

## Be Yours 211

### Chapter 211 I Want You to Protect Me

Alec took Jenny seriously and no longer stood between her and Yvonne. But Yvonne didn't act out anymore, not daring to take another step.

She knew that Jenny was true to her words. If she rushed over, Jenny wouldn't hesitate to smack her again.

She cried pitifully. This time, her tears were real. She turned and rushed into Sam's arms. "Sam, it hurts..."

Sam looked at her flushed face, feeling his heart ache. He glared at Jenny. "Do you think you're invincible, Jenny Walter? The Blooms are nothing to be looked down upon!"

"You're right, Sam. But she's the one who said that I hit her first. How could I admit to something I haven't done? Well, I can, now. I admit that I hit her." Jenny threw her hands into the air, implying she was forced into doing it.

"Jenny Walter!" Sam roared. But that was all he could do. With Alec around, he couldn't do anything to her. Jenny shrugged, looking nonchalant. "I understand that you like her, Sam. But we need to take the rose-tinted glasses off. You wouldn't even know if you're being used like a tool."

"What do you mean?" Sam frowned.

Jenny didn't elaborate. She looked at Alec. "Let's go. We can't finish dinner like this." 1

"Alright." Alec nodded and left the restaurant with her.

Once they were long gone, Yvonne let her tears flow freely. "Sam, they're huge bullies. I can't let this go!"

"But Yvonne, Jenny has Alec backing her up. We can't...we can't do anything." Sam thought Jenny was a huge bully, too, but he couldn't square off against the Fausts.

It was as if Yvonne expected this answer from him. She wasn't surprised at all, instead saying, "So what if they're the Fausts? You're the heir of the Blooms. You're not that much worse."

Sam was happy to hear her say that, but it was just an emotion. He had to face the reality of it. "My father would never agree."

Sam knew that the chances of victory against the Fausts were slim. He knew his father's personality.

"Sam, my parents never liked me. I know they'll never have my back. But...I want you to protect me." Yvonne looked at him with hope and a tinge of disappointment.

"But I..." Sam felt helpless. He had no deciding power in the Blooms.

Seeing this, Yvonne said, "You're their eldest son. You should be inheriting the company soon. Your parents are going to grow old. You can't keep relying on them. Look at Alec and Max. They started

controlling their families' companies at a young age. Your abilities aren't that far off from theirs. Why can't you

do it? If you're worried about your skills, I can help you. You know of my power in the Dickmans before this. With me, you can rise in the Blooms. When that time comes, even Alec will have to bow down to you."

In Jenny's eyes, Yvonne's motive for tonight was sabotage. But what Yvonne wanted was for Sam to decide to inherit the Blooms. If those old farts kept controlling them, she would be powerless.

If she wanted to fight against Jenny, she had to first control the Blooms.

"Can I really do it?" Sam was uncertain.

"You can. With me." Yvonne nodded. She knew he was moved and said, "You can't keep watching me get

bullied. You promised to protect me when we got married."

Chapter 212 Just For Pity's Sake

Jenny didn't know what Yvonne had said to Sam, but she felt that her actions that day were odd.

What was the point of framing her? Who else would believe her besides Sam? Did she slap herself just for pity's sake?

Jenny couldn't figure it out, so she buried herself in her thoughts. Alec, who was driving, looked concerned. "What are you thinking about? The Blooms?"

"Not really. I just thought that Yvonne was being weird." She retracted her gaze from the window and looked at Alec.

Alec understood what she was trying to say and nodded. "It does seem weird. But maybe she just wanted to hurt you. She just didn't think that you'd respond like that."

Anyone would be rushing to explain things. Only Jenny would refuse to explain and slap her instead. "That's a possibility." Jenny nodded and then smiled at Alec, asking, "Aren't you going to doubt me? What if I did slap her?"

"I believe you," Alec said. Hurriedly, he added, "But even if you did hit her, it wouldn't be your fault."

Jenny couldn't help laughing. Such trust didn't move her; instead, it amused her. "Don't you think that's just blind trust?" she asked. "Does that mean that whomever you're protecting can do no wrong?"

Truth be told, she didn't like this act of blindly loving someone.

"Not really. I just believe in your character. You wouldn't hurt Yvonne without reason," Alec replied. He wasn't blindly loving her; he could discern things himself.

After a moment's silence, she asked, "Don't you think that I went overboard with what I did afterward? I gave that slap everything I had."

"Nope. I just thought you had a strong personality." When it happened, Alec had not pitied Yvonne. On the contrary, he admired Jenny.

"You're really..." Jenny mulled over her words, all of a sudden unable to describe Alec.

He looked at her, saying with a straight face, "Maybe I feel that way because it's you."

Jenny gazed at him before turning away, saying nothing else.

The car drove on. Jenny thought Alec was driving her to her apartment, but then he stopped in front of a restaurant. "You're not full yet, are you? You barely touched your food."

"I'm alright. I didn't really have an appetite when I saw her." Besides, she worried that Yvonne had added a few extra ingredients to their food. Who knew what crazy stunts she'd pull? Jenny felt she had to tread carefully.

Alec smiled lightly and opened her door for her. "Let's go eat something. I'm hungry."

"Alright." Jenny didn't decline. It was rare for her to rest, and she didn't want to starve herself.

They ate considerably happily. Putting aside the fact that he was her ex-husband, Jenny thought that Alec was actually a pretty decent person.

"Grandpa has been missing you lately. Are you free in the afternoon? Perhaps you could come with me to the Old Mansion to see him." Alec said suddenly during the meal.

His grandfather was truly constantly talking about Jenny. But Alec wanted to spend time alone with Jenny, too.

"Sure." Jenny nodded. Since she was done with her little stay, it was expected of her to visit him.

At the mention of Alec's grandfather, Jenny suddenly looked at Alec curiously. "Don't you think it's weird that he firmly believes that we're suitable for each other?"

Chapter 213 You Think Grandpa's Lying?

Alec wasn't expecting that question from Jenny. He thought it was weird, too, but because it was his grandfather, he didn't prod into the matter. He believed his grandfather wouldn't hurt him.

Now that Jenny was asking the question, he grew serious. "What if he's right? We are quite suited for each other."

Jenny was speechless. "Can you take this seriously?" Jenny rolled her eyes at him, speaking crossly.

"Fine." Alec nodded, no longer teasing her. "Which part of it do you think is weird?"

"I can't quite describe it. I just think that it's weird that he keeps insisting on it. There are so many eligible women in Parrington, but he insists that we're suited for each other. It just seems so far-fetched." She felt that his words were not grounded in reality.

Alec didn't retort. He had his doubts before. "So, you think my grandfather is lying?"

"That's not what I meant," Jenny hurriedly explained. "I'm just curious to know why."

"It's okay. I couldn't figure it out either." Alec smiled and said, "But after I met you, I thought maybe his words had some truth."

Jenny was silent for a moment, considering things. Then, she sighed exasperatedly. "Maybe. After all, no one knows what he's really thinking."

They no longer talked about it. There were no conclusions drawn. Unless they flat out asked the old man about it, he wouldn't let them know that easily.

After their meal, Jenny and Alec went to the Old Mansion and accompanied the old man throughout dinner. Jenny went back to her apartment after that.

The next day, Zack's business officially launched. It was to be held at a hotel. Jenny had dressed herself and prepared to head over to help out.

When she got down, she was surprised to see Alec's car parked by the road. It looked like he had been waiting for a while.

"Why are you here?" Jenny asked, walking over.

"Waiting for you." Alec opened the door for her. "Zack's having his business launch, isn't he? He invited me over, too."

"Zack invited you?" Jenny couldn't quite believe it. Since when were they so close?

Alec nodded, smiling. He didn't say much. "There's no beef between us, and we're all going to be businessmen in the future. Wouldn't that make it normal to invite me?"

Jenny, however, thought that Zack wasn't such a generous person.

"Get in. We can't be late," Alec said.

Jenny didn't decline. She got into the car, and they headed for the hotel.

There was quite a crowd at the hotel. Although the people were not quite familiar with Zack, they knew Gilbert well. Once they found out he was Gilbert's brother, they felt obligated to come.

People hadn't taken it seriously at first, but once they saw Alec's arrival, they were stunned.

Did Zack and Alec know each other?

At once, everyone understood. It was because Jenny, too, got down the car. When they saw her, realization dawned upon them.

Quite a few people in Parrington knew that Jenny, Gilbert, and Zack had become siblings. And if Alec successfully won Jenny over, he would have to call Gilbert and Zack his brothers. Now that it was viewed this way, his appearance seemed less out of the ordinary.

The people who sucked up to Zack grew in number as if he were a rising star in Parrington.

"Gilbert, Zack," Jenny greeted them as she walked over,

They responded in kind. When they saw Alec by her side, their expressions shifted, especially Gilbert's. However, they didn't say anything.

Chapter 214 III at ease

"Congratulations, Zack. You're going to do so well," Jenny congratulated him.

Zack seemed a little tipsy. His cheeks were tinged with a shade of red. "Don't worry, Jenny. I won't let you down."

"Let's just go in," Gilbert said.

They began heading toward the hall. It was swarming with guests.

"I didn't think you knew so many people, Zack," Jenny said. "So many people came to support your business." She looked around carefully. Quite a few of them were big names in Parrington, and she was surprised.

Zack was a little embarrassed. He scratched his head, saying, "Everyone's here because of Gilbert. Not a lot of them know me."

He knew where he stood. Without Gilbert, Zack was nothing. At least, that was true right now.

Of course, he had faith that if he worked hard, he would create a promising future for himself. When that happened, people would no longer refer to him as Gilbert's brother and call him by his name.

They talked for a bit, and then Zack went back to the entrance to greet guests.

Gilbert eyed Alec and said, "Why don't you get a drink?"

Alec looked at Jenny intently, as if asking for her opinion.

Feeling his gaze, Jenny said, "You can go. I'm going to sit for a while."

Gilbert and Alec were both people in the business field. They had obligations to fulfill. Jenny didn't want to affect them because of her presence.

Hearing her words, Alec didn't object. He nodded at Gilbert, saying, "Well, don't mind if I do."

It so happened that Alec wanted to see for himself what Gilbert was up to. Gilbert couldn't possibly be simply inviting him over for a drink.

Jenny found herself a seat and drank the juice that she had with her. When sweeping her gaze over the crowd, a figure appeared before her.

She looked up. The girl had on a full face of delicate makeup, and she was dressed fashionably. However, Jenny didn't know her.

"Are you Gilbert's sister?" the girl said a little haughtily. There was no reason for someone to dislike her. Jenny said nothing, not wishing to entertain her.

The girl, however, sat next to her as if they knew each other already. She introduced herself. "I'm Marigold Wagner, a friend of your brother's."

Wagner...

Jenny noticed her name immediately.

There was only one family named Wagner in Parrington. They were the lords of the city's underworld. People wanted to be on good terms with them, but they feared getting too close.

"You're Jenny, aren't you? I heard from Gilbert that you guys get along really well." She looked at Jenny, not caring that Jenny had yet to acknowledge her.

Jenny considered it for a while and thought Marigold probably didn't have ill intentions. She answered, "Yeah, we're pretty close."

"Could you do me a favor?" Marigold looked at Jenny expectantly.

Jenny's heart thumped hard. She felt ill at ease. Like your brother. Could you tell him to give me a chance?" Marigold said.

When Jenny heard that Marigold liked Gilbert, she found that she wasn't too surprised about it. When she came toward her, she already had a feeling that it would be this. Now, it was confirmed.

"Could you? I swear that I truly do like him. I'll prove it to him if he just gives me a chance!" Marigold was nervous when Jenny stayed silent. She couldn't help thinking that they were indeed siblings. They were both so cold.

Chapter 215 She's Here for Me

"I'm sorry. I'm afraid I can't help you." Jenny shook her head. Although she wanted her brother to find happiness, he had to first fall in love with someone he truly liked.

Upon hearing her refusal, Marigold was upset. "Why? Do you think I'm not worthy of your brother?"

"It's not a matter of being worthy. It's a matter of feelings." Jenny looked at her, then glanced at Gilbert, standing some distance away. "Since you've come to me for help, it means he doesn't like you. I can't help you if that's the case." If Gilbert were just embarrassed, Jenny would be of help. But since Gilbert obviously didn't like Marigold, she had no reason to help her.

Marigold was a little disappointed, but she couldn't argue with that logic. What Jenny said was true. Gilbert didn't like her and had flat out rejected her multiple times before. Now that she was here, he had shied away. If not for an event like this, she wouldn't have been able to see him.

As if sensing her disappointment, Jenny asked, "Why do you like him?"

"I think he's handsome and capable. Who wouldn't like a guy like that?" Her eyes twinkled when she spoke of Gilbert.

Jenny could feel that Marigold truly liked Gilbert. However....

After a moment of silence, she said, "I can try helping you, but it might not work. So it's best if you don't get your hopes up."

"For real? You're the best!" Marigold was ecstatic. She hugged Jenny in one swift motion.

Jenny wasn't used to a hug like this, but she didn't push her away. If Gilbert and Marigold were to be together, Jenny would have to be her sister-in-law. Getting acquainted beforehand was a good idea.

Marigold let go of Jenny and said, "We're friends from now on. You can count on me for help whenever you need it. Although I have little say in my family, I'm still their daughter. I'd still be of some use."

Jenny smiled faintly. She didn't think that Marigold would be so honest. She even spoke about her position in the family. She couldn't help liking her.

"Alright. I'll ask for help when I need it," Jenny said.

They talked merrily. Gilbert seemed to notice Marigold's presence next to Jenny. He excused himself from a few guests and turned toward them.

Marigold instantly grew anxious. She stood up at once. "He's coming. I'm going to leave now. You have to help me!"

"Alright." Jenny wasn't expecting Marigold to be so afraid of Gilbert. It seems that he had admonished her before.

When Gilbert walked over to Jenny, she noticed how dark his expression was. He swept his gaze over their surroundings, as if he were looking for someone, then retracted his gaze quickly.

"What did she say to you?" He looked at Jenny, his voice cold and frosty.

Jenny at once pulled him down to the seat next to her. "What are you so mad for, Gilbert? She's just a girl. What is she going to say?"

"I'm afraid that she'll hurt you," Gilbert said. His gaze was deep. "She's one of the Wagners. She looks innocent, but she has a complicated history. You can't believe a word she says."

"She's not here for me. She's here for you, Gilbert." Jenny was exasperated. She had no idea why Gilbert would be so serious. Marigold didn't look like a thug, no matter which way she looked.

"Me?" Gilbert frowned. It took only a moment for him to figure something out. His face turned even sourer than before.

#### Chapter 216 The Devil Himself

"She likes you, but you already know that." Marigold had turned to Jenny for help because she most definitely had already told Gilbert about how she felt but was faced with his rejection.

Gilbert scoffed. "Likes me? Who knows if it's a trap set by the Wagners? They've always done underhanded things to achieve their goals."

Were the Wagners that pathetic? Before Jenny could think of a reason, Alec walked over. "That's not right of you to say, Gilbert. Who hasn't done underhanded things in the business world? And that includes you."

Marigold stood next to Alec, her eyes reddened. Evidently, she had heard Gilbert's words.

"I quite forgot that you're close with the Wagners, Mr. Faust, especially with Paul Wagner. People even say that you're like brothers. Of course you'd stick up for them," Gilbert said sarcastically. His words implied that he turned up his nose at the Wagners, and now, even Alec.

Alec didn't deny it and said, "So what if we're close? Do you have something to say?"

"What can I say?" Gilbert sneered. "There's a saying, birds of a feather flock together. With all that time spent with Paul, I fear you've become like him, Mr. Faust."

"How could you say that about my brother, Gilbert? What has he ever done?" Marigold couldn't bear to hear this anymore. Out of the Wagners, she and Paul were the closest. She couldn't bear to hear someone else speak ill of him.

Gilbert glanced at her coldly. "Your brother? You should be asking about what he hasn't done. How do you think he inherited the Wagners? He has blood on his hands. What's the difference between him and the devil? And you dare to ask me what he's done."

Marigold wasn't well-versed in what her family did. She didn't know how Paul took charge of the Wagners, either. She just thought that he was amazing. But now, hearing what Gilbert had said, she felt shaken.

One was her brother, and one was her crush. For a moment, she didn't know whom to trust.

Alec glanced at Gilbert and then said to Marigold, "Even if there's blood on your brother's hands, it's the blood of the damned. He has done nothing wrong."

As Paul's good friend of many years, Alec understood him well. At the same time, he worried about him. Out of all the Wagners, only Marigold treated Paul as her own brother. If Paul had a soft spot, it would be his sister. Alec thought that if Marigold were to take someone else's side and snub him, Paul would go crazy.

"Alright. I understand." Marigold nodded. She wouldn't actually be swayed by Gilbert's words and turn on her brother.

Jenny listened to everything that they said. She was just curious to know what Paul was like. Gilbert's face was full of disdain. No matter how much they tried to clear Paul's name, he would always remain as the devil to Gilbert.

"Let's go, Jenny." Gilbert was about to pull Jenny away with him.

But then Marigold stopped them from leaving, particularly Gilbert. "I didn't know that you felt so strongly about the Wagners. I thought that you just didn't like me. I know about it now. That's why I'm still not giving up. I'm going to show you that the Wagners are not as bad as you think. At least not all of us."

Chapter 217 He's Your Brother, Not Your Son

Marigold left right after she spoke. Jenny stole a glance at Gilbert's expression. It was worse than before.



“Didn’t you always tell me not to judge a book by its cover?” Jenny said after a moment’s silence. “Maybe the Wagners are dislikeable, but that doesn’t mean that every member of the family is bad. At least, I think Marigold’s decent.”

Gilbert said nothing. She didn’t know what he was thinking. He stared at the direction in which Marigold left for a long time, still lost in his thoughts.

“Gilbert?” Jenny called. He came back to his senses.

He looked at Jenny and said, “You’re just too naive. Is she going to announce her motives while getting close to me?”

“Aren’t you overthinking things? Marigold is just a girl. You can choose not to like her, but accusing her of evil intentions that she may or may not have is going overboard,” Alec finally said, unable to bear it anymore. He and Marigold were not close, only coming into contact with her through Paul, but he could tell that Marigold was just an innocent girl. She was not as vindictive as Gilbert thought.

“Don’t you think interrupting my conversation with Jenny is going overboard?” Gilbert looked at him, the hatred in his eyes clearly shown.

Alec was about to speak, but Jenny cut them both off. “Stop. Gilbert, it’s okay if you don’t like Marigold. You don’t have to get angry over this.”

Perhaps Gilbert thought that he had been overreacting, as well. He took a deep breath to calm himself down. “Alright. I’m not angry. Just ignore her if she comes looking for you.”

Jenny nodded. “Okay.”

In her eyes, Marigold was an outsider. It was not worth getting into a fight with Gilbert over someone they barely knew.

The launch was still ongoing. Zack was the true star of the show, surrounded by a few people. His face flushed red, and he was stumbling on his steps.

“Gilbert, you should go help Zack out.” Jenny couldn’t bear watching it. She worried that Zack would pass out at his own business launch.

Gilbert nodded and reminded her to take care of herself before walking over toward Zack.

As for Alec, he said nothing. After Gilbert was gone, Jenny looked at him embarrassedly and said, “Sorry. My brother was in a bad temper.”

“Why are you apologizing for him? He’s your brother, not your son,” Alec said, annoyed.

Jenny said nothing.

“I’m sorry, Jenny. I…” Alec wished he could slap himself. What was he saying? It was Gilbert who had provoked him, not Jenny. Why did he lash out at her?

Jenny didn’t take it to heart. She shook her head. “It’s okay. I know you were standing up for Paul.”

If someone said that about Stephanie, she would be mad, too.

Stephanie...

Jenny suddenly realized that Stephanie was not there.

That wasn't right. Stephanie was her best friend. She knew that Zack was her brother. She had no reason not to come.

She swept her gaze over the audience. Just as she was about to confirm her suspicions, she spotted Stephanie's father. She turned toward Alec and said, "I have to deal with something for a bit."

"Alright." Alec did not stop her.

Jenny walked toward Stephanie's father. "Mr. Walker."

"Jenny." Mr. Walker nodded. "What's wrong? Are you looking for something?"

"Nothing much. It's just that I haven't seen Stephanie around. Isn't she coming?" Jenny asked, an uneasy sensation washing over her.

Chapter 218 Stephanie's Lie

"Stephanie? Didn't she come here with you?" Mr. Walker looked bewildered. "A few days ago, she said she was going to stay over at your place. You didn't know?"

Jenny was stunned. Stephanie hadn't mentioned anything like that.

"Something happened to you, right? Once you got back, Stephanie said she was going to keep you company for a few days. I figured that since you'd been through an earthquake, you'd need the support. So I didn't think too much of it and let her go," Mr. Walker continued.

Jenny didn't answer. She remembered how Stephanie had called her to check in on her but had not come to see her. Jenny thought that she was busy, but that wasn't the case, apparently.

Her silence made Mr. Walker nervous. "What's wrong? Didn't she go to see you?"

"No. She gave me a call but never visited. I thought she was busy, so I didn't think too much of it." Who would have known that Stephanie told her father she was coming to see her? Wasn't this a blatant lie?

Now Mr. Walker was truly nervous. He called Stephanie at once, but the robotic voice coming from the other end made his heart sink. "The number you have called is unavailable."

"Where would she go if she didn't go to see you?" Mr. Walker was worried that something had happened to his daughter.

Jenny comforted him, "Don't panic, Mr. Walker. Maybe she's just busy, and her phone happened to be turned off."

"But why did she lie to me?" Stephanie clearly hadn't gone to Jenny's place, yet she had told him she had.

Jenny couldn't think of a reason, either. She was quiet for a bit, and then she suddenly remembered Stephanie's secret boyfriend, whom she had never met.

Technically, he wasn't her boyfriend because Stephanie had mentioned that he didn't put a name to their relationship.

Jenny had no choice but to ask, "Stephanie has a crush on someone. Did you know that?"

"A crush?" Mr. Walker was surprised. "I don't. She never told me about it. Who is it? What's his name? I'm going to get someone to find him at once." Mr. Walker sensed that if his daughter had a crush on someone, her lie would have something to do with it. She had probably gone to see her boyfriend.

He was frustrated and worried at the same time.

But Jenny shook her head. "I don't know who it is, either. Stephanie never let me see him. I just know that someone like that exists."

Now Mr. Walker was panicking. He no longer cared about her lie, only that he wanted to find her.

"I'm going to find her." Mr. Walker headed toward the exit. He was no longer in the mood to attend the launch.

Jenny didn't stop him. She turned to look for Zack and Gilbert. They had to find Stephanie. Nothing else mattered now.

"Zack." Jenny looked at him, and seeing how tipsy he was, she grew worried.

"What's up, Jenny?" Gilbert sensed her urgency.

Jenny told them everything she knew about Stephanie's situation, and she looked at Zack. "Zack, I remember I told you to investigate the men close to Stephanie before. Did you find any clues?"

Zack sobered up a little. He thought about it and shook his head exasperatedly. "I couldn't find anything. He's not someone to be underestimated. He wiped out all traces of him and Stephanie together."

Jenny frowned. "Gilbert, send some people over to help me. We need to take the idiotic route."

"Alright." Gilbert nodded. He knew how close Jenny and Stephanie were and took this matter seriously.

"I'm going to the police station so that we have police officers on the lookout, too. The more, the better." Jenny walked toward the exit. The worry in her heart increased tenfold.

#### Chapter 219 What the Fuck Are You Doing?

Jenny had departed quickly and without telling Alec. So, when Alec noticed she was missing, he called her and learned about Stephanie's situation.

"Don't worry, alright? I'll send someone out to look for her, too." Alec said.

"Thank you," she said. If Alec was willing to help, they would find Stephanie faster.

When the call ended, Alec ordered Vincent to get someone to do the job. He then felt that it wasn't enough and called Paul as well.

"Help me find someone," he said once the call was accepted.

“Who?” Paul’s voice was calm. Alec had no idea what he was doing, and he couldn’t care at the moment. He told Paul about Stephanie. But then, Paul did not answer, neither agreeing nor disagreeing. He thought this was weird.

“Is there a problem?” Alec asked. Finding someone was an easy task for Paul. It was the first time he was reacting this way.

After a moment, Paul laughed lightly on the other end. “She’s got such a good friend.”

“What does that mean?” Alec frowned. He could sense that something was amiss with him.

“There’s no need to look. She’s here. With me.” Paul had nothing to hide from Alec. Rather, he had not planned to hide it from him.

Now it was Alec’s turn to be stunned. “What? She’s there with you? What’s all this?”

“It’s hard to explain right now.” Paul rubbed his temples, feeling a little annoyed.

“I’m coming over. You’d better find a way to explain things.” Alec hung up and drove toward Paul’s villa at once.

Paul was a great friend of his, and Jenny was his crush. If Paul had done something to Stephanie, Jenny would never let him off the hook. Alec thought he’d be in trouble if that happened, so he had to clear things up.

Jenny came out from the police station and received Gilbert’s call. At first, she thought that it was news about Stephanie, but she was disappointed.

“This proves something, Jenny,” Gilbert said.

“What?” Jenny was in a taxi. She hadn’t understood what Gilbert meant.

“If I can’t find a person in Parrington, it means they’re more powerful than I am. This is actually an easy thing to do.” There were only a handful of people more powerful than Gilbert in the city.

Jenny understood, and she grew serious “Alright. I’ll wait for Alec’s update. If he can’t find her either....” If even Alec couldn’t find her, Jenny wouldn’t dare to dream of who was keeping Stephanie.

Right this moment, Gilbert was feeling a little dejected. He didn’t want Jenny asking Alec for help, but in a situation like this, Gilbert couldn’t help with much. He had no choice but to watch Jenny rely on Alec. When Alec reached Paul’s villa, one of Paul’s men was waiting for him at the entrance.

The bodyguard didn’t take Alec through the living room, instead bringing him to Paul’s study through the back door. Alec knew something was off, but he asked no questions, merely following the bodyguard to the study.

Paul was there.

“You’ve arrived,” he said. His voice was somber-he wasn’t in a good mood.

Alec walked toward him. “What’s this? Don’t tell me Stephanie is in this house.”

Paul looked at him, saying nothing, but his eyes answered for him. Alec was right. “What the fuck are you doing?” Alec roared.

Chapter 220 | Could Never Marry Her

Facing his friend, Paul didn't hide things from him. He told Alec about his situation with Stephanie and asked, “Do you think I'm wrong?”

“Of course!” Alec responded at once. “If you really like her, you have to pursue her the right way and make her your girlfriend. And if you don't like her, quit wasting her time. Now you're forbidding her from being your girlfriend, yet you're not letting her go. I'd call you a motherfucker, but you're worse than that.”

He had no idea what his friend was thinking. If he liked her, why was he treating her like this? Who could accept it?

Paul frowned, his expression solemn. “You know what my family is like. I could never marry her.” He didn't want things to be this way, but he knew how the Wagners worked. If he got together with Stephanie, he wouldn't just be making her miserable; he'd be hurting her too.

Alec grew quiet. The Wagners were much more complicated than the Fausts. Alec could pursue whomever he wanted, but Paul had no such liberty.

“So you're planning on keeping her here forever?” Alec asked, frowning. His emotions were jumbled together.

Paul sighed and looked out the window, lost in thought. “I don't know, either. All I know is that I don't want her to leave.”

“The Wagners are indeed very complicated, but if you like her, you'll have to remove the threats to her safety. That's how it should be.” Alec stared at his friend, not wanting him to walk down the dark path.

But when Paul heard him, he burst into laughter. “Me, liking her? What's there to like about her? I was just bored, and she happened to walk into my life. I'm just playing around with her.”

Alec was frustrated at his friend's nonchalance. “If you don't like her, I'm going to take her away. Jenny and her parents are looking for her.”

“Oh, Alec, you know my personality. I'd never let someone go that easily. Not even if I didn't like them.”

Alec's face darkened. He held his gaze on Paul. “Must you do this?”

“I know you want to help Jenny because you like her. I get that. But if I'm not letting Stephanie go, no one's taking her. Not even you, Alec.” Paul raised the corner of his mouth. Even when faced with Alec, he was not backing down.

Alec didn't object. He admitted that what Wagner said was the truth. The Fausts conducted their business in a straightforward manner. Everything that they did was out in the open. They were not involved with any of the underworld matters. They did not compare to the Wagners in that aspect.

They stared at each other for a while. Perhaps sensing the anger emanating from Alec, Paul shrugged in exasperation. "Alright, alright. I'll let her go for your sake."

"When?" Alec asked.

"Maybe after a few days. Once she learns to be more submissive," Paul replied. He wasn't planning on letting Stephanie go so quickly.

Alec frowned and was about to speak, but Paul cut him off. "I'm already doing this for you. You'd be asking too much if you said anything else."

Alec saw the seriousness in his eyes and understood there was no point in saying anything else. He had no choice but to let it be.

"Do it as soon as you can if you don't want the police to find you," Alec said before he left.

But Paul simply laughed. "Relax. As long as you don't utter a word, no one will ever find this place."