

Divorced Me 141

Chapter 141

At that moment, Laicas suddenly turned his head slightly, causing Aveline's intended kiss on the corner of his lips to land directly on his mouth.

Aveline froze and quickly sat back down, her ears turning red.

Lucas' eyes darkened as he looked at her. "Is that all?"

Aveline responded, "Lucas, don't push your luck."

But Lucas chuckled softly. "Aveline, you're the one trying to please me right now. Are you sure you want to talk to me like that?"

Aveline's gaze turned cold as she looked at him.

He always used the threat of divorce against her but never followed through. What exactly did he want?

Lucas watched her leisurely as if he was certain she would give in.

Aveline, however, scoffed and turned her head away, ignoring him.

Lucas' expression hardened.

He stared at her face for a long time before finally starting the car and driving away.

The car was filled with a stifling atmosphere, making it hard to breathe.

Aveline lowered the car window, but within seconds, it was rolled back up.

Aveline's mouth twitched in irritation.

Expressionless, she lowered the window again, only for it to be raised back up by Lucas, who this time locked it in place.

Aveline was speechless.

Was this man really that childish?

When they finally arrived at Maple Garden, Aveline opened the door to get out, only to find the door locked.

"Lucas, what exactly do you want?" Aveline asked, trying to stay.

calm..

Lucas said nothing, playing with a cigarette in his hand, and closed. his eyes.

Aveline looked at his sharp profile, feeling a strong urge to punch him.

By now, the sun was setting, and the sky was gradually being. enveloped by the night.

The car's interior was growing darker.

Staying in the car wasn't a solution.

That jerk was just waiting for her to give in!

And give in she must.

She gently took his hand, her voice softening, "Lucas, let's get out of the car. I'm hungry. Let's go back and have dinner."

"We?"

Lucas widened his eyes at her words. In the dim light, she couldn't read his expression.

"Yes, it's quite late. You helped me today, so it's only right to invite you to dinner.

Aveline nodded, looking sincere.

Lucas' tense expression softened a bit. He pressed a button, and the car locks clicked open.

Aveline immediately let go of his hand, opened the door, and got out.

Ah... The air outside was so refreshing!

Lucas looked at his now-empty hand, frowning in displeasure.

When he looked up, he saw Aveline quickly heading towards the apartment building.

Heh!

Little liar!

Lucas was about to get out of the car when his phone rang. He looked at the screen and saw that it was Sophia calling.

"Hello, Sophia," he answered.

However, a different woman's voice came through the phone." Lucas, where are you? Come to the hospital quickly, Sophia tried to kill herself!" Lucas' expression instantly turned tense.

He closed the car door and said in a low voice, "I'm on my way."

Aveline entered the elevator and, noticing Lucas wasn't there, assumed he was parking the car. She didn't wait for him and went straight upstairs.

At her apartment door, she covered the keypad to prevent Lucas. from seeing her new code, then turned around. "You..."

There was no one behind her.

He hadn't come up yet.

She wondered, "Does it really take that long to park a car?"

Aveline pressed her lips together, dismissing it from her mind, and went inside.

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Aveline made a simple meal and sat at the dining table, instinctively

checking her phone.

What's going on?

Lucas hadn't come up yet?

Where did he go?

Her mind started to wander. She gripped her phone, staring at it for a while, then remembered what he said earlier. She needed to keep him appeased to get the divorce finalized. Otherwise, she'd remain trapped in this dangerous situation.

Taking a deep breath, Aveline dialed Lucas' number.

After three rings, the call was answered.

"When are you coming back?" she asked directly.

"You're so shameless! Lucas loves Sophia, not you. Why do you keep clinging to him? Because of you, they can't be together, and Sophia has depression!" The angry female voice on the other end wasn't

Lucas.

Aveline's expression turned icy. "Did you eat crap before leaving the house?"

Sharon Walsh's face twisted in anger. "How dare you insult me?"

Aveline sneered. "Did I insult you? I was just reminding you to brush your teeth. Even through the phone, your breath stinks.

"Also, you should know, it's not me clinging to Lucas. He's the one who won't divorce me. If you can convince him to divorce me, I'd be so grateful to you."

With that, she hung up the phone.

What bad luck!

She regretted making that call.

Aveline sat back down, but just as she was about to eat, she lost her appetite.

Sophia had depression.

So, Lucas went to see her?

Aveline got up and walked to the balcony, looking at the beautiful sunset. She suddenly wished Sophia could convince Lucas to divorce her.

She really didn't want to be part of this strange love triangle

anymore.

It was pointless.

At the hospital.

Sharon stared at the disconnected phone, her face twisted with anger.

The next second, someone snatched the phone from her hand.

"Who allowed you to touch my phone?"

Lucas looked at her coldly, then checked the phone and saw the recent call log.

Aveline had called him, and Sharon answered.

He could easily imagine what Sharon might have said to Aveline, and his expression darkened even further.

Sharon looked at him. "You're just in time. That shameless woman said you won't divorce her. Is that true?"

Lucas' eyes bore into her. "Watch your words and attitude. Don't be surprised if one day you get beaten up by someone you don't know."

Sharon grew even angrier. "Are you threatening to hit me because I insulted her? Lucas, is it true that you don't want a divorce? How could you be so despicable? If you don't divorce her, what about Sophia? The more Sharon thought about it, the angrier she became. "Lucas, if anything happens to Sophia, I won't let you off!"

Lucas stared at her coldly. "Who do you think you are?"

Sharon's eyes widened in disbelief. "You..."

"Sharon..."

At that moment, a weak voice came from the hospital room.

Sharon shot a furious glare at Lucas before turning and entering the room.

"Sophia, you're finally awake. You have no idea how scared I was when I found you on the floor. How could you be so foolish? How could you think of suicide?"

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Sophia's pale face showed a faint smile. "I'm fine, I was just too tired and fell asleep."

Sharon retorted, "Nonsense, who falls asleep on the floor? The gas was on in the house, Sophia. Don't do anything stupid, okay?"

Sophia replied, "Alright, I understand."

At that moment, Lucas walked in, his eyes fixed on Sophia's pale face, his expression tense.

"Lucas, I'm sorry I scared you. I'm really fine. If you have something to do, you should go ahead," Sophia said, her face showing a gentle understanding.

bet

Sharon interjected, "What could he possibly be busy with? He was probably thinking about that other woman. Sophia, you shouldn't have saved him back then. You lost a leg for him, and now you almost died!"

"Sharon, stop talking," Sophia interrupted, then began coughing violently.

Lucas stepped forward and handed her a glass of water.

Sophia struggled to sit up but accidentally slipped. Lucas frowned as he saw her struggle.

Sharon snapped, "What are you waiting for? Help Sophia!"

"I can manage..." Sophia said weakly, trying to get up again but slipping once more.

Lucas reached out to steady her, supporting her as she leaned weakly against him and drank the water.

Seeing this, Sharon quickly took out her phone and snapped a photo. "Lucas, you should divorce that woman and take care of Sophia."

Lucas' voice was cold and indifferent. "It's not your place to tell me what to do."

Sharon's face darkened, and she wanted to argue but was

intimidated by Lucas' cold, handsome face, so she stayed silent.

Sophia, having drunk the water, looked a bit better and stopped coughing. "Lucas, don't blame Sharon. She's just worried."

Lucas looked at her. "Do you need more water?"

Sophia shook her head. "No, thank you."

"You're welcome."

Lucas placed the glass aside and stood up to leave.

Sophia grabbed the hem of his shirt, looking at him with tearful eyes. "Lucas, tell me, you will divorce her, right? What you said before about using her as my shield, was that true?" Lucas frowned. "You're weak right now. Don't overthink things."

Sophia's tears began to fall, her pale, delicate face evoking pity. Lucas, you promised me you would divorce her. Why are you still together after all this time?

"If... if you really fell in love with Miss Young, just tell me. I'll let go. You don't need to worry about my leg. I'm used to the prosthetic. now; I can live just fine."

Lucas felt a wave of frustration. When he first regained his memory and learned that Sophia had saved him and lost a leg because of it, he felt guilty and wanted to make it up to her.

But now...

He gently placed her back on the bed, his voice cold. "Sophia, I will compensate you. Just rest well."

With that, he turned and left.

"Hey, you..."

Sharon tried to say something.

"Sharon, let it be." Sophia stopped her.

As the door closed, Sharon fumed, "What does he mean by this? Is he really not going to divorce that woman? What about you?"

Sophia turned to look out the window. The sky had completely darkened, reflecting a cold, bleak look in her eyes.

looked like she needed to take more drastic measuLTESI

After leaving the hospital, Lucas called Aveline, but she quickly hung up on him.

His brows furrowed.

Their relationship had just begun to reach a delicate balance, but Sophia's sudden crisis had shattered it.

Lucas had never felt so agitated before. He tugged at his tie, trying to release the frustration tightening his chest. But it was all in vain.

Sitting in his car, he lit a cigarette. The smoke swirled in front of him as he half-closed his eyes, staring ahead.

Just then, his phone rang. He quickly grabbed it, expecting it to be Aveline, but it was a message from Maria instead.

"I've found Darren's location."

Lucas replied, "Send it over."

Maria texted, "No."

Lucas replied, "What?"

Maria teased, "Haha, I'm just rebellious like that."

Lucas texted back, "Then you can spend the rest of your life being rebellious in the Southeast region. Don't come back "Your life being

Maria immediately apologized, "Boss, I'm sorry. I'll send it to you right away."

Soon, Lucas received Darren's current location.

It was a slum area on the outskirts of the city, far from where he was. He immediately called Brian, asking him to bring a team and

join him.

As night fell, the slum was sparsely lit, with only a few scattered lights. Few people ventured out at night.

The car stopped at the narrow road's entrance. Brian led a group of bodyguards out and walked directly inside.

The building was dilapidated, with dozens of families living on each floor.

Brian and his team approached one of the doors and knocked.

"Who's there?" A man's voice quickly responded from inside.

Brian lowered his voice. "Plumbing repair."

It went quiet inside.

The silence lasted for about five minutes, with no one coming to open the door. Brian's face darkened, and he immediately kicked the door open.

The narrow room was clearly empty, but the window opposite the door was open. Brian moved to the window and saw a figure quickly running away in the distance.

"Chase him!" Brian ordered in a low voice.

Lucas sat quietly in his car at the road's entrance, waiting. Minutes ticked by, and half an hour later, Brian returned, drenched in sweat.

"Mr. Tudor, he got away."

Lucas stared coldly at him. "You had him cornered at home, and he still escaped?"

Brian replied dejectedly, "He jumped out the window. He seems very familiar with this area. Our men couldn't catch up."

"You're so useless. Maybe you should consider moving to the

Southeast region," Lucas suggested coldly.

Brian straightened up immediately. "Mr. Tudor, I will find him as soon as possible!"

With that, he turned and left.

Lucas's face grew colder, and a chilling, oppressive aura surrounded him. He glanced at his phone.

While waiting, he called Aveline seven or eight times, but she kept hanging up on him

Lucas was in a foul mood

He started the car and drove straight to the No. 9 Mansion

Aaron, a frequent visitor here, walked into a private room with a beautiful woman, laughing and chatting. He turned his head and saw Lucas sitting on the sofa, shrouded in shadows, and immediately startled. "I didn't say anything when you arrived?"

Aaron glanced at the woman and said, "You should go now. I'll treat you to dinner another day"

Reluctant, the woman left.

Aaron sat down next to Lucas, noting his gloomy and unpleasant expression. "What's going on? Did your wife kick you out?"

Lucas didn't respond, pouring himself a drink and downing it

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Aaron stopped him. "I know you're eager to drink, but you shouldn't rush it. You need a reason to get drunk. What's going on?"

Lucas' eyes were cold as he looked at him. "Are you sick?"

Aaron replied, "Lucas, what's your problem? I'm concerned about you, and you insult me? Don't you know this kind of behavior can hurt a friend's feelings? If you keep this up, you won't have anyone to drink with Lucas just stared at him coolly.

They were silent for a moment before Aaron raised his hand. "Fine, I give up. Drink all you want. Just don't end up crying on my leg."

Lucas said, "I'll dig out your brain and cry into that."

Aaron was speechless. "You're ruthless!"

Lucas drank, the burning sensation spreading through his mouth. He frowned, leaned back, and covered his eyes with his hand. His voice was low and raspy, "Aaron, how did I survive until today?"

Aaron replied, "Because you're lucky."

Lucas fell silent.

The conversation died immediately.

There was a moment of silence in the room.

Aaron laughed lightly and said, "I know what you're trying to say. I also know you're having doubts, right? You're caught in self-doubt, aren't you? Lucas, if you're already having doubts, it means the balance is tipping.

"Instead of worrying about whether to trust someone, think about

the person making you doubt. Has she ever done anything to hurt you? Has she ever disappointed you? Has she betrayed you?"

"No."

Lucas's Adam's apple bobbed as he uttered the word.

Aaron continued, "If that's the case, what are you worried about?"

Lucas replied in a deep voice, "I don't want to repeat the same mistakes."

Aaron said, "I think you're just like someone who's once bitten, twice shy. Come on, let's drink."

The night grew deeper.

Aveline watched a variety show for a while, then got up to take a shower. When she came out, her phone was ringing non-stop.

She picked it up and saw it was from an unknown number. Considering the scary photos she'd received before, she was afraid this might be another disturbing call, so she hung up immediately. However, the caller persisted, ringing several more times.

Aveline blocked the number and went to bed.

"Bang! Bang! Bang!"

Just as she was about to drift off to sleep, there was a sudden loud banging on her door.

Annoyed, Aveline got up. "Who is it?"

Her tone was particularly irritable.

This was Maple Garden; such things shouldn't happen here.

Grabbing a baseball bat, she approached the door and peered through the peephole. She saw Lucas's enlarged face.

However, something seemed off about him.

His head was bowed, his cheeks were flushed, and it was clear he was drunk.

"Bang! Bang! Bang!"

As Aveline hesitated, the banging on the door resumed.

Without any expression, she opened the door.

Aaron was there, dragging a breathless Lucas. "Finally, you opened the door. Why didn't you answer your phone? Come on, help me out. He's drunk." Aaron started to help Lucas inside.

Aveline lifted the baseball bat, blocking the doorway. "He's drunk. What does that have to do with me?"

Aaron's eyes widened slightly. "Aren't you his wife?"

Aveline replied, "I'm not."

Aaron was taken aback. "Did you both... get a divorce?"

Aveline said, "Almost."

Aaron took a deep breath and said, "Let him in. Just think of it as doing a good deed. When he wakes up, you can ask him for money or take some embarrassing photos of him."

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Aveline looked at Aaron with a faint smile. "Would you dare to say that to him when he's sober?"

Aaron was speechless for a moment.

He looked at Aveline for a while, then suddenly turned to the semi-conscious Lucas and said, "Buddy, you're going to have a tough time in the future."

Aveline still showed no intention of letting them in. "You should go. back to wherever you came from. You're not welcome here."

With that, she lowered the baseball bat and slammed the door shut.

Aaron stood there, taking a deep breath before turning around and supporting Lucas as they left.

Ave..." Lucas mumbled drunkenly.

Aaron sneered. "Your Ave doesn't want you anymore. Go ahead and keep acting out."

Back in her bedroom, Aveline lay down and closed her eyes but couldn't fall asleep.

She opened her eyes, staring at the ceiling, her thoughts a mess.

Why did he go drinking again?

Wasn't he supposed to see Sophia?

Did he feel so heartbroken about her depression that he drank to drown his sorrows?

Wow, how sentimental.

Aveline's face remained expressionless as her mind wandered. She turned over and tried to fall asleep again.

For the next few days, she didn't see Lucas.

Aveline continued to work methodically. The project developed in collaboration with Brighton Enterprises was nearing its end.

Once this was done, she could resign.

This time, he had no reason to force her to stay.

Aveline ordered a cup of tea and sat at her desk, sipping it. With half an hour left before the end of the workday, she thought about what to have for dinner. Just then, her phone rang. She saw it was a call from Selena.

"Hello, Selena."

"Waah..." Selena's sobbing voice came through. "Ave, I've gotten into trouble."

Aveline's expression turned serious. "What happened?"

Selena said, "I hit someone, and now we're at the hospital. He might demand compensation..."

Aveline glanced at the time, then stood up. "Don't panic. I'll come to you right now. Which hospital are you at?"

Selena gave her the hospital's name. Aveline informed her manager and left immediately.

When she arrived at the hospital, she saw Selena standing at the entrance of a hospital room, her bright and pretty face scrunched up with worry. Aveline approached and looked her over. "Are you alright? You're not hurt, are you?"

Selena shook her head. "I'm fine."

Aveline breathed a sigh of relief. "As long as you're okay."

Selena added, "But the other person got a head injury. The doctor said it's a concussion, and he needs to be hospitalized for

observation and rest for a while."

Aveline's expression grew even more serious. "What exactly happened? How did it get so serious?"

Selena sighed. "I was out with some colleagues for dinner, and we went to a karaoke bar afterward. I drank a bit too much. When I went to the restroom, I saw a guy trying to force himself on a girl. I felt a surge guy on the head. And then... well, here we are."

Aveline was speechless for a moment. "Is he inside?"

"Yes," Selena replied, looking at her with a pitiful expression. "Ave, I'm scared. I'm not afraid of paying compensation, but what if I really hurt him badly?"

Aveline reassured her, "It's alright. The chances of that are very low. Let's go in and check on him."

"Okay."

Selena stepped forward and pushed open the door to the hospital

TOOI.

When Aveline saw the person on the bed, she was stunned. "It's you?"

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Aaron lay on the hospital bed, his head wrapped in bandages, his handsome face looking somewhat weak. However, the look he gave Selena was one of fury. Selena instinctively hid behind Aveline.

Inside the room, it wasn't just Aaron. Lucas was sitting in a chair nearby, exuding a powerful and cold presence. As soon as she entered, his gaze fell on her.

Aveline ignored Lucas and addressed Aaron. "Mr. Fletcher, my friend didn't mean to hurt you. She will cover all your hospital expenses and compensate you for any losses. What do you think?" Aaron sneered. "I think I'd like to hit her on the head with a fire extinguisher."

Aveline frowned. "Violence is not the answer."

Aaron's mouth twitched, glaring at Selena hiding behind Aveline, and then glanced at Lucas before saying, "As for compensation, I don't need money, but I do need a nurse."

Selena offered, "I will hire the best nurse to take care of you."

Aaron replied, "I don't want that."

Selena asked, "Then what do you want?"

Aaron stated, "I want you to be my nurse. You misunderstood me and hit me. You must feel guilty, so you'll take good care of me. When I'm fully recovered, this matter will be over."

"Impossible!" Selena's eyes widened. "I have a job. I can't take care of you. Name another condition."

Aaron responded, "Miss Quin, let's get things straight. I am not making demands here, not you

Selena bit her lip.

Aveline hesitated before asking, "Is this really necessary?"

Aaron said, "Yes, it is. Otherwise, I'll sue her. Even if she doesn't go to jail, she will be detained and have a criminal record. Her company won't want her anymore."

Aveline gave him a cold look. It seemed Lucas' friends shared his unpleasant traits.

Selena protested, "How can you be so shameless? I didn't mean to hurt you. Besides, if you hadn't been acting weird around that girl, I wouldn't have hit you. In the end, you brought this on

yourself." Aaron closed his eyes. "Fine, no more negotiations. Call the police. Lucas, get my lawyer on the phone.

Selena's face turned even paler.

Aveline took a deep breath and looked at Selena. "How long can your company give you off?"

Selena hesitated for a moment. "At most, half a month."

Aveline turned to Aaron. "She'll take care of you for half a month. By then, you should be pretty much recovered. How about that?"

Aaron still kept his eyes closed and remained silent.

The atmosphere in the room became tense.

Just as Selena was about to explode, Lucas, who had been silent, spoke up. "Alright, half a month is enough. Besides, aren't you worried that your admirers will get jealous if this drags on?" Aaron opened his eyes. "Aveline, I'm only agreeing because of Lucas. Without him, your friend would be looking at jail time."

Aveline's expression remained neutral.

Selena bit her lip, wanting to say something, but Aveline gave her a look. "It's only half a month. Take good care of him and don't act impulsively again."

Ave..." Selena started, but Aveline cut her off with a gentle smile.

"Mr. Fletcher is not only handsome but also comes from a good family and has a good character. How could he possibly hold a grudge against you? He just wants a little compensation." Then she turned to Aaron. "Mr. Fletcher, you are truly kind!"

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Aaron's eyes widened in shock. He quickly tried to explain, "No, wait, this isn't... I didn't mean..."

The more he tried to clarify, the less sense he made. He had just said it was all because of Lucas, but now Aveline was calling him a good person. What did that make Lucas? Aaron felt a chill run down his spine and looked at Lucas in a panic. "Lucas, she's just talking nonsense..."

Lucas simply looked at him coolly.

Aveline said, "Mr. Fletcher, please rest well. We won't disturb you any further."

With that, she pulled Selena out of the room.

II

"Hey, don't go!" Aaron was so anxious he almost jumped out of bed.

What on earth was going on?

He looked at Lucas. "Lucas, I was trying to help you, I really was.

Lucas said, "You truly are a good person."

Aaron was speechless. He felt like dying.

Outside the room, Selena couldn't stop laughing. "Ave, you're brilliant! Did you see Lucas' face? It looked so upset. How satisfying!

Aveline remained calm. "I can see through their intentions. There's no need to play along with them."

Selena's eyes sparkled as she looked at her. "You've really stood up for yourself. You're no longer the pitiful one being controlled by Lucas." Aveline paused and then smiled bitterly.

In these small matters, she could stay rational. But when it came bigger issues, Lucas would still have control over her.

As long as they remained married, their relationship would never completely severed.

Selena said, "Come on, let me treat you to dinner."

Aveline replied, "You're about to spend the next few weeks taking care of someone else, and you still feel like treating me?"

Selena smiled. "You don't understand. This is called living in the moment. Who knows what will happen in the future? What if Aaron dies tomorrow? Then I won't have to take care of him." Aveline was speechless.

The two didn't go far and instead found a nearby pasta shop to dine in.

Afterward, they returned to the hospital.

Selena went to inform Aaron that she would start taking care of him the following evening since she needed to arrange time off work.

This time, Aveline didn't go into the room. She didn't want to see Lucas.

The hallway lights flickered on as she walked to the end of the corridor, looking out at the dark night with a cold expression.

Just then, she heard steady footsteps behind her. She paused and turned to see Lucas approaching.

Aveline frowned and started to walk away.

But he grabbed her arm and pinned her against the windowsill.

Aveline's eyes turned cold. "What do you think you're doing?"

Lucas replied, "Why are you avoiding me? Do you not recognize me?"

Aveline sneered. "I wish I didn't know you."

If she didn't know him, she wouldn't feel so heartbroken and lost, living a life that didn't feel like her own.

Lucas' eyes deepened as he stared at her pale lips, feeling dissatisfied.

He leaned in to kiss her.

Aveline seemed to anticipate his move and covered her mouth with her hand. His lips landed on the back of her hand instead.

"Lucas,

Winter has depression. Aren't you going to divorce me yet?" Aveline asked.

Lucas didn't pull away. His lips stayed pressed against her hand, his eyes staring intently at her, and he started to kiss her hand bit by bit.

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Aveline trembled, instinctively trying to push him away. But Lucas grabbed her wrist, pulled her hand down, and kissed her on the lips.

"Mmm!" Aveline struggled.

Lucas' kiss was intense and passionate, only stopping when her lips turned a bright red. Finally satisfied, he pulled away.

"Now that's better.

Aveline shoved him hard. "Lucas, don't you find this awkward?"

Lucas looked at her furious expression, his eyes dark and deep. Why are you in such a hurry? Has this month ended?"

Aveline was momentarily stunned, staring at him. "Does that mean you'll divorce me next month?"

Lucas raised an eyebrow, said nothing, and walked away.

"Jerk!" Aveline cursed under her breath as she watched him leave.

She knew he was toying with her again! Why was it so difficult to get a divorce?

At that moment, Selena came out and noticed her upset expression. "What happened?"

Aveline replied, "Did you settle everything?"

Selena nodded. "Yes, he agreed, but he didn't seem happy about it." Aveline smirked. "Of course, he's not happy. His perfect plan fell apart." Selena scoffed. "Men are all the same. None of them are good."

The two of them left the hospital, heading to the roadside to hail a cab.

Just then, a woman stormed up to them, raising her hand to slap Aveline. Aveline quickly dodged and frowned at her. "Are you crazy?"

Sharon glared at her with hatred. "You vile woman! How dare you come to the hospital? Are you here to pester Lucas? Don't you know Lucas belongs to Sophia? You're clinging to Lucas, and Sophia is dying be Selena stepped in front of Aveline and sneered. "Why should we care about her problems? She should be dealing with Lucas directly. Tell him to finalize

the divorce quickly, and then you can do whatever you want. We wouldn't even mind helping out with the aftermath because we're so generous."

"You..." Sharon's chest heaved with rage.

She glared at Aveline with a sinister look. "Don't think I don't know your game. You're just after the Tudor family's wealth and power, pretending to be all high and mighty. You've got Lucas so bewitched he does "I've seen this trick too many times. Let me tell you, the Tudor family will never accept you. In their hearts, only Sophia is their daughter-in-law!"

Since she couldn't physically harm Aveline, she'd make her suffer emotionally.

Ha! Did she think not divorcing meant everything would be fine?

Aveline looked at her coolly and suddenly asked, "Which room is Miss Winter in?"

Sharon eyed her suspiciously. "What are you planning?"

Aveline replied, "She got depression because of Lucas. As his wife, I should pay her a visit. I should buy some supplements first, though.

It would be rude to go empty-handed, wouldn't it?"

"You, you vile woman, you..." Sharon started to curse but was abruptly cut off by a slap.

Aveline coldly stared at her. "If Miss Winter wants to be with Lucas so badly, she should convince him to divorce me, not send you to insult me. Who do you think you are to talk to me like this?" After being insulted over the phone and now in person, Aveline felt she needed to stand up for herself.

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Aveline coldly turned away and walked off. Selena quickly caught up to her, giving her a thumbs up. "My dear Ave, you finally stood up for yourself." Aveline replied, "I don't start trouble unless someone provokes me first."

People like Sharon, who came looking for a confrontation, would naturally get what they deserved.

Selena clicked her tongue in approval. "I just can't understand that jerk. If he loves

Miss Winter so much, why doesn't he divorce you? Now Miss Winter has depression, and you're also suffering. What's his endgame?"

Aveline sighed. "I wish I knew what he wanted."

If she knew, she wouldn't feel so tormented.

"What's the point of this endless entanglement?" Aveline continued.

Selena linked arms with her and smiled. "Ave, stay over at my place. tonight. After tomorrow, I won't have this kind of freedom anymore.

Aveline nodded and agreed.

Selena was thrilled. They went to her small apartment, a cozy place. with one bedroom and a living room, just right for one person. She bought some spicy chicken wings, and the two of them spent the evening

A brief moment of joy.

A

Late at night, Aveline was half-asleep when her phone suddenly rang. Selena heard it first and nudged her.

Aveline squinted at the phone screen and saw it was a call from

Lucas.

What was this man doing, calling her in the middle of the night?

She decided not to answer and hung up.

Back at Maple Garden, Lucas stared at the empty house. Aveline wasn't there, and she had hung up on him. His expression darkened. Where did she go?

He called Brian, his voice low and cold. "Find out where Aveline went."

Brian hesitated and said, "Mr. Tudor, it's already 1 a.m."

"So?" Lucas's icy response cut through the hesitation.

Brian sighed. "Understood."

Resigned to his fate, he got up to trace her location.

Ten minutes later, he sent Aveline's location to Lucas.

Seeing that she was at Selena's place, Lucas' eyes narrowed. He then dialed Aaron's number.

"Hello?" Aaron's groggy voice answered.

Lucas said, "Make sure Selena stays at your place tomorrow night."

Aaron replied, "Are you serious?"

Lucas' tone turned colder. "If you don't, I won't mind ensuring you stay bedridden for six months."

Aaron sighed. "Alright, alright. I got it."

With that, he hung up.

Lucas tugged at his tie, the scent of her perfume lingering in the

house. He sat on the sofa, leaned back, and closed his eyes.

All he could think about was her.

When had Aveline started affecting him this much?

Lucas didn't dare delve deeper into his feelings. This growing attachment made him wary

The next morning, Aveline made breakfast, and she and Selena ate together before heading out.

As soon as they stepped out of the complex, they saw a luxury car parked not far away. Aveline's expression stiffened, but she kept her gaze straight ahead as they walked past the car.

"Honk!"

But the car's owner honked the horn persistently, drawing irritated looks from passersby.

Aveline sneered. "Let's hurry up and go. We don't want to get dragged down by someone with no manners."

The car window was open, and Lucas, inside, heard every word clearly.

His handsome, sharp features darkened.

First, she called him a jerk, then a dog, a bastard, and now she said he had no manners.

Did she have no good impressions of him at all?