

CHOSEN 1531

Chapter 1531

Rose immediately shut up. If this kind and loving old man was just like what Chloe said, how could she brazenly back him up? Just because he felt guilty towards Carolina, he could let Carolina do anything?

Including all the unfair things Carolina did to Chloe because she preferred Keira. Slandering Chloe, not trusting Chloe, taking away everything that originally belonged to Chloe for Keira, even sending Chloe abroad, turning a blind eye to everyone's prejudice and contempt for Chloe.

And in the end, Carolina and Keira planned together to deal with Chloe, dumping cold water on her again and again.

Everything she knew and didn't know, if put together, how could Chloe calmly forgive him?

"Why aren't you saying anything? Grandpa, you haven't answered my question yet. Or you can just deny or admit it, is my guess right or wrong?"^{c2} Jonah's expression had already given her the answer. She just coldly wanted Jonah to admit it himself, cruelly let him kill the insignificant feelings she had for him in her heart.

Jonah's lips were shaking badly, and when those eyes looked into Chloe's eyes, they were trembling so badly that they couldn't focus. The cold and sarcastic smile on Chloe's face was like a knife, leaving scar after scar on his face.

Other than embarrassment, he had no right to say the word pain. It was just too embarrassing. He had lived for so many years and he had let himself live so disgracefully.

"Chloe, I'm sorry."

"Heh..." Chloe scoffed, "When you found out that Keira wasn't your biological granddaughter, you also said you were sorry to me. I thought you were apologizing for the love you and Carolina showed her, or

for Carolina's actions towards me. But it seems that's not the case. You were always doing it for yourself."

Jonah shook his head, his wrinkled face full of shame and regret. "Anyway, I always owe you."

"Maybe I'm asking for too much." Chloe cut off Jonah's words with a sarcastic and sad look. "There's no rule in this world that says elders have to give their younger generation all kinds of love and protection, and the law doesn't clearly state what you as elders should give us. Even... even if Keira is not your biological granddaughter, as long as you're happy, you can leave all your love and property to her. I've always known that you don't owe me anything. I just looked at how others lived and then chose my own path, feeling a bit sad. Even without you, I can still live well."

As she said it, she gave a light chuckle. "Actually, it's nice that we each live our own lives. Sometimes I think about you and feel that it's useless to get tangled up in some things. I'll try to do my best, but I can't be perfect. But don't push me. What I give you can only be voluntary, not forced."

Jonah paused, "What do you mean..."

Chloe scoffed, "Carolina came to the company to find me."

Jonah's expression instantly became serious.

Chloe continued, "She wants me to give her 2 billion dollars. Of course, I don't want to, so she's going to take me to court."

Jonah slammed the table angrily and quickly stood up from his chair. "This is absurd. She has no moral bottom line at all."

Chloe sneered, "What kind of nonsense is this? The fact that there's no moral bottom line is true, but isn't it something you've allowed to happen? The law doesn't mandate that you as elders have to be

good to me, but as long as I wasn't killed back then and instead have to support you, I'm guilty and deserve to be morally kidnapped and judged. No matter how I argue, the law is the law. No matter how

immoral Carolina is, as long as she successfully appeals, there is a clear law there. If I don't fulfill my obligation to support, I lose.

"But who doesn't have a temper? If it weren't for my good luck, I might have died somewhere long ago. I was lucky enough to have the chance to live, but I still have to support those who almost killed me? The law is the law, and sometimes the law is unreasonable, but I think it's unfair and I really can't accept it."

By the time Chloe finished, Jonah's expression changed suddenly, as if he suddenly realized something, and looked at her incredulously. "You... you're going to..."

"It's her that pushed me." Chloe cut off Jonah's words, "I just said, if you do something wrong, it's wrong, there's no compensation, only a price. And you, it's time for you to pay the price for your actions back then."

After Chloe finished, she smiled at Jonah, then slowly turned around. After taking a few steps, she suddenly stopped and turned back to look at Jonah, who was still standing there, and said softly, "Congratulations..."

As she said it, she turned around and didn't stop until they all left. Jonah slowly sat down in the chair, suddenly feeling that this was life. If you did something wrong, you always had to pay the price. Tears fell from his eyes, but he still smiled like a child.

Chloe's last sentence was still echoing in his ears. "Congratulations, you're going to be a great-grandfather."

Chloe was pregnant. At this point, what else could he not let go of? He did something wrong, so he should be punished.

Chloe was right. But still, god was merciful to him. Anyway, he didn't pursue anything now, and neither power nor fame were important to him. He can only be glad that he didn't cause a big mess and Chloe was still safe and sound.

Everyone left Graceful Haven Church; the atmosphere was a bit oppressive. Rose and Yulia suddenly felt a bit lost. They only knew to come here for fun, but they didn't know that Chloe really came here to see Jonah.

The question she had suddenly raised was something they still hadn't figured out to this day. Although Jonah had betrayed Carolina in the past

and had regrets about her what did that have to do with Carolina now taking Chloe to court?

Chapter 1532

Jonah once screwed up. Although he felt guilty about it, what did that have to do with Carolina taking him to court now?

Was Carolina supposed to drop the charges against Chloe just to protect Jonah's reputation? And even if it was for the sake of Jonah's reputation, would Carolina give up her two billion dollar stake?

From start to finish, they never considered how much Carolina actually cared about Jonah. Or maybe, she knew about Jonah's affair all along, which was why she was so reckless and did whatever she wanted, because that was her leverage over Jonah. But that didn't mean she could use it to her advantage, right?

Unless Chloe was sure that Carolina was clueless, which could give Carolina a bit of a shock. But what did that have to do with Carolina suing her? It didn't help at all when it came to money.

And the things she said to Jonah, they were all Greek to them from start to finish. How did Chloe figure out that Jonah was having an affair back then? What price did she want Jonah to pay? There were still so many questions, weren't there?c2

They had been driving down the mountain for a while now, and Rose finally couldn't contain her curiosity and asked, "Chloe, are you sure about what you were guessing today? Do you know where the woman he was seeing back then is now? Who and where is her kid? What does all this have to do with Carolina suing you? What do you know after all? I'm totally lost."

Chloe kept her lips sealed for a while, and said, "I found out some things earlier, but I'm not sure yet. All your questions right now are things I need to keep investigating."

Rose frowned, asking, "So you're not completely sure yet?"

"I think my guess is right." Chloe turned to look at the silent Damon, "Call off the guys. This has attracted too much attention. If the court doesn't step in, it may get out of hand."

Damon said in a deep voice, "I'll look into what happens next."

"Okay." Chloe said.

In fact, the lawyer Wendy arranged had already written an appeal for Carolina, but didn't want to hand it in. He felt that this lawsuit was just a self-defeating move. Defending such a shameless person, losing would be schadenfreude and winning would be ridiculed. Who would dare to let him take over their case? But now, he had no other choice.

When he heard that the "ban" had been lifted and the case had to go to court, he had to bite the bullet and hand in the appeal.

Ever since Carolina left the Graceful Haven Church, she hadn't gone back and had been spending her days in the city. Compared to spending the rest of her life in church, it was better to use the two billion to help Nick rebuild his company and enjoy a wealthy life again.

Carolina had been holed up in a hotel waiting for the result. When she finally heard that her appeal was handed in today, her heart finally settled. As long as she got a case, she wasn't afraid of not winning the lawsuit.

No matter what, for a sure-win lawsuit, two billion seemed insufficient.

The next day, Chloe received a notice from the court that the trial would start in three days. They emphasized that it would be better to settle privately. If it really went to court, not only would her reputation be damaged, but if Carolina made a high claim, she might have to accept it.

That was the law. Sometimes it really made people feel helpless. No matter how the elders had treated them, as long as they were alive and had the ability, they had to fulfill their duty to support the elders.

The court issued an official acceptance of Carolina's appeal and the internet went into chaos.

"The appeal was finally successful. It's really an era of power suppression. This is a bit unfair, like if you offend the big shots, you don't even have the chance to appeal."

"Exactly, as long as the appeal is successful, Ms. Summers, as the younger generation, has no chance of winning. But I'm curious, why after so many days of obstruction, they suddenly let go today and stopped?"

"Now, even shameless people like Carolina can successfully appeal and look like they might win. This is really the age of villains!"

"Right, they talk about morality every day! If your grandmother almost killed you because of a mistress's child, would you be willing to give her 2 billion now?!"

"Every day they manipulate others, why not try it yourself!? I really can't stand this bunch of fools. Everyone knows Carolina is shameless, yet you're still speaking for this clearly shameless person and seeking justice for her. Honestly, you guys are just another Carolina! You have a favorite person in your heart, but you want others to go all out for you? Doesn't this highlight your greed and shamelessness? Morality my ass!"

"Some people, you haven't reached that level in your actions, but you demand others to be 100% good to you. Do you have any shame?"

"What is shamelessness? No matter what the elders do, elders are elders. Without them, where would you be? Elders gave you life, and it's already kind enough that they didn't take it back! You owe them

from the moment you were born. No matter how much you hate them, as long as you're not dead and have the ability, you have to support them. Or else it's illegal!"

“Oh! Where did this fool come from, I bet he’s just like Carolina! He must have done a lot of bad things in his life! Wish you a violent death and your body get abandoned in the wilderness!”

“Be careful what you say on the forum, and don’t give people a chance to sue you. I really feel it’s unfair for Ms. Summers. If Carolina really wins

the lawsuit in the end, I can’t accept it! Nowadays, villains rule the world.”

“Some people work hard and do good deeds all their life, and they may not have a fortune of 2 billion. But Carolina is different, she’s asking for 2 billion right off the bat! Ha-ha, it seems shameless people are invincible.”

“If Carolina really wins the lawsuit, then we might have a trend in our country for a while where the elderly can do whatever they want and favor whoever they want. After all, whoever I like or dislike, they all have to take care of me.”

Chapter 1533

“Well, I should do the same in the future, only treat one of my descendants well. After all, the others will have to take care of me in the end! Not only will I do this myself, but I will also tell my descendants to do the same! The future social situation is truly wonderful!”

This obvious irony undoubtedly brought immense pressure to certain lawyers and courts. Although these words were spoken out of anger, if mishandled, the social impact would be far-reaching. If things got out of hand, the situation could escalate, and the entire social order would be greatly disrupted.

However, there were clear legal provisions in place. Regardless of Chloe’s refusal to provide financial support, from any perspective, the elderly were a vulnerable group in society and they required care. Therefore, regardless of the outcome, this matter would provoke controversy among people.

Regardless of the situation, the online public opinion was overwhelmingly against Chloe. Criticism of Chloe’s remarks was more prevalent, and those who specifically targeted Chloe were still active. There were even skeptical questions raised, but got drowned out and no one paid attention to them.

“Has no one considered the possibility that the ‘ban’ was suddenly lifted because Ms. Summers is absolutely confident of winning this lawsuit?”^{c2}

Wendy became excited as she saw the comments on the internet. As long as the appeal was successful, they would definitely win this lawsuit.

The law had explicit provisions, and it couldn't be changed arbitrarily just because she was Chloe. She knew that the two billion financial support might be a trivial matter for Chloe now, but going to court for refusing to fulfill her duty would damage her reputation. The losses she would suffer were not just limited to those two billion. There was nothing more satisfying in this world than seeing Chloe fail. On the day of the trial, she would definitely be present, witnessing Chloe's shame in defeat.

She hoped that Chloe wouldn't settle this matter privately. If Chloe did, she would also warn Carolina to give Chloe a lesson in court. However, in reality, Carolina had been waiting for Chloe's private resolution for the past three days, but Chloe had yet to appear at the company and remained extremely low-key.

Carolina was staying in a hotel, but she went shopping almost every day. She ate the best food and drank the best beverages. She spent lavishly on clothes, jewelry, shoes, even beauty treatments and hair styling. She didn't seem like a bankrupt old lady at all.

Reporters followed Carolina every day, documenting her daily activities. It had to be said that some people envied her and hated her, some were jealous, and naturally, some mocked her.

First of all, the source of her money was completely legitimate. The name on the credit card she used for shopping was Wendy's. Sometimes they even saw the two of them meeting frequently. It seemed that Wendy also understood that her actions didn't need to be hidden. When Chloe encountered trouble, she was the happiest person in the world. When Carolina sued Chloe in court, she would definitely be very happy.

It couldn't be more natural for the two people who hated Chloe the most got together. It was just Carolina and Wendy, and their immoral behavior was well-known. So, anything shameless happening to them wouldn't be surprising.

And Wendy had been using her actions to provoke Chloe. She was now fully supporting Carolina just to let Chloe know that she had played a part in Carolina's decision to sue her. So, in the end, when Chloe lost the lawsuit, she would ultimately have lost to Wendy.

Carolina and Wendy being together was no longer a secret. Even if they didn't make it public, Chloe could guess that Wendy was instigating discord in this lawsuit. She simply let it pass.

Wendy thought she was using Carolina to humiliate Chloe. However, she didn't know that she was just a pawn in someone else's hands.

Everyone was looking forward to the trial three days later. Although most people believed that Chloe would undoubtedly lose the lawsuit, there was still a glimmer of hope because it was Chloe. They felt that there was a possibility of a turnaround in this matter.

On the day of the trial, there was a crowd of media and people who were particularly interested in the case gathered outside the courthouse. Everyone wanted to be present to know the verdict firsthand.

Carolina arrived at the courthouse with Wendy. The two of them were accompanied by their assistants and lawyers, walking confidently through the crowd. Of course, the reporters were eagerly interviewing them, "Ms. Carolina, can you tell us if Ms. Summers has contacted you privately to settle this matter?"

Carolina replied, "No, she hasn't. Otherwise, I wouldn't be here today. Since she is so persistent, then it's regrettable that she had the opportunity but chose not to settle this privately. Don't blame me for disregarding our family ties. She forced me into this situation."

"If Ms. Summers had indeed approached you to settle privately, would you have agreed?" The reporter asked.

Carolina answered, "Of course, I would. As long as she acknowledges that I am her grandmother and agrees to fulfill her obligations. We should avoid going to court if we can. It's not something to be proud of. I was left with no choice."

'Ms. Alonso, what role did you play in this case?' The reporter asked.

Wendy smiled calmly and said, "Ms. Carolina is a respected elder of mine, and if she encounters something that brings her sadness, I will do my best to help her."

"There are many unfair things in this world. Why do you specifically want to help Ms. Carolina? Ms. Alonso, can you tell us if there are any personal conflicts involved?" The reporter asked again.

Wendy's smile had a hint of irony, "If I say no, would you believe me?"

The reporter chuckled, and those around them felt a strong aversion to Wendy and Carolina appearing together.

"Regardless, this is a private matter between Carolina and her grandmother. Ms. Alonso, why do you have so much time to meddle in this matter? I guess it was your idea for Carolina to sue Ms. Summers, right?" The reporter asked sharply.

Wendy smiled but didn't respond directly. Her silence was seen by everyone as an admission.

Chapter 1534

"Ms. Carolina, you're well aware of the conflicts between Ms. Wendy and Ms. Summers. Ms. Wendy even tried to screw Ms. Summers over. And you're still siding with her? Isn't that a bit much to ask Ms. Summers to foot your bill?"

Carolina's face darkened, "If she'd been a bit more reasonable, why would I have sided with Ms. Wendy? She didn't fulfill her duty, and it's been Ms. Wendy who's been taking care of me all this time."

"So, in your eyes, whoever gives you money is the good guy, huh?" A chilly voice laced with sarcasm came from behind. Everyone turned to see Chloe, dressed in a slim-fit down jacket and hands in pockets, surrounded by bodyguards, nonchalantly making her way over.

Seeing her composed demeanor, Carolina's face instantly grew colder. She huffed, her face darkening, "Are you implying I'm greedy? Chloe, my dear granddaughter, as a businesswoman, you should know to respect the people who give you money."

Chloe gave a cold chuckle, but there was no warmth in her smile.c2

“Oh, really?” Chloe cut her off, the sarcastic smile on her face becoming more apparent, “So if I give you money, does that mean you will respect

me?”

“Ha!” Chloe’s words made the crowd burst into laughter.

“Ms. Summers is as sharp-tongued as ever.”

“She always knows what to say, it’s really impressive.”

“Well said, I think this old hag only recognizes money. Whoever gives her money, she could even call them granny.”

It was pretty nasty to make such sarcastic remarks about an elderly person. But when someone behaved too shamelessly, and even if they were unwilling to accept the criticisms and ridicules, they had no choice but to endure it.

Carolina flushed with embarrassment and yelled at Chloe, “You! This is absurd!”

Chloe gave a cold laugh, “You’re familiar with the word ‘absurd’?”

Carolina had never been able to get the upper hand over Chloe in verbal exchanges. In fact, she didn’t have any advantage over Chloe in other aspects either, Every time, she was left fuming by Chloe. Wendy, on the side, wished she could kill Chloe with her glare, “Chloe, she’s your grandmother after all. Aren’t you afraid of karma for talking to her like this?”

Chloe looked down at Wendy in her wheelchair, and smiled, “You guys aren’t afraid. Why should I be?”

Wendy glared at Chloe's calm face, "You won't end well, Chloe. There are twists and turns in life, I'm waiting for the day to see you cry."

Chloe nodded slightly, "Let's live in the present. If you feel better thinking like that, then go on. But I think I'm accumulating good karma."

She had no intention of engaging in a lengthy discussion with them. After she had spoken, she prepared to leave. The reporters immediately swarmed her, "Ms. Summers, what are your thoughts on today's lawsuit?"

Chloe replied, "None."

"How confident are you about winning this lawsuit?" The reporters asked.

Chloe said, "100%."

The reporters wanted to continue asking questions, but Chloe had already stepped onto the stage. Several bodyguards immediately blocked their path. Since the reporters couldn't interview Chloe anymore, they immediately turned their attention to Carolina and Wendy, "Ms. Carolina, can you guess what edge Ms. Summers will have to win this lawsuit? Ms. Alonso, what do you think?"

The faces of Wendy and Carolina had slightly changed due to Chloe's previous words. They also started to feel nervous. The more calm and composed Chloe was, the more uneasy they felt. But after thinking it over, they both felt that in this lawsuit about money, Chloe didn't have any gaps to exploit.

So how could she win this lawsuit? It seemed utterly impossible.

"She's just bluffing. Trying to overpower us with her aura, how naive! This isn't a gamble, can she win by bluffing? I won't fall for her childish tricks!" Carolina said.

For this lawsuit, they had racked their brains thinking of all the possibilities that Chloe could exploit. But in reality, there were none. Otherwise, she wouldn't have appeared here so confidently today. And Wendy wouldn't have joined in so blatantly.

Even though Carolina said this, she couldn't shake off her unease. She insisted that she wouldn't be affected by Chloe's bluff, but in reality, she had been affected. The same was true for Wendy. From the moment Chloe appeared here in her calm demeanor, she felt uneasy. After all, they had never won in their fights against Chloe. When they thought they were 100% sure to win, Chloe always managed to pull a rabbit out of the hat. They were genuinely starting to fear Chloe's tactics.

But this time, they were extremely cautious. After all, the law was clear. How could Chloe possibly win this lawsuit?

The reporters were also filled with curiosity, eager to see how Chloe would turn the tables at the end.

"Ms. Carolina, if you do win this lawsuit, will there be any changes to the 2 billion you previously asked from Ms. Summers?" The reporters asked. Carolina snorted, her words full of stubbornness, "She's unrepentant. Since I can't change her, then she has to pay the price. Given her attitude now, 2 billion is a bargain!"

At this point, there was a disturbance in the crowd. The reporters followed the sound and saw a middle-aged man leading an elderly man dressed modestly, slowly making his way towards the courthouse with the aid of a walking stick.

They could hear people in the crowd questioning, "Isn't that Jonah?"

"And that one, Nick, the son of the Summers family. Geez, these two really. Things have already escalated to this point and only now they show up! Are they doing this on purpose or something?"

Jonah? Suddenly showing up at this time? Watching his spouse take his granddaughter to court, wonder what was going through his mind.

As soon as the identity of the old man was confirmed, the reporters swarmed over again.

Chapter 1535

As soon as Jonah was identified, the reporters swarmed around him.

*Jonah, are you aware of Ms. Carolina's claims for money against Ms. Summers?"

"I understand that after Ms. Summers burned down the house, you were offered a place to stay which you personally rejected. Is Ms. Summers' refusal to pay unjustified in this case?"

"Are you here as a witness for Ms. Summers or to support Ms. Carolina?"

"Who do you hope will win this lawsuit?"c2

"Nick, Ms. Carolina is pressing charges against your daughter. What are your thoughts on this lawsuit?"

Nick's life had always been arranged by Carolina. Within the Summers family, even Jonah had to listen to her. What was more, his father always indulged his mother which forced him to be more tolerant towards her.

Fortunately, most of the time, his mother was fighting for his interests, so he accepted it. Apart from not having much power, he lived comfortably.

However, he had been paying close attention to this lawsuit in the shadows. Carolina had promised him that this money would be enough for him to start a new company. Even though Chloe was his daughter, after everything about the Summers family was exposed, he felt ashamed towards Chloe and he never thought of getting anything from her. No matter what, he still had some basic human decency. As a father, he hadn't done anything for her, so naturally he had no face to ask anything from her. But if his mother could get some money, he would hope so.

He shook his head and refused to answer the reporters' questions.

Jonah, on the other hand, paid no attention to the reporters' questions. His expression was cold. He walked up to Carolina with his cane and stood still.

Carolina frowned at him, "Why are you here? Are you here to testify for Chloe? It's useless. She openly admitted that she wouldn't give me the money. Otherwise, she wouldn't be here today."

Jonah looked at Carolina with a calm expression and said, "Would you agree to drop the lawsuit right now if I asked you to?"

Carolina raised her eyebrows, "Do you think that's possible at this point?"

"Nothing is impossible as long as the court is not in session. You just need to tell me whether you agree or not!" Jonah said.

"I do not agree!" Carolina answered immediately without any hesitation, "I have been accused by everyone. What do you think I'm doing this for? You may be satisfied with the current situation of the Summers family, but I'm not! Nick hasn't achieved anything till now. As his father, don't you feel guilty at all? You might be content with the life you have without any complaints. That's your choice. But I can't! I, Carolina, am selfish and can't live such a poor life. Moreover, I can't watch my son live under someone else's thumb. He always has to obey others, living miserable all his life. So, I don't care how shameless and thick-skinned I appear in the eyes of others!"

Jonah's lips trembled, "You're even willing to give up your last bit of dignity for money?!"

Carolina said, "When I was the mistress of the Summers family, I needed dignity! But now I'm almost like a beggar! I want to live a good life and to leave something for my son. What is dignity? Whose dignity can be worth two billion? I was forced into this. If Chloe could have a good talk with me, accept my apology, and acknowledge me as her grandmother, it wouldn't have come to this! Jonah, if you're not here to help me, then don't stop me!"

Jonah wobbled. He closed his eyes tightly, and after a long pause, he said again, "I beg you, drop the lawsuit immediately."

“Impossible!” Carolina refused again, “Don’t you get it? There’s no going back. This time, the break with Chloe can only end in a lose–lose situation!”

Carolina was decided. After speaking, she stepped on and resolutely walked into the courthouse. Nick was moved by Carolina’s words. Although Carolina used to manage the household, she did give him the best in material life. At this point, she was still thinking for him. How could he not be

moved?

Jonah stood in place. His body swayed non–stop, and his expression was full of sadness and heaviness.

Half an hour later, the court was in session.

There were many spectators in the courtroom, Nick, Jonah, Wendy, Nathan and Kane. Damon and Yasmine were the last to arrive, sitting in the spectator seats and watching Chloe’s ‘state at all times.

The judge first asked them if they wanted to reconsider to drop the lawsuit, or give them time to mediate privately. This kind of family dispute, if it could be kept private, then it should.

Chloe looked at Carolina, as if to say it all depended on Carolina’s decision, As a result, Carolina said, “Five hundred million. If she’s willing to settle privately, then I’ll drop the lawsuit.”

The courtroom was in an uproar. Most people felt shocked and found it laughable.

“In a blink of an eye, the money has doubled. This old lady’s shamelessness is really beyond measure!”

Chloe gave a slight smile, “Ms. Carolina, you really have a way of showing people the depths of shamelessness.”

‘How could you say that? I’m your grandmother! Are you going to disrespect me like this in court?!” Carolina yelled.

Chloe chuckled, then turned to the judge, “Even if we could settle this privately, I wouldn’t give her a single cent. Since Ms. Carolina is so adamant, let’s get started then. My stance is crystal clear. I won’t agree to pay Carolina the money she’s asking for. Not a billion, not a million, not even a

dime.”

Carolina scoffed, “You really won’t quit until you’ve hit rock bottom, huh?” Once she finished speaking, she sat down, leaving her attorney to handle everything.

The lawyer listed several accusations against Chloe. As a young offspring, she had failed to fulfill her responsibilities. She showed complete indifference to Carolina, even displaying violent tendencies. This was referring to the incident a few days ago when Carolina was thrown out of Starlight International. In addition, Chloe was accused of being verbally abusive and disrespectful towards Carolina, including the incident where she set fire to the house, leaving Carolina homeless.

Every inappropriate behavior from the past that Carolina could remember was included in the accusations. However, most of them overlooked the context and the causes, only focusing on the parts that were advantageous to Carolina.

Throughout the whole process, Chloe just sat there quietly. After a rough summary from Carolina’s lawyer, the judge turned to Chloe, asking, “Defendant Ms. Chloe, is what was just stated true?”

Leaning on her chin, Chloe smiled faintly, “True.”

Chapter 1536

Her response sent the courtroom into a frenzy after a few seconds of silence. She actually admitted it. So how were they supposed to continue

this case?

Carolina was very satisfied with Chloe’s answer. She said with a smile, “You’re smart. You know denying facts in court is just a waste of time.”

“Though everything has a cause and effect, you only mentioned part of the truth, choosing only the bits that favor you. I admit that all you’ve said has happened. Is there anything else you want to accuse me of? This is a great opportunity, so spill it all out. Let me know how much I’ve wronged you over the years.” Chloe said.

The judge seated and gave a little cough. Someone immediately said solemnly, “Ms. Summers, you need to be careful with your words in court. Stick to the facts. Be fair and impartial. If it’s not true, don’t admit it. Otherwise it’s hard for us to make a fair judgment.”

Chloe nodded, “Got it.”

Apparently, someone had already warned them about dealing with Ms. Summers. Weirdly though, they didn’t instruct them to take extra care of the defendant, but only to not restrain Chloe too much in court, regarding her posture, attitude, words, etc., to let her be herself.d2

As for the verdict, any clearly punitive decisions like imprisonment or detention were strictly not allowed.

Generally, if she lost a case, she just fulfilled the legal obligations. Sending someone to jail over money, that was the worst case scenario. More so when it was about Ms. Summers, the most legitimate

princess of Y Country.

The instructions were more harm than good. What a weird instruction it was! To adapt to her personality and preferences in attitude and words? Was this court here for her amusement?

Right. That was exactly what Damon meant. Since Chloe wanted to play, he provided her an environment with no worries. Although it seemed a bit disrespectful to the court, he knew Chloe had her boundaries. She knew what to do and what not to. She wouldn’t do anything too outrageous in court.

Though it seemed a bit biased, the judge’s serious expression and tone when speaking didn’t give it away. After all, no lies of any kind were allowed in court.

Chloe's attitude darkened Carolina's face even more. She said, "Based on your answers, please allow me to say a few more words. Shouldn't you compensate me for the Summers family's mansion you ruined? It wasn't me who willingly gave up the shares in Pulse Entertainment you own. Shouldn't you return them to me? Your father is now penniless with all the Summers family's assets under your control, Shouldn't you return his share to him? He's your father; isn't it a bit inappropriate for you to take over his assets? And Keira, she grew up in the Summers family,. Your father and me took good care of her. Regardless if she's truly a Summers by blood, she's a part of the family. These many years, she's been by my side. I understand that you didn't visit her, but you're her sister, you should help her in her predicament."

"Ha!" Chloe suddenly scoffed. Spending time with shameless people seemed to be dragging her moral standards down. "What do you mean? In your eyes, I not only have to provide for you but also Keira? She calls me sister, so I gave her my grandparents and father, and my boyfriend too. That's still not enough, and I still need to provide for her for the rest of her life? Shouldn't the rest of her life be in jail? How do you expect me to help? Ms. Carolina, I haven't even agreed to provide for you, yet you still have the nerve to ask for my help for your granddaughter, what do I owe her?"

She glanced at Carolina, smiling coldly and sarcastically. "Now that you mention it. I remember, how long has she been in the hospital?" While saying this, she laughed, supporting her cheek and looking towards the audience.

She said, "Darling, can you make a call to the hospital for me, and check what disease my dear sister has contracted that she's still not discharged? Even if she has cancer, and is on the brink of death, she should die in jail, right?" Her smile was plain and nonchalant, but her words reeked of anger.

The spectators were also upset by Carolina's unreasonable demands. What kind of person was this? Failing to demand money, she sued her own granddaughter. Now not only did she demand Chloe to provide for her, but also return the Summers family's assets.

Not only money, she wanted Nick's assets too. She was still not satisfied. She wanted Chloe to provide for her hospitalized sister. And this sister was the cruelest person to Chloe back then.

Who gave her the audacity to make such shameless demands? If her demands were met, it would be a travesty of justice.

This darling made Damon's mood lighten. Nate was about to get up and deal with this, but Damon already had his phone out. He glanced at the judge on the stage, and after getting the judge's permission, he dialed the hospital directly. He spoke bluntly, "This is Damon. The patient named Keira, I don't care about her state now. Send her where she should be immediately."

The response on the other end seemed immediate, and Damon calmly put away his phone. He looked at Chloe. Although Damon looked calm, Nate, standing next to him, felt a bit awkward.

Damon always kept a poker face in public, but having been with Damon for a while, Nate knew him a bit. This was clearly Damon's "mission accomplished, expecting praise" face. Seriously, just a bit of praise from Chloe, and this Mr. Harper of theirs would instantly perk up!

Chapter 1537

If Nate could see it, then Chloe was crystal clear about it. She quirked an eyebrow and winked at Damon. Damon smirked a little.

The tiny interaction between the two was seen by the judges sitting ahead. They were speechless, almost ready to flip their lids. This was the court for crying out loud!

But the eye contact between the two wasn't that obvious, so they had nothing to say.

Chloe was oblivious to the judges' inner reactions. She turned to Carolina and smiled, "So, Ms. Carolina? Are you happy with the arrangements I made for Keira?"

Chloe saw the indignation on Carolina's face. She smiled, "Bottom line, jail is where she belongs. Since she's too shy to say it, I'll help out since you brought it up today. It's no biggie, no need to thank me."

Chloe's actions made everyone breathe a sigh of relief. They were literally about to die from Carolina's antics. Thank goodness Chloe didn't let them down.d2

Wendy sat in her wheelchair, her eyes filled with unhidden hatred and malice for Chloe. Especially seeing her smug face, she wished Chloe would drop dead right in front of her a thousand times.

Carolina might be heartless, but when it came to Keira, she had invested her whole life in her. Even knowing Chloe was her own biological granddaughter, in her heart, Keira, the granddaughter she had pampered for half her life with no blood relation, was irreplaceable.

However...

"Your love for her is your business, nothing to do with me. Want me to help her? Ms. Carolina, you might not realize how much I hope she has a rough time." Chloe said.

Carolina's face turned even uglier.

"Anything else? Any other complaints?" Chloe asked.

Carolina squinted at Chloe, realizing it was pointless to argue further. "For now, no."

Chloe chuckled, "There's no 'for now' in court. If you can't think of it now, it won't matter once we leave the court. Oh well, I think anymore you say will still be useless though."

Carolina didn't respond, showing contempt for Chloe's words. She glanced at her lawyer whose face had turned quite ugly, and decided to keep quiet.

What was the biggest taboo for lawyers in court? It was when their clients start running their mouths. Because the law was very strict. To say one wrong thing, even one word, it could cost them a case they could've won.

The additional conditions Carolina just mentioned, they were beyond what they had previously discussed. Was it trying to milk more out of the situation? Had Carolina lived so long and still not learned this simple thing?

However, just as the lawyer noticed Carolina was about to stop, and he was about to stand up to express his demands, Chloe on the other side calmly spoke, "Did everything Ms. Carolina just said fall within the 2 billion you previously mentioned?"

This remark... Did it sound like she was ready to cough up the money?

The lawyer looked at Carolina. Upon hearing the question, she immediately replied, "Do you think it's possible? I've said long ago if you insist on going to court, then the amount will definitely not just be 2 billion."

"Oh? So how much do you want?" Chloe asked with a smile.

"In addition to my 2 billion, adding the money for your grandfather and your father, 5 billion is just a drop in the bucket for you, right? Also, the shares you took that belonged to me and your father, I hope you can return them to us. In the end, all the Summers family matters are yours, just want to be involved in every decision of the company. You've got a lot on your plate right now. We'll help you carry some, so you'll have it easier." Carolina said.

This sounded nice.

This was completely from the perspective of Chloe's grandmother. If it was someone else's grandma saying this, she might believe it. But Carolina, absolutely not.

"5 billion." Chloe's eyes were full of smiles, simply saying this number made everyone there feel the thick irony.

Carolina's lawyer was sitting there, his face had turned extremely ugly.

5 billion... This old lady, really knew how to kick someone when they were down!

But today, the lawyer was standing with Carolina. No matter what, he had to bite the bullet. He said, "As Ms. Carolina just mentioned, Ms. Chloe, as the only heir of the Summers family and with extraordinary

abilities, we demand that you pay Carolina, Jonah, and Nick 5 billion. In addition, you need to return the shares that Carolina and Nick previously held. Can you agree to this?"

Chloe blinked and laughed, "I refuse."

Carolina instantly frowned. The lawyer then said, "Ms. Chloe, please think it through. If you refuse, you will violate several legal provisions and need to face legal sanctions."

Chloe nodded, "Of course I understand."

Seeing her calm demeanor, the lawyer sighed. He turned to the judge and said, "That's all the plaintiff asks for. If Ms. Chloe can't do it, we'll have to resolve this matter according to the law."

The judge furrowed his brow; there was no advantage for Chloe facing the legal provisions. He turned to Chloé and asked, "Ms. Chloe, if you think the money is unreasonable, or if you have a better plan, you can also propose it."

After all, everyone had a duty to take care of the elderly. No matter the reason, refusing to care for the elders, Chloe would be the one who was in the wrong in the end.

Chloe smiled and slowly stood up from the defendant's seat. She looked at Carolina with a big grin and said loudly to her, "Me, Chloe, will not take care of Carolina. Because she isn't worth it."

Each word was crystal clear, echoing through the entire courtroom. Carolina's face was beyond what they would call ugly at this point.

And this caused quite a stir among the spectators in the gallery. The onlookers were blown away by Chloe's straight-up refusal to care for Carolina in court.

Chapter 1538

“Having such a family member, it’s easier to just throw her some dough and get her to shut up, right? Why go to such extreme lengths and keep her bugging us?”

“Exactly, dealing with people like her is such a pain in the ass. Just give her some cash and send her away.”

“We knew we weren’t going to win this lawsuit even before the trial started. Why are we still hanging in there? Is she really looking to get herself locked up?”

“Absolutely, this kind of stuff getting out can totally backfire.”

Down below, Yulia and Rose who had been waiting for a while now were completely clueless about what was going on. They felt on edge and anxious.

“What the hell is Chloe up to? She dares to talk like that in court! Is she really itching for a taste of prison life?” Rose asked.

Yulia comforted Rose, “Damon won’t let her go to jail.”

Rose glanced at the expressionless man sitting in the front row and felt somewhat relieved.

“I totally forgot about him.” Rose said. Her voice revealed a hint of relief, but she quickly became disgruntled, “Just because she has a man to shield her, she thinks she can do whatever she wants? She’s way too reliant on men. She should know that men aren’t always reliable.”

Chloe’s words left even the judge feeling helpless. Was she blatantly breaking the law in court? All these people were watching. What the hell were the judges supposed to do if she talked like this?

Carolina stared coldly at Chloe’s smiling face, her heart pounding so fast she could barely breathe. “So, you’d rather break the law and go to jail than give me the money? It’s just five billion; it’s peanuts to you given your current net worth. Are you really more ruthless than me, preferring jail to giving me money?”

Chloe gave a faint smile, "I need both money and life. Naturally, I can't compete with you who would give up dignity for money."

Carolina stared at Chloe for a long time, her heart gradually enveloped by unease and fear. She had seen this state of Chloe many times now. She wouldn't be this calm and collected if she wasn't absolutely confident. "What are you planning?" Carolina asked.

Chloe casually brushed her hair aside, saying, "You're the plaintiff and I'm the defendant. You dragged me into court, so what can I do?"

Carolina wanted to retort, to say that in the past it was always her who was aggressive, and in the end, she was always controlled by Chloe, making everyone look at her like she was a fool.

But how could she possibly say these words?

Admit that she was once aggressive towards Chloe, or that she was outplayed by Chloe? Carolina wouldn't admit to either..

She asked, "So, are you refusing my request because you really want to go to jail?"

"What are you talking about, Ms. Carolina?" Chloe stood up with a smile, "I have nothing to do with you. Why should I agree to your request for money? I've said it before, five billion is out of the question and two billion is also impossible. You won't get anything from me, not even a single penny."

Carolina felt sick every time she heard Chloe say this. She came for the money, but Chloe said she wouldn't give her a cent. This made her feel very uncomfortable.

Wendy had been watching Chloe intently from the start, her gaze barely ever leaving Chloe. Chloe's calmness and indifference from the beginning to the end filled Wendy with extreme disgust.

This again! Same old attitude. Why did she always look like this? Why couldn't she see Chloe panicking? And for such an obviously illegal act, why could she remain so unfazed?

Carolina clenched her hands tightly, staring at Chloe with growing unease, "If you think five billion is too much, I can reduce it."

"Stop it, Ms. Carolina. I told you, I won't give you any money." Chloe said.

"Chloe!!" Carolina completely lost it, glaring at Chloe, "Do you think I'm too lenient?!!"

Everyone was stunned to see Carolina losing her cool.

"Do you know where you are?! Even if you're dissatisfied with me and you don't want to face me, you're still my granddaughter. I'm your grandmother and this fact can't be changed. You're sure to lose this lawsuit! If you don't want to lose too badly, you'd better wake up." Carolina

said.

"What unchangeable fact? Carolina, for this lawsuit, since I'm here, it means I won't lose!" After Chloe finished speaking, the smile on her face had disappeared. She turned to look at the lawyer next to her.

The lawyer nodded, stood up, and handed the file that had been closed since he sat down to the judge.

Everyone looked at each other in confusion. The courthouse was in chaos and nobody knew what Chloe was up to. Carolina and her lawyer exchanged glances, puzzled by Chloe's words and actions today. Wendy clenched her fists tightly.

The judge looked at Carolina after reading the document handed to him by Chloe's lawyer. Finally, he turned to ask Chloe, "Are you sure the information on this document is true?"

"I'm certain. If you don't believe it, I've brought an expert from the hospital here. Do you need to call her?" Chloe asked,

The judge thought for a moment, then nodded, "Call her."

Then under everyone's anticipation, a woman in a white coat walked onto the witness stand from the summons passage. She showed her credentials, "I'm Jane. The director of the City Center Hospital. I guarantee that every word I say next is true."

She was straightforward, even skipping the oath. Even Chloe was surprised when Jane said she was the director. Having been together for so long, she had no idea this woman was the director of the City Center Hospital! And she was so young.

Her appearance silenced everyone in the room. Everyone couldn't help but imagine a possibility. Even Carolina chuckled nervously, her voice full of nasal tones, "What? Are you going to use the same trick again? We've proven that Keira is not your biological sister, do you want to prove that you have no relation to the Summers family in the same way? Don't you feel embarrassed doing this? If you're not your father's biological daughter, then who the heck is your mother, Yasmine? As the daughter-in-law of the Summers family, she went and had a kid with another man? Your value now should exceed five billion, right? Just for five billion, you're willing to label your mother as a loose woman and admit that you're an illegitimate child?"

Chapter 1539

Carolina spoke trembly, because if this was the truth, the world would be too ridiculous.

Viviana had turned her son into a betrayed man and Keira wasn't a descendant of the Summers family. Now, it seemed that Yasmine had turned her son into a cuckold, and Chloe wasn't a descendant of the Summers family as well.

What on earth had the Summers family done to end up marrying such women?

She had gathered all her courage to blow this matter up, but then Chloe suddenly claimed she had nothing to do with the Summers family? If that was really the case, then legally speaking, she indeed didn't have the obligation to raise her. No wonder she was so calm from the beginning. She had been prepared all along.

Carolina was clearly so angry that she was talking nonsense. Nick, who was sitting next to her, suddenly stood up. His face turned pale.

“What?! She’s Yasmine’s illegitimate child with another man?!“d2

The audience was in chaos. They were shocked by this outcome, but also felt as if they had expected it.

However, Jane, who was standing in the witness box, clearly said, “According to DNA test results, the similarity index between Nick and Ms. Chloe is over ninety percent. The blood relationship is established.”

An uproar ensued. This result was unexpected for everyone.

Chloe actually shared a blood relationship with Nick?!

Then this lawsuit, was Chloe doomed to lose?

Did this doctor plot against Chloe in court?

Everyone looked at Chloe with a bit of sorrow. She was so shrewd and yet was betrayed at the last minute. Being betrayed at this time, she was bound to lose the lawsuit.

Chloe tugged at her lips and smiled.

This result was disappointing. So she really did share a blood relationship with Nick. How nice it would be if she didn’t?

Every single person in the room, except for Damon who was indifferent, was shocked. Even Yasmine, her hands tightly clasped together and her face was pale. The shock in her eyes was no less than that of others. It seemed that she was the most surprised by today’s outcome.

A warm hand suddenly pressed down on her shoulder. Bryson patted her lightly, trying to comfort her. Yasmine bit her lip tightly. Her hands on the wheelchair were shaking uncontrollably.

This result was absolutely the most satisfying for Carolina and Wendy. They never expected that this suddenly appearing female witness would change her stance.

“Silence!” The judge maintained order with a deep voice. As the court gradually quieted down, the judge said to Jane, “Please continue.”

Jane nodded, flipped out another document, glanced at it, and continued, “The DNA test involved Jonah and Nick. The result showed a similarity of over ninety percent. The father–son relationship is established.”

Carolina sneered, “Does this even need to be tested? Who else could be the father of my son, if not Jonah?”

Jonah, sitting in the audience, was clutching his cane tightly. His wrinkled face was as pale as bone, his skin and lips trembling. Carolina’s words intensified his guilt and regret.

Jane gave Carolina a light look. That look was caught by Carolina. There was helplessness, sorrow, and pity. These emotions were all in her eyes, making Carolina’s heart suddenly tense. Before she even had a chance to catch her breath, she heard Jane continue, “The last DNA test involved Carolina and Nick. The result showed zero percent blood relation. No mother–son relationship.”

“Oh my God!!!”

This result made Nathan and Kane both stand up.

“What’s going on?!”

“Oh my God!”

“Why would it be like this?! The only son of the Summers family is not Carolina’s biological child?!”

“But looking at Carolina’s confidence just now, it doesn’t seem like it!”

The courtroom was in unprecedented chaos. This result was a scenario that no one could have imagined even if they thought of a hundred possibilities.

Just look at how brazen Carolina had been recently. She was such a shameless woman, thinking about fighting for something for her son. Her attitude towards Nick was obviously that of a biological mother. Otherwise, how could a person like her care about Nick's situation? Now it turned out that she had no blood relationship with Nick, not at all. How could that be?!

"Jonah and Carolina are husband and wife. Nick is Jonah's son but not Carolina's son. This means..."

Some people managed to sort out the family relationships and instantly understood something. Their eyes swept across the room and gradually all focused on Jonah in the front row. Whispers were all discussing the truth.

"So that's what happened?"

"Infidelity huh."

"I never heard a thing about it."

'It seems that Carolina didn't know. Wow, to be able to hide it for so many years of sharing the same bed, that's impressive."

"I never thought things would turn out this way."

The low whispers sounded like they were magnified a hundred times, clearly entering Carolina's ears.

"No... Carolina's face was pale at this moment. She shook her head blankly, "This can't be possible."

She shook her head in denial. All the chatter around her was seeping into her brain and echoing non-stop. "Shut up, all of you! This is impossible!!!" She suddenly screamed, pointing her finger at the spectators, hysterical.

Carolina yelled, "Nick is the baby I carried for ten months! Are you saying those ten months of pregnancy were a hoax?! The old servants can vouch for me, and the hospital must have my delivery records and birth certificate! Who dares to question if Nick is not my son?!"

Chapter 1540

Jane calmly reconfirmed, 'According to scientific evidence, you and Nick have no blood relation

"Where the hell did you get your medical degree?! You're spewing lies without batting an eye! You swore an oath just now, but you're committing perjury, and it's illegal! Do you know that?!" Carolina said

Jane smirked and shook her head. "The truth is right in front of your eyes, Carolina and Nick have no blood relation. As for the tests, they're all clearly stated in the report. I guarantee there will be no issues with the forensic identification! If you guys don't believe it, you can retest it, but there won't be a different result"

Carolina turned as pale as a sheet, shaking her head, unable to accept Jane's words.

"You're lying! Judge, she's lying. She's committing perjury, please punish her right away!" Carolina urged.

The judge paid no heed to her, banged his gavel, and sternly said, "Order!"

The whole courtroom was in chaos. Carolina, Nick, even the bystanders were shocked by this unexpected result. They originally thought that, at most, Chloe wasn't a descendant of the Summers family. Then the things that Carolina and the Summers family did to her back then wouldn't need to be dwelled upon, nor would they be etched deeply in their hearts. After all, if she wasn't of Summers' blood, the Summers family had no obligation to be completely good to her. And for this lawsuit, if Chloe

wasn't a part of the Summers family, then legally, Carolina's obligation to support her could not be established.

But who would have thought, in the end, the result was that Carolina wasn't Chloe's grandmother?! Even her beloved son Nick of many years wasn't her biological son.

This was profoundly sad.

"Nick is my son! I won't allow you guys to spew nonsense!!" Carolina, pale-faced, pointed at Jane and yelled, "She's obviously committing perjury, spreading rumors! My childbirth records are in the hospital! I had a C-section. I still have the scar from the operation on my belly. Nick is my son. This is an unchangeable fact. Are you brainless? You believe such absurd words?"

The atmosphere in the courtroom became tense. Even though the judge tried his best to control the situation, he couldn't calm the chaos.

"Order! The judge seemed angry. He shouted sternly, and the room gradually quieted down.

Carolina glared at Chloe across the room, as if she could kill Chloe a million times with her gaze. "You're trying to kick me out of the Summers family with this method, aren't you? I thought you had some sort of plan, turns out it's just this? Chloe, do you know that you're challenging the law, by providing such false evidence in court? Do you think I'm stupid, not even knowing if I've given birth?"

Chloe nodded, "You did give birth, but your child isn't Nick."

Carolina staggered, holding onto the table. She looked at Chloe, pale-faced, and forced a cold laugh, "If he's not mine, then whose child is he? I was married to your grandfather, yet your father is your grandfather's son, but not mine?"

Chloe's expression was calm, her smile completely gone.

“Yes, you’re my grandfather’s wife, and Nick is my grandfather’s biological son. But you’re not Nick’s biological mother. Why is that?” She said quietly, “The answer to this question is actually quite simple. Where is your child? I think you should be asking Jonah, not me.”

After saying that, Chloe showed a hint of a sarcastic and sorrowful smile, “Perhaps you’ll deeply realize how angry I was when Lance cheated with Keira, yet you thought it was reasonable and forced me to back down and accept his actions.”

Carolina’s face was indescribably pale.

She refused to believe that everything that happened today was real. She didn’t want to believe that the son she loved dearly all her life wasn’t hers. She didn’t want to believe that her husband had betrayed her shortly after they got married.

She hoped to wake up from this nightmare as soon as possible. Hoped that everything was just a dream, and she could return to reality once she opened her eyes. But whether it was real or false, she refused to accept it.

However, all her pleas were in vain. In the end, she turned to look at the emotionless man sitting in the audience. Looking at his indifferent expression, she held onto the edge of the table tightly. “Jonah, tell me, everything today is just Chloe spreading rumors, right?”

The entire courtroom fell silent at this moment, everyone’s gaze focused on Jonah. He closed his eyes tightly, his hands that were holding onto his cane were so tight that his veins were popping and shaking violently. After a while, he struggled to stand up and walked towards the witness stand. Seeing this, Jane immediately stepped down to give up her place.

Chloe, watching him swaying as he stood there, wanted to put on a cold smile, but in the end, she gave up and looked away.

Carolina, seeing his movements, couldn’t stand steady. “What are you standing there for? Jonah, what do you want to do?!”

Jonah's Adam's apple bobbed a few times. After a long while, his trembling lips finally opened. "I." His voice was hoarse and wary, "I'm sorry."

The courtroom was filled with the sound of people gasping.

Carolina stared at him wide-eyed. "What do you mean?"

Chloe closed her eyes again. She took a deep breath and reopened her eyes. Her gaze seemed as if she had made a major decision. He slowly said, "These test results are all true. I agreed to these forensic tests."

Because there was this thing called the law when it came to paternity tests. Without a person's consent, the legal guys wouldn't go ahead with it.

He continued, "Nick is my son, but not yours. That year, I messed up. I wronged you.."

The room fell dead silent. A silence that stretched on for what felt like forever.