob quickly asked, "Oh? Where did you see her?" His tone was cold, as if he had no interest in finding out.

“By the lake at school. She was alone. I think she might be... pregnant.”

Jacob was quiet again. Sophie hesitated, worried she might have assumed wrong, “But I’m just guessing. I don’t know if she really is pregnant.”

He scoffed and responded dryly, “Hmm, that’s great.”

Sophie felt something was off but didn’t know what to say.

“I’ll pick you up in the evening,” Jacob said.

“Okay.”

Sitting in the office, Jacob’s cold expression lingered after the call ended.

Just then, Linda entered his office, and he quickly stood up.

It wasn’t just the Pearces supporting him; Tyler also seemed to be giving him special attention. Life had been going smoothly for him.

Chapter 284

Jacob greeted Linda as soon as she came into his office, “Hello, Ms. Linda.”

Linda smiled at him, handing over a document. “Great job on the farm project. Mr. Tyler is really pleased, so you might need to go on a trip in a few days.”

She gave him another paper. “Here’s the plan to change Barva Village into a place tourists will want to visit. Take a look.”

Jacob felt like he knew the name Barva Village. After thinking hard, it hit him—it was Olivia’s hometown!

He quickly looked over the document. It didn’t take him long to figure out what was going on. He looked up at Linda.

“This project is special because of Mrs. Harris. We’re counting on you to see it through.”

Jacob held the document tightly.

Linda saw his reaction but didn’t say anything. She waited for him to respond.

He snapped back to his senses and said, “Sure, I’ll do it well.”

“Okay.” Linda smiled and left his office right away.

Jacob looked at the document again, his grip so tight his knuckles turned white. He threw

it on the floor.

The moment the document scattered on the floor, he stared at it, his eyes bloodshot, and laughed bitterly. He couldn’t believe he’d be working on something for Olivia, especially a project her husband

had gifted her.

Olivia had married into a prestigious family. She was living a whole new life, even

expecting a baby.

They say, “People depend on their children’s success.” Tyler’s actions showed he really

believed this about Olivia.

What would Jacob call her when they met again? The honorable Mrs. Harris?

He was smiling, but his eyes were anything but warm.

After leaving school, Olivia got into the car.

COM 284

Tyler was still at the club when his phone rang. It was Nina, saying Olivia had left school. He was always worried about Olivia being out by herself, so Nina was with her and would keep him updated.

Tyler watched the car drive away from the school. "Okay, take her for a drive," he told Nina over the phone.

"Will do, sir."

Tyler didn't turn around until the car had disappeared from view. Right then, a friend approached him. "I heard Harris Group donated more money to the university nearby. I was wondering why they have a soft spot for that school, and now I see it's because your wife studies there."

Tyler slid his phone into his pocket and replied casually, "It's just a coincidence."

But really, it was clear to everyone that it wasn't just a coincidence.

Dylan joined in with a smirk. "Come on, the school's been doing so much better since your company's donation. It's pretty well-known that the roads around the school were a mess. Cars were everywhere, making it dangerous even to walk, and accidents were common. It makes you wonder if your donation was just to help out the school or maybe for someone special who goes there."

Dylan would never let go of the chance to tease Tyler a little, especially when it came to any news about Olivia.

Chapter 285

Tyler picked up his glass of wine again, not paying attention to Dylan. They touched their glasses, making a light clinking sound. Tyler took a small sip of the wine and really enjoyed it.

He looked down at the see-through red wine in his glass. He didn't want to deny it anymore, and after a bit, he said, "This wine's really good."

Olivia wanted her old phone number back, but she had to give up when she realized she had forgotten her ID.

She didn't feel like going home yet, so she asked her driver to just drive around without a set destination.

While she was looking out of the car window, not really focusing on anything, Tyler called her. She answered right away.

He was at the club's balcony, having a cigarette and leaning against the wall. He asked, "Are you still out?"

"I'd like to go home now," she replied.

Tyler was focused, looking straight ahead. His hand was near the ashtray, and he slowly moved the cigarette in his fingers. "Don't you want to go somewhere else?"

"I'm quite sleepy, Tyler." Her voice was slow; she sounded very tired.

His eyes filled with gentleness and patience. "Alright, go home and get some rest."

“Okay,” she said.

Then Tyler added, “Call me when you get home.”

Lately, Olivia had been trying to keep her distance from him, so she didn’t say anything after hearing that.

He asked, “What’s wrong?”

“Nothing. I won’t call you when I get home. I’m sleepy.”

She had mentioned she was sleepy twice. Tyler wondered just how tired she could be.

Still, he went along with what she wanted; he was being nice about it. “Mm—hmm, okay.

Try to take a little nap on the way home.”

“Okay, Tyler.”

Olivia hung up first.

Tyler put out his cigarette only after the call was over. He pushed himself away from the wall and left the balcony.

When he got back, Dylan saw him. “Did you call your wife?”

Tyler glanced at him. “You know, not talking won’t make people think you’re mute.”

Dylan laughed. “Are you embarrassed? Looks like she’s quite clingy.”

Tyler sat on the couch, crossing his legs in a relaxed manner. "She's pregnant, so I took her out to relax. She said she's tired, so I had the driver take her home."

"So, you've got yourself a sweet little thing," Dylan teased again.

As Tyler took another sip of his wine, thinking of Olivia, he felt the wine was especially

sweet.

As soon as Olivia got home, she went straight to bed. While she was deeply asleep, she thought she could smell alcohol and felt a hand on her cheek.

It took her some effort to open her eyes, and when she did, she saw Tyler's face. "Tyler," she called out softly.

Chapter 286

Tyler supported himself next to Olivia when she woke up. He leaned over a bit and gently asked, "Are you up?"

She was still in a daze. She grabbed the blanket and looked at him, still half-asleep, "You're home?"

He looked down, with a gentle look in his eyes. "Min hmm, I'm home. Did you have a good sleep?"

Olivia felt really tired because of her pregnancy. She could sleep as soon as her head hit the pillow.

She said, "I think I slept for about half an hour. It was nice."

Then she noticed something. "You reek of alcohol," She quickly covered her nose with the blanket and made a face. "You've been drinking."

Tyler chuckled a bit when he saw her reaction. “Yes, I had a few drinks. I’m in a good mood.”

Olivia gave him a puzzled look.

He kept staring at her, smiling. “Did you behave today?”

At first, she wasn’t sure what he meant. Then he said, “I was asking our baby.”

Only then did she figure it out. She hadn’t been feeling sick much lately. She nodded. “Mm–hmm...”

“Let me feel it,” Tyler said..

He was a bit tipsy, so he was extra gentle. He seemed very kind.

Olivia was really sensitive to smells now, so she didn’t like the strong smell of alcohol. She kept the blanket over her nose. After hesitating, she lifted her shirt a little.

Her belly wasn’t flat anymore. There was a small bump.

She noticed it when she saw the bump. She turned her head away, feeling shy.

“I think I’ve gained weight,” she whispered..

Tyler was gentle as he touched the bump. He placed his hand on it, feeling the baby.

Nobody knew how long this would last when Olivia said, "I might catch a cold, Tyler." The blanket muffled her voice.

Tyler removed his hand but still looked at her belly. "It's fine if you've gained weight. Your belly will get even bigger. The little thing is growing after all."

In that moment, Olivia felt really calm. It was a warm and cozy feeling, like being in a warm bath.

He pulled the blanket to cover her belly. "Please look like mommy."

Olivia couldn't even guess what their baby might look like. But it didn't matter. The most important thing was the baby's health.

Tyler stayed by the bed for a bit longer. He thought he'd spare her from the alcohol smell. "Get some more sleep. I'm going to take a shower."

Olivia, only her eyes peeking out from the blanket, nodded.

They were like an ordinary couple—a shy young wife and a mature, good-looking husband. They were a good match.

He watched her while smiling for a bit longer before going to the bathroom.

After he left, Olivia felt relieved. She loosened her grip on the blanket and breathed more easily.

She began imagining what the baby would look like, recalling what Tyler had said.

She was still in bed when he came back from the shower, no longer reeking of alcohol.

Dressed in pajamas, Tyler asked Olivia in a light and easy-going way, "How was it outside today?"

Olivia didn't answer him as she lay in bed.

He noticed her silence and gently prodded, "What's wrong?"

She recalled running into Sophie earlier but quickly dismissed the thought, shaking her head. "Nothing."

Seeing her reaction, Tyler didn't press further. He was in a surprisingly good mood, eyes warm and soft.

"Do I still reek of alcohol?" he asked, and then he opened the windows.

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After his shower, Olivia couldn't smell any alcohol on him. She nestled deeper into her blanket and shook her head. "No."

"That's good to hear." Tyler laughed lightly.

Olivia watched him from her cozy spot in bed. He was by the window, dressed in dark

blue pajamas. Feeling a bit overwhelmed, she looked away.

"Are you hungry?" he asked, after letting fresh air into the room.

Muffled by the sheets, Olivia replied, "No."

But truthfully, she was hungry. She just didn't want to admit it, worrying about gaining more weight.

Tyler chuckled and walked to the door. His smile faded when he ordered Nina, "Bring some food."

"Yes, sir," Nina responded and went downstairs.

Watching him stand over there, Olivia noticed that Tyler had smiled a lot today, which

made her think.

When the food arrived, Tyler turned to her and said, "Have some chicken porridge to make your stomach feel better." He was in a great mood today.

She didn't respond but started eating after Nina served the food. Tyler sat nearby, reading the newspaper.

Watching him, Olivia felt a stir of emotions. She wondered if she was falling for the kindness in his gaze, a kindness she thought wasn't meant for her.

The next day, Olivia felt down.

Tyler noticed her mood and tried to be even more considerate. He wanted to keep the baby safe here, so he took extra care of her feelings.

He offered, "Want me to take you out somewhere?"

Olivia wanted distance between them. "I can go by myself, Tyler." She was firm in her

response.

Tyler stared at her for a long time before saying, "Sure. Any place you'd like to visit today?"

“Anywhere is fine,” she replied.

“Okay, just

tell the driver,” he said. Since she had passed the risky stage, he allowed her

more freedom in her activities.

“Mm–hmm, I will.”

Before they went downstairs for breakfast, Tyler affectionately stroked her head.

Feeling bored, Olivia decided to go out after eating, letting Nina know she’d be leaving

with the driver.

Chapter 288

Keith came home during the day, so Tyler decided to stay. They had important work stuff to talk about.

Tyler was waiting outside when Keith arrived. Keith got out of the car after his driver opened the door for him.

Tyler went over to greet him. It had been a while since Keith was home.

“How’s the baby?” Keith asked right away.

“Mm–hmm, it’s stable.”

“That’s great,” Keith said with a nod.

He was a very determined guy. After asking about the baby, he walked straight to the living room, and Tyler followed him.

“Did you go to Mr. Pearce’s funeral?” Keith asked on the way.

“No, I sent Linda instead.”

Keith frowned and stopped walking.

“I had Linda bring a gift, though.”

Keith seemed okay with this and kept walking.

Then, Tyler mentioned, “Morgan’s death anniversary is coming up. Should we do something?”

Keith’s face turned cold. After a short pause, he said, “What’s there to do? She’s gone. Just have one of the staff visit her grave.’

And he kept walking, leaving Tyler with a cold expression as well.

Olivia was in the car feeling quite lonely, with nowhere in particular to go.

The driver just kept driving, letting her have some space to think.

Suddenly, she decided on a place and told the driver the address.

When the driver heard, he looked at her. “It’s going to be really crowded there, ma’am.

“I want to go anyway,” she said firmly,

So, the driver had no choice but to take her to the crowded stone pier at the plaza, the same place where Claude found her last time,

She had no idea why she wanted to go there, Maybe she was just looking for a change of

scenery.

Sitting alone, she watched people go by, lost in her thoughts.

The driver stayed in the car, watching over her from a distance, careful not to bother her.

Just a minute later, Claude showed up, walking by himself.

He had just finished a meeting with Yance Bank and was feeling pretty down. He wanted to clear his head, so he left his car and walked. He ended up at the plaza where Olivia was

He froze when he saw a familiar figure sitting on the stone pier. He just stood there, staring for a long time.

At first, he wasn't sure, but then he called out, “Olivia?”

Olivia was shocked to hear his voice. She shuddered and turned around, hardly believing

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Seeing Claude made her stutter, “C–Claude? What are you doing here?”

Claude just smiled.

Seeing him smile, Olivia smiled back and got up.

Claude walked up to her. "Looks like we had the same idea," he said.

Olivia was about to say something when she noticed a pendant Claude was wearing.

Noticing her look, Claude smiled and explained, "Someone in the family passed away. This is a necklace with their ashes."

Chapter 289

Olivia felt sad when she heard that news. It reminded her of the time her grandmother passed away. She looked at Claude and asked, "Are you okay, Claude?"

Claude kept smiling, a comforting kind of smile. "I'm fine. It happens, you know? He had a long life, so I think it's better just to accept it."

Olivia was happy to hear he was taking it well. "That's good to hear."

Then Claude looked at her with a curious gaze. "But what about you? Why are you here all by yourself?"

Olivia might have wanted someone to talk to, but she didn't find anyone. That's why she asked her driver to bring her here.

She didn't tell him that, though. Instead, she said quietly, "I just felt like coming here."

Claude didn't press her further. With a smile, he asked, "What's up with your phone? I couldn't reach you."

Suddenly remembering, Olivia quickly explained, "Oh, Claude, I meant to tell you. My phone and SIM card are busted, which is why I couldn't text you back."

He frowned. "They're broken?"

She nodded. "Mm-hmm."

He remembered Tyler had her phone the last time he called. He looked at her for a moment without saying anything.

Feeling his stare, Olivia asked, "What's wrong, Claude?"

"Nothing." Claude laughed it off. He obviously didn't believe her phone just broke on its

Own.

He looked at her again. "You seem upset. What's bothering you?"

Olivia didn't answer.

"What is it? Can you tell me?"

Olivia

just stood there, feeling awkward and unsure of what to say.

Claude kept asking gently, "Are the Harrises treating you well?"

Tel 289

Finally, she nodded. "They're... quite good to me."

“What about Tyler?”

When Claude mentioned Tyler, Olivia went silent. He noticed her reaction and stared at her.

“I’ve got a problem, Claude,” she said.

He waited patiently, already guessing it had something to do with Tyler.

“Is there a way for me to avoid someone?” Olivia looked desperate for an answer

Claude was a smart man. He understood a lot without her having to say it. “You just need to be strong and stand up for yourself,” he answered.

Olivia felt helpless, lost, and hurt. She didn’t know how to be strong.

Claude encouraged her, “All you need to do is focus on yourself and the baby. Anything else, including the baby’s father, has nothing to do with you.”

Olivia had been trying to tell herself the same thing, but her feelings for Tyler kept getting in the way. She was worried.

Suddenly, Claude gently held her face, looking into her eyes. “There’s a way out. You can...

He paused, then continued, “Fall for someone else.”

His eyes had a tempting look, reminding her of a story where someone is tempted to make a choice they hadn't considered before.

Chapter 290

Olivia was really confused after Claude's suggestion. As she looked at him, she noticed something very charming about his gentle face—it was like a spell.

"Only if you start liking someone else can you stop liking him. Understand?" Claude explained.

She felt lost in his kind eyes for a moment.

But then, Olivia quickly came back to reality and moved Claude's hands off her face. Just then, the driver, who was waiting in the car, saw this sweet moment.

Claude took his hands back quickly when she pushed them away. He kept looking at her, slightly leaning forward.

She started to think that Claude was like a dangerous monster hiding behind kindness..

"Please, Claude, act properly," she told him.

He chuckled upon hearing that and then stood up straight. "Did I scare you?" His eyes remained gentle.

Olivia shook her head. "I don't like what you did."

"What did I do?"

Olivia couldn't understand how Claude could be so charming without even trying. His words had a magical effect on her.

“Nothing,” she answered.

Claude didn't come any closer. He went back to acting the way that made her feel comfortable. “Sorry that I've offended you.”

Olivia always treated him like a brother, someone she could talk to about anything. She wasn't angry at him and shook her head. “It's okay.”

Then, they sat together on the stone pier. Claude smiled. “What I said was true, Olivia. I wasn't joking. Maybe you should... try it.”

This idea started to grow on her.

After a little while, Olivia felt it inappropriate for them to be sitting there. She stood up quickly, saying, “I need to take care of something, Claude. I should go now.”

He didn't try to keep her there because he saw she was uneasy. His eyes looked sad. “Okay, take care.”

She turned and walked to the car.

Claude stayed on the pier, watching her go with a slight smile.

Olivia was really nervous by the time she got to the car. She felt weird.

The driver also noticed her nervousness. He politely asked, “Shall we head back home, ma'am?”

She nodded. “Yes, let's... go

home.”

As they started to leave, he saw Claude still sitting there through the mirror. Claude sensed the gaze, and he gave the car a cold stare.

They drove back to the Harrises. When Olivia got out of the car, she saw Tyler leaving the

house with Keith.