

## **Ex-Wife 1791**

Chapter: 1791

Even if word got out about this, others wouldn't criticize the Murphy family for being cruel, but they would condemn the Hunt family for being outrageous.

"It's you who wants to cut ties with us, so don't involve the youngsters. Although I don't manage the company, I know what your family's been up to." Francine was a smart woman, and she was well aware of the schemes and deception in the business world.

The Murphy family had approached the Hunt family with ulterior motives, and now they wanted to fall out with them for the same reason too.

"So what if you know? My family will stop investing in your family, and Hunt Enterprise will suffer because you've put all your money into the field of AL" Gloating, Ethan continued, "I don't care if your son wants to take risks, but don't drag me into it. I don't want to suffer any losses with him, so don't blame me for retreating."

Francine's expression changed and she snarled, "Get lost! My family doesn't need pity from an upstart like you!" After Ethan left, Elijah cautiously approached Francine.

"Are you alright, Madam Francine?"

Francine smoothed down her hair and raised her head elegantly, showing everyone there why she was still the head of the Four Princesses of Beach City.

"I'm fine. I've met a lot of men like him, so I've become immune to them. I knew that the Murphys had ulterior motives. They chose to invest in Hunt Enterprise because of the marriage, but once they realized that it wouldn't happen, they backed out. It's quite normal." Francine turned to Elijah, frowning as she asked, "Did Stefan ever indicate that the company's finances are tight?"

For the past two years, Stefan had been expanding Hunt Enterprise and developing new areas through investments, but not many projects had brought him the profit he'd expected. Additionally, with so many competitors popping up, business was tough.

“Yes, many businesses of Hunt Enterprise have been narrowed down, and many competitors have snatched our deals... Currently, Mr. Hunt is focused on AI, but it’s a new area, so funding for research is an issue.”

Elijah had been working for Stefan for a long time, and he knew the current situation of the company better than anyone else.

Stefan’s venture into the field of AI was a big expense and a little out of control, and there was the possibility that it might end badly. However, Stefan never revealed the bad news and prohibited Elijah from telling Francine about it.

“I know he’s had it hard... His love life has been a mess lately, and he also has to manage this huge company alone.” Francine felt sorry for Stefan.

When Tristan was still alive, all Stefan needed to do was focus on his interests, and he didn’t have to bear as many consequences.

“I know Stef-he had no interest in the company and this field, but he’s been bearing the family responsibilities for so many years to bring it to where it is today...”

“Yes, I think he’s more of a family man than a workaholic. To him, a great achievement would probably be sitting down with his family for a nice dinner, but unfortunately...” Elijah trailed off, feeling sad for his boss.

“He’s Stefan, and he has no choice.” Closing her eyes, Francine finished Elijah’s sentence.

“It’s strange, but Hunt Enterprise reached its peak when Mr. Hunt was married to Ms. Everheart. That was also when he was most motivated, and solved all the company’s issues smoothly. However, he became a bit depressed after the divorce, and Hunt Enterprise seems to have reached a bottleneck period...” Elijah observed thoughtfully.

Calmly, Francine added, “Yes, one’s wife is the best support and blessing one has. I’m afraid Stef has missed a lot of good things... Well, I hope things will be better this time.”

After Ethan stormed off after arguing with Francine, he went to the ward next door where Seraphina was.

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Seraphina was still a bit stunned from her stint in the pond, but she was awake now. She just needed to stay in the hospital for two days of observation. Seraphina stopped pacing when Ethan entered the ward, and quickly ran up to him.

“How did it go, Daddy? What did Madam Francine say? Did she allow me to see Stefan?”

When Seraphina had been admitted after nearly drowning, she cried and complained to Ethan, hoping that her father would help her win Stefan back.

“Why do you want her to say yes? I’ve already fought with them,” Ethan said smugly.

He had been waiting for this day for a long time, but his hands had been tied because of Seraphina. Now, he could bask in his victory.

Seraphina’s eyes bulged and she shrieked,

“What?! Why would you do that? I asked you to make peace with them but you-“

Annoyed, Ethan snapped, “Wake up, Seraphina! They never took us seriously. You took such good care of Stefan, but what did you get in the end?”

“I did it willingly! I’ll be happy as long as I’m with him, and I don’t need anything in return.”

“Shut up!” Although Ethan doted on his daughter, he was disappointed in her.

“You’ve got no guts, but our family isn’t like this. We might not be as strong and powerful as them, but we’re still quite formidable. But they’ve humiliated us twice because of this marriage, and we’ve become the laughingstock of the city. I don’t want to be humiliated any longer!”

The Murphy family had been humble and flattering for a long time so the Hunts would go through with the marriage, but Ethan was a man with a temper and pride. His hatred towards the Hunt family grew as time passed, and he yearned to see them fall,

“You know that Stefan is the only man I love, Daddy. I finally got close to him, but now you’ve ruined everything! Do you want to see me kill myself?” Desperate, Seraphina ran to the window and yelled, “Why don’t I just end it all? You’ve got an illegitimate son anyway, and he can join our family after I’m dead!”

“Seraphina, love, calm down. Why did you bring him up again? I love you the most, and all my property is yours. I’ll get you any man you want, so please come here...” Ethan immediately rushed over to Seraphina and hugged her waist, saying helplessly,

“I didn’t want to fight, but Francine said some nasty things. I said you were nearly killed by her grandson, but she said you were useless and must have offended her grandson, which was why you deserved it... How could I let that go?”

“Yes, Madam Francine was right. I did try to push that kid first, but he pushed me into the pond instead. I was the one at fault, so why would you use that incident to negotiate with Madam Francine?” Angry, Seraphina stamped her feet and gritted her teeth,

“You had almost drowned, I had to demand an explanation from them! They’re just lucky I didn’t kill the brat,” Ethan huffed grumpily. He adored his daughter, so he considered his lack of action tolerant enough.

“You could tell them that I accidentally fell into the pond, or that I was hospitalized because I missed Stefan too much. You’ve got to move them! Why did you bring that kid up? Don’t you know that they care about him a lot? I’ve lost my chance now for sure... Madam Francine will never forgive me, and Stefan definitely won’t. I’m doomed...” Seraphina’s shoulders trembled as she covered her face and cried piteously.

Her crying broke Ethan’s heart. Patting her shoulders, Ethan comforted her, “There, there. I’ve got a way for you to be with Stefan. Although it’s a little extreme, I think it’ll be effective. Would you like to try it?”

“Really?” Seraphina looked up at Ethan eagerly, her eyes puffy and watery.

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“Of course. I’ve never lied to you.”

“Tell me then. I’m going crazy from not seeing Stefan for so long..”

“Well, we can’t reach Stefan since he’s so powerful... but doesn’t that mean we’ll have a chance if he falls off his pedestal?” Ethan smiled deviously, his eyes gleaming.

Seraphina frowned. “What do you mean?”

“Well, his family only managed to get out of their previous crisis because we invested in their company, but once Stefan recovered, that ungrateful boy started pushing you away. We need to ruin him so he’ll need support, and at that point, we’ll appear to help him. Wouldn’t it be easy for you to be with him then?” Ethan explained slowly.

The law of the jungle ruled everything in this cruel world-only the great had the power to choose, and the weak would be at the mercy of others. Ethan found his daughter foolish for helping Stefan to soldier through his hardships; once he had recovered, the first thing he did was kick away his stepping stone.

“I.. I don’t know if it’ll work...” Seraphina felt that her father’s suggestion was reasonable because Stefan got engaged to her when there was a financial problem with Hunt Enterprise.

Although he gave up because of Renee, that was still the closest Seraphina had been to Stefan. After that, Seraphina managed to stay with Stefan for a long time because he had suffered a great blow and needed support. It made her wonder if Stefan would choose her if he was left with nothing one day...

When Ethan noticed Seraphina’s hesitation, he became confident. “Just listen to me, Seraphina. You must ruin a person first if you want to get him.”

“But Stefan is so strong. How can we ruin him? I’m afraid he’ll ruin me first...”

“Don’t worry about that because I’ve already found a partner. All you need to do is say yes.”

“Well... let’s go with your plan then.” Seraphina gritted her teeth and agreed, closing her eyes.

It was late at night when Margaret returned to Everheart Manor with Adie.

Renee couldn’t sleep out of worry, and was sitting in the living room and sighing.

Abby felt sorry for Renee, and had stayed up with her.

“Are you scared because you can’t see, Mommy? Do you want anything to eat or drink?” Abby poured a glass of water for Renee and stuffed snacks into Renee’s hands.

“Thank you, Abby, but I’m not hungry or thirsty. Isn’t it late? Why don’t you go to bed first?” Renee reached out for her daughter and hugged her.

Abby stared up at Renee, who was wearing sunglasses, and tears welled up in her eyes.

“Will your eyes get better, Mommy? What will we do if you can’t see me anymore?”

“Don’t worry, I’ll get better. Plus, you and Adie can be my eyes if I can’t recover, right? Isn’t that great? Are you willing to be my eyes, Abby?”

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“Yes, I am!” Abby held Renee’s hand tightly and continued firmly, “I’m willing to be your eyes, and I’ll never leave you. I’ll take you to wherever you want to go, and I’ll get you whatever you want.”

“Thank you, dear!” Renee teared up as she hugged Abby. The surgeon had warned cry during the recovery stage to avoid infections, but the thing she did most given her

current state was cry.

At that moment, Adie opened the door and came in. He sighed in relief when he saw his mother.  
"You're finally home, Mommy. I was worried sick about you!"

"Adie?" Renee turned towards the sound of Adie's voice, but didn't dare to stand up because she couldn't tell his exact location.

Adie immediately noticed something was wrong with Renee, and his joy morphed into anxiousness. He carefully asked, "What's wrong with your eyes, Mommy?"

"I..." Renee wanted to lie, but Adie wasn't as naive as Abby, and he would see through her lies easily.

"Mommy's eyes are sick, so she can't see right now. Come here, we'll be her eyes together," Abby explained on Renee's behalf and waved at Adie.

"Mommy's eyes are sick?" Adie walked over to Renee swiftly and frowned as he observed her.

"What kind of sickness is this? Why can't you see? Let's go to the hospital and have a doctor see you."

"No, I'm fine." Shaking her head, Renee explained, "It's just temporary-I'll be able to see after a while. Also, I've just returned from the hospital, and the doctor said not to worry about it."

"No!" Adie said sharply, then urged, "Be honest with me, Mommy. What happened? Was it Jovan who hurt your eyes? He took your eyes for himself because he's blind and unhappy, didn't he?"

"Adie, that's not possible, you can't replace your eyes that way. Stop imagining things, I'm just suffering from an eye inflammation." Renee waved and denied it guiltily, wondering how Adie was so smart.

“Yes, you can’t replace your eyes that way, but it’s done after matching, right? You’ve been missing for so many days, but you were just in Jovan’s manor having the surgery. Isn’t that right?” Adie kept up his interrogation.

He had found out that Renee was in Jovan’s manor based on her GPS signal, but he didn’t know why she was there. Now, he could see through Jovan’s evil schemes.

“No, that’s not true. Stop asking me questions. Why did you go out on your own? Didn’t I ask you not to do that? I’m going to be angry with you...” Renee scolded Adie,

“Do you know how dangerous it is out there? You’re just a kid, but you went out alone late at night. If you met a kidnapper, you wouldn’t get to see Abby and me for the rest of your life.”

“I’m not afraid of kidnappers,” Adie muttered and added, “You know I’m not scared of bad guys; I’m just afraid that you and Abby might get in danger or be bullied. I’m the man of this house, and I want to protect you both... So, did Jovan take your eyes? I’ll ask him to return them now!” He clenched his fists, feeling sorry and angry for Renee.

“It’s not that simple. Jovan is a victim too, and he would never do something like that to me,” Renee answered vaguely. She knew that she couldn’t keep it from Adie for long given his intelligence.

“So, he didn’t take your eyes, but you gave them up to him... Am I right?” Adie instantly found the loophole in Renee’s words and questioned her.

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“I...” Renee bit her lip, starting to sweat. Why did Adie have to be so smart? She hadn’t even eaten nutritious food when she was pregnant with him! In just a few minutes, he had almost dug the truth out of her.

However, considering how naive Abby was, maybe her food intake during her pregnancy had nothing to do with it. The twins were just too different.

“Okay, Mommy. I know you’re tired, so you should go to bed. I’m sure your eyes will get better after some rest. Abby, you should go to bed too.” Adie patted Renee’s shoulders and said to Abby, “Go and sleep with Margaret, Abby. I’ll take care of Mommy.”

“No, I want to take care of Mommy too because I’ve promised to be her eyes forever.” Shaking her head, Abby hugged Renee tightly and refused to let go.

“Listen to me, Abby-just go to sleep. Mommy’s eyes might have recovered when you wake up, or... it might all just be a nightmare,” Adie said reassuringly.

Eventually, Abby went to bed with Margaret obediently because of Adie’s coaxing.

“Can you tell me the truth now, Mommy?” After Abby left, Adie turned to Renee.

Although he was the same age as Abby, he was more mature and rational. Sometimes, he was even more mature than adults. Besides, he didn’t believe that Renee was blind because of sickness; he firmly believed that it had something to do with Jovan. However, he understood Renee’s reluctance to tell the truth because she didn’t want to make Abby and Margaret worry. Thus, he came up with a way to send them away.

“You’re a smart kid, Adie. You should know that no one can take away my eyes. I’m not that weak.” Renee reached out and felt around, finally managing to grab Adie’s hand.

Adie immediately understood what she was saying, and his eyes glossed over with unshed tears. “I know. You willingly gave up your eyes to Jovan...”

Renee didn’t say anything, silently admitting to it.

“He should have refused even if you were willing because you’re not the one who owed him! How could he take your eyes...” Adie wiped away his tears furiously, feeling

frustrated and outraged.

Although he didn't understand the strange relationship between Stefan, Renee, and Jovan, he knew the normal relationship between a creditor and a debtor. The debtor should be the one paying the creditor, so it shouldn't be Renee who had to pay this price.

"Come with me, Mommy. We'll go to Jovan and ask for your eyes back!" Adie tried his best to pull Renee up as if he wanted to go see Jovan right away.

"Calm down, Adie." Renee understood Adie's pain and why he reacted that way. She whispered, "I did it willingly, and I won't ask him to return them. Plus... he didn't even know about this."

"You mean you didn't even tell him after you did it? Do you think you're some kind of saint?" Adie was fuming now.

He wanted to ask Renee if she had thought about him and Abby when she so generously gave up her eyes, but he stopped himself. He knew she would be filled with grief and self blame if he asked her that.

"I've just had the surgery, so I'm a little tired, Adie. Can you help me back to my room to rest?" Renee asked Adie softly.

She was really tired and couldn't stay awake anymore.

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Besides, the swelling around her eyes felt like knives slashing her skin, and if an infection occurred, she wouldn't be able to get a transplant even if she found a suitable donor.

"Okay, Mommy. Let me help you to bed." Adie knew that he couldn't change Renee's mind, so he reluctantly forced himself to accept what had happened.

Adie helped Renee to the master bedroom upstairs and tucked her into bed. He even poured a glass of water for her and placed it on the bedside cabinet.

"There's water on the bedside cabinet, Mommy. You can drink it if you're thirsty," Adie said considerately.

“Thank you, Adie. You and Abby are my eyes, so... I’m not afraid. In fact, I feel relaxed and happier. Although I can’t see with my eyes, I can see with my heart!” Renee said and smiled sincerely.

Yes, her pain for losing her sight was real, but her children’s love for her was real too, and it filled her with happiness. She wouldn’t know how warm her children were if something like this didn’t happen.

They were no longer merely kids under her care—they could be independent, and they could even take care of her when she needed it.

“Rest early, Mommy. Don’t worry, I won’t let you be blind for long. I’ll come up with ways to make you see again,” Adie promised firmly, clenching his fists.

“Just let things run its course. Of course, I would love to be able to see again, but if I can’t, I’m still happy with how things are.”

Renee told herself not to be greedy because she still had a lot of things. Besides, nothing was perfect, and imperfection was always the unchanged law of nature.

Renee felt that she was luckier than a lot of people since she had two dear children, and she should learn to be grateful.

“By the way, Adie... you went to your daddy tonight. How’s he doing?” Renee finally asked the question she wanted. She remembered that they had given each other blessings before they parted ways, and he had been about to get surgery too. She wondered if the surgery had gone smoothly.

Adie hung his head and confessed, “He’s pretty good, and his surgery was just over when I went to him. It looked like he had just woken up, and he remembered who I was.”

“He... remembered you?” Renee’s heart began fluttering.

“Yeah, he remembered who you were too. He promised me to come and see you once he’s recovered.”

“No!” Renee blurted out, overwhelmed by fear. She said sternly, “Listen to me, Adie-don’t let him come here. We’re already separated, and I don’t want to see him again.”

“You don’t want to see him again? Why do I feel like you wish to see him but you just don’t have the guts?” Adie said doubtfully, studying Renee’s expression closely.

Renee averted her gaze guiltily. “What... What do you mean? It’s not that, I just don’t want to see him.”

“You don’t want to let him see you this way because you’re blind. You’re afraid that he’ll think badly of you, right?”

“No, that’s not it!” Renee clenched her fists and explained, “It has nothing to do with my blindness; I just don’t want to see him. My decision wouldn’t change even if I could see.”

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“Just keep lying to yourself, Mommy. Anyway, I’ve made a deal with him, and he’ll come and see you. You can tell him yourself then...” Adie shrugged and said helplessly.

After a week, Renee was getting used to being blind. She adapted quickly, and Margaret and her children took great care of her. She learned about current events through voice messages and Braille, which she picked up quickly, so she was quite up-to-date despite staying at Everheart Manor all the time. She found out from the news that the Hunt and the Murphy families had fallen out with each other, and naturally, the marriage between Stefan and Seraphina was off.

Thanks to that, Hunt Enterprise was facing its biggest crisis due to financial and technical issues, and many felt that the Great Eight of Beach City might be reshuffled.

Renee didn’t know what to feel when she heard the news. She was neither happy nor sad, and felt like an onlooker calmly reading about people from another world. Finally, she could distance herself from that mess, and the thought of it gave her peace of mind.

After driving Adie and Abby to school every morning, Margaret would lead Renee to the pagoda tree in the front yard of the manor for sunbathing. She would lay on her bean bag and enjoy the warm sunlight, breathing in the fresh air and the lovely scent of the tree.

Although the days seemed longer, they were precious to her.

“How are you feeling, Ms. Ren? Do your eyes hurt? I’ve made some medicine to reduce inflammation and swelling, remember to put them on your eyes briefly before you sleep.

It’s very effective.” Having excellent medical skills, Margaret had been researching ways to help Renee’s eyes recover quickly.

A transplant would be possible as long as they found a pair of eyes suitable for Renee that her body didn’t resist. In the meantime, they had to take great care of her eyes to ensure a perfect transplantation when the time came. However, finding such a pair of eyes was extremely difficult, and though Renee seemed to be adapting well to her new life, Margaret felt devastated at the thought of Renee being blind her whole life.

“Thank you, Margaret. You’ve done a lot for me, so don’t be sad or blame yourself. To tell you the truth, I’m much calmer and happier now.” Renee tried to reassure Margaret, knowing how upset she was. However, it only made Margaret sadder.

“Ms. Ren, you’re the one who’s injured but you’re trying to comfort me. Why are you so nice? I’m really useless... I promised your mother to take good care of you, but something this terrible happened to you. I... I...” Margaret sobbed, unable to speak.

Eventually, she took a deep breath and calmed herself, wiping her tears away.

“It’s getting windy. Let me go and get you a blanket, Ms. Ren. Please wait for me and call for me if you need anything.”

“Go on, Margaret. I grew up here, so I know my way around. Don’t worry about me.”

Renee smiled. She remembered every part of the manor, and she could live there even if Margaret and her children weren't around.

Margaret entered the villa to look for a blanket while Renee lay down under the pagoda tree, enjoying the serenity of the quiet morning.

The breeze ruffled her hair, bringing along the sweet scent of flowers, and the sunlight warmed her skin.

Suddenly, Renee found something amiss. She couldn't feel the wind, but it didn't feel like the wind had stopped. Rather, it felt like something was blocking the wind.

Frowning, she asked hesitantly, "Margaret?"

Only silence greeted her. Renee could hear someone's rapid breathing, and felt their gaze on her skin. "You aren't Margaret, are you?"

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Margaret wasn't tall enough to be able to block out the breeze entirely, and she would have answered Renee by now. Also, this person smelled like grass, ambergris, and medical disinfectant.

Finally, she realized who it was. Renee clenched her fists and asked coolly,

"What are you doing here, Stefan?"

Stefan's heartbeat quickened, and he stared at Renee's eyes in disbelief.

"Your... eyes?"

"You came at last." Renee wasn't surprised because Adie had warned her about Stefan's desire to meet her.

People usually needed around two weeks to recover after brain surgery, but he had come here in less than a week. His wound had probably just healed; this man was really taking his health too lightly.

“Tell me. What’s wrong... with your eyes?”

Stefan demanded hoarsely. He could tell that there was something wrong with Renee’s eyes, but he refused to believe it. In his memory, she was perfect, and he couldn’t accept that her beautiful eyes were flawed.

“I’m the blind one here, not you. I’m sure you can tell what’s wrong with my eyes.” Renee took off her sunglasses, revealing her swollen eye sockets and the ghastly injuries around them.

“What? You... You...” Stefan’s large frame trembled as if he was having a terrible nightmare.

“Can you leave now that you know what’s wrong with me?” Renee put her sunglasses back on and smiled pleasantly. She knew that Stefan was a perfectionist, and even if he came here to get back together with her, he might give up after seeing her hollow eyes.

It was exactly what she wanted.

“I guess you’ve remembered who I am. Yes, we’ve wronged each other, but we’re even now. You can follow through with your plan and get married to Seraphina. You don’t have to feel burdened or guilty,” Renee said calmly.

“We’re even...” Stefan stared at Renee, and his voice shook as he said, “Does that mean we can start over?”

Renee’s heart skipped a beat, and for a moment, she was thrown off guard.

“Stop messing around. It’s not funny.” She never felt that they could start over.

After all, many things had happened, and they were already heartbroken. If they started over, they would go down the same path and get hurt again.

“Yeah, I was just joking. If you don’t think it’s funny, I’ll stop.” Taking a deep breath, Stefan moved closer to Renee and suggested calmly,

“It doesn’t mean that we have to be lovers or married if we start over... but I think we can restart our relationship. As for our future, we can wait and see what destiny holds for us. Maybe we’ll be good competitors or friends, but if nothing else... you’re the mother of my children. We can be good partners. What do you think?”

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Stefan’s words calmed Renee’s tension for some reason. She swallowed and asked,

“Do you really think so? Or... do you want to snatch the kids away from me?” Legally, it would be a piece of cake if the Hunt family wanted to snatch the children’s custody from her because she couldn’t even take care of herself now.

“No, the kids belong to us, and we’re not rivals. I don’t care if they’re with you or me-as long as they’re happy.” Stefan smiled and said teasingly, “You can have custody of me too.”

Renee couldn’t help but laugh.

“Are you out of your mind?”

Renee’s laughter made Stefan grin too.

“As you know, my brain’s a bit messed up. It’s still healing, so I hope you won’t be too hard on me.”

“Well, I won’t hate you, and you can do whatever you want as long as you don’t plot schemes, take away my kids, or target my brother.” Renee’s tone was friendly, but her boundaries were clear.

She had spent the last few days worrying about future attacks on her family, and she was exhausted. Now that she was blind, she couldn't do much. She wouldn't target others if they left her be.

"Okay, you have my word," Stefan promised firmly. Frankly, he didn't plan to plot schemes or fight against Quinton even if he hadn't recovered his memories.

If he had such intentions, he wouldn't have gone all out to ask Owen to save Quinton. Besides, he had regained his memories now, and all he wanted to do was adore Renee. There was no way he'd do anything to harm her.

"Okay. Umm... can you go now?" Renee trusted Stefan, and felt like the past grudges between them were now gone. However, she still didn't know how to act around him.

"Go?" Stefan casually pulled a stool over, sat down next to Renee's bean bag and said righteously, "I'm not going anywhere."

Renee frowned. "What?"

"Adie and Abby are here, and I'm their father. Plus, you made me promise not to take them, so... I'm not going. I want to live with my kids,"

Stefan said reasonably, carefully leaving out that he wanted to be where Renee was too.

"No, Stefan. Why are you being so shameless?" Renee groaned.

"What's the big deal? This manor is so large, and I'm sure there's an empty room I can stay in. I'll stay here and work for you. I'll take care of the kids and help them with their homework. You've got nothing to lose, right?"

"Well, you're not wrong..."

It seemed rather cost-effective to hire a capable live-in helper like Stefan, but Renee found it weird. He was always cold and distant, so why had he become so shameless after his brain recovery surgery?

Chapter: 1800

“Just say yes. You can always kick me out if it doesn’t work out, right?” Stefan urged Renee.

Since Renee couldn’t find a reason to reject him, she said grumpily, “Whatever. I can’t see, so it doesn’t matter to me.”

“So, you said yes...” Stefan’s deep-set eyes brightened immediately. The first step had gone much more smoothly than he thought. Being persistent was quite effective when dealing with Renee.

Margaret’s voice came from the manor at that moment.

“Ms. Ren, whose luggage is at the door...”

Margaret entered the front yard, looking confused when she saw Stefan.

“What are you doing here, Master Hunt? What are you trying to do to Ms. Ren?” Margaret immediately ran over to stand in front of Renee and glared at Stefan, saying firmly,

“You’re not welcome here. Please leave!”

Renee waved dismissively and said, “Just ignore him, Margaret. He’s free labor, so feel free to order him around.”

Stefan nodded humbly, still managing to look elegant as he said, “That’s right. Just let me do all the dirty and tedious chores.”

“Ah, urn...” Margaret was puzzled. She had only been gone for a few minutes, and so much had happened in between.

“Just let him stay since he’s brought his luggage here. Isn’t there a room for Barky in the backyard? Let him clean it up and stay there,” Renee instructed Margaret calmly.

“You don’t have to trouble yourself. Just give me a small room-I’m not fussy when it comes to living arrangements...” Stefan was moved by Renee’s care, and smiled as he asked,

“By the way, who’s Barky? Was he your former housekeeper?”

“Well... I guess you could say that since he was my guard dog,” Renee explained while smiling.

“You... you’re asking me to stay in the doghouse?” Stefan’s eyes widened and he gritted his teeth.

“I can’t do anything about it since I’ve only got one empty room here,” Renee said innocently. She wanted to see if Stefan would run away.

“No, it’s fine as long as I can lie down,” Stefan said immediately, then stood up and dragged his luggage along.” I’ll go and clean it up... I’m looking forward to it!”