Ambush OTQ 931

Chapter 931

Doris sat on the sidewalk with her head buried between her knees. She was about to cry.

"Why am I so unlucky? My husband is impotent. I thought I could pay for a pair of test-tube babies, but he doesn't want the children! Now that he's able again, he went to find himself a mistress! Oh my god, can't you give me a break?"

Doris decided that she should not bow to fate.

She stood up, dusted her butt, picked up her electric scooter, and prepared to go to her elder sister's house.

Her elder sister Jennie had married a local tycoon.

She thought of borrowing 700 thousand dollars from her sister to repay Waylon, then she would repay her sister somehow.

That was the best solution she could think of, and she was not going to be discouraged by the sum.

Doris rode her electric scooter down the road.

Waylon returned to Macsen Villa an hour later.

When he came out of the bathroom after a quick shower, his phone on the bedside cabinet started to ring.

Instinctively, he thought it was a call from Emmeline.

He quickly went to pick it up, while his other hand dried his hair with a towel.

When he looked at the screen, he realized that the call was from Doris and not Emmeline.

Seeing her name gave him an inexplicable sense of frustration.

He answered the call and huffed, "400 thousand dollars, and not a cent less!"

He was about to hang up when the voice on the other end of the call said angrily, "I know you're a professional scammer! Do you think you can scam money out of my younger sister because she doesn't know better? I'll bring this to the police!"

The voice was shrill. Evidently, it was not Doris.

Waylon was taken aback momentarily. He suddenly remembered that the voice belonged to the other woman he saw at the hospital.

If he remembered correctly, her name was Jennie.

Waylon was about to lose his temper when he heard Doris' voice at the other end of the call.

"Sis, Mr. Adelmar isn't like that! I was the one who knocked into his car. He's not scamming me at all! Please give my phone back to me!" "Why are you speaking up for him? I've seen many people of his type. That's how they make a living!"

"Don't say that, please. Give my phone back to me!"

There was a loud thud. The phone seemed to have been dropped on the floor.

Waylon's face was already red from anger.

He snorted angrily, ended the call, and blocked Doris' number.

Less than three minutes later, his phone received a notification.

It was a friend request, but it was not from Doris.

The message read, "I'm Doris' elder sister."

It seemed like Jennie had gotten Waylon's contact through Doris' phone.

Waylon wanted to burst out laughing.

She just insulted me earlier, and now she's sending me a friend request. Does she intend to continue with the insults?

"Idiot!"

Waylon tossed the phone on the bed and took the hairdryer.

The strands of hair danced between his fingers.

Ding! He received another notification.

Waylon shot a glance at his phone. It was another friend request from that woman.

He thought he had nothing to be afraid of. If it came to it, he would argue with her.

He accepted the friend request and typed a message. "Don't you have anything better to do? Get some help for your condition!"

Jennie replied soon. "You professional scammer! Do you think you can bully my sister because she doesn't know any better? Tell me where you are, and I'll talk to you face to face!"

"You're crazy!" Waylon replied.

What did he just call me? Jennie thought.

Chapter 932

Jennie was about to lose her mind.

That man is scamming my younger sister for 700 thousand dollars! My husband and mother-in-law think that I'm wasting money on her!

The more Jennie thought about it, the angrier she became. She sent him a message with one word. "Location!" "I'm not afraid of you!"

Waylon sent his location to her. Then, he tossed the phone on the bed.

If that woman wanted to talk to him face to face, that would save him the trouble of typing.

Heh! I'm not afraid of you! The Bugatti is in the garage. You can see from the dash cam records if I'm scamming her!

After he dried his hair, he changed into a set of casual clothes and made some fine tea for himself.

He calmly drank cup after cup.

By the time he finished the third cup, about 40 minutes had passed.

He noticed on the surveillance panel that a red car was waiting outside the front gate.

Waylon pressed a button to open the gates, and the car drove in.

Waylon continued to observe the car through the surveillance panel.

The car parked in the yard, and a slightly plump woman stepped out.

The woman was indeed Jennie, Doris' elder sister, who Waylon had met in the hospital earlier.

She clutched her handbag and quickly walked toward the front door.

Waylon heard a series of frantic knocks on the door.

Waylon spoke through the intercom. "You've already gone through the front gate. Do you need me to open the door for you?"

Jennie heard Waylon's voice through the speaker on top of her. She opened the door and barged into the house.

Standing at the door, she lifted her head and regarded the gigantic crystal chandelier that hung from the ceiling as well as the lavish furniture.

"Tsk tsk tsk. This is such an extravagant house. It's not yours, right?" Jennie said.

What do you mean? Waylon was taken aback.

"The location said you're at Macsen Villa. I'm sure this isn't your house," Jennie said coldly.

Waylon nodded and smirked. "You're right. This house belongs to my younger sister."

Well, I bought this house for Emma!

"Heh! I should've known. Those luxury cars belong to your younger sister as well. You're a jobless bum, so how can you possibly afford a villa in this area?"

It was then that Waylon realized what was going on.

When he first met Doris, he had told her that he was jobless. Also, he said that the cars belonged to his younger sister.

He was not lying. He had indeed bought the house and the cars for Emmeline.

"So you're jobless, and you have nothing better to do than scam innocent women like Doris. That's a pretty sneaky way of making money, isn't it, Mr. Adelmar?"

Jennie glared at Waylon, as though she had seen through his ploy.

Waylon was furious. Even though he remained silent, he was thinking of a hundred different ways of killing her.

"I guess your gentlemanly looks managed to seduce my sister." Jennie smirked. "I'm sure that's only an act, isn't it?"

"Heh! If you want to call me a scumbag, just say it!" Waylon said.

"That's right! I meant to say that!" Jennie said.

"Alright then! Now this jobless scumbag wants you to get out of his younger sister's house! I won't hesitate to call the police for trespassing!"

"Sure!" Jennie huffed. "I was also thinking of calling the police to arrest you for scamming!"

Chapter 933

"I say, ma'am, did you see me scam your younger sister?" Waylon said patiently.

"I didn't see it, but I can imagine what happened. You're using a battered luxury car to scam people for huge amounts of money!" Jennie said angrily.

You sure have a vivid imagination! Waylon thought.

"You must've had quite a lot of victims, right?"

Go on, I'd like to listen to what you have to say! Waylon thought.

"I don't care who else you've scammed, but you shouldn't have scammed my younger sister! Twice, even! You know that Doris is a pushover, don't you? Not me though! Did you know how much Doris had to suffer for the past few years? Do you have a conscience?"

How would I know? Don't I have anything better to do? Waylon thought.

"My younger sister married Josiah Wharton at a young age, but neither of them expected that he'd be impotent!"

Why are you telling me that? I feel sorry for you! Waylon thought.

"Doris can't get pregnant, so her mother-in-law criticized her every day. At the end of her wits, she took her savings and got herself pregnant with in-vitro fertilization."

So that's how the twins came about. Waylon thought.

"Just because the twins are from the sperm bank and not from the father, her mother-in-law didn't want to treat them as her grandchildren! You saw how cute the babies are, didn't you?"

Yes, I have, but what does that have to do with me? Waylon thought.

"The children did nothing wrong!" Jennie was already sobbing at this point. "That stupid old lady is trying to convince her son to divorce Doris. Doris didn't want the divorce, and can you guess what happened?"

I can't. What happened? Waylon thought.

"In an undeserving stroke of luck, that man was fertile again! He had an affair, and the mistress is now pregnant! Where's the justice in all of this? She'll have to go through with the divorce, right?"

"No!" Waylon was indignant. "They're bullies!"

"Isn't that so! They're insistent about the divorce, but he's not going to pay her alimony!"

"That scumbag!"

"Doris has to raise two children by herself. She can't secure a full-time job, and her income is from live streaming. Do you think she can provide her children a comfortable life?"

Waylon was silent. I don't think so. You're making me feel sorry for her.

"She has custody of the children, but she doesn't know who the father is. Where is she going to get her alimony?"

D*mn! Waylon thought.

"Life is already hard for her." Jennie sniffled. "Why did she have to meet you twice? Where's the justice? Oh, my poor sister!"

Jennie slapped her thighs and began to wail.

Waylon had a feeling he was the one being scammed.

"Your younger sister is fine, isn't she? You sound like you're going to avenge her death or something," he said.

"I'm only telling it as it is!" Jennie said.

"From a humanitarian point of view, I sympathize with her," Waylon said impatiently. "But all that has nothing to do with me. You should leave now, Ms. Whittaker."

"What do you mean, it has nothing to do with you?" Jennie stared at Waylon. "My sister wouldn't have asked me for money if it had nothing to do with you! Don't you know how prideful Doris once was? She's forced to ask me, or to be exact, my husband, for money. I got scolded because of that!"

Chapter 934

"She knocked into my car, and somehow it's my fault?" Waylon tried very hard not to lose his temper. "I've never seen someone as unreasonable as you are!"

"Why am I unreasonable?" Jennie said angrily. "You tried to scam my younger sister, and I'm only speaking up for her!"

"You sure have a vivid imagination," Waylon smirked. "Why don't you channel your creativity into web novels? You might make a fortune out of it!"

Jennie was at a loss for a reply. "In any case, I won't let you scam Doris!"

"I never intended to scam your younger sister, ma'am. I don't really care about the money anyway. But you've been accusing me ever since you met me, and I can sue you for slander!"

Jennie nearly jumped. "You are indeed scamming my younger sister! Why can't you admit it?"

"Enough talk. Do you dare to view the dash cam records with me? I can't make that up. Why don't you come up with a conclusion after you've viewed it?" Waylon said.

Dashcam records? Usually, scammers wouldn't have dashcam records! Jennie thought.

"This way, please." Waylon extended a hand in a gentlemanly gesture. At the same time, he seemed domineering.

Jennie could only follow him outside of the house, though her footsteps were hesitant.

They went into the garage, and Waylon switched on the lights.

The lights went on in an instant. Jennie's eyes widened in shock.

What? Am I in a showroom? That's at least a dozen limited-edition luxury cars!

Jennie's head was spinning.

"That's... That's a lot of luxury cars." Her voice was shaking.

"Mmhm." Waylon nodded. "That's how I run my scamming business. I've asked for a hundred million dollars worth of luxury cars from my younger sister so I can make a couple of thousand dollars here and there!"

Jennie gasped. "Who... Who is your younger sister?"

"That's not for you to know," Waylon said with a smile. "As far as you're concerned, you're talking to her jobless scumbag profession scammer brother!"

"Mr. Adelmar, I... I might have been mistaken..." Jennie sounded unconfident.

"That's easy. Why don't we clear up the situation?" Waylon said.

He led Jennie to one of the three Bugattis in the garage. That was the one Doris knocked into.

"It's a lot easier to view the dash cam records instead of making things up in your mind, right?" Waylon said. "You should stop fretting so much. You'll get white hair that way."

Jennie's face turned red, but she was not in a position to lose her temper.

She somehow felt guilty when she saw the array of luxury cars.

On the way to Macsen Villa, she thought Waylon had gotten himself a second-hand luxury car to scam other people. It turned out that it was all her imagination.

Waylon turned on the dash cam for Jennie to see.

Oh my...

Jennie's expression dropped instantly.

The records were clear. Doris was talking on the phone while riding her scooter, and she had crossed the intersection without looking.

If the Bugatti had not swerved in time, she might have been run over.

"What a careless girl! I'll teach her a lesson when I get home later!" Jennie said, embarrassed.

"I should teach you a lesson too, isn't it?" Waylon said coldly.

Jennie grinned awkwardly. "You're a gentleman, Mr. Adelmar. You wouldn't hurt a defenseless woman, right?"

"I'm a scumbag. There's nothing I won't do," Waylon said with a smirk.

Chapter 935

Jennie grinned awkwardly. "I know you're joking, Mr. Adelmar. You look and behave like a gentleman. Surely you won't hold it against me?"

"No, I'm a jobless scumbag," Waylon said. "I am not like a gentleman at all."

Jennie smiled flatteringly. "Allow me to apologize to you, Mr. Adelmar."

"No, don't apologize to me. You should call the police." Waylon narrowed his gaze and smirked. "I can make the call on your behalf, too."

"This is all a misunderstanding. Let's not get the police involved. I admitted to my fault, right?" Jennie said.

"Your younger sister admitted to her fault, not you!" Waylon said.

Jennie's face turned red. She quickly left the garage and drove away.

That was the end of the episode.

Quincy's birthday was the next day. It was also the weekend.

Emmeline took the quadruplets to The Precipice.

They stopped by a department store on the way, and the quadruplets bought birthday presents for Quincy.

Timothy bought her a dress.

Sun bought her a pair of ribbons.

Moon bought her a pair of boots. Emmeline had told him that Quincy would be able to walk very soon.

Star bought her a plush rabbit. It was very cute.

Abel came home from Ryker Group early that day. He bought a birthday cake in the shape of a teddy bear for the little girl.

Emmeline and Kendra had already made a cake filled with fresh fruit. The children loved that type of cake.

However, Abel thought it was inappropriate if he did not buy anything for the little girl who shared a surname with him.

Quincy was dressed in new clothes and wore a paper crown. She sat in her stroller, giggling and clapping happily. Perhaps she could sense that it was her special day.

There was a cartoon figurine in front of her stroller that squeaked whenever Quincy clapped it. That made her giggle even more.

The quadruplets surrounded her and tried to make her speak.

"I'm the oldest, so you'll have to call me Brother Number One," Timothy said.

Quincy did not understand, though she giggled happily.

"I'm Brother Number Two!" Sun said. "Say 'Brother'!"

"I'm Brother Number Three, Quincy!"

"I'm Brother Number Four!" Star teased Quincy with the plush toy. "I'll give you the bunny if you call me 'Brother'!"

The cute toy attracted Quincy's attention. She reached her hands toward it.

"Say 'Brother,' Quincy! Say 'Brother' and I'll give you the bunny!" Star said.

Quincy stared at Star with her round, grape-like eyes. Her hands were kneaded together as though her brain was trying to process something.

Star wagged the plush toy in front of her. "Say 'Brother'! Bro... ther! You want the bunny, right?"

"Buh... Duh..." Quincy made some sounds with her mouth.

The boys were surprised. They cheered together, "Wow! Quincy can say 'Brother'!"

The other three boys showed their presents to Quincy.

"Say 'Brother,' Quincy!"

"Say 'Brother'!"

"Buh... Duh!" Quincy said.

Emmeline noticed that. She crouched in front of the stroller and said, "Good girl, Quincy! Won't you say 'Godmother'?"

"Ma... Ma..."

Quincy could already say "Mama," but "Godmother" was still a long stretch.

Even so, Emmeline was thrilled. She picked Quincy up and kissed her cheeks. "Wow! I have a daughter now!"

Abel was also happy. "I wonder if she can say 'Godfather.' I wish I had a daughter that can call me Daddy."

"I'll give birth to one then?" Emmeline said and rested her head on his chest. "You want a daughter, right?"

Chapter 936

Abel hugged Emmeline and Quincy. "Yay! It'll be great if you can give birth to another set of quadruplets! Four little princesses. Just thinking about it makes me happy!"

"Of course that'll make you happy, but what about me? Do you think I'm a pig?" Emmeline's face turned red.

"Why would you think so? You've given birth to the quadruplets all at once, right? You can do the same for daughters!" Abel said.

Emmeline bit her lip mischievously. "Well... that'll depend on you!"

Abel smiled and whispered in her ear. "You know very well if I'm dependable!"

"Go away! The kids are all here!" Emmeline playfully shoved Abel away.

"We didn't see anything!" Timothy was the first to cover his eyes. "Nothing at all!"

"We didn't hear anything either!" Sun, Moon, and Star added.

Abel laughed. He let his wife go, then crouched and hugged all four boys at once.

Luca suddenly came over to him. "Mr. Abel, there's a man named Mr. Grant outside of the gate. He says he wants to meet Kendra."

"Grant?" Abel furrowed his brows.

"He says his name is Henry Grant," Luca said. "I remember he's Kendra's ex-husband."

"Oh, that's him." Abel remembered Henry to be the person who had provided him with information about Emmeline. Later, Abel gave him a job as the deputy director of surgery at Ryker Hospital.

"You should ask Kendra," Abel said. "It's Quincy's birthday today. He might want to visit his daughter."

"Yes, Mr. Abel." Luca went into the kitchen to look for Kendra.

A while later, Kendra came out of the kitchen wearing an apron.

"Mr. Ryker, is Henry here?"

"Mm. If you want to meet him, you can let him in. If you don't, you can tell the security guards to drive him away," Abel said.

Kendra's head drooped. "Well... I don't think I want to let him in. I'll bring Quincy to meet him at the gate."

"Sure." Abel nodded. "I'll ask Luca to follow you."

"Thank you, Mr. Ryker," Kendra said.

She took Quincy from Emmeline's hands, and she and Luca went to the front gate.

Henry Grant was indeed standing outside the gate.

He was dressed in a silver-gray suit, and his hair was impeccably styled. Behind him was a black sedan.

He seemed excited when he saw Kendra and Quincy walking toward him. "I'm glad that you're willing to see me, Kendra!"

"I'm only here to tell you that this is Mr. Ryker's house, and I can't let you in. You should leave," Kendra said while patting Quincy's back.

Henry seemed disappointed. He said, "I know what happened before is all my fault, Kendra. I've already changed. I haven't touched a drop of alcohol ever since I got my job at Ryker Hospital. I've devoted myself to my job, and I'm the employee of the month. Kendra, I'm no longer the man I used to be. Won't you give me another chance to start again with you?"

"I don't want to talk about this today. It's Quincy's birthday today, and I want to be happy." Tears were welling up in Kendra's eyes.

"I remember it's our daughter's birthday today!" Henry said. "I didn't forget to bring a cake for her too!"

He opened the side passenger door and took a cake box.

"See? It's a fresh fruit cake with a cartoon design. Quincy, do you like it?"

"Have you forgotten how you had framed Mr. Ryker back at the hospital? And you still consider yourself Quincy's father? Have you no shame?" Kendra said coldly.

Henry slapped himself hard. "I was very confused back then. I shouldn't have said that. It's all thanks to Mr. Ryker that I can change! Kendra, won't you let me in so I can thank Mr. Ryker myself?"

Chapter 937

"I'll pass on the message," Kendra said. "You shouldn't come in here. After all, I'm only a servant."

"If that's the case..." Henry nodded. "Alright then, I won't make things hard for you. Take the birthday cake. I'd like to wish my daughter a happy birthday."

"I'll thank you on my daughter's behalf." Kendra took the birthday cake, turned around, and left.

"Kendra!" Henry yelled. "I'll call you! Please pick up!"

Kendra did not answer, nor did she turn her head around.

If he had known this would happen, he should not have divorced her in the first place.

Two days later, Janie was discharged from the hospital.

Benjamin took her to Glenbrook so he could take care of her.

The next day, Janie received a call from Mr. Faughn, who invited her for lunch on behalf of Erin.

Erin wanted to thank Janie for recommending the plastic surgeon as well as celebrate her recovery.

The lunch would be at Struyria Banquet.

Janie thought for a while and invited Emmeline to go along with her.

Emmeline was currently at Nightfall Café enjoying a cup of coffee. She had nothing on her schedule, so she accepted the invitation.

"I'll pick you up," she said to Janie. "You've just come out of the hospital, and you shouldn't drive yet."

"Sure. I'll wait for you at Glenbrook," Janie said.

After the call ended, they went to change their clothes.

Emmeline changed into a wine-red dress and kept her hair free. She drove the Rolls-Royce Wraith to pick Janie up.

An hour and twenty minutes later, the two women arrived at the private room in Struyria Banquet.

The door was ajar, and Emmeline and Janie could hear a man and a woman talking inside.

Janie knocked on the door, and the door was opened from the inside.

The person who opened the door was a slender young woman with chestnut hair, a sharp face, big eyes, and pronounced lips.

She looked like a typical Internet celebrity.

Emmeline could recognize those eyes. They belonged to Erin, the woman she had met in the hospital elevator lobby.

Her eyes had undergone plastic surgery too. The inner and outer corners were very wide, and that made her look seductive.

Emmeline frowned slightly. She thought the woman seemed familiar and unfamiliar at the same time.

Erin seemed shocked when she saw Emmeline in front of her.

More accurately, she seemed panicked.

Subconsciously, she lifted her right hand and touched her face.

Soon after that, she smiled and said to Janie, "You're here, Ms. Eastwood."

Janie smiled and nodded. Then, she introduced Emmeline to Erin. "This is Ms. Emmeline Louise, my best friend."

"Nice to meet you, Ms. Louise." Erin extended her hand for a shake. "I'm Erin Anderson."

"Nice to meet you." Emmeline took the hand. She realized Erin's hand was cold, and her palms were sweaty.

"You're here, Ms. Louise!" Mr. Faughn quickly came to the door and shook Emmeline's hand.

"It's an honor to have you for lunch, Mrs. Ryker!"

"You flatter me, Mr. Faughn! I'm only a stunt double," Emmeline said with a smile.

"But you're an amazing stunt double! You look like you actually know martial arts!" Mr. Faughn said excitedly.

"She does. She can even fight five men at once," Janie said.

"Don't believe what she says!" Emmeline said.

Everyone laughed.

Erin's mouth was still recovering after the plastic surgery procedure. The lower lip protruded unnaturally, and the corners of her mouth seemed stiff.

Emmeline was surprised to see that.

"Ladies, please come in." Mr. Faughn directed Emmeline and Janie to their seats.

One of them was the wife of Abel Ryker, and the other was Benjamin York's girlfriend. Mr. Faughn could not afford to offend either of them.

They made their orders. Emmeline and Janie did not want alcohol, so Erin did not drink too. They each ordered a glass of fruit juice.

Mr. Faughn ordered two shots of whisky for himself.

Janie said, "Mr. Faughn, I heard from Leslie that you saved Ms. Anderson at the foot of a mountain during an outdoor shoot."

Chapter 938

Emmeline pricked up her ears. She wanted to hear the story of how Mr. Faughn became a hero.

"Don't listen to what he says! Erin is my distant cousin, and her face was injured in an accident. She came to Struyria to find a plastic surgeon," Mr. Faughn said.

Janie and Emmeline exchanged glances. "That's not what Leslie said last time."

"When I called Leslie, my cousin and I were at the foot of the mountain," Mr. Faughn said. "Maybe he mistook what I said."

Janie nodded. "I see."

It was quite a sensitive topic, so they dropped the subject after that.

"Excuse me. I'm going to the bathroom." Erin smiled and stood up. She soon left the room.

As soon as she stood up, Emmeline frowned. She could not explain what she felt when she saw the woman in front of her.

Erin went into the bathroom and stood in front of the mirror.

She gently touched her face and carefully scrutinized her eyes, nose, and lips.

"I look completely different from before. They shouldn't recognize me. Janie shouldn't be familiar with me, but Emmeline is too discerning!"

Erin stared at herself in the mirror for two whole minutes before she declared herself satisfied with her current appearance.

She washed her hands and dried them with a paper towel.

On her way out, she bumped into a young man.

The floor was slippery, and Erin nearly slipped and fell.

The young man quickly steadied her. "Careful!"

In shock, Erin lifted her head. She wanted to say she was sorry, but she suddenly froze.

Edmond was also surprised by the beauty of the woman in his arms.

"I'm... I'm sorry," Erin stammered. "I wasn't looking when I came out of the bathroom."

"I should be the one to be sorry," Edmond said as he ogled at the beautiful woman in his arms. "Did I hurt you?"

"Oh, I don't think so." After composing down, Erin flashed a charming smile at Edmond.

Edmond could feel his heart thump wildly. His grip around Erin tightened without him knowing it.

"I'm fine. Thanks for helping me," Erin said while gently pushing him away.

"But..." Edmond gulped. "You should get yourself checked at a hospital, just to be safe. Why don't you give me your phone number? If you feel unwell, you can call me, and I'll bring you to the hospital."

Erin smiled and nodded. "That's very kind of you, sir."

"My name is Edmond Murphy," Edmond said as he took his phone. "How about yours?"

"Erin Anderson," Erin said with a smile. "E-R-I-N. My number is..."

She rattled a string of numbers. Edmond repeated it while typing it into his phone.

He called the number, and Erin's phone rang in her pocket.

"Alright, I have your number. I'll save it later," Erin said.

"Sure," Edmond said while staring at her. "Remember, if you feel unwell, call me, and I'll bring you to the hospital."

"Mm." Erin smiled and nodded.

"Don't worry, I'll be responsible for whatever happens to you." Edmond flashed a knowing smile and left.

"Heh!" Erin snorted coldly. "You've brought this upon yourself, Edmond. I won't spare any one of you!"

After lunch, Emmeline took Janie back to Glenbrook.

Yvonne served them a pot of tea, and they chatted.

Emmeline said, "Janie, don't you think Erin seems weird somehow?"

"I had the same feeling when I first met her, but she seems normal today," Janie said. "Could it be that her face seems unnatural after plastic surgery?"

Chapter 939

"I guess so?" Emmeline nodded. "It just doesn't seem right somehow."

"That's usually the case with plastic surgery. You might not be used to it at first glance, but you just have to keep looking at it," Janie said.

They heard the sounds of a car engine in the front yard. Benjamin had returned.

Emmeline was still angry at Benjamin for causing Janie to suffer so much.

Benjamin had caused Janie to lose her baby, then the chest injury. No woman would be able to handle that much abuse.

As soon as Benjamin stepped in through the door, Emmeline stood up and prepared to leave.

"Emma, are you going to treat me like this forever?" Benjamin said sadly.

"I said I don't want to see you! I feel so frustrated whenever I see you," Emmeline said.

Benjamin gulped. "Yvonne told me you were here, and I specifically came back to meet you. What do you want for dinner? I'll get Yvonne to cook for you."

"It's still too early for dinner," Emmeline said. "Now that you're back, you should spend your precious time with Janie. I'll be leaving."

Benjamin furrowed his brows but said nothing.

"Emma, you can't keep on being angry at Benjamin. It's not his fault I got hurt," Janie said.

"Whose fault is it then?" Emmeline glared at Benjamin. "He admitted that it's his fault, and that nearly cost you your life. I can't help but be mad at him."

"It's not like that ... "

"Ahem!" Benjamin coughed loudly, which made Janie shut up.

Emmeline glanced at the couple suspiciously. "What's going on? Are you two hiding something from me?"

"No," Benjamin said. "I don't want Janie to keep on explaining that it's not my fault. I'm not going to shirk responsibility for what happened to her."

"Hear that, Janie? And you're still speaking up for him!" Tears welled up in Emmeline's eyes. "To think I trusted him for so many years!"

Benjamin looked away. He could not shake away the ache in his heart.

Emmeline said to Benjamin, "All I hope is for you to treat Janie well, even if you only treat her as a friend. You shouldn't let her get hurt anymore."

"Mm. I will." Benjamin nodded.

"I'll be leaving them. Janie needs to rest," Emmeline said.

"I'll see you off," Benjamin said.

"It's okay. I can walk myself," Emmeline said while turning her head away.

"If that's the case... Yvonne, please see Ms. Louise off," Benjamin said.

"Yes, Mr. York." Yvonne quickly followed Emmeline out of the living room.

Emmeline went to her car. She could not help but sniffle.

She considered that she might have set impossible standards for Benjamin, and she did not want to see his flawed side.

Am I doing the right thing though?

"Ms. Louise, please don't be angry at Mr. York. It's not like what you think," Yvonne said.

"You're speaking up for him too!" Emmeline turned around. "Benjamin nearly cost Janie her life, Yvonne. Isn't that enough?"

"Ms. Eastwood did that because she had no other choice. If she hadn't done that, Mr. York would be in trouble," Yvonne said.

Emmeline frowned. "What did you say?"

"You've very close to Mr. York. Don't you know his feelings for you?" Yvonne said.

"Of course I know! He's the person I trust the most, and that's why I can't forgive him for treating Hanie that way," Emmeline said.

"What if Benjamin caused Janie to be hurt because of you?"

Emmeline was surprised. "What do you mean, Yvonne? How could it be because of me?"

"Ah, Ms. Louise, it's about that time when you wanted to marry the ugliest man in the world!" Yvonne said.

"What happened then? Isn't it all over?"

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"It's all in the past now, but back then, Mr. York was so worried about you. He shut himself in the study and planned to destroy his face with a scalpel. He thought by making himself ugly, he can marry you and stop you from public criticism. Ms. Eastwood arrived in the nick of time and snatched Mr. York's scalpel from his hands. She injured herself so that Benjamin would not destroy his face. Luckily, Mr. Ryker managed to reach the ceremony in time. Things would have been dire if he hadn't!"

Emmeline stood there, shocked. "So that's..."

Suddenly, she turned around and fled into the house.

Benjamin was about to go upstairs when he heard Emmeline sobbing behind him. "Benjamin?"

Benjamin was taken aback. He turned around and saw Emmeline standing there. She seemed lonely.

"Benjamin, why did you lie to me?" Emmeline said.

"Emma? What are you saying?" Benjamin said.

"I said, why did you lie to me? The two of you lied to me!"

Benjamin pressed his lips together. He walked down the stairs and toward Emmeline.

Janie hastily stood up from the sofa. "What do you mean, Emma? We never lied to you!"

"I know everything now." Tears fell from Emmeline's eyes. "Benjamin, you did that because of me, and Janie hurt herself to save you!"

Benjamin turned his head furiously at Yvonne. "Yvonne! What did you tell Ms. Louise?"

Yvonne's face turned pale. She drooped her head and said, "Mr. York, I came to Struyria from Adelmar Island with you and Ms. Louise. I can't bear to see any misunderstandings between you two."

"That's none of your business! Get lost!" Benjamin said angrily.

"You can't blame Yvonne!" Emmeline took Yvonne's arm. "She doesn't want to see us drift apart."

"But Emma..."

"I know you didn't want to tell me because you didn't want me to feel guilty, but I'd rather feel guilty than lose my trust in you. Have you ever considered that, Benjamin?"

"..."

Indeed, he did not consider that. All he wanted was for Emmeline not to be sad.

He forgot that Emmeline would feel worse if she lost her trust in him.

"Emma..."

"This is all my fault, Emma. I was too reckless," Janie said with tears in her eyes.

"You shouldn't blame yourself, Janie." Emmeline went over and hugged Janie tightly. "Thank you, Janie. If you hadn't interfered, Benjamin would have destroyed his face. But you injured yourself seriously because of this incident. I don't know what I should think." "The incident is in the past," Janie said while patting her back. "And I'm fine now. You don't have to blame yourself."

"You see, Emma, I didn't want this to happen," Benjamin said.

Emmeline turned to Benjamin and sobbed, "I was mistaken about you, Benjamin. I nearly lost my trust in you."

Benjamin hugged her gently and wiped her tears. "Everything is fine now. If you keep on being sad, I'll have to scold Yvonne!"

"You should thank Yvonne," Emmeline said. "Do you want us to drift apart? Master Robert will be angry at you if he finds out!"

"But he wants me to protect you. That was the only way I could ensure you're not hurt."

"I know. I'm not angry at you anymore."

"You shouldn't blame yourself either. I'll take good care of Janie."

"Mm. I'm relieved to hear that." Emmeline smiled.

Benjamin patted her head and said, "I will be a good elder brother to you, Emma. No matter what happens, I won't cause you to lose your trust in me."

"Mm!" Emmeline sniffled and nodded.

"Alright, your eyes are bloodshot now. Abel will scold me if he sees this," Benjamin said while playfully pinching her cheek.