

## Ex-Wife 2041

### Chapter 2041

Had Renee been the one who learned the truth that day, Stefan was sure that the situation would be even more painful.

"I don't know what you're trying to hint at. If it were in the past, I would have gotten to the bottom of it. But now, I'm exhausted. I don't want to get tangled up with you again. You know what? I'm exhausted!" Renee said. She looked tom and agitated, and was trembling slightly. She was trying hard to not break down on the spot.

"It's like you're fishing. When you got me by the hook, you let me go. But when I swim away, you put out some fish feed. Do you think that's fun? Does making me a fool out of me satisfy you that much?"

Renee couldn't take it anymore. Her eyes turned red as she vented her true feelings in front of Stefan, as if she had been suppressing them for quite a while.

She had appeared casual and straightforward the entire time. She parted with him on good terms, and was even willing to begin a new relationship. She also wished he could choose a new life. Even so, she was no saint. She couldn't be so indifferent about her romance.

It was just an act. She was always disappointed in herself, as Stefan could easily affect her. Even a few casual words from him could either delight her or sadden her for a long time.

She hated that kind of feeling, so much so that she couldn't stop herself from hating him.

Renee turned and glared at him, and roared, "What the hell do you want? Just say it! You're so fickle, it's driving me up the wall!"

"I'm sorry."

Stefan never imagined he had caused her so much pain. He was saddened for her. He descended the stairs quickly, and pulled her into his embrace.

"All you need to know is that my choices are for only one goal-I want to see you and the kids happy forever!" "Humph! Happy forever?" Renee stood there in a daze, allowing Stefan to hug her. She sneered, though she wanted to cry. "Do I look happy to you?"

"You're just not used to it now. Your bad mood is just temporary. When you get used to not having me, you'll feel happy..."

Stefan let go of Renee, suppressing his passion for her, and added sincerely, "You're such a wonderful woman, and you're full of love. You'll be happy no matter who you're with. You're born with the ability to create happiness."

It was the same as what she had done in the past. Although she had divorced him and was forced to raise Adie and Abby alone, she led a happy and beautiful life. It was wonderful and healing.

"Thanks for the flattery."

Renee remained indifferent, and looked at him coldly.

"You're right. I grew up with love. I can love people and create my happiness. And you... Forgive my bluntness, but you're selfish and cold. You don't have love, and you don't know how to love people. You won't be happy after leaving me, and you'll never be happy no matter who you're with."

Stefan shuddered, his face icy. Soon, however, he laughed as he smiled dotingly. "Yeah, that's who you are. You have a sharp tongue. But I agree with you. I might never be happy after leaving you."

It was rare to see him this amiable, which softened Renee's heart. She wondered if she was being too harsh.

She pursed her lips. "Stop acting so miserable. Your unhappiness is all your own doing. You don't deserve any pity."

"I don't blame you." Stefan caressed her face gently and passionately. "I feel that I'll be happy too. When you're

happy, I'll also feel very happy."

Chapter 2042

They spoke as if they were going to stay apart forever. It sounded melancholic.

Renee, however, found it amusing.

She turned around and kept going downstairs without pausing. As she almost walked out of the entrance of Hunt Manor, she happened to bump into Timothy.

"Ren?"

Timothy was exercising, clad in sports attire. He stretched his neck and rubbed his eyes, repeatedly trying to ensure he wasn't mistaken.

"It's morning. I'm sure this isn't an illusion. What are you doing back home?"

"Grandpa..." Renee had tried all means to avoid Timothy, but she still failed to do so. She simply walked over and greeted him generously. "I got drunk last night. It was Stefan who took care of me and brought me home. I was about to say hello to you when you woke up."

"So you were the woman last night. I knew it! Stef wouldn't be so stupid and bring another woman home."

When Timothy learned that Renee was the woman Stefan brought home last night, he wasn't very surprised. Besides, he had guessed it last night. He merely pretended to be ignorant to avoid making the rebellious Stefan feel awkward.

He woke up that early to exercise because it was his habit, and he wanted to prove his guess was right. Hence, he purposely tried to see who the woman was by waiting at the entrance.

"Yes, it was silly of me. I'm so sorry. I promise not to do such an awful thing again," Renee said awkwardly.

Once again, alcohol had proven to bring trouble. Now, it had made her look like a shameless, pathetic mistress. She was filled with remorse.

"It hasn't been long, but you've already forgotten about me. Don't be a stranger. Do you take me as a stranger too?" Timothy said.

He seemed to be rebuking her.

"Didn't I tell you? No matter how your romance with Stef ends, it won't affect our relationship. You're my granddaughter forever. You also promised to visit me often, but you never came after such a long time. I'm sad..." he continued earnestly.

Rather than being angry at their separation, Timothy was more concerned about Renee's estrangement from him afterward.

In the past, she would always chat with him and have a heart-to-heart talk with him. She would have tea or play chess with him. Yet, she gradually stopped getting in touch with him. It deepened his sadness.

That sadness turned into anger, and he vented it on Stefan. He felt that if Stefan cherished her and missed her, he wouldn't have lost such a great granddaughter-in-law. Then, he would be able to enjoy family happiness with his descendants close to him.

"I'm sorry, Grandpa. Many things happened lately. I wanted to visit you, but I was busy..." Renee sounded guilty. She was truly busy lately, but she had to admit that she inevitably stayed away from the Hunts because of the change in her relationship with Stefan.

She knew that the Hunts were kind to her, and that she shouldn't have fallen out with them because of the divorce. Despite that, her actions and thoughts were not on the same page.

After all, life wasn't a TV drama. It was hard to idealize everything. Something had changed, and it would be very awkward to always try to make it look peaceful.

Chapter 2043

"Stop lying to me! I know you've drawn a line and regarded my family as outsiders, haven't you?" Timothy said. Being a smart person, he could see the change in Renee's emotions. Although he was sad, he had to accept it. "I don't blame you. Everyone is entitled to their choices. You chose to keep some distance between us because it might set you at ease. That's very normal," he said.

"Thank you, Grandpa. I'm glad that you can understand me." Renee stopped pretending. She admitted that her feelings toward the Hunts had changed.

There was now a rift between them.

"You don't have to worry about the kids' upbringing. I won't give them the wrong idea. I'll tell them their father, grandparents, and great-grandfather are very good people. I'll encourage them to come and visit you, too," Renee promised sincerely.

She wasn't a petty woman, and would never manipulate the children to vent her dissatisfaction toward Stefan. On the contrary, she always regarded the children as individuals instead of her property.

They had a father, grandparents, and others. They would form their judgment.

Renee found it unnecessary to foster negative ideas in them and twist their psyche at a young age.

"You've relieved my worries." A long sigh escaped Timothy. He looked at Renee, reluctant to part with her. "Indeed, you're my sworn brother's granddaughter. You're as righteous as he was. Stef was blind to the fact, and lost you. He'll regret it."

Timothy knew it was impossible to remedy the relationship between Stefan and Renee. Thus, he held no hope for it. Even so, he would be filled with regret every time he recalled it.

"Life is made of different choices with their unique meanings. I believe there was a reason behind Stefan's choice. It doesn't matter whether he'll regret it or not, because..." After a pause, Renee added sadly, "People are greedy. No matter what choices they make, they'll regret it."

She recalled the past choices she made, and realized she wasn't that regretful about it. At that point, the choices she could make were the best ones.

People would only regret it because they would miss the second choice when they had made the first choice. In short, they were too greedy.

"Yes, you're right. We're too greedy..." Timothy said.

Timothy was enlightened. He didn't expect Renee to be so wise despite her age. In comparison to the disappointing Stefan, Timothy found Renee very smart.

"I heard from Stef yesterday that you're currently getting in touch with Austin's grandson, aren't you?" Although Timothy was enlightened, he still paid attention to Renee's actions.

"Justin's a very good friend of mine. I'm trying hard to...get a happy ending with him," Renee generously confessed about her romance.

#### Chapter 2044

Stefan followed closely, and went downstairs.

He happened to overhear Renee's reply.

It made him frown.

He cared about that very much, but tried his best to suppress it and not show his feelings.

"Justin is pretty good..." Stefan slowly walked to Renee, looking nonchalant.

"At the very least, his background matches yours.

I think he suits you well as your lover." Both Timothy and Renee looked at Stefan in unison, as if they were looking at a fool.

Timothy frowned and asked, "Do you know Justin well? What's your relationship with him?" Stefan pocketed his hands and replied bluntly, "No, I don't know him.

I'm not close to him, either." "If that's the case, stop giving your opinions.

Ren's looking fora boyfriend.

It has nothing to do with you," Timothy snapped.

He was full of disdain, finding Stefan an eyesore.

In the past, he found Stefan reserved, aloof, and noble.

Now, his opinion had changed.

It was all but an illusion.

After spending a few days with Stefan, people would find him stubborn and childish.

Stefan had lost his wife to his enemy, but he feigned indifference and generosity.

He even wanted to respect Renee and give her blessings.

It was clear he was just an idiot.

"Grandpa, please don't make things difficult for him.

I'm glad to see him give Justin and me blessings.

I want to thank him, too." Renee smiled at Stefan, and spoke more naturally than him.

"We can still be friends after separating.

We don't hold grudges, or fall out with each other.

It's generous of him to give me his blessings.

Well, I'll also wish that he and Ms.

Desrosiers can be happily ever after together.

Oh, I have an idea! Why don't we hold both weddings together? The more, the merrier.

I'm looking forward to it." Timothy swallowed and broke out in a cold sweat.

Seeing how crazy they had become, he grew nervous.

"Good idea." Ever the competitive man, Stefan wanted to see who was more natural and generous.

"It'll save time and energy.

I'll tell Briar later.

I'm sure she'll look forward to it too." Renee's impeccable expression cracked a little.

She snorted, and said, "I didn't expect you two to truly love each other.

You're even talking about marrying.

That's fast!" Although she looked indifferent, she was in truth sad.

She was mentally prepared to know that Stefan truly loved Briar, but she also imagined that he had faced unspeakable difficulties that forced

him to use Briar as a shield.

However, no problem in the world would need him to fake a marriage or pay with the happiness of his life. The

In short, Renee was just trying to console herself.

There were no difficulties.

Stefan sincerely loved Briar—that was it.

After some consideration, he chose to abandon Renee and their children to spend the rest of his life with his one true love.

It was...normal.

Chapter 2045

"Not bad.

I think we're very slow compared to you and Justin," Stefan said expressionlessly.

He wanted to compete against Renee.

At first, he didn't want to use such insincere words and anger Renee.

However, she just had to suggest doing a double wedding.

It was heartbreaking.

It meant that Renee and Justin were serious.

They were dating each other under the premise of getting married.

When he imagined them getting married and having children in the future, Stefan grew livid.

They would spend the rest of their lives together! He had no choice but to vent his feelings using such a childish method.

"No, you and Ms.

Desrosiers are faster.

Justin and I were in an ambiguous relationship for many years.

We just started dating each other lately.

But you and Ms.

Desrosiers fell out and lost touch with each other.

When you got back together, you guys were full of passion.

You abandoned your wife and kids for her, and now, you're going to marry her soon.

I'm sure you two are far more lovey-dovey." Renee smiled, her words filled with mockery.

At the same time, she thought of how fast Stefan turned hostile toward her.

Before, he was madly in love with her and was cold and heartless toward Briar.

He destroyed Briar socially, so she could never appear in public using her true identity. But then, they made up.

He also wished to give up everything for Briar.

Renee was confused about what love and eternity were.

Perhaps those two things could never coexist.

Eternity could be used to describe stars or the changes in the world.

It could also be used in beautiful poems-but it was never about love.

Love would only last for a period.

When people were madly in love, they would be very happy.

They wanted to cling to each other all the time, and made their significant other their sole property.

But when the love faded, they would detest their partners.

They would feel quite miserable living with their partners, too.

Hence, love could only be described as fleeting.

"It's hard to say whether we're lovey-dovey or not.

But I'm sure we're not as romantic as you and Justin..." Stefan crossed his arms, sneering.

He added sarcastically, "There's only one possibility of a man and a woman engaging in an ambiguous relationship for a long time.

It's either the man or the woman who loves the other too much.

If not, they won't be others' second choice for such a long time.

I can see that you two are soulmates.

You were best friends for so many years.

Now, it's time for you to talk about your love for each other "Yes, you're right..." Renee agreed, faking a smile.

"All along, I wasn't certain about my relationship with Justin.

Now, I finally do.

Yes, we're soulmates.

Thank you for helping me discover my feelings for him.

It's easy to get a boyfriend, lover, or husband, but it's extremely hard to find a soulmate

I should cherish him." Speechless, Stefan pursed his lips in displeasure.

He could hear his teeth grinding.

Stuck between them, Timothy felt like he had just experienced a war.

He heaved a long sigh and tried to stop them.

"That's enough.

You're all childish.

Stop hurting each other.

You know very well if you love them or not.

It's meaningless even if you can outwit the other..." Timothy checked his watch

"It's already time.

Have breakfast with me."

Chapter 2046

Renee wanted to turn Timothy down because she had separated from Stefan.

It was inappropriate for her to be too close to the Hunts.

However, Timothy's eager face made it hard for her to turn him down.

Besides, she always had breakfast with him in the past.

"Okay." At last, Renee agreed.

She obediently helped him walk toward the dining room.

Timothy cared about his health.

His habit of having breakfast was because of his upbringing.

There was a classic and common breakfast on the table, including pasta, buns, prawns, oatmeal, and so on.

It was coupled with nice tea.

Everything smelled delicious.

"Come.

I got a professional new cook today.

I'm sure the taste is authentic." Timothy took the main seat, and had Stefan and Renee sit at either side of him.

He smiled amiably; he cherished the rare chance to dine with them.

Both Stefan and Renee were obedient.

They kept their heads low and ate quietly.

They were amazed at the authentic breakfast.

"Ren, what do you think of the pasta?" Timothy asked Renee.

"It's good!" Renee had tried some, and inevitably ate more.

She couldn't care less about table manners as she enjoyed the food." It's soft and delicate, but it's not overcooked.

It's chewy and tastes good.

I won't forget about how it tastes..." "Pfft!" sitting on Timothy's right, Stefan burst into laughter when he heard Renee's exaggerated descriptions. "What are you laughing at? Did I say anything wrong?" Renee glared at Stefan, feeling that he was laughing at her.

"No, you were right." Stefan adjusted his expression, and kept his aloof facade.

"Let's not dwell on whether it's nice or not.

I'm sure Grandpa loves what you said.

You're good at making others happy." Stefan laughed because he had recalled the past.

Many years ago, when he first got married to Renee, he felt nothing for her.

At that time, Timothy loved having breakfast too and would force them to dine with him

He would ask Renee what she felt



about the food and she would give lot of exaggerated comments like a food streamer

Stefan found her a hypocrite.

All she did was please others.

She had no ideas of her own.

Hence, his disdain toward her grew.

Now, Renee said the same thing in a similar scene.

Stefan found her a very warm and cute person.

She would give others optimistic feelings.

Finally, Stefan understood why many elders, including timothy and Justin's family, loved Renee so much.

No one would hate someone so

warm and positive, just like a M sunflower.

Chapter 2047

Stefan found himself bewitched by her charms, and couldn't control his heart.

He wasn't laughing at her.

Rather, he was sincerely happy because he admired and liked her.

"Of course!" Renee raised her chin.

"I feel that I'll get good feedback if I make others happy.

It's a good way to recharge myself.

I don't think it's bad.

But you don't know how to be nice to your grandpa, even when he's at such an old age.

All you do is drive him up the wall.

If I were him, I would've long beaten you up." Renee purposely criticized him as she wanted to tease him.

"L." Stefan was at a loss for words.

These days, he did nothing else except drive Timothy up the wall.

"You're right, Ren.

You spoke my mind." Timothy felt quite happy, as if he had found someone who understood him.

He glared disdainfully at Stefan.

"Honestly, he's spoiled and annoying.

He drives me mad! You're right.

He'll only come to his senses with some beating." Stefan frowned, but he couldn't retaliate them as they ganged up to criticize him.

"Isn't it unfair for you two to judge me like this?" "What's that? I'm your grandpa! That's the biggest fairness." Timothy grew angrier as he spoke.

He instructed a servant nearby, "Edith, go get my ruler from my study! I want to beat him up in front of Renee as an example." "Yes, Master." Edith nodded.

She was worried about Stefan, but she dared not disobey Timothy.

Hence, she obediently went to the study to get Timothy's ruler.

In a while, she returned with the ruler.

However, it looked more like a wooden stick.

It was thick and heavy, with the rules of the Hunt family engraved on it.

Renee swallowed, and said carefully, "Grandpa, why do you want to do this? It looks terrifying.

Hitting people with this seems rather painful." "Of course! This is used to teach disobedient people a lesson.

This guy keeps challenging my patience.

I haven't punished him yet.

Since you're here and you think that he should be punished, then as his elder, I can't delay it.

I must punish him!" Timothy kept a strict face.

"This ruler is considered light.

I should have used a whip that would leave traces on his back.

Then, he'll learn his lesson!" "Please don't.

I...

I was just joking.

We're all adults.

We just do things by following our hearts.

There's no right or wrong.

Just...put this away.

I'm scared." Renee swallowed; she regretted teasing Stefan.

She wanted Timothy to teach Stefan

a lesson, but she didn't expect him to be that cruel toward Stefan to the extent of punishing Stefan physically.

She wondered if Timothy wanted to hit Stefan vigorously.

Renee recalled the year she and

Stefan went for a divorce without Timothy's permission

When Timothy learned about that, he

whipped Stefan cruelly and Om vigorously.

She wondered if such a melodramatic scene would happen again or not.

"What do you mean there's no right or wrong? He's an irresponsible man.

He hurt a lot of people, too.

That's wrong of him.

Since he's made a mistake, I should beat him up!" Timothy looked serious he didn't intend to go soft on Stefan at all.

Chapter 2048

Timothy loomed over Stefan, his tone solemn.

"Don't just sit there! Give me your hand.

I'll teach you a lesson!" Stefan was silent as he put the cutlery down.

He extended his hand, not a trace of resistance in him.

"It's all my fault.

Punish me as you see fit, Grandpa." Renee was flabbergasted.

She wondered why Stefan was so submissive, even more so than Adie when the boy was punished.

Stefan could easily defend himself; in fact, he could simply leave.

Timothy wouldn't be able to do a thing to stop him.

Yet, the unexpected happened.

Stefan obediently extended his hand, waiting for Timothy's punishment.

Renee was puzzled, uncertain as to what she should do.

Should she beg for Stefan's mercy, or just watch everything unfold silently? Regardless of her choice, whatever she decided on would be too sudden.

She felt so awkward, she wished the ground would open up and swallow her whole.

All she wished was to hide.

"Humph! You know very well this is all your fault.

A pity you never amended your wrongs.

You're so stubborn, you're just asking for a beating!" Timothy's ruler came down Stefan's palm, hard.

While the beating seemed to be for show, the ruler's impact on Stefan's palm was nothing short of painful.

Timothy was once a soldier, so his strength wasn't something to scoff at.

Both Renee and Edith watched nearby, overwhelmed with anxiety.

They could feel the pain Stefan had to endure, and broke into a cold sweat. "Master, please stop!" Edith cried.

"Don't beat him anymore! Master Hunt needs his hands to conquer the world.

If you keep doing this, you'll break them! Please calm down and stop, Master! Stop hitting him, please!" Edith cared deeply for Stefan, and felt as if her own son was being hit.

As she watched him suffer, her heart ached.

Despite the risk, she begged for his mercy.

"The world? He can't even keep his family! He can't talk about conquering the world at all!" Timothy snarled, furious.

He exerted more force in his beatings, refusing to stop.

"TI told you.

He's been so thoroughly spoiled, he has no idea what responsibility is! He needs some beating.

If he considers the consequences of his actions, I wouldn't need to punish him like this today.

He deserves this! If I don't hit him, he'll never grow!" At first timothy simply wanted to put on a show to fish for Renee's sympathy for Stefan.

With him as the instigator, he could

bring her and Stfan closer Stan closer together

just like how he had done in the past.

Yet the more he punished Stefan, the angrier he became.

He started recalling the preposterous things Stefan had done all these years.

They were unacceptable! As he linked those incidents to the fact that he could no longer enjoy breakfast with Renee; he found himself unable to stop hitting Stefan.

Stefan didn't flinch or yield.

Timothy's blows were such that his fingers would break at any moment.

He broke out in a cold sweat as he endured the excruciating pain.

All the way, he remained quiet, not a sound escaping his lips.

It seemed he was ready to see his hand broken.

Chapter 2049

In a way, Stefan wasn't being unyielding.

Rather, he felt that he was a scumbag who deserved his punishment.

He had repeatedly harmed Renee and his children.

Everything was his fault.

Though his conscience tormented him, he was incapable of self-harm.

Timothy's punishment was just what he wanted.

It helped ease his guilt.

Renee watched from nearby, the heavy sound of Timothy's beatings ringing in her ears.

At first, she wanted to feign ignorance and refused to meddle.

However, the severity of the punishment was such that a terrible accident would happen if it continued.

Unable to sit still, she tried to stop Timothy.

"Grandpa, please, stop! If you keep doing this, I'll get angry!" Seeing Renee's solemn expression, Timothy suppressed his anger and stopped.

He asked confusedly, "Ren, I'm doing this for you.

Why are you speaking up for him? Don't tell me...

You still can't forget about him? Do you still love him?" "No, that's not the reason," Renee replied, shaking her head.

She didn't bother looking at Stefan, and her tone was aloof.

"I don't feel sorry for him at all, nor am I still in love with him.

I stopped you because of the kids.

I don't want them to have a disabled father.

If you keep hitting him, you'll ruin his right hand.

He won't be able to function well.

In the future, his condition might be a burden to Adie and Abby.

I have to stop you." "Oh, I see..." Timothy awkwardly wiped away the sweat on his forehead, rather embarrassed about the misunderstanding. Timothy felt quite awkward for Stefan as well.

The woman he loved couldn't care less about him.

That might just be the greatest punishment for him; anguish born from indifference.

"Don't worry.

I'll never be a burden to them.

If you don't trust me, I can sign a contract to relieve them of the responsibility," Stefan retorted.

His poker face was unreadable, but the iciness in his tone was evident.

Stefan was no emotionless robot, and Renee's heartless words had affected him somewhat.

Upset, he decided to give up everything and challenge Timothy's patience.

"Grandpa, your punishment is nothing.

It's plain childish.

Go on, show me what a Hunt is truly like," he taunted.

"What...

What do you mean, you brat?!" Timothy had been livid but he m Noprene stopped or Renee's sake

Yet now, Stefan was openly taunting him.

He couldn't accept it.

"Fearless, aren't you?" he roared.

. "Fine, then! Show me just how tough you can be! I'll break your hands, and

I might even get you killed Let's just end things that way! The good days are over!" He swung the heavy ruler, bringing it down Stefan's back and legs with all his strength.

He showed no mercy for Stefan.

"Stop! Can't you two act your age?" Renee cried.

She didn't know what to say-her interference had worsened the situation even more.

She felt helpless.

Both Timothy and Stefan were much

too stubborn and they insisted outdoingleach other

Anxious, Renee flung herself toward Stefan and hugged him without any hesitation.

Timothy's blow landed on her instead...

Chapter 2050

"Ahhhh!" Edith screamed, terrified by the painful blow.

Timothy immediately stopped, feeling pained for Renee. "Ren, why... Why did you do this?! You took the blow for this bastard!"

Stefan was so stunned, he couldn't feel any pain. He stared at Renee, his emotions in turmoil. "Are you okay?" "I'm fine." Renee shook her head, pretending that it was nothing. In truth, she had a feeling her left shoulder was broken. The pain was excruciating.

"Why did you do that?" Stefan grabbed her shoulders, intent on inspecting her wound. He knew personally how painful Timothy's blow was. Renee must have been terribly hurt!

"I have nothing better to do, that's why. Happy?" Renee glared at Stefan grumpily, pulling away from him. She didn't want him touching her.

"You'd better go now," Stefan said, flexing his fingers. He didn't want to be a burden to her, and he had no idea how long he could hold himself back.

The longer he was with her, the more he could see how wonderful and precious she was. He feared he might fail to hold on, and then try to get back with her again. Doing that would invalidate his sacrifices and everything he suffered for.

"Save that. I'll go now," Renee snapped.

Stefan's coldness was beyond her expectations. She didn't expect him to drive her away so heartlessly. Her heart grew cold with disappointment.

"You need to get it straight. I stayed just to spend some time with Grandpa. It wasn't because of you. I did that just because I was worried Grandpa might be too agitated. It'd be bad for his health. It had nothing to do with you. Stop flattering yourself and think you're so attractive,' she spat icily.

Renee wasn't stubborn. She blocked the blow for Stefan because she was worried that Timothy's agitation might affect his health. After all, he was suffering from heart disease. If anything happened to him because of this, the guilt would crush her forever.

When she pondered over her actions, however, she could see it was inappropriate. It seemed like she was trying to protect Stefan, as if she was trying to get on his good side.

"You're asking for it!" Timothy yelled. "Is the beating nothing to you? How could you say such a heartless thing to Renee? ....."

He was about to continue beating Stefan, but Edith quickly stopped him.

"Master, please calm down," she said. "If you keep hitting him, Ms. Everheart will block it again. You'll be hitting her instead. Just stop, even if it's for her sake."

Her words were effective, as Timothy immediately stopped and turned to criticize Stefan. His words were harsh and filled with anger.

"Well, Grandpa, I think breakfast is over. I need to go now, I have something to do," Renee said.

Listening to Timothy's outburst made her feel as if she too was forced to bear the brunt of his anger. She wanted nothing more than to leave.

Just as she was about to leave, however, she saw the guard trying to stop a familiar figure at the entrance of the living room.

"Sir, please calm down!" the guard was saying. "We can talk it out. Regardless of who you want to see, I must inform it first. Please calm down."

"Shut up!"