

# **The Billionaire Alpha's Contract Lover by Caesar Erickson**

## **Chapter 1441**

Chapter 1441

Jayden sent his parents back to France, Harper settled down and focused on managing the nightclub, while Taya prepared for the court hearing.

On the night before the hearing, Taya couldn't fall asleep no matter how hard she tried. When she went downstairs to get some water, Grace, holding a small pillow, walked up to her and tugged at her nightgown.

"Auntie, don't worry, I will choose you for sure."

Taya's heart warmed, she put down her glass and crouched down to meet Grace's gaze.

"Why aren't you sleeping so late?"

Grace tilted her head and smiled.

"I can't sleep, just like you."

The innocence in the pup's smile was so healing that Taya smiled gently too.

"Are you nervous too?"

"Of course."

Grace expressed her thoughts without reservation.

"Although sometimes I miss the time in Aronland, it's not as important as you, Auntie."

Casare, besides teaching her how to shoot, had always been good to her, allowing her to grow up carefree and spoiling her at times.

Of course, she had also been happy during the time she spent with her biological father in Aronland. She genuinely liked her eccentric uncle.

Thinking of her eccentric uncle, Grace's eyes gradually turned sad...

"Auntie, if my eccentric uncle were still alive, you and my grandma wouldn't have to go to court."

Taya was taken aback by her words and suddenly remembered Amon's nonchalant demeanor. Her heart tightened.

No matter what this person had done in his life, after death, his bad deeds would fade away, and what remained in memory would be his good deeds...

The Amon in her memory, his facial features and appearance had faded away, but before he died, he held her hand and asked her to take good care of Grace. She would never forget that.

She shouldn't think about Amon, thinking of him would easily make her eyes turn red. Just like at this moment, she couldn't help but pull Grace into her arms, so that she wouldn't see her

tears.

"Grace, parting ways in life is something we all have to face as humans. Your father simply left a step ahead, but his love for you still remains."

Grace seemed to understand, cuddling in Taya's arms, she nodded gently.

"Then Auntie, will you and Uncle also leave me like this in the future?"

Taya raised her hand and gently touched her little head.

"We are older than you, so it's normal for us to leave first."

Tears suddenly welled up in Grace's eyes.

"Then, will there be only me left in this world?"

“No, there won’t be.”

Taya noticed that the pup was crying and quickly let her go, wiping away her tears.

“Auntie will have pups in the future, and the pups I have will grow up with you. You won’t be alone.”

Her words made Grace stop crying, and her teary eyes slowly moved to Taya’s belly.

Chapter 1442

“Aunt, when are you going to have a pup?”

As they chatted, the topic shifted to pups.

“Don’t worry, it’ll happen.”

Grace nodded and snuggled into Taya’s arms, seeking comfort.

Watching the two of them hugging together, Griffon smiled.

In reality, with him around, there was no need to worry.

The custody battle for the pup was scheduled for court.

Anthony had prepared everything and successfully intimidated the opposing lawyer.

Originally, Jocelyn had a higher chance of winning custody as the first choice, but Anthony presented Jocelyn’s refusal to let her daughter-in-law into their home and evidence of their separation because of Jocelyn, using the deceased’s will as an excuse, and convinced the judge.

Besides Anthony, George and Neil also testified, accusing Jocelyn of mistreating Rosalie and not even allowing a joint burial after her death.

They claimed that a grandmother like her wouldn’t be good for

the pup. Additionally, since the pup wanted to stay with her aunt, the court case was skillfully argued.

The judge quickly announced in court that Grace's custody would be given to Taya and Griffon.

Jocelyn, who didn't win custody, gradually became more sinister as she watched Taya happily celebrate with Grace.

When everyone left the courtroom, Jocelyn suddenly rushed from behind and snatched Grace from Taya's arms, holding her tightly.

"Jocelyn, what are you doing?!"

Taya was frightened and quickly rushed over, but Griffon stopped her with his hand.

His eyes filled with anger, Griffon coldly said, "Let her go."

Jocelyn was actually a bit afraid and stammered, "This is my granddaughter. She is the pup my son left behind for me."

George stepped forward and accused Jocelyn, "The court has already made a decision. Have you even considered the pup's feelings by snatching her like this?"

Jocelyn lowered her head and looked at Grace in her arms. When she saw the disappointment in Grace's blinking eyes as she looked at her, Jocelyn's heart became complicated.

Seeing that she seemed hesitant about forcibly taking the

pup,

Taya spoke up, "Grace wants to be with me, not you. If you truly love the pup that Aaron left behind, then respect her choice..."

Jocelyn was still reluctant, holding Grace and shaking her head at Taya, "She is Amon's daughter. If she's with me, then I don't have to hold Amon's picture every day and night, missing him. Taya, you are still young and can have your own pups in the future, but I only have her..."

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## Chapter 1443

Jocelyn's longing for her son was evident on her face, causing Taya to furrow her brows slightly. "But Jocelyn, Amon's last wish was to entrust the pup to me, and Grace's desire is to be with me. You have to consider them from their perspective, right?"

Before Jocelyn could respond to Taya, Grace, who was in her arms, grimaced at her and said, "Bad woman, you only know how to force me. I don't want to go with you. Let me go, or I'll bite you..."

And with that, Grace actually bit Jocelyn's hand.

Since her son's death, Jocelyn had lost her appetite and lost a lot of weight, but even as Grace bit down hard, she only managed to break the skin.

Looking at the bite mark on her hand, Jocelyn didn't know what came over her, but she slowly let go of Grace...

No one paid much attention to why she let go of the pup. Once she did, George immediately rushed over and scooped up the

pup.

Everyone glanced at her and got into their respective cars.

Only Taya turned back to give Jocelyn a look.

It was precisely because of this look that Jocelyn gathered her courage and intercepted Griffon's car...

"Taya, can I come to your house in the future to see the pup?"

Earlier in the courtyard, when George and Neil accused her, Jocelyn realized that she had indeed been harsh on her son and daughter-in-law.

When Amon was young, the thing she did most was force him to study so that he could become the heir to both the Sherwood and Yardley packs. She never really cared about him.

Especially when she realized that her son was in love, she didn't feel happy for him. Instead, she believed that someone like Rosalie, with her background, could never help her son, so she tried every means to break them up...

Back then, when Rosalie and Amon had their falling out, she had contributed quite a bit. So when George questioned her in the courtyard, she couldn't give a single answer. It was true that she hadn't treated Rosalie well....

During this period of time, every time Jocelyn thought of Amon, her heart would ache. She thought that by snatching the pup away, she could heal the wound. But today, she realized that even if she took the pup, Amon would never come back...

Her son would never return, but should she also disregard his last wish selfishly?

It can be said that it was for this belief that Jocelyn finally gave up struggling.

However, the little girl in front of her was still Amon's daughter, her own granddaughter. She couldn't fully let go.

#### Chapter 1444

When Taya first met Jocelyn, she seemed lively. But this time, she noticed that Jocelyn had aged, with wrinkles on her face and gray hair at her temples.

As a mother who had lost her pup in midlife, no matter how harsh and strict she was, the one she had lost was the pup she had carried for ten months.

Taya, feeling sympathy for Jocelyn, asked Grace, "Grace, do you agree?"

After hesitating for a moment while staring at the frail old lady outside the window, Grace nodded and said, "As long as you don't force me to leave like you did earlier, then you can come to see me."

Tears welled up in Jocelyn's eyes as she heard this. "Don't worry, I won't be impulsive like that again..."

After humming in agreement, Grace turned her small body and reached for the snacks she had secretly hidden in the backseat storage compartment.

Taya noticed and gently patted her bottom. “Grace, how many times have I told you that these snacks are unhealthy and can ruin your teeth? Why don’t you listen?”

Although her tone carried some reproach, her voice was gentle and warm.

With these thoughts in mind, Jocelyn’s gaze shifted back to Taya. “Since she doesn’t listen repeatedly, why don’t you just take away her snacks and throw them away?”

After stopping Grace, Taya turned to look at the person outside the window. “When I was in the orphanage, because of my weak wolf spirit and frail body, I walked and ate very slowly. But the caregivers who took care of me never scolded me and always had patience. Maybe because of this, I can’t scold pups either.”

Good environment could truly cultivate a gentle and virtuous person. Jocelyn gradually felt relieved. “With Grace having a gentle aunt like you, she will definitely grow up to be a good girl.”

Taya smiled but remained silent. Jocelyn continued, “Taya, I want to entrust the Sherwood and the Johnson packs to her. Can

I?”

Taya, disagreeing with burdening a young pup with pack responsibilities, replied, “Let’s talk about it when she grows up.”

Jocelyn explained, “I mean when she grows up.”

Taya said, “Then ask Grace herself when the time comes.”

She wouldn’t make any life choices for the pup. Everything would be in her own hands.

Griffon, sitting in the front, grew impatient and glanced back at her.

Taya didn’t say much to Jocelyn anymore. “Jocelyn, it’s getting late. I’ll take the pup back home first.”

sad somewhat apologeticall

ally, "I'm sorry about your mother.

Chapter 1445

Sumasa was her best friend since pup period, but at that

time, Alice's words provoked her and she ended up physically harming Sumasa's face.

This incident troubled Jocelyn for many years, to the point where she couldn't face Rosalie when she found out that Rosalie was Sumasa's daughter. She didn't even dare to let her into her home.

Jocelyn felt guilty towards the three of them. If it weren't for her, Rosalie would have mated Amon, and Taya wouldn't have ended up in an orphanage. In the end, it was her own wrongdoing that caused such a disaster, and that's why fate took her son's life.

Taya now understood that it was Alice's fault that Jocelyn's potion splashed onto Sumasa's face. Her resentment towards Jocelyn wasn't as strong anymore. However, she couldn't bring herself to accept Jocelyn's apology on behalf of her mother. Instead, she simply nodded her head to Jocelyn, indicating that- she acknowledges the apology.

Jocelyn knew that Taya would never forgive her. If it weren't for Grace's relationship, she probably wouldn't even exchange words with her anymore. Luckily, Grace was there, giving her the chance to apologize to Sumasa's remaining daughter. This way, Jocelyn's guilt towards Sumasa would lessen.

After saying goodbye to Jocelyn, Preston, at Anthony's request, set up a party and invited everyone who had been involved in the court case.

Except for Harper.

During the court proceedings, Preston and Harper were sitting quite close to each other, but they didn't even glance at each

other.



Even when they accidentally bumped into each other while leaving the courtroom, they politely said “sorry” to each other and went their separate ways.

Everyone understood why Preston didn't invite Harper given their current situation, but Anthony felt that Preston was still not feeling well emotionally.

Anthony picked up his glass and clinked it against Preston's. “Are you really just letting go like this?”

Preston, drinking his alcohol silently, replied without much emotion, “I've tried my best, but I'm tired.”

He was tired and didn't want to pursue Harper anymore. It didn't hold much meaning. Things were fine as they were now.

When Anthony was about to try to persuade him again, he looked up and saw Edith walking in from the door, her dark eyes gradually gaining color.

But when he saw Dylan following behind her, that hint of color that had just ignited slowly faded away.

Preston followed his gaze and glanced at the entrance, his eyebrows furrowing as soon as his eyes met Dylan's. “Why did you bring him here?”

He had clearly warned Edith not to invite anyone else to thank Anthony. Why didn't she listen?

Edith walked up to Griffon with Dylan by her side. “Griffon, you don't mind having one more person, right?”

Chapter 1446

Griffon didn't mind, but Taya...

He turned his head, but didn't see Taya. He was slightly surprised.

Next to him, Neil raised a symmetrical smile and reached out his hand to Dylan as he stood up. "Dylan, do you remember me?"

The Lawrence pack was the client for Rosalie's final project, so Neil, who wanted to survey the construction site, naturally had met him before.

Dylan had a good memory and recognized Neil. He politely shook his hand and said, "Hello, you're the chief designer of Rosalie."

His father had met Rosalie once and had been interested in her for a long time before finally inviting her to design a house for the pack.

Seeing that Dylan remembered him, Neil's smile became even more symmetrical. "It seems I'm quite memorable. Otherwise, someone as important as you wouldn't remember."

Looking at the stiff smile on Neil's face, Dylan forced a smile and said, "You're definitely memorable. I remembered you the moment I saw you."

Who wouldn't remember someone who pursued balance even in their smiles?

Neil was flattered and very happy. "Dylan, come over here and let's have a drink."

Dylan hadn't even greeted Griffon yet when Neil, who was full of enthusiasm, dragged him to sit down.

As soon as Neil sat down, he saw Griffon staring at him, which startled him. "Alpha, why are you looking at me like that? I didn't take Taya away. She just went to the restroom..."

When Dylan came in, Taya quickly ran into the restroom, afraid of being caught and having her identity exposed when they went to survey The Lawrence pack's construction site.

Griffon naturally knew that she was hiding, but he couldn't stand Neil's flattery. After giving him a cold glance, he nodded towards Edith.

Dylan was already dragged to sit down by Neil, so he had to nod,  
but...

The man's cold, snowy gaze glanced at Anthony sitting across from him.

Anthony had arranged this party with Preston to find an opportunity to talk to Edith.

Unfortunately, Edith, who was usually clever, didn't even want to give him this chance...

Aller silling down next to Dylan, Edith picked up her glass and toasted Griffon,  
"Congratulations, Griffon, on winning the lawsuit."

Then, she looked at Grace, who was sitting next to George and devouring a lobster.  
"Grace, congratulations to you too for becoming a part of Griffon's little family."

Grace raised her greasy little face and grinned at Edith. "Besides being a part of Griffon and Taya's little family, I'm also a member of your big pack..."

Grace's sweet voice healed Edith. "You're absolutely right. Let's clink glasses."

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## Chapter 1447

Grace put down the lobster in her hand and reached out her oily hand to grab the juice in front of her. Through the large table, she tapped Edith's cup from a distance.

"I'm done, help yourself," Grace said.

The people at the table all laughed at Grace's action.

George patted Grace's head, "Who taught you that?"

Grace pointed to the iPad on the table, "I learned it from the movies. So, Grandpa George, do I have talent for acting?"

George glared at her, "I've told you before, I'm only forty, not old enough to be your grandpa. Call me uncle."

Grace tilted her head and said, "But you look like you're seventy."

Preston rarely smiled, "Indeed."

George: ...

He turned to Neil and asked, "Do I look seventy?"

Neil replied, "You look like seventy-five."

George knew he shouldn't have asked that, it was just asking for trouble.

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Dylan looked around the people at the table and found it quite interesting, but...

Dylan's gaze shifted to the restroom in the private room. How came Mr. Knight' she-wolf had been in there for so long?

Inside the restroom, Taya was feeling anxious and sent a message to Griffon on her phone, "[Honey, find a way to get Dylan to leave]"

Thinking about how to get rid of Dylan, Griffon saw the message and showed an indulgent smile, "[Should I come in and accompany you?]"

What was he saying?

Taya typed, "[ Greyson, you must have a solution, right?]"

Griffon replied, "[Wait a minute]"

Putting down his phone, Griffon looked up and said to Dylan, "Mr. Lawrence, there's a project I want to discuss with you. Would it be convenient to go upstairs and have a talk?"

The venue for their party happened to be Nightshade, a whole building owned by Griffon. The first floor was a formal restaurant, while the others were entertainment venues.

Griffon knew very well that the Lawrence pack's project was not under Dylan's jurisdiction, but he still wanted to talk about it at

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this time. It was likely that he was intentionally trying to distract Dylan.

It was just unclear whether it was because of his wife who didn't want to meet him or because of Anthony. Perhaps, it was both.

Dylan understood everything but didn't reveal it. He gracefully stood up and said, "Let's go."

After the two left, Edith's expression changed slightly, as if she knew that Griffon deliberately distracted Dylan and felt a bit uncomfortable.

She knew that Anthony helped Griffon with the lawsuit to have another chance to get close to her. That was why she purposely brought Dylan along.

Originally, she wanted Anthony to give up on his own, but who would have thought that Griffon would actually help Anthony....

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Chapter 1448

After taking a sip of her drink, she said to Preston, "Bro, I have some work to do at the studio. I'll head out first."

After returning to her home country, Edith opened her own studio and started designing various crafts. With an upcoming exhibition, she was indeed quite busy.

Preston knew she was busy too, but he couldn't just let her leave like this tonight. "You saw Griffon's expression just now. Give him another chance to explain."

Edith still didn't look up at Anthony. "We already cleared things up many years ago. What else is there to say?"

Anthony's eyes started to well up with tears. It seemed like he could feel that she had completely let go of him. It made him extremely upset, but he pretended not to care and patted Preston's shoulder. "Forget it, don't make it difficult for her."

Preston had seen how Anthony had been living all these years. "He had no choice but to break up with you. At least listen to his explanation."

Edith slowly lifted her eyelashes and saw his pale face. She sighed and said, "Fine, let's talk outside."

She put down her drink and stood up. Anthony watched her walking away and after a few seconds of daze, he quickly

followed, prompted by Preston.

Once they left, Neil couldn't help but ask, "Were they a couple before?"

Preston glanced at him and said, "It's none of your business"

Neil innocently replied, "It's not my business, but can't I ask?"

Preston: ...

"It's not my business, but can't I gossip a little?"

"It's not my business, but don't I deserve to know?"

Preston: ...

Never mind, he was Taya's teacher.

Just endure it, it would pass.

Outside Nightshade, Edith walked along the street, heading forward.

Anthony fixed his gaze on her back and followed calmly.

When they reached an uphill road, Edith stopped and looked back at him. "Speak."

Ever since she saw Anthony sleeping with other women several times, Edith locked herself in her room, day and night, without eating or drinking.

iring hal time, she hoped Anthony would come and see her, even if it wasn't to reconcile, just to comfort her. But he ignored her completely.

Since then, Edith had never seen Anthony again.

Even years later, when Anthony suddenly showed up and said they could be together from now on, she didn't pay him any

attention.

Preston said Anthony had no choice but to break up, and Edith knew that too. But she didn't care anymore and never asked for the reasons.

She didn't know, and she didn't want to know.

B

Write your comment

Gifts

Chapter 1449

It seemed like Anthony could read Edith's mind as he stood at the bottom of the slope, facing the dim streetlights, and smiled at her.

“I have nothing to say.”

She had let it go, telling her the truth would only create rifts between her and her parents, so why bother?

Let her remain oblivious and live her life happily.

With this thought, tears welled up in Anthony’s eyes, causing him to instinctively turn away.

“If you don’t say it tonight, you’ll never have the chance again.”

“If I tell you, will you forgive me?”

“No.”

A tinge of bitterness appeared on Anthony’s face.

“Then I won’t say it.”

He waved his hand casually.

Looking at that dwindling figure, Edith recalled the first time she saw him.

Back then, Anthony was sitting in the Nightshade box, lazily leaning on the couch, smoking alone.

This man hidden in the dim light was completely different from the bustling crowd around him, as if filled with loneliness.

Good girls always couldn’t resist this type of man, even though her friends warned her that he was a player, not to fall in love with him.

But she still wore a bright smile and said in her heart, “Sorry, but I fell for him at first sight. Your advice came too late.”



Later, Anthony got closer to Preston and she often saw him entering and leaving her brother's house...

Every time young Edith saw him, she felt her heart was filled with honey. She always hid behind the door, secretly watching him.

After her courage grew, she would bring coffee, fruit, snacks, and other things, and push open her brother's door to get closer to him.

Back then, Anthony, who was playing games, would occasionally glance at her.

His gaze was neither cold nor indifferent, as if he didn't have much interest in this young girl.

Edith would then chase after Rebecca and ask how she could

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grow up faster.

Rebecca would pat her little head and say, "You're only sixteen, just starting high school. Why are you so eager to grow up?"

Edith smiled and didn't say anything, she searched for information online and learned about weight loss and makeup.

She had been paying special attention to managing her own image since she turned sixteen.

Later, when she found out that he had received an acceptance letter from a prestigious university abroad, she studied even harder.

She believed that she must follow in Anthony's footsteps and let him see her shining and passionate self...

With a heart full of enthusiasm and love, she finally managed to get into the same university as him, and finally, with her own efforts, be with him.

But only after being with him did she understand what her friends had said – a man who played around so much wouldn't care too much about his girlfriend...

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Chapter 1450

But at that time, she was deeply in love with Anthony, to the point of losing her dignity and grace. She pushed away all the women around him, often acting like an uncivilized woman, getting into fights with other girls, even using vulgar language like "bitch" and "go to hell."

It's unclear how Anthony fell in love with her. Maybe it was because he saw how crazy she was about him. When she was tangled up with other women, he suddenly grabbed her and held her tightly, with red eyes, promising her that he would never let these women upset her again and that he would love her deeply.

And he did. He loved her to the extreme, treating her well. He even washed her underwear and lingerie. During her period, he wouldn't let her touch even a drop of cold water. Sometimes when she craved Canada food, he would search all over

Aronland for it. If he couldn't find it, he would fly back to the US and buy it, even learning how to make it for her.

In the winter, knowing she was cold, he would hold her in his arms, letting her rest on his shoulder all night long, maintaining the same position without moving, even if his arm went completely numb, he wouldn't let go.

During the years they were together, Anthony spoiled her to the core. He would say "I love you" every day, hug her, kiss her. Even making love with her was done with caution, fearing that she might feel pain. If any man glanced at her, he would get

jealous, afraid that she would be taken away by someone else. He protected and cherished her, not allowing anyone to bully her.

But it was this Anthony who loved her so much that, two years after graduation, suddenly broke up with her, saying he was tired of it and didn't want to be with her anymore.

Edith had been pampered and spoiled by him, and she couldn't bear to be apart from him. She desperately refused to let go, even resorting to suicide to force him.

When he saw her cutting her wrists in the bathtub, he held her and cried. Why, after not much time had passed, did he still have to break up with her so heartlessly?

At that time, Edith couldn't understand. She kept looking for him, pressuring him, asking if he still loved her.

Anthony said he didn't love her anymore, but Edith didn't believe it. She cut her wrists again, but this time he didn't cry, he didn't save her, he just left with his things.

He moved out of the house they had lived together in and went to a remote place. Edith searched for a long time to find him, only to see him with another woman...

Yes, even so, Edith never gave up. Like a fool, she sat in the living room, waiting for them to finish, and then helped clean.

the room.

At that time, as she picked up the messy clothes on the bed, she

comforted herself, thinking that everything would be fine once the room was cleaned.

Her Anthony, when he got tired of other women, would remember her goodness and come back to her...

And she kept going through this again and again...

Chapter 1451

The last time, Anthony shouted at her, telling her not to be so lowly anymore.

She was holding another woman's clothes, slowly squatting down by the bed.

She remembered that she didn't cry at that moment, she just asked him, "Do you really not love me anymore?"

When she got the answer, she finally woke up, realizing that once someone's heart changes, they can't truly come back...

After that, she locked herself up, trying to convince herself to let go while hoping he would come and see her.

Eventually, in such days, she gradually developed depression.

How did she manage to get through it?

Through countless fantasies, self-redemption, and the companionship of her parents...

That road was so long and painful, every time Edith thought back, her heart would ache.

She warned herself not to try that pain again.

Luckily, as time went by, slowly, the pain faded away...

She knew then that she had completely moved on.

Looking at the lonely figure in the distance, she softly said, "Anthony, make it clear. This way, you can let go, and I can find peace."

He had been chasing after her, just wanting to explain what happened back then. After all, it's hard to accept the separation when it was against their will.

By venting out this dissatisfaction, he would find peace, just like she did. Even someone who had loved so deeply was able to let go, right?

Anthony's steps slowed down, but he didn't turn around. Through tear-filled eyes, his gaze fixated on the silhouettes projected on the ground by the streetlights.

"Do you remember when you asked me before why someone as young as me would wander among clubs?"

“Yeah, I remember.”

As a high school student, it was abnormal to spend day and night in various entertainment places.

She was curious and asked him softly many times while holding his arm, but he never told her the answer.

“My stepmother made me go.”

Because she was a stepmother, she was afraid he would obstruct her son’s path and take away their father’s love. So she forced him to become a playboy, and his father would give the inheritance to Johnny.

“Didn’t you resist?”

Anthony turned back and smiled at Edith.

“I had no power to resist when I was young.”

Seeing Anthony’s carefree smile, Edith didn’t say anything and quietly waited for him to continue.

“During the two years after graduation, I begged your mother on my knees, hoping she wouldn’t despise my status.”

Edith was stunned, not expecting it was her mother who forced Anthony to break up with her.

“But at that time, your mother still looked down on me.”

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Chapter 1452

Anthony’s lips curled into a careless smile.

“It doesn’t really matter that she threatened me with the pack’s wealth, but she knew about my grandmother.”

When he mentioned his grandmother, Anthony’s eyes darkened slowly.

“After I forced you to leave, my grandmother somehow found out and, in order to not burden me anymore, she hanged herself.”

“Later, I became a lawyer and helped your mother win an international lawsuit. She told me that if I still loved you, I should go after you.”

He spoke these words casually, as if he no longer cared.

He turned around and walked up to Edith, his eyes slightly red, silently gazing at her.

“Don’t blame your parents. I left them with a bad impression, and it’s normal for them to be afraid that I would harm you.”

Edith thought that after she knew the truth, she wouldn’t have any reaction, but at this moment, she couldn’t believe it and took a step back.

“It’s impossible. My parents are so good to me, they always cater to my every need. How could they force you to break up...”

Anthony didn’t reply, he just tilted his head back, forcing the tears in his eyes to retreat.

Edith looked at Anthony like this and grabbed his collar.

“You lied to me, didn’t you?”

Anthony smiled, tears uncontrollably rolling down his face.

“Yes, I lied to you.”

But Edith didn’t believe him anymore because she remembered when her parents flew over specifically to accompany her, the first thing they said was that they were afraid she would be too sad and unable to move on.

They...

They clearly knew what had happened, but they acted as if nothing had happened, watching her struggle in the quagmire...

If Anthony's abandonment, hurt, and betrayal dealt her a fatal blow, then her closest relatives were the ones who hurt her invisibly.

Edith couldn't accept it. She let go of Anthony's clothes, covered her face, and slowly crouched down.

Anthony also crouched down and comforted her, "Silly, I lied to

you on purpose to win you back."

Unable to hold back, tears streamed down Edith's face, "My pack indirectly caused the death of your grandmother..."

Seeing her cry like this, Anthony felt heartbroken, "It's not true, I lied to you. You know, I haven't told a single truth. Don't cry."

Edith looked at him through teary eyes, "What about those

women..."

Anthony reached out his hand, wanting to wipe away the tears on her face, but she avoided it.

The hand that hung in the air made him realize that Edith, who loved him so much that she was willing to die, was gone.

He withdrew his hand, looked at Edith, and gently curved his lips, "I've slept with all of them."

Edith, in fact, it's all a lie. I never slept with them. I lied to you to force you to leave.

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## Chapter 1453

Anthony's eyes were red as he forced back tears and straightened up, turning his back. Edith, crouching on the ground, looked up at his broad figure and seemed to understand something. She stood up and embraced him from behind.

After many years, this was the first time she had initiated a hug with him. Anthony's heart, trembling with pain, found a slight relief.

He raised his hand, gently stroked her hand, and then forcefully pushed her away. He turned around and tightly embraced the woman behind him.

"Edith, I've missed you so much all these years."

Edith, nestled in his embrace, felt a cold liquid dripping onto her neck and hitting her skin, causing her to burst into tears as well.

"Anthony, I'm sorry, but I don't love you anymore..."

The pain he caused was truly unbearable.

Even though she now knew that he had no choice, Edith couldn't forget those painful times. But she also knew that it was because she refused to let go that he sought out so many other women to pressure her...

It was all fake, but it didn't matter. She could forgive him again, but she realized that she truly didn't love him anymore...

She cried, but it was only because she felt sorry for the love she had pursued since her teenage years. It felt pathetic.

Her mind was clear. She no longer had any feelings for Anthony...

Time really did change people.

She just didn't expect that the one who changed would be her, not Anthony...

"I'm sorry for making you fall in love with me, I only to no longer love you..."



The man holding her gradually stiffened, his heart still in pain even though he had known this would be the outcome.

“Edith.”

“Yes.”

Edith snuggled in his embrace and nodded lightly.

The man who called her name didn't say anything else.

When she looked up, she saw tears streaming down his face.

“Love me again, please.”

In this world, no one loves me anymore. Can you love me again?

Seeing Anthony like this, Edith couldn't bear it and reached out to wipe away his tears.

“We have a painful past. If we get back together, we will only separate again. I don't want us to become enemies in the future.”

Once grudges formed in the heart, they became deeply rooted and couldn't be easily removed.

Because of that, it's better to end things here. At least we could leave behind a beautiful memory of the time we deeply loved each other...

Anthony understood her meaning. It's better to part amicably, without causing too much embarrassment. Perhaps they could still be friends.

He slowly let go of her.

B

Chapter 1454

“You’ve lost a lot of weight. From now on, don’t be picky with your food. Eat more.” Anthony raised his hand and gently stroked Edith’s hair. The gesture was slow, as if once it stopped, there would never be another chance.

And indeed, after this time, there wouldn’t be another chance...

Edith smiled through tears and nodded. “You too,” she said.

Anthony looked at her for a moment and then opened his arms again. “One more hug.” Edith didn’t hesitate and hugged his

waist.

Just like before, after crying enough, she nestled in his embrace and wiped her tears on his clothes.

Anthony really didn’t want to let go of her in this state, but she didn’t love him anymore, not at all.

That girl who loved him like crazy, once pushed away, would never come back.

He remembered a line from a movie he watched before, “No one will wait for you forever.”

He worked hard to remove the labels and became a shining figure in the legal world, finally seen and recognized by her mother.

But she wouldn’t be able to see it because he was late...

Anthony smiled and turned all his reluctance into one final hug.

He used all his strength to hold her.

“Goodbye.”

“Goodbye.”

After their last farewell, they let go of each other, turned around, and walked away. From now on, their paths would never cross again.

Looking through the French window at the two people parting ways downstairs, Dylan shook the wine glass in his hand. "They broke up after all."

Griffon followed his gaze and glanced outside. His eyes flickered, but it was within his expectations.

"My sister has always known what she wants." When she wanted something, she would do everything to get it. And when she didn't want it, she would decisively let it go, whether it's an object or a relationship.

Dylan raised the wine glass and took a sip, a faint smile playing on his lips. "You knew I would see it, yet you brought me here. What's your intention?"

He's about to mate Edith now. Shouldn't Griffon be covering up his sister's past at a time like this?

"Nothing can be hidden from you. It's better for you to know in advance than to find out from someone else." Griffon's gaze fell on the figure that opened the car door and got in.

"As for what you decide after knowing, whether to continue the mating or not, it's up to you."

The smile on Dylan's lips deepened. "My decision doesn't matter. It's all up to your sister."

After saying that, Dylan looked at Griffon thoughtfully. "To be honest, your temperament suits my taste, but unfortunately, you're a man."

B

Chapter 1455

Griffon furrowed his thick eyebrows, his eyes filled with a hint of disdain. Dylan burst into laughter upon seeing his expression.

“I was just kidding with you. I’m attracted to women,” Dylan said.

Griffon’s face turned cold as he slammed the cup in his hand onto the table.

“The last person who claimed to be attracted to women ended up falling for my wife,” Griffon said.

“Hmm?” Dylan became instantly intrigued, leaning forward and uncrossing his legs.

“Who is it? Who dares to have feelings for your wife?” Dylan asked.

The man leaning against the couch glanced at him coldly, ignoring his question.

Undeterred, Dylan continued, “I bet your wife must be beautiful. That’s why you’re hiding her from me, isn’t it?”

Griffon understood what Dylan was referring to, but he didn’t bother explaining, dismissing him even further.

He withdrew his icy gaze and stood up. “You can see her after you successfully mate Edith.”

How interesting it was that he has to mate Griffon’s sister just to see his own wife. Quite a precious gem indeed.

Watching Griffon’s proud and rebellious figure leave, Dylan’s lips curled into a smirk.

In the private room downstairs, Anthony didn’t return. Only Edith came back.

Preston noticed this and knew that they hadn’t reconciled.

After greeting Taya, Preston grabbed his jacket and went after Anthony.

He thought Anthony would drive away, but instead he found him sitting on the slope, looking up at the sky.

Preston walked over and sat down next to him. "Did you tell her everything?"

Anthony nodded. Preston asked, "Did my sister forgive you?"

Beneath Anthony's bloodshot eyes was a sense of pain. "She forgave me."

Edith had forgiven him, but she no longer loved him.

Preston wanted to continue asking, but Anthony interrupted, "If you truly love Miss Duke, don't wait until her feelings fade away, you should go find her ASAP. Over time, that little bit of love she

have will wither away."

Preston was taken aback for a moment, stubbornly saying, "I don't love her anymore."

Anthony smirked and laughed, "Ask your heart for the answer..."

Preston felt that Anthony was taking out his frustration on him because he couldn't win Edith back. He didn't bother paying attention and stood up to leave.

But Anthony's voice reached him from behind, "Once you've investigated Jenny, hurry and give the evidence to Miss Duke. Don't drag it out anymore..."

Anthony no longer had anyone to love in his life, and he didn't want his only good friend to end up in the same situation. "And also, once you win Miss Duke back, make sure to handle your parents. Don't let her end up like me..."

After saying this, Anthony stood up and left.

His lonely figure made Preston feel like he could collapse at any moment. But he also saw his friend's determination to keep moving forward, without any intention of turning back.

Perhaps even if he did turn back, no one would be waiting for him there...

“What are you going to do from now on?”

Chapter 1456

Anthony didn't answer him, he just raised his hand and waved casually.

It seemed as if he was saying that life is long and everything is predetermined. He's not going to struggle anymore, whatever happens.

Preston lowered his despondent eyelashes, staring at his own shadow on the ground, lost in thought.

Anthony and Edith were once in love, but he and Harper never loved each other. Their life paths won't follow Anthony and Edith's because there's no love story between them...

He took out his phone and opened the photos sent by his assistant. For a moment, he wanted to take these photos and find Harper, but the lessons he learned from before restored his sanity. Even if he presented evidence to Harper, would she believe it?

Preston couldn't afford to take the risk. He was afraid she wouldn't believe him, and even more afraid that she would forgive Jayden once she did. It's ridiculous, he found himself feeling inferior in front of a doctor who was nowhere near his level, and this inferiority was bestowed upon him by Harper...

Edith's mother, Kate, and father, Edward, sat down on the living room couch after finishing their meal.

Kate called a beautician to take care of her skin, while Edward lowered his head and looked through the latest financial

newspaper.

It drizzled a bit in the evening, with the sound of raindrops falling on the eaves, adding a touch of liveliness to the quiet villa.

Along with the sound of rain, there were also sounds of knocking on doors and windows. The maid, who was wiping the dining table, quickly put down her cloth to pull the curtains.

After the curtains were drawn, drenched Edith stood outside the glass door, her red eyes fixed on the wealthy woman inside.

Now that the pups had grown up and moved out, only Kate and Edward lived in the house. The two pups occasionally come back for meals, but they always informed in advance.

Seeing Edith appearing at the door so late and in such a disheveled state, Kate and Edward were extremely surprised and quickly had someone open the door.

“Edith, what’s wrong with you?”

Kate and Edward quickly got up, approached her with concern, and held her hand, only to find that she was trembling all over. The couple was terrified.

“Did something happen?”

used her own hand to wipe the rainwater off Edith’s face, but Edith turned her head aside.

Kate paused, seemingly understanding something, and when she looked into Edith’s teary eyes, a sense of guilt surged within her.

Edith pushed away the hands of the couple without even entering the house. She stood under the porch, red-eyed, looking at them.

“Why did you treat me like this, and why did you treat Anthony like this?”

B

Chapter 1457

If it weren’t for them, she wouldn’t have suffered so much and wouldn’t have been separated from the person she loved the

most.

They were her parents, the ones who had cherished her since she was little, but they were the ones who pushed her into the abyss and made her wish for death.

She couldn't accept it. Anthony was so heartless to push her away, and it was because of her parents.

Her parents seemed so kind and understanding...

"Do you know that Anthony's grandmother committed suicide. because of this?" Edith clenched her fists, no longer caring about her image, yelling at her parents in a fit of rage.

"Because of your efforts to break us apart, indirectly causing someone's death, how can you still act like nothing happened and keep it from me for so many years?"

Edith's heartbreaking scream left Kate and Edward stunned in place. They were both shocked and filled with guilt as they stared at Edith.

"Mom, you also have a son. If someone else's parents treated your son like this, wouldn't you feel heartbroken and upset?"

Kate opened her thin lips to say something but was interrupted by Edith's bitter laughter.

"Mom, Anthony is loved by someone, just not his parents but his grandmother. Yet you used his grandmother to threaten him. You achieved your goal, but it not only hurt me, but also implicated his grandmother."

Edith never imagined what kind of life Anthony had during those years when she was suffering. He pushed her away and lost his grandmother, but he never said a word. Many years later, he became a shining star in the legal world, gaining her parents' approval, and only then did he come back to find her.



But she forced herself to let him go. When he came to her with joy, bringing flowers and saying, "Edith, I'm back, now we can be together," he was happy, but she didn't want to say anything extra to him and had her bodyguard escort him out.

And despite him coming to find her so many times, he never mentioned that her parents forced him. He only kept begging for her forgiveness.

She had always thought Anthony was the problem, never considering that it was her own parents.

"Mom, you clearly know everything, yet you pretend to know nothing and come to comfort me, saying that someone like Anthony, a playboy, doesn't deserve love. Is it him who doesn't deserve it or is it that you think he doesn't deserve it?!"

#### Chapter 1458

With a resounding accusation like this, Kate felt ashamed and reached out to hold Edith's hand, but she was pushed away.

"Don't touch me. Your acting and your thoughts frighten me," Edith said.

Kate's heart skipped a beat as she looked at her daughter's hostility. For a moment, she couldn't find the words to say. Tears filled her eyes as she stared at Edith in shock.

Edward quickly stepped in to defend Kate. "Your mother is only trying to protect you. Anthony is always partying at nightclubs and involving your brother in his reckless behavior. If it weren't for that, your mother wouldn't have tried to break you two apart. If you're going to blame anyone, blame him for not being responsible."

Edith cried out in anger, "Dad! You also come from a wealthy and influential pack. Don't you know all the schemes in this circle?"

Eric frowned but remained silent. Edith stared into his spoke word by word.

eyes

and

“Anthony’s mother passed away a long time ago, and his stepmother, in order to secure the inheritance for her own son, manipulated him into ruining his own reputation!”

Edward and Kate seemed shocked to learn about Anthony’s past. Looking at Edith, they said, “We had no idea...”

“Yes, you know nothing. You think you know it all and make decisions for me without even asking me!” Edith exclaimed.

With a pained expression, Edith continued, “Do you know that your actions caused me to lose the person I loved the most?”

Seeing Edith’s tear-stained face, Kate felt immense guilt. “I’m sorry, it’s all my fault, I was wrong...”

She held onto Edith’s cold and trembling hand, explaining, “I thought Anthony had a bad character, so when I found out you two were dating, I tried to separate you. But after meeting him a few times, I realized he wasn’t as bad as I thought. I thought if I let go, he could win you back, and then I wouldn’t feel guilty about what I did in the past...”

“You thought that if you let go, he would win me back, and then we would be together, and you wouldn’t feel guilty about what you did back then, right?” Edith interrupted.

Kate shook her head, but Edith continued to approach her step by step.

“Mom, tell me, did you let go because you saw Anthony creating his own career and thought he was worthy of me, or did you know that his grandmother committed suicide because of your pressure?”

If it was the former, Edith would think that Kate placed too much importance on a guy’s pack background.

If it was the latter, Edith would feel that her mother didn’t love her as much as she portrayed, not with her whole heart.

At least, not the way she had shown it, wholeheartedly loving

her pup.

Chapter 1459

“Edith, how could you be so suspicious of your own mother?” Edward stepped forward once again to defend his wife.

“She did try to break you and Anthony apart back then, but later on she saw Anthony’s efforts and thought he was not bad, so she relented,” he explained.

Edith ignored Edward and stared at Kate.

In their household, Kate was the one in charge, not Edward.

Edward, being the youngest son of Dominic and protected by his four older brothers, had an easy life. He mated the person he liked and had a gentle and agreeable nature, always following his wife’s lead.

Whatever Kate said, that was how it was. This made Edward naturally side with his wife, placing her as the top priority.

Kate knew that she was waiting for an answer from herself.

She tightly held Edith’s hand, gazing into those swollen, teary eyes and sighed deeply.

“I didn’t know that Anthony’s grandmother committed suicide because of me. If I had known, I would have told you the truth

back then.”

“Why did someone have to die before you told me the truth?”

“I...”

Facing her daughter’s questioning, Kate felt ashamed and lowered her head.

“I didn’t want to ruin the image you had of me, so I didn’t say anything. I thought that if Anthony could win you back, that past would gradually fade away with time...”

She never expected that Anthony would keep it a secret for her, nor did she expect that Edith would never forgive him...

Thinking about this, Kate tightened her grip on Edith's hand and pleaded, "Now that you know it was me who forced him to break up, please forgive him. Be with him and have a good future together. I will no longer oppose you. Okay?"

After a cold laugh, Edith shook off her hand. "Do you think we can still be together?"

Her parents, even though they didn't directly kill Anthony's grandmother, were indirectly responsible. Kate, who could walk over someone's dead body without remorse, wanted them to reconcile and be together again, but Edith couldn't do it.

Kate looked at her own rejected hand and said with deep disappointment, "Edith, what happened to his grandmother was my fault. Let me take responsibility. Don't give up on Anthony

because of this."

Edith trembled all over.

"You are the one persuading me to give up on him, and you are also the one telling me not to give up on him. Don't you think it's ridiculous?"

B

Chapter 1460

Kate was terrified as she watched her trembling daughter, Edith. She quickly scooped her up into her arms and patted her back, trying to comfort her.

"It's Mom's fault. Please don't scare Mom like this, okay?"

Edith, leaning on Kate's shoulder, tears streaming down her face.

"My life has already been ruined by you all. From now on, don't interfere in my affairs anymore."

Weakly, she pushed Kate away and took a step back, swaying as she turned around and walked down the corridor steps.

At the circular arch, stood a figure in black, with eyes red and full of concern, watching her.

Feeling the touch of that sympathetic gaze, Edith felt a tingling in her nose. She held back her tears and swallowed her grievances.

“Brother, please don’t repeat my mistakes.”

Preston’s handsome face showed a mixture of emotions. He stepped forward, getting wet in the rain, and stood in front of Edith.

“Edith, you and Anthony still have a chance. He has always loved you.”

Edith smiled, radiant like a flower, but inside her, there was endless pain and a hint of relief.

“I don’t love him anymore.”

Someone once said that after being hurt badly by someone you loved, you don’t have the strength to love again.

Others said that with time, even the most beloved person will be forgotten as the years pass.

Edith forced herself not to love Anthony anymore. And as she forced and forced, she truly stopped loving him...

With a smile on her face, she looked at Preston and then walked away, never looking back.

As she brushed past him, Preston could see the determination in her eyes.

She had fought with her mother for Anthony, and that’s why she left without hesitation.

But he knew that family ties couldn’t be severed. Edith would come back someday.

Love, on the other hand, could be let go. Edith could help Anthony get justice, but she wouldn't turn back for him.

When she said she didn't love him, it must have been the result of time's baptism, allowing her to let go of her feelings for him.

At that moment, Preston finally understood what Anthony meant when he said that time would erode someone's love completely.

He slowly raised his head and looked at Kate, walking towards him with an umbrella. For a moment, he felt that this gentle face was quite unfamiliar...

"So, you're the one who threatened Anthony with his grandmother..."

Anthony was such a fool. Helping his parents like this, what did it ultimately lead to? Losing his grandmother or losing Edith.

B