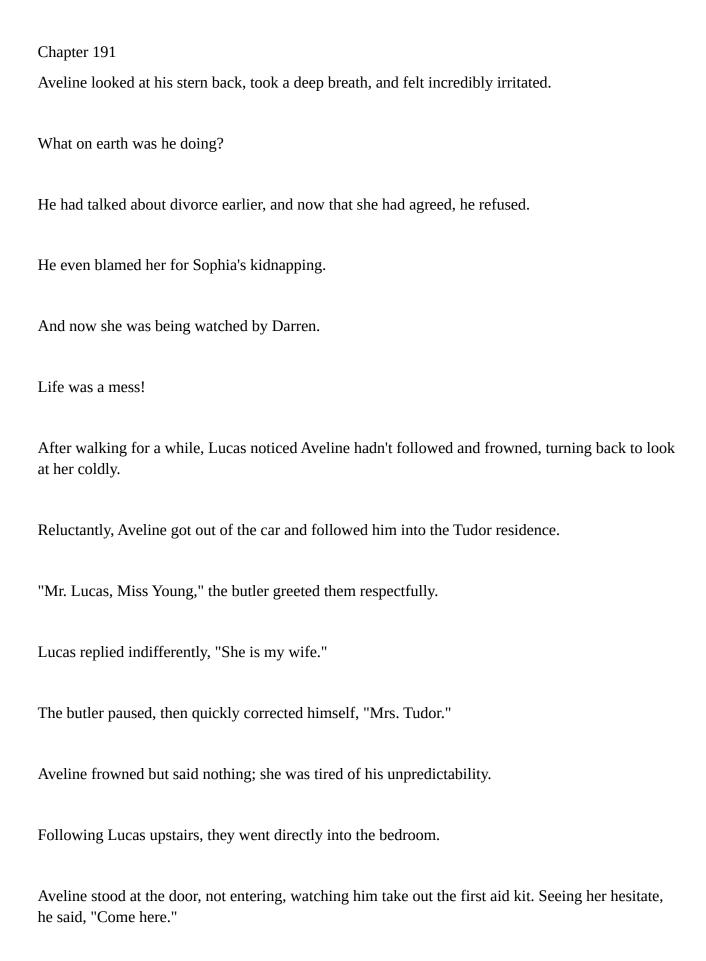
## **Divorced Me 191**



Aveline curled her lips sarcastically. "Are you going to treat my wounds yourself? If Miss Winter knew, wouldn't she throw a fit?"

Lucas looked at her coldly. "Aveline, don't you value your life at all?"

Aveline's heart hardened, and her tone turned cold. "Lucas, I called you for help back then, but you hung up on me. If Russell hadn't appeared, I would be dead by now." Lucas tightened his grip on the first aid kit.

Desmond quickly found out about Aveline's kidnapping and informed him immediately. At that moment, his heart felt as if it was being squeezed tightly, causing him immense pain! He didn't dare to waste a second and gathered a team to rescue her, but he was still a step too late.

He had no idea what had happened in the warehouse before then.

Seeing Aveline's swollen face, anger surged in Lucas. He had ordered a citywide manhunt for Darren, determined to find him no matter what it took.

The thought of her being rescued by Russell made him extremely uncomfortable, especially given her cold demeanor toward him.

"I don't know," he said gravely.

Aveline gave a mocking smile. "You had a chance to know, but you hung up my call as soon as we disagreed, Lucas. At that moment, I hated you." Lucas' eyelashes trembled as he set down the first aid kit and walked directly toward her.

Aveline continued, "But then I thought, why waste my emotions and make myself miserable by hating you? So, I've decided not to hate you anymore. Nor to love you.

She decided to completely erase this man from her heart.

Aveline's eyes stung as she watched him approach, her tone unusually calm. "Let's finalize the divorce. I can't keep living like this."

Lucas took her hand and led her into the bedroom, silently reaching out to undress her.

Aveline was startled and immediately covered her neckline, annoyance appearing in her eyes. "Lucas, did you not hear what I said?"

Watching her so tense and wary, Lucas pressed his lips into a straight line.

"Take off your clothes," he said, standing by and staring at her intently, ignoring her previous words.

He also refused to tell her when exactly they would get divorced.

Aveline felt as if she were striking air, overwhelmed by a sense of powerlessness.

Chapter 192

He stood there, watching her intently as if he wouldn't stop until she followed his instructions. Aveline briefly closed her eyes, amused that despite her disheveled state, he didn't seem bothered. Clearly, he wasn't picky.

It wasn't the first time she had undressed herself in front of him, so Aveline didn't fuss. Her expression quickly returned to calm as she began unbuttoning her shirt. Beneath it, a white tank top with thin straps hung delicately on her elegant, pale shoulders, accentuating her frail beauty.

Aveline set her shirt aside and looked up at Lucas. He averted his gaze from her, took the first aid kit, and sat beside her. Seizing her arm, he began tending to the scrapes. Aveline paused, surprised he was actually treating her wounds.

He was so close now, the light casting his sharp, handsome features in deep relief. His long eyelashes and high nose bridge, combined with his slightly lowered eyes, gave him a distinguished air. He frowned at the injuries on her arm, his movements gentle and careful.

His lips thinned to a tight line, radiating a palpable gloom. Once, such intensity from him would have set Aveline's heart racing. Now, the memory of his cold words swiftly smothered any spark of emotion she might have felt.

She cast her eyes down, stopping her wandering thoughts. It was better this way. Gradually, she liked, him less and less.

After he was done treating one arm, he moved to the other, and once he was done, Lucas stepped out.

When he returned, he held an ice pack, which he pressed against her face. The coldness seeped through her skin, making Aveline shiver slightly, instinctively wanting to pull away. "Don't move," came his deep, magnetic voice.

Aveline didn't dare move anymore. He stood by her side, his crisp, cool scent wafting over her, making her eyelashes tremble. She reached out to take the ice pack from him. my own," Aveline said.

"I can manage on my own,"

Lucas did not insist. He handed her the ice pack and turned to enter the bathroom with a change of clothes. The sound of rushing water soon filled the room.

Aveline felt a moment of daze.

A sudden phone ring shattered her thoughts. Aveline's eyes darted to the source-Lucas' phone, its screen aglow with Sophia's name

Her momentary daze vanished instantly, and her heart turned colder than the ice pack pressed against her face.

After applying the ice pack for a while, the burning pain eased. She placed the ice pack on the table, slipped her shirt on, and was about to leave.

Just then, the bathroom door opened. Lucas, dressed in a silver-gray nightgown, stepped out. Seeing her about to leave, he said coldly, "Stay here tonight." Aveline replied, "No, 1-"

"I'm not asking you," he interjected.

His voice was cold and magnetic, laced with an uncompromising firmness,

Aveline stiffened, aware she couldn't contend with Lucas. To avoid further hardship, she did not insist on leaving.

"I'll go to another room then."

Her every movement radiated resistance, showing her reluctance to stay in the same room with him. Lucas' expression darkened as he watched her walk away, this time without stopping her. Aveline went to the guest room, closed the door behind her, and exhaled deeply before heading straight for the bathroom. She was in utter disarray, her body still smeared with dirt.

Aveline stepped into the shower, letting water cascade over her. As she closed her eyes, silent tears mingled with the falling streams, indistinguishable as they flowed down her face.

Chapter 193

Aveline initially thought she wouldn't be able to sleep at the Tudor residence, but she fell into a deep slumber as soon as she lay down. When she woke, it was already the next morning.

After washing up, Aveline left her room and happened to see Lucas coming out of his bedroom. Their eyes met briefly before she looked away and headed downstairs.

Lucas stared at her intently and, seeing she was about to leave, said, "Come and have breakfast."

Aveline paused and replied, "No, thanks. I'm running late for work."

Lucas remarked, "You have nothing urgent at work right now, so why rush?"

A chill crept into her clear eyes at his words. "Did you instruct Ms. Scoot to kick me off the Brighton Enterprises project team?"

Lucas's expression remained indifferent. "Yes."

After the poisoning incident, he had her important work halted, assuming she was responsible and wanting to teach her a lesson.

Aveline let out a cold laugh. "Can't you just fire me directly?" It would spare her the daily grind of work, where colleagues constantly gave her a hard time-an exhausting routine that now seemed pointless. Lucas looked at her coldly. "Come and eat." The atmosphere around him instantly turned chilly again. Aveline didn't understand why he was angry. Shouldn't she be the one upset about being removed from the project team? She hesitated at the door for a moment before walking in. As she passed some cabinets, she instinctively glanced at them. Previously, she had seen items she had thrown away, but now they were gone. A strange feeling flickered in her mind, but she didn't dwell on it. Sitting quietly at the dining table, she ate her breakfast. Lucas' gaze swept over her face, noticing that the swelling had subsided, but faint finger marks remained. A cold glint flashed in his eyes. After finishing her meal, Aveline looked at him and asked, "Can I leave now?" Lucas frowned, dismayed. Did she really not want to stay with him? Just then, Aveline's phone rang. She pulled it out to see a call from Russell. "Hello, Russ. Her tone noticeably softened with Russell on the line, the coldness in her eyes replaced by warmth. Lucas saw this and his expression turned cold. "How are you doing now?" Russell asked. "I'm fine, just some superficial injuries," Aveline replied. "That's good. He hasn't been giving you a hard time, as he?" Before she could respond, her jaw tightened, and then a dominating presence enveloped her as he fiercely and angrily kissed her. "Mmph!" Caught off guard like prey to a beast, she let out a muffled grunt. "Aveline, what's happening?" Russell's voice came through the phone, tinged with urgency. Lucas was close enough to clearly hear his voice and deliberately kissed her loudly. Aveline hurriedly ended the call, awkwardly pushing him away. Lucas, still eager, was reluctantly forced to stop, his eyes dark and intense as he looked at her. A flush of anger tinted Aveline's cheeks, adding an unintended allure. "Lucas, what are you doing?" His reply was cool. "Isn't it obvious? Kissing you." Aveline was speechless, her anger rendering her mute The audacity! She was on the phone, and he deliberately kissed her! Chapter 194 Aveline stood up to leave. Lucas didn't stop her, and only after she had completely left the dining room did his gaze lose its

intensity.

At that moment, the butler said, "Mr. Lucas, we have placed all those things in the warehouse. What do you plan to do with them?" Lucas responded indifferently, "Leave them for now. The butler nodded and said no more. Aveline left the Tudor residence, which was quite remote, requiring a two-kilometer walk to the nearest bus stop. After walking for about five minutes, she heard the roar of a car engine behind her. "Beep!" The sound of the horn made Aveline instinctively glance to the side, only to see Lucas' cold, stern face. "You've been out this long and only made it this far?" Aveline's face darkened. "Are you crazy?" Lucas sneered, stepped on the gas, and the car sped off, leaving her in a cloud of exhaust fumes. Fuming, Aveline stomped her foot and continued walking expressionlessly. Just as she was about to reach the bus stop, the car returned. The door opened, and without looking at her, Lucas coldly said, "Get in.' Aveline ignored him and kept walking. Lucas drove alongside her, quickly attracting the attention of passersby.

Aveline frowned, not wanting to become the center of attention. Glancing at the open passenger

door, she instead opened the back door and got in..



He showed no reaction, and the car steadily came to a stop in the hospital parking lot. After turning off the engine, he looked at her. Seeing his gaze, Aveline averted her eyes, her look one of cold disdain. Lucas' expression grew colder. Suddenly, he got out of the car, opened the back door, and climbed in.

"What are you-"Aveline started, taken aback. She instinctively asked what he was doing, but he seized her chin, and a fierce, fiery kiss enveloped her.

Chapter 195

"Mmm!"

Aveline pushed against him with all her might, but his strength was overwhelming as if he intended to devour her whole.

His intense, penetrating scent enveloped her completely, relentlessly invading her senses.

After what seemed an eternity, she gasped for air as he finally released her, his nose brushing against hers as he observed her flushed, breathless state. He swallowed hard, then abruptly exited the car.

Aveline felt utterly weakened by the kiss, unable to lift even her fingers. Anger and allure flickered in her

eyes.

This jerk!

Yet, he hadn't let her out of the car, so she decided not to get down either.

He wanted her to apologize to Sophia?

Impossible!

Unfortunately, Sharon witnessed their kiss and fueled by rage, quickly snapped a photo with her phone before storming off to Sophia's hospital room.

"What's wrong?" Sophia asked upon seeing her agitated state.

"I'm so angry! That shameless woman, flirting with Lucas right out in the open!" Sharon exclaimed, showing the photo on her phone.

Sophia's expression darkened at the image of them kissing. Though she and Lucas were once engaged, he had never kissed her like that. The way he held Aveline as if to merge her into his very being, with such obsession and intensity, deeply wounded Sophia.

Her fingernails dug into her flesh, the sharp pain helping her maintain composure.

"You need to find a way to make Lucas divorce her quickly," Sharon advised. "If this drags on, who knows what other seductive tricks that woman might pull? Men are weak to that sort of thing!" Sophia handed the phone back to Sharon.

"Sharon, do something for me."

She couldn't believe that even with the kidnapping scandal, Lucas had not grown to detest Aveline!

Even with her ultimatum, he still kissed Aveline like that. It was infuriating!

Lucas was hers! She would not allow that woman to steal him away.

Sharon's eyes lit up upon hearing her instructions, then nodded. "Consider it done."

Just then, the door to the hospital room opened, and Lucas walked in.

Upon seeing him, Sophia's face immediately softened, and she greeted him with a sweet smile. "Lucas, you're here."

"Didn't you say you were feeling unwell?" Lucas asked.

"As soon as I saw you, I felt much better. Lucas, can you stay with me?" Sophia pleaded.

Sharon had already left, thoughtfully closing the door behind her.

Lucas sat down, his eyes gazing faintly at her. "Sophia, there's nothing wrong with your health; you don't need to stay in the hospital all the time." Sophia's smile stiffened, then she said, "But I feel unwell. I keep having nightmares, always about that night. I almost got raped... Lucas, I'm really scared." As she spoke, she moved closer, attempting to lean into his embrace.

However, Lucas raised his hand and glanced at his watch, his expression indifferent. "I have to get back to work. If there's nothing else, I'll be going now." Sophia's eyes suddenly reddened. "Lucas, will you still marry me? Why are you so cold to me?"

"Yes," Lucas said in a deep voice.

Sophia moved closer. "Then kiss me, please?"

She longed for him to kiss her with the same deep, consuming intimacy he shared with Aveline.

Chapter 196

Lucas' brow furrowed as he looked at her closed eyes and the face that was inches away, suddenly feeling a wave of irritation.

Just then, his phone rang. He got up immediately and answered the call.

"Right, I understand."

After a brief exchange, he ended the call and turned to Sophia. "Rest well, I have to go now," he said,

then turned and left the hospital room abruptly.

"Lucas..." Sophia's face fell as she watched him leave without hesitation.

She instinctively wanted to get out of bed and follow him, but his steps were quick, and the door to the hospital room had already closed.

Her hands clutched the sheets tightly, her eyes flashing with a cold fury. How infuriating! Why wouldn't he kiss her? He could kiss that wretch Aveline, so why not her? It was all that woman's fault for seducing him-she despised Aveline! Aveline was sitting in the car, trying to calm her breathing, when a knock on the window startled her, She turned her head to see Sharon standing there, looking unfriendly. Aveline looked away, ignoring her. She knew better than to engage with someone who clearly meant trouble. Undeterred, Sharon knocked on the window again, her expression turning uglier by the second. That wretch! How dare she ignore her! After knocking for a while and getting no response, Sharon pulled out her phone and typed a message, pressing it against the window. "You can hide in there all you want, you coward!" The next second, Aveline rolled the window down. Sharon smirked. "You little slu-" But before she could finish, a bottle of water was thrown in her face, cutting off her words. "Ah!" Sharon screamed, "Aveline, I'm going to kill you!"



Aveline looked at him. "I want to splash you too." Lucas's expression darkened. "You wouldn't dare!" Aveline picked up the water bottle and started to unscrew it, fearless now. Lucas quickly grasped her wrist, leaning in as if to kiss her. Aveline immediately dodged, watching him warily. "What are you doing? Lucas looked at her intensely. "If you dare splash me, I'll keep kissing you until you're too scared to do it again." Aveline's eyes flashed with anger! Chapter 197 This man knew no shame! After all that had transpired, he could still utter such callous words without changing his expression. Aveline took a deep breath and asked, "Not going to the company?" Lucas looked at her, feeling a bit disappointed but said nothing, instead starting the car. The atmosphere in the car was strangely tense. By the time they reached the company, Aveline had composed herself and entered the building without looking back. Lucas' gaze followed her slender figure, his eyes darkening as he noted her graceful walk, even in a simple shirt and trousers, It was already past working hours, so not many people were at the entrance. Aveline's arrival from Lucas' car went unnoticed.

As she stepped out of the elevator, Gwen passed by, and paused, wanting to say something, but held back. Aveline keenly sensed the change in her attitude but didn't dwell on it. Aveline planned to resign.

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Since she had been removed from the Brighton Enterprises project team, she finished her current tasks and submitted her resignation. Gwen's expression stiffened when she saw it. "Why do you want to resign?"

Aveline replied, "It's written in the resignation letter.

Gwen's face darkened, thinking her attitude was poor.

However, recalling Desmond's words, she suppressed her temper and said, "This resignation needs the CEO's approval. Go back and wait."

Aveline frowned. "Ms. Scoot, I'm just a mere employee. Isn't it unnecessary to get the CEO's approval?"

Gwen insisted, "If I say it's needed, then it is. Leave!"

Aveline curled her lips slightly and turned to leave. Gwen's eyes flashed with disdain as she looked at the resignation letter, ultimately handing it to Desmond.

Desmond's expression turned serious when he saw Aveline's resignation letter, and he immediately knocked on the CEO's office door.

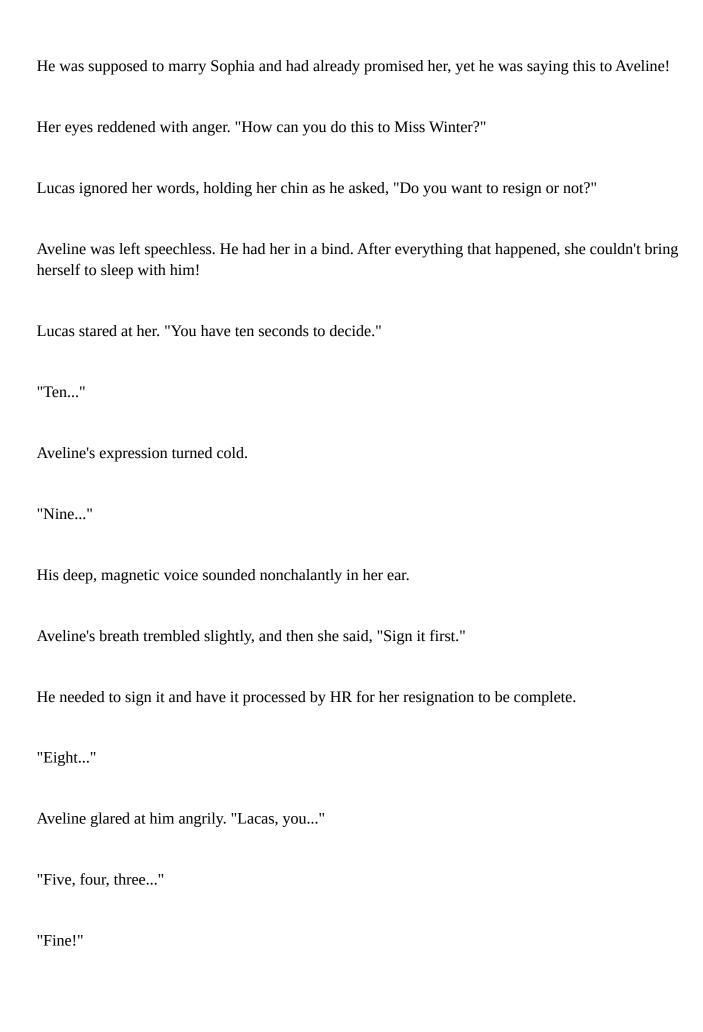
"Mr. Tudor, Miss Young has subrhitted her resignation again."

Lucas, who was working on some documents, frowned upon hearing this. "Have her come over."

Desmond replied, "Yes, sir."

Aveline had just returned to her desk when the phonein front of her rang. She answered, "Hello?" Desmond's cheerful voice came through. "Miss Young, Mr. Tudor wants to see you. Aveline asked, "What for?" Desmond replied, "I'm not sure about that. Perhaps you could ask Mr. Tudor yourself?" His tone was very respectful. This woman was, after all, Lucas' wife, the First Lady of DK Group! Although there were conflicts between them, they hadn't divorced yet, so she shouldn't be easily offended. Aveline felt an inexplicable irritation but knew that if she wanted to resign, she had to talk to Lucas. She hung up the phone, took a deep breath, and went straight to the CEO's office. She knocked on the door, and a deep, magnetic male voice responded from inside. "Come in." Aveline pushed the door open and walked in, asking, "What is it, Mr. Tudor?" Lucas looked deeply at her. "Why do you want to resign? Aveline replied, "Don't you know why I want to resign? Lucas said, "I don't." Aveline fell silent.





She gritted her teeth and agreed. He was such a shameless rogue!

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Even knowing what kind of person he was, she had no choice but to comply!

Lucas' lips curved into a slight smile, and he kissed her softly. "Join me at the Tudor residence tonight."

Aveline barely managed to hold herself back from pushing him away.

As he released her, she immediately stood up and walked a good distance away to calm herself before opening the door and leaving. Lucas was in a good mood.

Aveline's expression, however, was grim. Desmond noticed and couldn't help but wonder what Lucas had done to upset Aveline again. Desmond opened the office door and entered to report the schedule. "Mr. Tudor, there's a dinner appointment tonight..." "Cancel it.

Desmond paused. "Yes."

As he was about to leave, he added, "Mr. Tudor, Brian wants to see you.

"I'm not seeing him. Tell him to get lost." Lucas' tone turned cold.

Desmond hesitated, saying, "Mr. Tudor, Brian is just concerned about you, he..."

But before he could finish, Lucas' icy gaze fell on him, sharp as a knife, silencing him.

Remembering Brian's injuries, Desmond swallowed hard. "Yes."

Brian, once close to Lucas, faced severe punishment for offending Aveline, which served as a crucial. lesson for Desmond.

It was clear that Aveline held a much more significant place in Lucas's heart than Sophia. Chapter 199 Aveline returned to her workstation, feeling utterly absurd. She really couldn't understand what Lucas was thinking. Didn't he care about Sophia? Then why was he entangled with her like this? Anger, sadness, and a mix of emotions intertwined, leaving her feeling deeply powerless. Just then, she received a call from Selena. "Ave, are you at work?" Selena's voice sounded weak. "Yes, I'm at work. What's wrong?" Aveline asked. Selena sighed dramatically. "I've had enough! I've never seen such a picky man. He was discharged, and since my place is far from his, he suggested I move in with him. "I certainly can't do that! I'm a beautiful woman; moving in would be like walking into the lion's den! So, guess what happened?" "What happened?" Aveline prompted. "He called me at 2:30 in the morning asking for a cheeseburger. Where am I supposed to find that at this hour? I lost it! I refused, and he threatened me. This guy is such a pain!" Aveline didn't expect Aaron to be like this. After hesitating, she asked, "How long until he recovers?"

"The doctor said it would take a month, but if he doesn't get stressed, maybe a bit sooner," Selena



Opening the chat with Aaron, she sent a message.

Using the name, Snow, she texted, "Dear Aaron, thank you so much for what you did before. Without you, my dorm mates and I might have to sleep on the streets." She then sent him a heart emoji.

Aaron replied, "It's nothing major. Have you resolved your issues?"

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Snow answered, "Yes, it's resolved. Aaron, let me get you something. Send me your address. I might not have much money-my brother's in school, and my parents are making me pay my manage a small gift. I hope you won't mind."

Aaron transferred her two thousand dollars and texted, "I don't need you to buy me anything for me. Just take care of yourself. If anything comes up, let me know."

Snow replied, "Aaron, I can't accept your money. You've already helped me, and taking more would make me seem shameless."

Aaron texted, "You know I'm here for you. Just take it and let me know if you need anything." Chapter 200

Snow replied, "Aaron, you're really too kind to me. I don't even know how to thank you."

She then sent him a crying emoji.

Aaron texted, "Be a good girl and keep the money. Let me know if you need anything."

Snow answered, "Thank you, Aaron."

Selena confirmed the receipt, seeing the two thousand dollars in her account, a cold smile appeared on her lips.



It could be fatal!

Aaron seemed to catch her thoughts and said playfully, "If anything happens to me, you'll be fully responsible." Selena was speechless.

Aaron continued, "So, to avoid being tied to me for the rest of your life, make sure you hold me steady."

Selena stayed silent and thought that getting two thousand dollars from him was too little!

She struggled to help him into the bathroom. As he sat on the toilet, his brows furrowed for a moment. She instinctively said, "What? Do you need me to help you take off your pants?" Aaron, feeling dizzy and in pain after sitting down, glanced at her with a playful look. "Sure, go ahead."

Selena froze.

Did she just dig her own grave?

She wanted to kill herself for asking him that question!

Selena turned around. "Do it yourself, I... I'll go check if the soup is ready."

Aaron watched her hurried departure and sneered.

Outside the bathroom, Selena exhaled deeply.

What was going on? Why was she nervous?

She quickly went to the kitchen to check on the soup. Before long, Aaron called her again.

Annoyed, she threw the spoon aside and went to the bathroom door. "Mr. Fletcher, I'm coming in "Okay."

Selena took a deep breath and then opened the bathroom door.

Aaron was still sitting on the toilet, his loose clothing adequately covering him. She avoided looking, helped him up, and asked, "Can you pull up your pants?"

Aaron pressed his weight on her again. "I'm dizzy."

Selena's eyes widened. "Aaron, don't push it!"

Aaron chuckled, his warm breath brushing her ear, causing her body to tense up suddenly in their close proximity.

"You're a caregiver now. Haven't you read the caregiver's manual?"