

Chapter 61

Realizing that Natalie and her grandfather knew each other, Isabelle's heart skipped a beat. She immediately snatched Natalie's phone and tossed it to the ground.

Thud! The phone broke apart after hitting the floor.

Natalie looked at her phone, and her expression turned dark. "You..."

"Don't even think of complaining to my grandfather." With a smug face, Isabelle dusted off her hands after destroying Natalie's phone.

Natalie took in a deep breath, trying to suppress her anger. "Ms. Moore, do you think that you can solve all your problems just by destroying my phone? The one to purchase these fabrics is Thompson Group, and I'm just here to retrieve it in their stead. You are only shooting yourself in the foot by messing this up for me. Even if you're the eldest daughter of the Moore family, you can't run away from your punishment."

So this is what Jasmine has been plotting. Not only did she cause problems for me, but she also even manages to oppress her love rival, Isabelle. Jasmine did well by killing two birds with one stone.

What's even hilarious is that Isabelle, this idiot, fell into her trap. This poor woman was oblivious to everything, playing out according to Jasmine's script.

Taking in Natalie's words, Isabelle finally realized her mistake.

I-I actually went against the Thompsons.

Her heart sank immediately. She was soon consumed by fear as she regretted her actions.

her fists

supervisor hurriedly ran toward Isabelle. “Yes,  
fabric she wants back.” Isabelle pointed at Natalie

confused

“What are doing? Get

a long time ago. They must already be in use, so how do we get it

angrily. “I don’t care. You must get it back

but he still followed

around to look at Natalie. “Hey, I’ve asked him to retrieve the fabric,  
so

down to pick

old

that it’s broken, will I be able to get them

waste her breath and ruffled her newly dyed hair. “I’ll just take that as  
a yes. So, you better kept this as a secret. Betray me and you’ll

her designer handbag, Isabelle

into her back, Natalie pursed her lips,

given you too many chances on account of Mr. Moore,

Since you took it for granted and behaved arrogantly, I shall teach you  
a lesson. Otherwise, you will only do whatever you like to me, even if it  
means using dirty tricks against me.

Natalie narrowed her eyes and went to look for the supervisor. “Mr.  
Lowe, there’s no need to retrieve the fabric anymore.”

The supervisor froze for a while and asked, “Ms. Smith, what do you mean by that?”

“It means I don’t want the fabric anymore,” Natalie said coldly.

“You don’t want it anymore? Ms. Smith, our men are currently getting it back. Why did you change your mind suddenly?” The supervisor was dumbfounded, but anxiety soon overwhelmed him.

Natalie scoffed. “You’re asking me that? The Thompson Group will use those fabrics for our show next month. Yet, without asking for our permission, you gave it to other companies. Aren’t you guys disrespecting the Thompson Group?”

The supervisor tried to explain in a panic. “No. It’s not like that... We were only following Ms. Moore’s orders, so...”

Before the supervisor could finish his words, Natalie raised her hand. “That’s it! Mr. Lowe, there’s no use in wasting your breath. I only know that you guys disregarded the Thompson Group.”

Natalie turned around and left with her bag as she finished her sentence.

She was doing this to protect Thompson Group’s dignity as well as teaching Isabelle

Chapter 62

Knowing Shane’s personality, he would call off the collaboration with the Moore Group, and Isabelle would be the one to blame for this.

I hope Isabelle will learn her lesson and stop causing me troubles. I’m not scared. I just find it irritating.

By the time Natalie returned to the Thompson Group, it was already two in the afternoon.

She went straight to Shane's office and told him everything, except the fact that Jasmine was behind all of this because she had no proof.

"I got it. You did great." After listening to Natalie's description of the incident, Shane pursed his lips while his gaze turned cold.

I didn't think that the wise Alfred would have a granddaughter this foolish.

How ridiculous!

"Mr. Shane, should we choose another fabric supplier?" Natalie asked softly while looking at the man in front of her who was emanating an aura as cold as ice.

Lifting his chin, Shane announced, "Yes. There are a few textile mills' contacts and information in the procurement department. I'll leave it to you to look into them."

"Yes, Mr. Shane. I'll be off

his tone was ice cold. "Inform everyone

was surprised at Shane's sudden declaration, he didn't question the matter any further and

Group received news

Group were badly hit as a

contacted Shane to inquire the reason for terminating the contract. In response, Shane told

so he ordered his butler to look into what Isabelle did that

came back to Alfred with information regarding

with anger when he learnt about his granddaughter's actions. The latter was grounded as a

name on her phone screen and answered the call

she decided to teach Isabelle a lesson, she

put her new phone by her ear

“Nat, I’m sorry about the matter at the textile mill.

lowered her gaze. “I thought you’re going

granddaughter’s the one

Natalie asked, “How about the collaboration?”

Alfred sighed. “Since they ended the contract, just let it be. This is a chance to teach Belle a lesson and remind her to behave nicely because she might lead the Moore family to its demise if she doesn’t.”

Natalie could feel Alfred’s affection for his granddaughter, and she was overwhelmed with mixed feelings.

Isabelle has such a caring grandfather. It was no wonder she’s so unreasonable and arrogant, as she was doted on all the time.

After the call ended, Natalie kept her cell phone while the head of the procurement department took some documents to her. “Ms. Smith, these are the information about the other textile mills in J City. I’ve listed them down. Please take a look.”

“Okay, thank you.” Natalie smiled and took the documents over.

After flipping through the documents, she picked out three mills and decided to meet with the supervisors to finalize the fabric needed.

After all, she had finished the design of the clothes, so it was time to choose the fabric. Or else she wouldn’t make it in time for the fashion show.

Natalie left the procurement department with the folder in her arm.

By the time she was done with everything, it was already five in the evening.

Chapter 63

Natalie stood by the road, trying to hail for a cab, but none passed by.

Initially, she planned to pick up her kids from the kindergarten because she thought she could make it back to the city within an hour. However, at this rate, it seemed quite impossible.

Left without a choice, Natalie could only call the teacher and ask the latter's help in sending the kids home.

Two hours later, Natalie finally returned to her apartment.

As she was unlocking the door after removing her shoes, she yelled in the bedroom's direction, "Connor, Sharon, Mommy's back."

Natalie frowned when she received no response from the kids.

What's going on? Where are my kids?

They would normally welcome me when I get back home. So why are they not doing that today?

"Connor? Sharon?" Natalie shouted their names as she ran toward their bedroom and opened the door.

The room was dark, and it didn't seem like someone was here.

the lights and scanned around the room. As expected,

To her disappointment, she couldn't find her kids anywhere in the house after

My kids are missing!

froze as she swayed

forced herself to calm down and took out her phone to call the dial button, she heard some movements and noise coming from found out it was her kids' voices. Overjoyed, she Seeing Natalie at the door, both Connor and lunging forward noticed his mother was and scolded them while her eyes reddened with tears. "You two little rascals! Mommy was so in the wrong, and they lowered their heads. "We're apology, Natalie's heart softened while she calmed herself does Connor look so pale? Is it because replied, "We were Connor nodded, too.

"Mr. Shane?" Natalie lifted her head and saw Shane standing behind the kids.

"Mr. Shane, why are you with Connor and Sharon?" Natalie stood up and greeted him.

"When I came back, I saw the two of them downstairs, so I brought them to my apartment." Shane leaned on the wall and replied indifferently.

Sharon held her hand up and drew a big circle in the air. "Mommy, Mr. Shane is so nice. He treated us to delicious food and took us out for a stroll."

"Yeah. We're just back from a walk." Connor nodded in agreement.

“Oh, I see. Mr. Shane, thank you for taking care of my kids.” Natalie led the kids to bow at Shane.

“Don’t mention it. But why did you return so late?” Shane lifted his gaze to look at her and spoke in a slightly displeased tone.

How careless can she be? Leaving her kids alone at home. What if they got into danger?

Naturally, Natalie was unaware of Shane’s worries. In response, she smiled awkwardly and explained, “I went to three different textile mills this afternoon, so I came home late.”

Shane pursed his lips. “There’s no need for you to go there by yourself. Leave it to the procurement team.”

“It’s okay. Project Rebirth is very important to me. If I don’t review every stage by myself, I’ll be worried.” Natalie tucked her hair behind her ears.

Chapter 64

Shane furrowed his eyebrows slightly as his eyes dimmed.

The kids were whispering to each other. Suddenly, Connor grimaced in pain as he clutched his stomach and vomited.

“Connor!” Sharon was just beside Connor, and it shocked her when she saw her brother vomiting.

Natalie turned to look at her son, and she was shocked. She inched closer to Connor with an anxious expression, and her voice was trembling. “Baby, are you okay?”

Connor didn’t reply and continued to vomit.

Shane walked toward them and crouched down in front of Connor with a tensed look. Touching Connor’s face and forehead, he lowered his

voice. "His body is cold, and he's breaking out in cold sweat. We must take him to the hospital now."

Shane carried Connor in his arms without hesitation and dashed to the lift.

Natalie saw that and quickly dragged Sharon to catch up with them.

Sharon sobbed. "Mommy, will Connor be okay?"

"Of course. Your brother is a superman. He will be okay." Natalie forced herself to smile in a bid to comfort her daughter, but the worry in her eyes was painfully clear.

Connor

bite his tongue, so she quickly

Shane, begging for his help

focused his eyes on the road. Gripping the steering

they reached the

while Natalie and Sharon waited nervously

the counter, Shane came to her and waited patiently. "Don't worry. Connor will be

she sobbed. "How can I not worry about him? Connor has never been ill before. But now he's

up before she could finish her sentence. Squatting on the

expression, Sharon cried together

after seeing the mother and daughter cried together in front

duo, the light outside the emergency room

eyes and went up to the doctor. He asked in a low

up and wiped her tears while

fine now.” The doctor took off

relief, Natalie broke into a smile

the good news, Sharon jumped

“Doctor, what is wrong with my son?” Natalie wanted to find out what illness was Connor suffering from.

“Acute gastritis. As his parents, you guys will have to be mindful of this.” With that, the doctor walked past them.

“Gastritis... But how did he get gastritis?” Natalie was confused, as she had always been mindful of the food she gave her kids.

“I’ll ask the nurse at the laboratory.” Shane patted on her shoulders.

After he left, Connor was sent to a general ward.

Sharon was tired from all the crying, and she fell asleep. Natalie laid her down beside Connor on the bed.

She sat on the sofa while staring at the hospital beds and the figures of her kids sleeping soundly, overwhelmed with guilt.

A few hours ago, she had noticed Connor’s pale expression. However, she thought it was because of the light.

I have failed as a mother!

While she was deep in her thoughts, the door suddenly opened. Shane walked into the room and handed her a report. “Connor’s gastritis was triggered by seafood.”

“Seafood? I never fed him seafood.” Natalie froze for a while and frowned.

Chapter 65

“It was me. I treated them with seafood. I’m sorry. I didn’t know this would make Connor sick.” Shane lowered his gaze.

So this is the reason!

Natalie smiled bitterly. “It’s not your fault, Mr. Shane.”

Knowing my kids, Connor must be the one who requested for seafood.

Besides, Shane helped me a lot tonight, so I can’t push all the fault onto him.

“I’ll take the responsibility no matter what, as Connor is sick because of me.” Shane took off his coat, which was stained with Connor’s vomit, and sat beside Natalie.

Natalie rubbed her face. “Mr. Shane, it’s late, so you should go back home now. Sorry for wasting your time. When Connor recovers, I’ll thank you properly.”

“It’s alright. I’ll stay here and help you look after Sharon in case Connor has to do a medical checkup later. It’s better than leaving her alone in the ward, isn’t it?” Shane turned to look at her.

Natalie opened her mouth, but she couldn’t think of anything to refute his words.

Yeah. We are in the hospital, after all. There is a lot of people moving around freely here. What if Sharon got kidnapped by somebody?

thinking of that, Natalie accepted Shane’s suggestion to stay. The both of them sat on the sofa quietly and

it was

started yawning, as she was getting

swept a glance at her. “Go

not awake yet, so I mustn't sleep." Natalie took a deep  
to you." Shane turned his gaze to his cell phone  
before he could finish reading the report, his shoulders felt heavy  
as he turned to look at Natalie. She was sleeping soundly with her  
head

back stiffened. It was obvious he wasn't

He lifted his hand and

Natalie only hummed in reply

Shane pursed his lips.

said she won't sleep, but look

sick because of

the thought in his mind, he placed his hand back

cell phone was still on, displaying the reports, but he couldn't focus.  
The scent of

He pinched his nose bridge as he tried to clear his mind to ignore the  
odd feeling in his heart before turning off his cell phone.

The next morning, Shane woke up from a phone call.

He opened his eyes and answered the call after taking a glance at the  
phone screen. "Wait for me at the entrance. I'll go see you."

With that, he hung up and lifted Natalie's head from his shoulder.  
Then he placed her head gently on the armrest of the sofa and walked  
away despite feeling stiff in one side of his body.

Immediately after he left, Natalie woke up.

She scanned her surroundings, and her eyes were wide opened after she came to her senses.

“Connor!” Natalie couldn’t care less about her sore neck as she stood up hurriedly and rushed to her son’s side. Touching his forehead, she was relieved when Connor’s body temperature had returned to normal.

“Mommy...” At that moment, Sharon rubbed her eyes and sat up on the hospital bed.

Natalie turned to look at her daughter. “You’re awake?”

“Yes, Mommy. Why isn’t Connor waking up?” Sharon nodded before looking at her brother with a worried look.

“Maybe it’s because of the medicine. He’ll wake up soon.” Natalie sorted her stuffs a

Chapter 66

When she was about to go out, the ward door opened, and Shane entered the room with a big plastic bag in his hand.

“Mr. Shane.” Sharon waved at Shane as she greeted him happily, while Shane nodded with a warm expression.

“Mr. Shane, I thought you left.” Natalie looked at Shane, surprised.

When she woke up, she didn’t see Shane around, so she thought he had left.

“I didn’t. I just went to change my outfit. Take this. It’s breakfast.” Shane handed the plastic bag to Natalie.

“Great! I was just about to go buy.” Natalie took the breakfast over happily and placed them on the table.

It was almost nine in the morning when they finished breakfast.

Shane looked at her and announced, "You're excused from work for two days. Take good care of Connor. I'll fetch Sharon, so don't worry."

"Thank you, Mr. Shane." Natalie gave him a grateful smile.

After that, Shane sent Sharon to the kindergarten.

look after Connor while she went to pay

the front desk, she heard a familiar voice. "Warren, where are

It's Susan!

holding hands with a child in front of the lift and she sounded impatient while

Who is that child?

child with a doubtful

like Susan. So, he must be Susan's son. But I've never heard of

Susan closely in confusion, Susan

He planted a kiss on the child's cheeks before spooning the child from Susan's arms

them looked like

she covered her mouth with

took out her phone and quickly took a

affair with another man and gave

the side of her

Shoot! I've been spotted!

view using the receipt and

By the time she deleted the photo, Susan was already standing in front of her, glaring at her maliciously. “What did you see just now?”

“I saw you standing with a father and a son.” Natalie said the truth, as lying would only make matters worse.

Hearing her words, panic flashed across Susan’s eyes.

Damn it! She saw everything. Now she must suspect me of having an affair.

Luckily, I noticed her here. I must dispel her suspicion. Or else it’ll be troublesome if she tells Harrison.

Susan was thinking of a solution to get herself out of this sticky situation, but when she saw Natalie’s cell phone in her hands, her expression changed drastically as her voice turned sharp. “Did you take photos of us?”

“I didn’t. Why do I need to take a photo of you?” Natalie replied in a calm tone.

Susan didn’t believe her words and snatched her cell phone away.

Natalie wore a calm expression as she let Susan do as she pleased.

Susan didn’t find any photos of her after checking the photo gallery of Natalie’s cell phone, and her expression turned friendly. “Sorry Natalie, looks like it was all just a misunderstanding.”

Chapter 67

“Susan, you misunderstand me too often, don’t you?” Natalie gave a sarcastic laugh as she took back her phone. “Why are you so nervous? Are you worried I’ll misunderstand your relationship with the father and son?”

Susan’s heart skipped a beat but she valiantly kept a straight face. “No, I’m not worried, but they are related to me. He is a distant cousin

of mine and that is his son. The child is sick so I brought them here for him to seek treatment.”

“Oh, I see.” Natalie nodded as if she believed what Susan said to her.

Susan narrowed her eyes and stared at her for a long time. After confirming that Natalie was not pretending, she heaved a subtle sigh of relief and then immediately changed the topic. “By the way, Jasmine told me that you’re back in the country for good and have brought along two children. When will you bring them over? Your father and I want to see them; I am very curious about the kids.”

“That’s not necessary!” Natalie refused without hesitation.

On that night five years ago, she had sworn she would never step into the Smith family home ever again.

Susan had expected this reply; therefore, she was unperturbed. She noticed the medical bill in Natalie’s hand and asked, “Is your child sick?”

Natalie rolled her eyes, not even bothering to reply.

You are asking the obvious!

can’t be the

quickly grabbed the bill

“Oh, Nat, why does your child use your surname but not their

clenched her fists and was about to retort when

unexpectedly met Shane’s cold, steely eyes. Her face

What’s he doing here?

did he mean by his remark? I was talking about Natalie’s kids and he suddenly stood up in her defense. Could it

anxious and she had

was proven right

walked right up to Susan and stood there, towering above and looking down on her like a

distorted and she shouted, "How could her two

put his arms around Natalie's shoulders and declared, "Nothing is

Natalie by surprise but she played along

to help her out so that Connor and Sharon would not be

to say that my kids have no father and are illegitimate?" Natalie leaned against

Seeing the two of them behaving so intimately, Susan shook her head in disbelief. "You shameless slut! You dare steal my Jas' fiancé! I am going to teach you a lesson!"

With that, Susan pulled Natalie out of Shane's arms.

She then raised her hand to hit Natalie but in that instant, Shane caught Susan by the wrist and exerted a little strength.

"Ouch!" Susan yelled in pain and a cold sweat broke out on her forehead.

Shane let go of her hand and frowned as he asked Natalie, "Are you okay?"

"I'm fine." Natalie rubbed her wrist where Susan had gripped her; she felt a wave of warmth washing over her heart.

No doubt she could have avoided Susan's blow on her own but Shane's stepping in without hesitation touched her deeply.

“It’s great that you are unhurt.” Shane nodded, after which he glared at Susan with a face as cold as ice. “How dare you hit my woman?”

Susan held her wrist as it was still in pain. Plucking up her courage, she raised her voice. “You are Jasmine’s fiancé. It’s only right that I hit her for seducing you!”

Shane replied sarcastically, “Well, well, who would have thought that you would speak up for your stepdaughter? Perhaps the news that you are at loggerheads with Jasmine is fake?”

Chapter 68

At the mention of the word “stepdaughter”, Natalie noticed a thoughtful look in Susan’s eyes.

She knew that to outsiders, Jasmine was Susan’s stepdaughter.

What she did not understand was why her father wanted Jasmine to use her identity. What could this reason be?

Susan replied with a flustered look on her face, “I... we are having some disagreements but Jasmine is still a daughter of the Smith family, so it is right for me to be protective of her. Furthermore, it is wrong of you, Shane, to be with this woman and even have kids behind Jasmine’s back. Don’t you think you have wronged Jasmine and the Smith family as well?”

At these words, Shane started to look even more intimidating and exuded a frigid vibe. “What right has your Smith family to blame me for anything? If you want to speak about being wronged, well, the Smith family has wronged the Thompson family terribly. Do you really think I am not aware of the fiancée incident back then?”

Susan’s pupils shrank on the spot. Does he know that Jas is not his real fiancée?

Then he must also know that Natalie’s elopement is fake?

No, that's not possible. I've done it so meticulously and bribed every servant in the Smith family at that time. It's impossible for him to find out anything.

Seeing how uneasy Susan was, Shane's lips relaxed a little. "If not for Jasmine saving me five years ago, I would have declared war on the Smith family instead of forgiving the deception done by your family to mine."

Deceiving the Thompson family?

What does he mean?

Natalie listened in confusion.

felt relieved. Her heart which was in her throat was now back in its

correctly that he did

the

in his icy and steely voice, "Go back and tell Harrison if he's not happy that I've had

was about to protest but seeing his countenance, she was afraid

argued, he might really cancel the marriage there and then. So, she hurried away

then turned to Shane and expressed

so naturally I don't want them to be bullied. I'm just

I am a daughter of the Smith family. So, seeing me, Susan just

Shane nodded in understanding.

the Smith family deceived the Thompson family. What happened?" Natalie asked out of

his eyes and looked

reaction, Natalie did not

her cell

out her phone, took a look, and answered immediately,

“Ms. Smith, Connor is awake!” The caretaker’s voice came into her ears.

“What?” Natalie was overjoyed. “I’m coming immediately!”

At that, she hung up in jubilation and looked at Shane who was watching her. She told him with a grin, “Connor is awake!”

Shane’s elegant lips curled in a smile. “Then why don’t you get going?”

“Yes, I shall!”

Together they went back to the ward.

Connor, with the help of the caretaker, was slowly taking some soup when he saw the two walking in. Joyfully, he waved to them. “Mommy! Mr. Shane!”

“Connor!” Pursing her lips and unable to control herself any longer, Natalie rushed over and hugged Connor tightly in her arms. “You little meanie! Don’t you know how scared Mommy was?”

“Sorry, Mommy. I won’t do it again.” Like a miniature adult, he patted the back of her hand whilst apologizing and coaxing Natalie.

Shane stood by the side, watching the mother-and-son pair with such tenderness in his eyes that even he was unaware of.

After hugging him for a while, Natalie let go of Connor and observed her son careful

## Chapter 69

“Here.” Connor touched his own tummy, giving Natalie a pathetic look. “It feels swollen.”

Natalie poked his forehead with her fingertip and remarked, “You deserve it. See if you dare to take seafood again in the future!”

“It’s Mr. Shane.” Connor pointed at Shane. “He’s the one who let me eat it.”

Shane looked at him with raised eyebrows but in the end, he took the blame. “He’s right. It was me.”

“That’s enough, Mr. Shane. You don’t need to cover up for him. Don’t I know this rascal enough? He made you bring him to eat that.” Natalie pinched Connor’s cheeks.

Connor stuck out his tongue.

At exactly this moment, someone knocked on the door.

Before Natalie could give any instructions, the caretaker had already walked over to open the door.

A man in a white coat came in. Upon seeing Shane, the man broke into a wide and infectious grin as he exclaimed, “Shane, you are really here!”

Shane did not even glance at him; the former was quite obviously showing that he was not enthusiastic about this visitor’s presence.

It was Natalie who reacted in surprise. “Dr. Baker?”

She recognized him as the doll-faced doctor who had bandaged her at Starlight Restaurant.

his eyes off Shane and addressed the mother and her

Natalie replied, “How about you, Dr. Baker? Why

Jackson replied, pouting  
gave a nod despite feeling puzzled. How does  
“This is one of the Baker family’s hospitals.  
I see.” Natalie began to  
me?” Shane cast a  
recommend a brain surgeon, and I think I have  
“Whom do  
is Stanley  
It’s him?  
gaze turned gloomy and he pursed his  
surgeon. He is well-known abroad and has never failed in  
Shane and Dr. Baker are talking about Uncle  
stroked her head. “Yes,  
spoke softly, Jackson  
he turned to them. “You  
we do.” Connor nodded his  
said, “Yes, he and  
remember something. Giving Shane a subconscious glance,  
face fell; he felt rather

Why is she so fond of using such a hypocritical man as Stanley as a shield?

“What? Stanley is your husband? He was the one who e——”

“Shut up!” Before Jackson could finish his sentence, he was interrupted by Shane.

Jackson stopped speaking. It was only then that he realized he had nearly told someone in the face that she had eloped years ago.

“Sorry. I’m so sorry. I was just too surprised; I hope I didn’t upset you.” Embarrassed, Jackson smiled shyly at Natalie.

Natalie shook her head gently, “No, I’m fine. Didn’t you say something about e...?”

“Oh... did I?” Jackson looked at the ceiling, pretending to have forgotten.

“You did!” Connor looked at him with a smile.

Jackson twitched the corner of his lips.

Damn it, how dare you expose me, kid!

Indeed, those who look like Shane are not at all likeable.

“That’s enough. You, come with me!” Shane got up and started walking out of the room.

Jackson made some funny faces at Connor and then followed Shane out of the room.

Chapter 70

The two men went to the stairwell.

Jackson brought out a pack of cigarettes from his white coat pocket and offered one to Shane.

Shane took a cigarette and held it between his fingers. “Find another doctor for me. Stanley won’t do!”

“Why?” Jackson paused as he was trying to light his cigarette. “I’ve already contacted him. He will be reporting at the hospital soon. It’s too late to get a replacement.”

“He’s not as simple as he seems. I cannot entrust Jacqueline to him!” Shane caught the lighter Jackson threw to him but had no intention of lighting his cigarette.

“If we do not use Stanley, Jacqueline will not get well. It’s not that there are no brain surgeons who are better than Stanley, but these other surgeons are ageing and not suited to perform surgery. Are you certain you want to replace him?” Jackson dragged on his cigarette.

Shane knitted his brows but remained silent.

Puffing out a ring of smoke, Jackson looked at him and asked, “Shane, tell me honestly why you are unwilling to use Stanley. Is it really about Jacqueline’s well-being?”

“What do you mean?” The corners of Shane’s lips turned downwards.

originally your fiancée but she was

annoyed!” Shane squeezed the lighter and lit his own cigarette.

“Stanley is not

coughed for a while. With bloodshot eyes, he asked, “What are you saying? Natalie’s husband is not Stanley? But

Shane replied

ran his fingers through his

gaze onto

not; this won’t affect me when I work with him in the future. However, I heard Silas say that there’s something going on between you and Natalie recently. This

it’s possible?” Shane eyed

thinking too far but I still hope you'll stay away from her. She has a family while you have a fiancée. You shouldn't have any more to do with her other than work; otherwise, it's easy

don't have to remind me about such things!" Shane said in

Oh, and with respect to Stanley, you should decide as soon as possible whether or not you want him to perform the surgery. If you delay

Shane's shoulder, turned around,

in the dimly lit

was true. Recently, he had indeed done many things for

really did not know how he would turn out. Indeed, he had always

At this point, Shane closed his eyes for a moment. When he opened them again, he seemed to have made a decision. His eyes were cold and distant.

He dropped the cigarette onto the floor and extinguished it with the sole of his shoe.

Two days later, Connor had recovered enough to leave the hospital.

Natalie bought a lot of food and was ready to celebrate the happy occasion that evening.

After she prepared the dishes, she called Shane but he declined the invitation.

While drinking some fruit juice, Connor asked, "Mommy, isn't Mr. Shane coming?"

Natalie put down the phone. "No, he's not."

"Hmph, Mr. Shane isn't keeping his promise." Sharon, too, had a glass of fruit juice in her hand. She did not sound pleased. "He promised to

send me to kindergarten these few days but he only did so on the first day.”

Natalie chuckled. “Didn’t he? Mr. Shane did arrange for a driver to send you, didn’t he?”

“That’s not the same. I want him to do it personally.” Sharon pouted.