

Divorced Me 381

Chapter 381

"Stop her," Lucas ordered coldly, looking at Selena and signaling his bodyguards.

Two bodyguards immediately stepped forward, forcefully

restraining Selena and taking her phone.

Seeing this, Selena began to struggle. "What are you doing? Lucas, you bastard! Let me go!"

The bodyguards respectfully handed the phone to Lucas.

Lucas took it and deleted all the videos and photos Selena had taken. He then tossed the phone back to the bodyguards.

Aveline approached Selena and looked at the bodyguards. "Let her go!"

The bodyguards knew Aveline's identity, but the order came from Lucas, leaving them uncertain. They looked to Lucas for guidance. Aveline turned to Lucas, her voice icy. "Did you bring me back just to be a powerless trophy?"

The atmosphere in the clothing store grew tense.

Lucas' icy gaze fell on her before he waved his hand.

The bodyguards immediately released Selena.

As soon as she was free, Selena lunged at Lucas. "You bastard! How dare you-"

"Selena!" Aveline shouted, pulling her back, and raising her voice.

Selena, startled by Aveline's outburst, calmed down and realized who she was dealing with. Her confidence wavered.

Lucas was known for holding grudges.

She had insulted him harshly, surely he was contemplating his revenge.

"Apologize to my company's spokesperson, Lucas demanded coldly, looking at Selena.

"Why should I apologize? If anyone should apologize, it's you two scumbags! Selena retorted, unable to hold back.

Lucas' face darkened. "It seems you not only need to apologize to her but also to me. Slander, defamation, violation of image rights, and personal assault-these charges could land you in detention for 15 days."

"You son of a-"Selena fumed, almost exploding with anger.

She wished she could tear Lucas' face apart!

This scumbag did something wrong and now had the audacity to act righteous!

Aveline quickly intervened, "Selena, calm down. Do you really want to be detained?"

Selena's hands trembled with anger, but she forced herself to hold back.

Aveline turned her gaze to Lucas, then glanced at Moon hiding behind him.

"We're not going to apologize," Aveline stated firmly. "She provoked us first. I know you have the power to control this situation, but if it goes public on the internet, it won't be good for either you or Miss Chew" Lucas' eyes darkened as he looked at her calm demeanor. "So, you're not planning to have her apologize?"

Aveline replied, "She defended me. Should

should she apologize?"

She couldn't help but feel the irony. Selena, her friend, had always defended her. Lucas, her husband, constantly made things difficult

for her.

Lucas stared at her intensely. "Fine, call the police."

"Lucas!" Aveline stepped forward, her eyes showing turmoil.

Lucas looked at her coolly. "What?"

Aveline couldn't let Selena be detained. She bit her lip and said, "I'll apologize to Miss Chew on her behalf. Will that work?"

Lucas let out a cold laugh. "With your current status-do you think your apology on her behalf is sufficient?"

He clearly wasn't going to accept it!

Aveline's fingers curled into fists as she looked at Lucas' cold, arrogant face. The atmosphere grew increasingly tense.

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Selena grabbed Aveline's hand. "No apology! I'm not apologizing like her. If they want to detain me, so be it!"

Aveline looked at her, feeling a pang of sadness. If the Tudor family got involved, it wouldn't just be a simple 15-day detention.

Selena had completely offended Lucas. How would she survive in Cloudflare City in the future?

Aveline held her hand gently and said, "Selena, I don't want you to be detained."

Selena frowned. "But..."

Aveline turned to Lucas, her tone softening. "Lucas, it really was Miss Chew who provoked us first. You can check the surveillance footage. Selena was just defending me. If you send her to the police, are you saying you don't want anyone protecting me in the future? You might as well send me in too."

The cold expression on Lucas' face faltered slightly as he looked at her softened demeanor, but he still felt uncomfortable.

He stared at her deeply, about to say something when Moon spoke up from behind him. "Mr. Tudor, I really don't know how I offended them. I came here to buy clothes, but this lady snatched the dress from me, insulted me, and even tried to hit me. Look at my arm..."

She raised her arm, showing a few scratch marks, clearly made by fingernails.

Selena's eyes widened. "You're lying! When did I ever hit you?"

Moon immediately cowered behind Lucas, looking pitiful and scared.

"Keep pretending. Come out here and face me. When did I scratch you? With which fingers? You're shameless, twisting the truth!"

Selena glared at Moon, ready for a fight.

Compared to the two, Selena seemed like the vicious antagonist, while Moon appeared to be the bullied, innocent girl.

Aveline stepped in. "Miss Moon, you can't just make things up. There are plenty of witnesses here who saw what really happened. Don't you feel embarrassed making such a false accusation against my friend?"

Moon suddenly started crying. "Mr. Tudor, I'm sorry, it's my fault. I shouldn't have said anything. These are just minor injuries, not worth mentioning. Let's just forget about this."

She looked scared and intimidated, seemingly too frightened to pursue the matter further.

"Two-faced bitch..." Selena muttered.

Selena didn't hold back and cursed loudly.

Aveline frowned and looked at Lucas.

His expression darkened as he suddenly walked over to the sofa and sat down with his legs crossed, exuding an intimidating

presence.

"Now it's not just about insults, but intentional harm. If you don't apologize properly, this won't end well."

"Lucas..." Aveline looked at him in disbelief. "You don't believe me

Lucas sneered. "You two against her, and she's the one injured. Why do you think I should believe?"

Aveline's breath caught in her throat!

She clenched her clothes tightly, struggling

She never imagined

her side at all!

While Aveline could tolerate it, Selena couldn't.

Selena's temper flared, and she pointed at Lucas, shouting, "You're an ungrateful jerk! Ave saved your life, and this is how you repay her? If you don't appreciate her, why are you holding onto her? Just divorce her already! Meeting you has been the worst luck of her life!"

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Selena's face was flushed with anger.

Aveline's figure seemed unsteady. She looked at Lucas' handsome face, a face she knew so well, but now felt so foreign.

What was the point?

She suddenly smiled and walked straight up to Moon, raising her hand and slapping her across the face.

The sharp sound of the slap echoed through the store, bringing a stunned silence.

Aveline turned to Lucas. "Now, this is me hitting her. First, she

started trouble, then she lied and twisted the truth. A slap is the least she deserves. Did you really think just because she had sex with you that I wouldn't dare touch her?"

She stared coldly at Moon, her hand trembling slightly. "Stop your schemes and stirring up trouble, or I won't hesitate to slap you again!

With that, she ignored Moon's shocked and embarrassed face and turned to Lucas. "We will not apologize, Lucas. I want a divorce."

She finished speaking, grabbed Selena's hand, and walked towards the exit.

The bodyguards blocked the door, but Aveline stared them down coldly.

Somehow, she had absorbed Lucas' intimidating presence. Despite her small stature, the bodyguards couldn't meet her gaze.

Aveline led Selena out.

The atmosphere in the store was suffocating.

Moon started crying, holding her face. "Mr. Tudor..."

"Get out," Lucas said coldly, not even sparing her a glance, then walked out.

The bodyguards followed him out. The executives who had come along for the inspection stood at a distance, unsure of what had happened but not daring to approach. Moon covered her face, her expression grim.

She didn't dare to retaliate.

Being a celebrity meant nothing. If the people with power and money decided they were unhappy with her, they could take away all her resources, leaving her with nothing. But she was furious!

What right did that woman have to hit her?

She vowed to get revenge!

Selena looked at her in surprise. "Ave, you really stood up for yourself."

Aveline's face was pale as she looked at her. "Lucas will definitely hold a grudge against you. You need to leave Cloudflare City. Go anywhere, just don't let him find you." Selena shook her head. "I'm not leaving. I want to stay with you."

Aveline felt a warmth in her heart but insisted, "I'm alone; he can't use anything against me. But if you stay, he'll know how to get to me."

Selena nodded reluctantly. "Alright, I'll do as you say."

Aveline smiled faintly but then noticed Lucas approaching. She

quickly positioned herself in front of Selena, her gaze icy. "What do you want?"

Lucas' expression darkened as he looked at her, but his lips curved into a faint smile. "Aveline, you embarrassed me greatly today. What do you think I should do?"

With a wave of his hand, several bodyguards stepped forward and restrained Selena..

Aveline was shocked. "Let her go, Lucas! If you have an issue, take it out on me!"

Lucas glanced at the bodyguards, and they forcibly took Selena -away.

"Let go, mmm!" Selena tried to shout and struggle, but she was no match for the bodyguards. They covered her mouth, and she could only glare at Lucas with wide, angry eyes.

Aveline felt the blood drain from her face.

She rushed towards him, raising her hand to slap him, but he caught her wrist. His eyes narrowed dangerously. "Aveline, I've been too lenient with you."

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Aveline glared at him furiously. "Where did you take Selena? Lucas, our issues are between us. Can you not drag others into it?"

Lucas sneered. "What right does she have meddling in our affairs?"

Aveline was trembling with rage.

Lucas, however, didn't want to argue in public. He dragged her out of the mall and forcefully shoved her into the car.

Aveline struggled. "Lucas, let Selena go!"

Lucas held her shoulders firmly and said coldly, "If you want release her, you'd better behave and satisfy me. Then I'll let her go."

Aveline looked at him, feeling as if he was a stranger.

Once inside the car, away from prying eyes, Lucas' expression remained icy and grim..

Aveline tried to calm herself. "Lucas, today was my fault. I shouldn't. have slapped Miss Chew or spoken to her like that. Can you please let Selena go?"

Her quick submission didn't bring Lucas any satisfaction.

He stared at her intensely. "Is divorce the only thing on your mind?"

Aveline's eyelashes fluttered, but she said nothing.

Anything she said would only anger him.

Lucas, frustrated by her silence, tugged at his tie, trying to release. his pent-up emotions.

The atmosphere in the car grew stifling.

Aveline was both angry and sad, but with Selena in Lucas' grasp, she

couldn't express her feelings.

She felt like crying.

How could she have fallen in love with such a cruel man?

But the most important thing now was to save Selena.

"Lucas, please let Selena go. I won't interfere with your affairs anymore. Even if I see you with another girl, I'll avoid you. Is that okay?" Her voice was soft, almost pleading

Lucas' expression darkened further. "How generous of you."

Aveline said, "Isn't this what you want?"

Lucas stared at her. "You have no idea what I want."

Aveline opened her mouth to respond but found no words.

Even if she asked, she couldn't give him the answer he wanted.

The car fell silent again.

Aveline asked softly, "What do I need to do for you to let Selena go?"

Lucas replied, "Anything?"

Aveline's eyelashes trembled, and she whispered, "Anything."

Lucas chuckled softly, then suddenly grasped her chin, his thumb brushing over her lips. His eyes grew darker. "Then use this to please me." Hearing this, Aveline looked at him in disbelief.

Lucas raised an eyebrow. "What? Didn't you say anything?"

Aveline's body trembled, filled with shock. She never expected him to make such a demand.

Even when they were at their closest, she had never imagined this, and he had never asked.

She couldn't accept it.

Instinctively, Aveline turned her face away.

Lucas stared at her, his gaze cold and deep, without saying a word.

Aveline bit her lip slightly, hesitating for a long time before asking, "If I do this, you'll let Selena go?"

She didn't trust him; she needed confirmation.

Lucas seemed to see through her thoughts and said coldly, "Aveline, you have no choice but to trust me right now. She's in my hands, and whether I release her or not is up to me."

Chapter 385

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Selena looked at her, then suddenly shook her head. "Ave, what's the point of explaining all this?"

Aveline sighed. "Stop provoking him. You won't win."

Selena fell silent.

Though unwilling to admit it, she knew it was true,

Cloudflare City was Lucas' domain. He could make her disappear without a trace if he wished.

Aveline continued, "Selena, I will find a way to deal with my situation with him, but I don't want you involved. I don't want you to become my weakness."

Selena hugged her tightly. "But Ave, if I'm not there with you, you'll be all alone. That jerk will take advantage of you."

Aveline's eyes grew warm, and she sniffled. "It's okay. Once I divorce him, even if he begs, I won't even look at him."

"That's the spirit!" Selena clapped her hands.

The two of them strolled around the garden, reminiscing about amusing past events.

Time passed quickly.

When Aveline looked up, she saw Lucas standing on the balcony of the second floor, watching her.

Even from this distance, she could sense his impatience.

She lowered her eyes slightly and said to Selena, "I'll arrange for a driver to take you back. You need to leave Cloudflare City as soon as possible."

Selena nodded. "Alright."

Aveline called for a driver and watched as Selena got into the car and left.

She stood there until the car disappeared from sight, then went back inside the villa.

Aveline went upstairs and directly entered the bedroom. She looked at Lucas and said, "I need a study."

Lucas responded coldly, "You're the lady of the house. You can use any room you want as your study."

After a pause, he added, "The room next to my study has good lighting."

Aveline turned and left, heading to the room at the end of the third- floor hallway, far from Lucas' study.

She told the housekeeper what she needed, and they quickly arranged for it.

As they were moving things, Lucas stepped out of the bedroom and saw that everything was being taken to the third floor.

His expression darkened. "Why is everything being moved to the third floor?"

The housekeeper replied, "Madam chose a room on the third floor for her study."

Lucas' face darkened completely.

He went straight up to the third floor and saw all the items being moved into the room at the end of the hallway. His expression

became grimmer.

1 she really want to be that far

"What are you doing here?" Aveline asked as she came up to check on the progress and saw Lucas standing at the top of the stairs.

Lucas' cool gaze settled on her. "Your study is here?"

Aveline nodded. "Yes, the lighting is better here, and it's more suitable for my drawing."

"Especially since it's far from you," she thought with satisfaction.

Lucas gave her a long, intense look before turning and heading back downstairs.

Aveline ignored his mood and went into her new study, directing the workers on where to place the furniture.

Once everything was set up, she brought her computer into the room and looked out at the view.

Ideas quickly began to form in her mind.

The next day.

After arriving at work, Aveline submitted her initial drafts to the

client and waited for feedback.

Maria came over, placing a cup of coffee in front of her. "How's it going? Are you settling in okay?"

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Aveline smiled slightly. "I'm adapting fine."

Maria nodded. "That's great. To expand our business, I'm attending a business cocktail party tonight, filled with influential figures. Why don't you come with me?"

Aveline was surprised. "Me?"

Maria nodded. "Yes, you worked on the Brighton Enterprises project. Many people in the industry know you. You're kind of a big deal for our studio. Bringing you along will attract potential partners."

After a moment of thought, Aveline nodded. "Alright."

Maria smiled. "Great, I'll pick you up this evening."

"Okay."

Since the studio was just starting out, participating in such events would be beneficial. Aveline didn't want to miss this opportunity.

In the evening, Aveline gathered her things, and Maria's car was already waiting downstairs. When she got in, Maria handed her a bag. "Change into this."

Aveline looked at it and said, "There's no need. For a business cocktail party, dressing elegantly but simply is enough."

Maria gave her an approving look. "It seems like bringing you along was the right choice."

Aveline smiled. "These events are formal and focused. There won't be much entertainment; everyone has the same objective."

Maria nodded. "Alright, we'll do it your way."

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woman incluring Bonversation, many people were

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Bugchine had barn mervjua intially but watching Maria navigate the vinam to affyrtless she gradually began to relax.

at that moment Aseline felt a gaze on her that made her uncomfortable. She turned to see a group of young men sitting on a nearly sofa, one of whorts was staring at her intently Aveline frowned slightly and looked away With so many people around she doubted anyone would try anything.

Maria led her over to the edge of the sofa area.

Smacke

light sound came from beside them. Both Maria and Aveline turned to see the man who had been staring at Aveline earlier now smiling broadly

"Are you looking for projects for your studio? I happen to have an interesting one," he said

Maria smiled. "Hello, I'm Maria Cooper, the owner of XY Studio. Here's my card. Could you tell me more about your project?"

The man's name was Jackson Rogers, the son of a bank president. Ignoring Maria, he looked directly at Aveline. I want to discuss it

with her."

Sensing trouble, Maria said, "She's new and doesn't know much yet. If you have any requirements, you can talk to me."

Jackson sneered. "Do you think I'm stupid? She handled the Brighton Enterprises project. Who doesn't know that? With such talent, can she not handle my small project?" People nearby started to take notice, their eyes curious.

Maria sensed Jackson's bad intentions and knew she couldn't let Aveline handle him. She dropped her smile and said, "Sorry, we need to take care of something. Excuse us." She tried to lead Aveline away, but Jackson's voice stopped them.

"Did I say you could leave?"

Immediately, the men with Jackson stepped forward and blocked their path.

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Maria turned to Jackson. "What do you mean by this?"

Jackson smirked. "I want her to sit and talk with me. If she doesn't, you might as well shut down your studio."

His attitude was arrogant, completely dismissing Maria and Aveline. It was clear his target was Aveline.

Maria's expression darkened.

Aveline stepped forward and asked, "Sir, I don't believe we know each other."

Jackson replied, "Doesn't matter. I know you. Come, sit here."

He patted his thigh.

Laughter erupted around them. Jackson's friends and bodyguards watched Aveline with malicious intent, while the other guests at the party stayed away, clearly aware of Jackson's identity and preferring not to get involved.

Aveline's face also darkened.

This man seemed to have a powerful background. She lowered her eyes slightly, then took out her phone and dialed a number.

Jackson scoffed, "What? Calling for help? I want to see who you're calling. In Cloudflare City, who dares to interfere with what I want to do!"

"Lucas," Aveline's calm voice rang out. "I'm in trouble. Where are you?"

Her voice wasn't loud, but everyone around hear

Jackson's face stiffened. "WE

One of the men beside him said, "Boss, she said Lucas..."

Jackson slapped the man's head Nonsense! Who does she think she is? How could she know Lucas Tudor?"

The others stayed silent, puzzled by Aveline's claim.

Jackson walked over and snatched Aveline's phone. "Stop

pretending. Either you obey, or you and your studio can get out of Cloudflare City!"

He hung up the phone, completely dismissing the idea that Aveline might actually know Lucas, the CEO of DK Group and the last heir of the city's most powerful family.

Even if she had worked at DK Group, she had resigned. How could Lucas possibly care about a former employee? Ridiculous!

Aveline's face turned cold. "Give me back my phone

Instead of returning it, Jackson smashed her phone on the ground. You little b***h, who do you think you are? Daring to mess with someone I fancy? If you don't comply today, I'll have you out of Cloudflare City by tonight."

Aveline picked up on the key detail in his words. It was someone he liked who had a grudge against her and had him target her. But who could it be? Aveline was certain she didn't know

Jackson Jackson grabbed Aveline's arm, trying to throw her onto the sofa Just then, his phone rang. He answered it irritably. "What is it?"

"You little punk! You dare mess with Lucas' woman? And you think you can get rid of Miss Young's studio? I'll have you sent abroad if you don't get back here immediately!" It was Jackson's father, William Rogers, on the phone.

Hearing the scolding, Jackson was puzzled but sensed the gravity of

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Jackson's face contorted into a forced smile as he turned to Desmond. "Mr. Blake, are you free lately? I'd like to treat you to a meal."

Desmond responded curtly, "I'm not available," dismissing Jackson without a second thought.

Even William had to respect Lucas, so who did Jackson think he was?

Jackson's face turned ashen.

Aveline looked at Maria. "I'll head out now. You should go home. _early too."

Maria nodded. "Take care."

Aveline followed Desmond out of the event. Outside, the night cloaked the surroundings, and a luxurious car waited by the curb. The window rolled down, revealing half of a man's profile. He seemed in a good mood, glancing down slightly.

Aveline approached the car and got in, saying, "Thank you for your help."

Lucas turned his eyes toward her, his lips parting slightly. "How do you plan to thank me?"

Aveline paused, lowering her gaze. Lucas toyed with a lighter, seemingly wanting a cigarette but not lighting it.

After a moment of silence, Aveline reached into his pocket, took out a cigarette, and placed it between her lips. She took the lighter from his hand and lit the cigarette, taking a light puff. Smoke curled around her, adding a sultry allure to her demeanor.

She handed the cigarette to him. "Want a smoke?"

Lucas' eyes darkened as he stared at her, snatching the cigarette and tossing it out the window before pulling her close for a fierce kiss. The taste of tobacco lingered on her lips.

His kiss was intense as if trying to merge her into his very being.

"Make me feel good right here," he whispered in her ear, his voice husky.

Aveline's body trembled.

He wanted to do it here when the car was parked right in front of the hotel?

She gripped his shirt, her breathing uneven. "Can we... change location?"

She didn't refuse. She had anticipated that asking for his help would come with conditions, even though, as his wife, leveraging her title to exert some influence was her right. Yet, Lucas still demanded terms.

Their relationship didn't feel like a marriage but rather a

transactional affair. Each favor was meticulously calculated, with no room for deception.

A hint of irony flickered in Aveline's eyes.

Lucas noticed it immediately and frowned.

"What are you thinking about?"

Aveline spoke softly, "I'm thinking that as your wife, it's absurd that I have to pay a price to do anything.

The atmosphere in the car grew icy. Lucas' expression darkened further, and his grip on her chin tightened. Aveline met his gaze. "Lucas, you're not a suitable husband and I

can't be a proper wife."

"Shut up." Lucas snarled, pressing his lips against hers again, more fiercely this time, as if trying to devour her..

Aveline endured it.

However, he didn't proceed further, just kissed her with a savage intensity. After a long moment, he released her, his face clouded as he closed his eyes.

"Aveline, how do you define a suitable husband?" he asked in a low voice.

All his life, the only model he had to follow was Frederick. He believed he had learned well, so why did Aveline see him as inadequate?

Frederick's interactions with Yvonne were exactly like this.

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Aveline froze, instinctively turning to look at him. The dim light inside the car cast shadows over his face, making it difficult to read his expression. She opened her mouth but felt lost. "I don't know either," she said softly.

As an orphan, she had never seen how parents interacted and therefore didn't know what a good husband or father looked like. But Lucas came from a complete family. How could he not know? Aveline wanted to ask, but given their current relationship, it seemed unnecessary. Even if she knew, what difference would it make?

Lucas spoke in a low voice, "Since neither of us knows, let's just get by. Why complicate things with so many demands?"

Aveline remained silent. The atmosphere in the car was stifling.

Just then, her phone rang. She looked at the screen and saw it was Selena calling.

"Hello, Selena," she answered, thinking Selena had finished packing and was ready to leave.

Instead, Selena's voice was frantic. "Ave, Lucas' people are trying to take me away! I-" Her words were cut off by a commotion, followed by a scream, and then the line went dead. "Hello? Hello?!" Aveline's face turned pale with worry, but the call had ended.

She turned sharply to Lucas, "Did you send someone to take Selena? Lucas, what are you trying to do? I've been following your

instructions. What more do you want?"

Her voice was nearly a shout, her eyes reddening with anger and desperation.

Lucas frowned. "What are you talking about?"

Aveline clutched her phone tightly, "Please let

Selena go. She poses

no threat to you. I promise I won't bring up divorce again. I'll do as you say. Just let her go, okay?"

Her tone was pleading, her eyes filled with earnest desperation.

Lucas stared at her, his expression darkening. "I didn't have her taken."

Aveline, thinking he was lying, felt tears rolling down her cheeks. Lucas, please don't make me hate you. Can't you just let her go?"

Selena told her directly, so how could it be wrong?

Lucas stared at her intently, the coldness around him intensified. He took out

Selena's, phone and dialed Desmond's number. "Find out where

After he finished speaking, he hung up immediately.

He looked at Aveline, his eyes full of mockery. "Even without Selena, you can't divorce me. Taking her away would only make you resist me more. Why would I do that?" Aveline's heart trembled. "But Selena said it was your people..."

Lucas replied coldly, "Don't jump to conclusions before the matter is fully investigated."

Aveline looked at him. His stern face showed no other emotion. Could it really not be him? Then why did Selena say it was?

Aveline felt very confused at this moment. The only thing she could do now was wait for news.

The car drove straight back to the Tudor residence.

She paced back and forth in the living room.

Desmond's call came in, and Lucas answered, "Speak."

Desmond said, "Mr. Tudor, our people took Miss Quin. Where they went is still unclear, and I can't reach them anymore." Lucas' expression darkened. "Find them as soon as possible."

He then messaged Maria, asking her to track those people down. When it came to network tracking, Maria was an expert. Aveline looked at him anxiously. "Have you found Selena?"

Lucas pressed his lips together. His eyes fixed on her as he began to speak.....

