Extraordinary 571

Chapter 571

Even with half her face disfigured, she still has such a hold over my son! Oh, this is maddening.

Lochlan was at a loss.

His own mother raised him up, and he was eternally grateful for that. He could still vividly remember what she had to go through that night.

However, the fact remained that Lottie was disfigured. She spends her days cooped up at home and she's never offended anybody. Who would be as cruel as to disfigure her?

Charlotte stared dejectedly at Lochlan, her heart stone cold.

She could see the struggle and hesitation in the man's eyes.

Then she burst into a heart-wrenching laugh.

"You don't believe me."

Lochlan's body twitched. He felt so guilty that he couldn't even bear to meet Charlotte's reddened eyes. "It's not that I don't believe you, Lottie. I just want to get to the bottom of this before I come to any conclusions."

"What I've said is the truth. But it doesn't matter if you believe me or not," Charlotte sighed as she shook her head. "Please don't appear before me ever again. I don't remember who you are anyway. Kindly return me all of my ID. Since the Fraser family doesn't welcome me, you guys shouldn't be withholding my stuff."

Lifting her chin slightly, she gave them a frosty look.

Lochlan stared at her in disbelief. Is this still that quiet girl who couldn't even express herself?

He discovered that the haughty look Charlotte had was extremely familiar. She looks... she looks just like Ashlyn!

How could she possibly resemble the cold and strong-willed Ashlyn?

I must be confused.

Lochlan's head was in a mess. No matter how hard he tried, he just couldn't bring himself to believe either side of the story.

Although Mrs. Fraser hadn't had her say yet, he started dragging her out of the place.

"Don't you find this humiliating? Let's go home, Mom," he pleaded.

Mrs. Fraser didn't want Charlotte exposing any more of the Fraser family's secrets. "Mr. Field," she snorted coldly, "Your actions today have been rather eye-opening. I certainly never expected our mayor to be like this."

She then gave Charlotte a disdainful, albeit suggestive, look. "Could it be that a certain vixen has pulled the wool over your eyes?" she mused as she looked from Mr. Field to Charlotte and back again.

If she were going down, she'd drag the Field family down with her as well.

She certainly didn't believe Mrs. Field would welcome Charlotte anymore after hearing what she said.

As expected, an outraged expression flashed across the latter's face.

Much to her surprise, however, Mrs. Field began marching toward her just as she was about to leave with Lochlan.

Smack!

A tight slap landed across Mrs. Fraser's face. As a noblewoman, she was well-respected by many. Furthermore, the fact that her nephew was Dixon meant that people dared not easily offend her.

Given her seniority, she hadn't expected Mrs. Field to have the guts to slap her.

Her eyes widened with shock as pain seared across her cheek.

"What did you do?" She unleashed an ear-piercing shriek. "How dare you hit me?"

Not only was everybody present completely flabbergasted, but so were the people watching discreetly from outside the Field family home.

Mrs. Field is famous for her elegance and grace. She actually hit someone?

"Kate Lawrence!"

Mrs. Field addressed Mrs. Fraser by her full name! This b**** has gone too far!

"My goddaughter, Lottie, is a sweet and obedient girl. And my husband, James, is a righteous man. Neither of them deserves to be defamed and insulted by you. How could you say such nasty things and trample over other people's dignity? It truly is the misfortune of the Fraser family to have you as one its members. Don't blame me for showing you no mercy if you dare to spread this misfortune to the Fields!

If I hear about such things in the future again, I will never forgive you!"

She even pushed the both of them so hard that Mrs. Fraser lost her balance and fell onto the ground.

Chapter 572

The door slammed shut behind them.

Frustration welled up in Mrs. Fraser's chest.

She wanted to curse and scream out loud. After a quick glance around, she realized that there were many people gathered around the Field family's doorstep.

Some of them were even familiar faces.

Ministers, committee members, the secretaries' families and whatnot... had come out to check what had happened.

Her cheeks began burning. She had never been so humiliated before in her life. This is all the Field family's fault!

Oh, they'll be the death of me! I will never forget the humiliation I've endured today! I'll be back!

At the Field family home.

Disbelief flashed across Joseph's face. He realized the look on his face went from one shocked expression to another.

"Mom... that was so badass! You were like a martial artist expert!"

She just threw them out the door! How cool was that? I'm so impressed!

Mom's such a badass!

"Go back inside," Mr. Field sighed. "I've got something to say."

Upon hearing this, Charlotte's body twitched slightly.

Biting her lower lip, she followed the Field family into the house.

Back in the living room, tension hung in the air.

Throughout his entire political career, Mr. Field had held himself to the highest standards. Not only was he honest and incorruptible, but he also had a keen eye for potential and was incredibly adept at putting

this ability to good use.

He certainly hadn't encountered such an incident before.

The little girl who was huddling in a corner of the sofa with her head hung low as though she just made some grave mistake. He couldn't bring himself to say anything.

After knowing her for some time, he had a basic understanding of her.

She was polite and hardworking. Even if she didn't talk much, she was still an extremely obedient child.

Thinking about what she had been through back in the Fraser family simply broke his heart.

"Lottie, it's been a while since you've started living with us. My wife and I know life's been tough on you in the past. That's why we've never forced you to do anything. However, today's events have left me rather surprised. Do you mind giving us an explanation?"

By now, Charlotte's eyes were so bloodshot that they looked like a rabbit's. After casting a distressed look at Joseph, she lowered her head once more and mumbled, "I... I'm Lochlan's foster daughter. He's always been really nice to me. However, Mrs. Fraser didn't like me and wants me to leave him. I... I didn't have a home, and I didn't... know where else to go. I'm... I'm sorry for troubling everyone. I-I'll move out tomorrow. This is all my fault... I'm so sorry."

She didn't want things to turn out like that either.

However, she knew that the Field family had no obligation to protect her. She was nothing but a stranger to them. She had no mother; she had no home. They had done more than enough for her.

They had no reason to continue allowing her to stay here.

Furthermore, her presence would only invite further trouble for them. The Fraser family was extremely powerful. She didn't the Fields getting angry and worried on her behalf.

Mrs. Fraser was right. I'll always be a burden.

"Lottie, don't say things like that. You did nothing wrong. Mrs. Fraser is wrong. She humiliated and hurt you. She's the one at fault." Joseph assured her as he grabbed her hand to give her strength. "This is your home. Didn't you say so earlier?"

"No..." Charlotte protested as she frantically shook her head. This was what Uncle Lochlan said when he brought me back to the Fraser family as well.

But how did things turn out?

After a while, everybody started hating me.

They think I'm stupid because I couldn't speak properly. They complained I didn't know how to do anything. I was already trying my best to learn.

I really tried. I want to be just like everyone else as well.

I really do.

Alas, I'm just too stupid. I'll always be a disappointment.

As the tears streamed down her cheeks, she sobbed, "I'm not a slut! I'm really not... I didn't seduce Uncle Lochlan..."

Hugging herself, she began mumbling unconsciously, "No... Don't cut me... Don't cut me..."

Chapter 573

Her consciousness seemed to fall into some kind of weird loop. The image of Mrs. Fraser flashed before her eyes over and over. She got so frightened that she hugged herself tightly.

Go back... Lottie doesn't want to move forward anymore... Lottie has to hug herself tighter... She's got to go back...

Heartbroken, Mrs. Field pulled the little girl into her arms and turned to Mr. Field, "James, let's put a pin in this for now. It's been hard on her. She's probably scared out of her wits."

Mr. Field could only nod his head exasperatedly.

Deep down, however, he was quite worried. The vicious and merciless Haddock family had close ties with the Frasers.

There may be dire consequences.

Sigh...

The sound of his phone ringing woke Lucas up.

"What did you say?"

"The Fraser family made a scene at the Fields?"

His weariness immediately disappeared without a trace as he straightened up on the couch.

Slowly stirring awake from his voice, Ashlyn asked bleary-eyed, "What happened?"

"It's unclear yet, but there was apparently a huge row," Lucas replied as he hung up his phone. "Spencer heard this through the grapevine as well. Lots of people in that governmental residence know about this."

Ashlyn felt rather faint. "How did those two families get involved with each other?" As she was searching for Lucas during the past couple of days, she had paid little attention to Charlotte's situation.

For some reason, she immediately made the connection upon hearing the Frasers and the Fields. "Don't tell me it's got something to do with Charlotte!"

Lucas nodded his head. "I heard a little girl has started living with the Field family recently. It's highly likely that girl is Charlotte." "Why don't we pay them a visit today?"

"Sure."

Although they were whispering, their voices woke the woman sleeping on the bed.

As Claire slowly opened her eyes, she was greeted with the sight of a good-looking couple sitting by her sickbed.

They looked like a match made in heaven.

Yet, she couldn't bear to look at this blissful couple.

"Lucas," she murmured.

After a quick glance around and realizing that they were in a hospital, she apologized guiltily, "Did my illness act up again? I'm so sorry to have troubled you."

"How could you say that?" Lucas chided her gently as he got up and poured her a glass of water.

"Your health matters the most."

After he finished, he turned around and took Ashlyn's hand. "Claire," he introduced, "This is my girlfriend, Ashlyn."

"Hi," Ashlyn greeted with a smile.

A weak smile touched Claire's lips. The sight of their hands touching caused a pang of pain in her heart. "Time really flies. Even Lucas has landed himself a girlfriend. He always stuck to me like glue. Now, that little boy who always thought of me first will be in the arms of another woman!"

Ashlyn's smile froze.

Thought of you first?

Are you trying to tell me indirectly that you've always been the most important person to him?

Ashlyn wasn't sure if she was overthinking this.

She just couldn't shake the feeling that Claire was looking at Lucas in a particular way.

Ashlyn, what are you thinking?

They are siblings.

Have I been reduced to one of those women who just love to hallucinate when they're in love?

Claire went back to Whitland Villa after spending a day in the hospital.

Lucas still had quite a lot of things to attend to, and Ashlyn wanted to pay the Fields a visit.

A dark cloud hung over them because of what happened in the morning.

Mrs. Field brought Charlotte to the Imperial Tea House to counsel the little girl.

As this was the first time Charlotte had been to such a place, she began looking around curiously after they arrived.

"It's beautiful."

"It is. Most people aren't allowed in here." Mrs. Field chuckled. "Let's go to one of the private rooms."

However, they soon bumped into someone they didn't want to see.

"Ouch! Are you blind? You bumped into me!" Olivia snapped as she gave Charlotte a shove.

She had come here to try her luck after hearing rumors that Ms. Saunders frequently played the piano in this teahouse.

It was only after a great deal of effort did she get her hands on a VIP ticket through someone she knew.

Chapter 574

There wes no sign of Medeline Seunders efter hours of weiting, so Olivie turned eround to leeve.

Feeling irriteted, she stomped ewey in enger end unexpectedly bumped into Cherlotte end Fee.

Olivie hed elweys been errogent end overbeering, so she put ell the bleme on Cherlotte, elthough she wes the one et feult. "Apologize to me now!"

Cherlotte lifted her eyes end sew e femilier pretty fece.

It's her! The women who went on e blind dete with Uncle Lochlen.

Whet e smell world.

"Whet? Are you mute?" Olivie stood there with en errogent expression on her fece.

When her disdeinful geze fell on Cherlotte's fece, she wes shocked. "Oh God! Whet e hideous fece. Were you trying to scere me? You should hide et home. Besides, didn't your perents teech you not to get out ebout end shock the living deylights out of people?"

Stering et Cherlotte's fece, Olivie found her femilier too.

After e while, e look of reelizetion eppeered on Olivie's fece, end she spoke in en odd tone, "Oh, ere you Lochlen's..."

Fee's expression turned grim right ewey. Apperently, this women fecing them knew Lochlen.

Sure enough, enyone who knows the Freser femily is usuelly rude end uncultured.

Nevertheless, Fee remeined courteous es she did not went to emberress herself in public. "Miss, she's my goddeughter, so mind your words. I sew cleerly thet you were the one who bumped into her."

"Who ere you, old ledy?" Olivie intuitively despised the women stending beside Cherlotte. She cen't be e socielite when she's henging out with Lochlen's foster deughter. I heerd from Mrs. Freser that they kicked this foster deughter out.

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There was no sign of Madeline Saunders after hours of waiting, so Olivia turned around to leave.

But it hed slipped Olivie's mind thet enyone who could get into the Royel Tee House wes either weelthy or influentiel. Non-VIP members were not quelified to step through the door.

"Whet did you sey? Did you just cell me en 'old ledy'?" Fee hed elweys been beeutiful since young, end she beceme even more elegent over the yeers. Her beeuty hed won her countless compliments from enyone who met her.

How dere this girl insult me this wey!

Yet, Fee regeined her composure in no time. Then she mede e cell streight ewey. "Meneger Lopez, someone is ceusing trouble here, so pleese send the security guerds to escort her out."

As the meyor's wife, Fee did not went to lose her dignity by deeling with this young girl herself.

"How could you esk the security guerd to chese me out of this plece? Let me tell you this - I'm e VIP member! So who the hell do you think you ere?" Olivie scoffed with e contemptuous look.

So whet if this old ledy cen come into the Royel Tee House? How rich cen she be if she's with this poor foster deughter?

She scenned the bleck suit on Fee, but she could not tell the brend.

It looks like e cheep outfit to me.

She bletently stered et them with e look of disdein. "I'm surprised thet e cleener cen pretend to be e big shot. People like you ere only going to cleen the weshroom for socielites like me."

But it hod slipped Olivio's mind that onyone who could get into the Royal Teo House was either wealthy or influential. Non-VIP members were not qualified to step through the door.

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But it had slipped Olivia's mind that anyone who could get into the Royal Tea House was either wealthy or influential. Non-VIP members were not qualified to step through the door.

"Who ere you esking to cleen the weshroom?"

Suddenly, en icy voice ceme from somewhere neerby.

Olivie lifted her geze end sew e slender end tell women striding over to them in her high heels.

The women wes dressed in e white shirt end e peir of bleck slim-fit pents, looking smert end professionel.

She wes exuding e domineering eure from the inside out, which mede people feel intimideted to stere streight et her.

Just then, she weved her hend, end e dozen of security guerds in bleck showed up end surrounded the three women.

Olivie snorted et her. "Who ere you?"

"It doesn't metter who I em." Ashlyn impessively glenced et her heevily mede-up fece. "You're the first person who deres beheve so presumptuously end humiliete my sisters et my tee house."

"Whet... Whet did you sey?" Olivie's expression froze instently. Her eyes widened in disbelief.

I heerd thet Ms. Seunders is the owner of the Royel Tee House.

Then this young women in front of me is...

Olivie's fece flushed beet red before turning es pele es e sheet.

Demn it!

I'm going to teke pert in the Internetionel Pieno Competition, end I heerd thet Ms. Seunders will be e pert of the judging committee. I initially ceme to the Royel Tee House to look for Ms. Seunders, so that I cen pey her to give me some guidence.

But now, I heve offended these two women, who turn out to be Ms. Seunders' sisters!

"Who are you asking to clean the washroom?"

Suddenly, an icy voice came from somewhere nearby.

"Who are you asking to clash the washroom?"

Suddanly, an icy voica cama from somawhara naarby.

Olivia liftad har gaza and saw a slandar and tall woman striding ovar to tham in har high haals.

Tha woman was drassad in a whita shirt and a pair of black slim-fit pants, looking smart and profassional.

Sha was axuding a dominaaring aura from tha insida out, which mada paopla faal intimidatad to stara straight at har.

Just than, sha wavad har hand, and a dozan of sacurity guards in black showad up and surroundad tha thraa woman.

Olivia snortad at har. "Who ara you?"

"It doasn't mattar who I am." Ashlyn impassivaly glancad at har haavily mada-up faca. "You'ra tha first parson who daras bahava so prasumptuously and humiliata my sistars at my taa housa."

"What... What did you say?" Olivia's axprassion froza instantly. Har ayas widanad in disbaliaf.

I haard that Ms. Saundars is tha ownar of tha Royal Taa Housa.

Than this young woman in front of ma is...

Olivia's faca flushad baat rad bafora turning as pala as a shaat.

Damn it!

I'm going to taka part in tha Intarnational Piano Compatition, and I haard that Ms. Saundars will be a part of the judging committee. I initially came to the Royal Tae House to look for Ms. Saundars, so that I can pay har to give me some guidance.

But now, I hava offandad thasa two woman, who turn out to ba Ms. Saundars' sistars!

Chapter 575

Olivia wished she could slap herself in the face.

She took a deep breath. Instantly, her insolent attitude was nowhere to be found and had been replaced by an inferior look. "Ms. Saunders, I'm very sorry. I didn't know that these two ladies here are your family. Please forgive my ignorance. I didn't do it on purpose. Silly me..."

"Now that's a skill that I'd like to learn. You can change your expression at the speed of light in front of my sister," Fae mocked Olivia in a cold tone before holding Charlotte's hand.

Then Charlotte instinctively lowered her head to avoid making eye contact with anyone.

I'm so ugly that I startle the people around me.

I shouldn't have come out. The outside world is intimidating.

But I haven't seen Ashlyn for so long. Listening to her voice makes me feel warm.

I shouldn't be so weak that I have to rely on others for warmth and care.

This is too much.

Fae's mockery caused Olivia to blush in embarrassment.

"Fae, is the girl beside you Charlotte?" Ashlyn averted her gaze from Olivia to the girl standing next to Fae. However, Charlotte kept her head bowed all the time, and her fringe covered her face, so Ashlyn could barely see her appearance.

At that moment, Charlotte wished the ground would swallow her up when she heard Ashlyn mention her name.

Perhaps Ms. Berry will hate this ugly face of mine too. I guess I should get going soon.

"Do you know Lottie?" Fae asked in surprise.

"I've been looking for her." Ashlyn nodded. "But I couldn't get in touch with her for a long time, so I'm worried about her."

"Ms. Berry..." Charlotte's head jerked up. Is she looking for me? Ashlyn's words stopped Charlotte in her tracks when she was about to escape from here.

When Charlotte raised her head, Ashlyn caught a glimpse of the scars on her face, and her eyes glinted with shock. Immediately, she gave Charlotte a warm smile. "Lottie, it's you."

She reached out to hold Charlotte's hand and said, "Come on, let's go to the private room."

Meanwhile, Olivia was gawking at their interactions. She gulped nervously and wanted to follow them, but a security guard blocked her.

"No outsider is allowed in Mrs. Field and Ms. Saunders' private room."

"Mrs. Field..."

Olivia was stunned for a moment. There's only one Field family in Lake City. Could she be the Mrs. Field whom I'm thinking about?

Just then, a few rich ladies, probably wives of billionaires, came out of another private room. When they saw Fae, they smiled merrily at her and said, "Mrs. Field, are you here for a cup of tea?"

"How is Mr. Field? Let's catch up one day when you're free."

Fae gracefully nodded her head. "Sure."

After having some small talk, they went their separate ways.

The few ladies were discussing among themselves as they walked past Olivia, "It's true that Mrs. Field comes to the tea house frequently as if it's her second home."

"Yes. Because she's very close to Ms. Saunders."

"I heard that Ms. Saunders will be the judging committee of the International Piano Competition. I wonder if she'll help out the contestant from the Quickton family."

"My daughter wants to take part in the competition too, so I guess I should start making friends with Mrs. Field then."

After listening to all that, Olivia felt her head spin, and she almost passed out.

She's really the mayor's wife!

Rumor has it that Mrs. Field likes to keep a low profile.

That's it for me. I'm so doomed. I've officially offended the mayor's wife.

The Wood Group wasn't as established as the Fraser family and the Haddock family. But the Wood Group got lucky these years and the business had grown tremendously. Unfortunately, it turned Olivia into a haughty upstart.

What should I do now?

In Ashlyn's private room.

After Ashlyn heard about Charlotte's story from Fae, she laughed. "I never expected things to turn out this way. Mr. Joseph actually saved Lottie. Thank you so much. It must have been tough for you."

Fae smiled in satisfaction. "Fate has brought Lottie and our family together."

Chapter 576

"Let me take a look at your face." Ashlyn stood up, leaned forward, and carefully tucked Charlotte's fringe away from her face.

The girl's face was full of scars with uneven texture and dark spots. Oh no. It was raining heavily on that day, and the needles weren't removed on time. Now the needles became rusty, and the rust seemed to have seeped into her skin.

"The scars can be healed, but it's difficult to get the spots off your skin." Ashlyn felt her heart ached and

let out a sigh. "Lottie, your facial treatment will be a long and strenuous process. Will you be able to persist till the end?"

The moment Charlotte heard that there was still hope, her eyes gleamed brightly with hope. "Yes, I can! I can do it!"

"That's great." Ashlyn patted the back of her hand.

Fae seemed contented as well. "Ashlyn, you're the best."

"I'll hire the best plastic surgeon overseas for her treatment."

"Does Lottie need to go overseas?" Fae asked in astonishment.

"Yes. I know of a world-class plastic surgeon overseas. He should be able to treat Lottie. But she'll have to stay abroad for a while."

Fae stared at Charlotte reluctantly. "I'll go with Lottie then."

Ashlyn never expected that Fae and Charlotte had become so close and attached to one another.

She could tell that Fae genuinely loved Charlotte.

"It's okay, mum. I've troubled you so much already. I believe I can handle this on my own." Charlotte gave her a sincere smile.

I should learn to be independent and live on my own. I can't rely on people all the time.

Overwhelmed by compassion for this young but strong girl, Fae was worried to see Charlotte staying alone in a strange country.

Just then, an idea cross Fae's mind. Since my son has nothing better to do at home, I should ask him to accompany Lottie to live overseas.

"Alright. I'll arrange it as soon as possible." Ashlyn promised them while nodding her head.

At night, instead of going back to the Whitland Villa, Ashlyn went to the Bayview Villa straight away.

Just when she entered her house, Lucas called her.

"Why aren't you back here?"

"I don't want to interrupt your personal time with your sister." Ashlyn's lips twitched as she huddled sluggishly on a couch.

"Honey..." Lucas squinted his cavernous eyes as he looked at the townhouses in the residential area.

Then he heard Spencer's voice. "Mr. Nolan, we're here."

Instead of getting off the car, Lucas asked Ashlyn, "What would you like to eat tonight?"

"I don't know, but my chef has prepared a meal for me. I'm hanging up now." Ashlyn ended the call without hesitation.

After that, Lucas stared at his phone with his brow raised.

"Head to Bayview Villa."

After hanging up the phone, the chef served Ashlyn a steaming bow of egg noodles.

"Ms. Berry, is this bowl of noodle enough for you?"

"Yes."

Ashlyn picked up the chopsticks and dug in. She was famished.

Suddenly, her phone rang before she finished eating.

It was her colleague calling from the hospital.

"Dr. Berry, Mr. Chapman is awake."

"Really? Please keep a close eye on him, and don't allow any unauthorized person to get into his room," Ashlyn mumbled.

"Noted, Dr. Berry."

Ever since then, Ashlyn had always felt suspicious about the accident.

Though the driver denied murder and insisted that he was drunk, she did not believe him.

Ashlyn quickly finished the noodles and left the villa.

The Land Rover whizzed along the road to the First Hospital.

When she passed by Lucas' car, he furrowed his brows.

"Follow her."

"Yes, Mr. Nolan."

Spencer promptly turned the car around and trailed behind Ashlyn's white Land Rover.

After parking the car in the basement carpark of the hospital, Ashlyn entered an elevator.

Just when the elevator door was about to close, a huge hand reached out suddenly, and the elevator door re-opened automatically. Then a tall and manly figure came in.

Ashlyn lifted her eyes and gaped at Lucas. "What are you doing here?"

Chapter 577

"Dr. Berry, what a coincidence." Lucas' eyes casually landed on her, but there was an inscrutable feeling in his gaze.

I miss her so much till my heart aches for her.

And she still has the heart to ask why?

However, Ashlyn did not believe a word he said. "Mr. Chapman is awake, so I'm here to check on him."

"I see. Let's go together then."

Ding! The elevator door opened again.

Ashlyn stepped out of the elevator first and headed toward Bob's ward.

As she was approaching the ward, she could hear Sisley's voice from afar.

"What do you mean? Isn't this a hospital? Why won't you let us see him?"

"We have to see him now since he's awake."

"Is this a jail or something?"

"You're unreasonable!"

Ashlyn strode over to them and saw a few nurses stopping Sisley and Hera from entering the ward.

With brows knitted together, Ashlyn's ivory skin glowed beautifully under the light in the corridor. "What's the matter?"

"Dr. Berry, finally, you're here." The nurses hurriedly walked over to her as if she was their savior. "They want to barge in to the ward."

"You may leave now. I'll handle this." Ashlyn said with a poker face.

Sisley's gaze was full of hostility as she glared at Ashlyn. She pointed at Ashlyn and said, "Are you the one who restricts us from going in?"

"Mrs. Chapman." Ashlyn eyed her proud and shrewish face speculatively, sneering at her, "Mr. Chapman's very weak now, and his health condition doesn't allow him to have any visitor. He's old and has multiple fractures. But you're here making so much noise. Do you really care about him?"

Sisley felt guilty at Ashlyn's words and simmered down a little.

Nonetheless, she maintained a pompous expression while demanding, "I don't care. I must visit my dad and make sure that he's fine, or else I won't be at peace."

Meanwhile, Hera remained quiet beside Sisley. The scene of Ashlyn and Richard standing together at The Peacock kept replaying in her mind.

What a slut. Why is she trying to seduce Lucas when she already has Richard?

Sister, my ass...

Does it give them more pleasure in bed to call each other brother and sister?

The more she dwelled on her thoughts, the angrier she got.

No, I have to dig up dirt on Ashlyn soon.

Right then, Ashlyn and another attending doctor went in and examined Bob.

Fortunately, Bob had a strong will to survive. When he saw Ashlyn come in, his cloudy eyes lit up, waving at her. His lips moved, but he could not make a sound.

After trying several times, he used all his might and finally murmured, "Girl..."

Looking at this elderly man in his seventies, Ashlyn held his bony and wrinkly hand while saying softly, "Mr. Chapman, please don't worry about anything, and rest well. I don't know why you came looking for me the other day, but nothing is more important than your health. We'll talk about it when you recover."

Bob was badly injured. Even if he took good care of his body, he would not recuperate completely, and there would surely be some after-effects.

And since both his legs were broken, he had to spend the rest of his life in a wheelchair.

Luckily, he did not have any concussion.

Ashlyn's voice sounded soothing in Bob's ears, and he felt comforted.

Feeling exhausted, he slowly closed his eyes and went into a deep sleep.

When Ashlyn came out of the ward, she saw Hera pestering Lucas.

The man leaned his slender body against the wall with one hand in his pocket while the other holding his phone. He was staring blankly at the screen with an expressionless face.

In the meantime, the woman in high heels gazed up at Lucas with eyes full of affection.

"It's been a while since I last had a hot pot. And I haven't met you for a long time, Lucas. Why don't we go for hotpot later?"

Chapter 578

"It's my treat. Would you like to go with me, Lucas?"

"Lucas, why do you keep silent? Is it because my outfit doesn't look good? Is that why you don't want to see me?"

Ashlyn was deep in thought while looking at them.

How shameless.

It's obvious Lucas doesn't want to talk to her. Can't she see that?

I guess she must be blind then.

Lucas instinctively lifted his head the moment he heard the door open. Immediately, he smiled warmly at Ashlyn as he moved his long legs and strode toward her.

"How's Mr. Chapman?"

"He's conscious, but he's badly injured. He has fallen asleep again." Ashlyn darted a glance at Sisley and Hera. "The patient is very weak. We have a professional medical team looking after him, so you may go back."

"Alright, I'll get going." A vicious look flashed in Sisley's eyes when she heard that Bob was conscious.

Why didn't this old bastard die in the accident?

Sisley's eyes flicked between Hera, Lucas, and Ashlyn. Afterward, she flashed a flattering smile at Lucas. "Young people like you should hang out more often. Mr. Nolan, there's a decent hot pot restaurant nearby. Why don't you let Hera bring you there for a meal?"

"No, thanks." Lucas' eyes were still riveted on Ashlyn. "Are you on duty tonight?"

"No. I'm going home," Ashlyn answered while walking away, and Lucas instantly went after her.

At the same time, Hera glared at them. "Mom, you did see something going on between her and Mr. Shaw the other day, right? How can she be so slutty that she hooks up with two men at the same time? Wait, no. It should be three, including her so-called boyfriend, Jared."

"That's enough now. Let's go home."

Later that night.

There were only a few stars twinkling in the sky while the moon hid in the clouds.

It was pitch black, and the entire hospital was in pin-drop silence.

The nurse on duty yawned, stood up, and walked to the water dispenser to have some water.

Little did she know that a dark figure was creeping into her medical unit.

The moment she turned around, the dark figure scuttled toward Bob's ward.

He swiftly pushed the door open and glided into the ward.

The man in black gradually made his way to the weak and elderly man on the bed.

Bob flipped his eyes wide open and saw a pair of hands reach out to his ventilator. "No... no..."

He had many tubes inserted all over his body. Pulling out any of the tubes would cost his life.

I have yet to tell Ashlyn about her true identity.

No... I can't die now.

His eyes widened in terror and were fixed on the man in black with a face mask.

"No!"

In a split second, his finger moved to his stomach, and he pressed a button with all his strength.

Beep beep beep...

A loud alarm went off in the ward and echoed throughout the whole corridor.

The glass in the nurse's hand dropped onto the floor, breaking it into pieces.

"Dr. Hendrickson! Dr. Hendrickson! Mr. Chapman is in danger!"

"Security! Seize the intruder!"

The nurse screamed repeatedly in the corridor.

Some family members of the other patients were still awake. Out of curiosity, they stepped out of their ward and glanced around.

Meanwhile, the man in Bob's ward was startled.

I never thought that this old man has such an advanced alarm system with him.

Damn it!

He couldn't be bothered to unplug Bob's ventilator anymore.

Immediately, he flung open the door and attempted to escape.

But the nurse was standing right outside the door to stop him from leaving.

He lifted his leg and kicked the nurse to the floor, then he darted toward the elevator.

Despite the excruciating pain in her knee, the nurse got to her feet, sprinted after the man, and grabbed him by his waist.

The man punched her back forcefully, and she teared up in anguish.

Chapter 579

Just then, the doctor on duty rushed over and lunged at the man in black.

Some patients' family members saw it and came out of their wards to give them a hand.

The man in black never expected to have so many people against him, and he was overwhelmed in panic and rage.

When the elevator door opened, a dozen of security guards swarmed toward him, and they took him down at once.

A pair of Dr. Martens boots came into the man's sight as two burly security guards held him in place, and he groveled on the floor.

He slowly gazed up and saw a pair of slender, long legs.

A feminine and icy voice sounded over his head.

"Anthony, it really took us a lot of effort to capture you."

Ashlyn looked down at the man in front of her with folded arms.

Her frigid gaze was persistent and unwavering as she stared at him with a scornful face.

Following her eye gesture, one of the security guards removed the man's face mask and cap.

A familiar face of a middle-aged man appeared in front of everyone.

Anthony's face contorted immediately. "Ashlyn, you b*tch! You're a jinx in the Chapman family. Just wait and see!"

Ashlyn tilted her chin back with a dignified expression. She sized Anthony up with an icy gaze. "Since when am I related to the Chapman family?"

"You are! My dad wants to transfer all the Chapman family's properties and inheritance to you! So stop playing dumb already!" Anthony pointed at Ashlyn with much resentment in his eyes. "You and your mom are b*tches!"

Slap! A tight slap landed on Anthony's face. "You can scold me, but don't you dare insult my mom!"

An intimidating aura exuded all around Ashlyn as she glared at Anthony. "You don't even know my mom!"

Anthony's face became sullen and furious. Ashlyn is skilled and competent even at such a young age.

I fall right into her trap today! She must have anticipated that someone would secretly harm Mr. Chapman, so she installed an alarm on Mr. Chapman beforehand.

As he thought about this, his hatred toward Ashlyn intensified.

Both Fiona and her daughter are equally disgusting!

Meanwhile, Ashlyn's icy gaze was still on Anthony. This is just sick - murdering one's own father for the family inheritance.

Anthony did not utter a word.

Then, Ashlyn sneered at him, "Tell me. Do you know my mom?"

Anthony remained silent as Ashlyn's domineering aura stunned him.

"Very well. I'll have to make you talk then."

With a distant expression on her delicate face, she lowered her gaze idly and yelled, "Take him to the police station."

When Anthony heard of the police station, he panicked and blurted out, "Ashlyn, you bastard! Back then, your mom slept with somebody and got pregnant, so my dad kicked her out of the Chapman family! You're only an illegitimate child who has no father!"

"What did you say?" Ashlyn stepped forward, grabbed the collar of his shirt, and lifted him up. "I don't have a father? Why did Mr. Chapman kick my mom out of the Chapman family?"

She then threw him onto the floor. "Explain!"

Her overpowering aura sent chills down Anthony's spine.

He quickly got up from the floor and rolled his eyes. "I can explain, but you must let me go!"

"You have no right to negotiate with me." Ashlyn stepped on Anthony's back and pushed him downward. Then he shrieked in agony, "Arghhh! It hurts!"

"If you don't wanna be injured, you'd best explain it now!" Ashlyn's gaze darkened, making everyone shuddered in fear.

She clenched her fists so tightly that her wrists bent slightly, revealing her porcelain skin.

Everyone couldn't help but submit to her dominance.

Chapter 580

Mother! Her mother had a family!

Is my mother a Chapman?

She couldn't believe it.

Actually, she could hardly even breathe after what Anthony had said.

"Her name is Fiona, and she is the youngest daughter of the Chapman family. She is a genius and learns almost everything at a glance which others might take years. Her presence was a threat to others in the family because she was the apple of our parent's eye. Naturally, all the best things went to her."

"That's unfair. She doesn't deserve it!" Anthony berated with his voice quivering.

"My mom... Why did she marry Horace?" Ashlyn seemed a little confused.

"Your mon was accepted to several universities at the age of fifteen, yet in the end, she went to Thompson University. She was only eighteen when she graduated with a double bachelor's degree. However, she came home that summer and told us she was pregnant."

Anthony's words caused a surge in Ashlyn's heart. She was shocked and could only murmur, "And then what happened?"

"Your grandpa was an old-fashioned man. He was so angry and thought your mom had disgraced the family, so he kicked her out. But I'm not sure what happened after that."

Anthony looked at Ashlyn and mocked, "You're her illegitimate child without a father. Don't you dare be full of yourself. Where's your mom? Where is she? Is she dead?"

"Get lost. Get out of here now!" Ashlyn took a deep breath to calm herself down. "Take him to the police!"

The security guards immediately took the order and escorted Anthony away.

The onlookers looked at Ashlyn with surprise, and some, in sympathy.

It's hard to believe that Dr. Berry came from such a complicated family. The rich have many secrets indeed.

However, no one dared to gossip in front of Ashlyn.

Her strong aura and cold temperament were too terrifying.

Ashlyn loosened her fists and looked into the direction of Mr. Chapman's ward, her eyes clouded and gloomy. I think it's time to have a talk with Mr. Chapman now.

In the ward.

Although Mr. Chapman was lying on the bed, he did not dare to fall asleep again.

He heard noises from the corridor where Anthony was crying shrilly and the voice of Ashlyn forcing him.

He could hear almost everything...

Although he had lived his whole life aboveboard and devoted himself for the sake of his family, he had never thought his children would fight for money and power during his old age.

He recognized the man in black as soon as he entered his ward.

He is my son, whom I raised up. Even though he is wearing a mask and hat, I can still recognize him!

Tears rolled down his cheeks the moment he saw his son.

Why did Chapman family become like this?

He never knew that his children were so jealous of Fiona.

If Anthony did not bring it up today, he would probably be kept in the dark for the rest of his life.

Is God punishing me for driving Fiona away? Is He punishing me for not forgiving her? But everything is too late now! My eldest son even wants to kill me!

Mr. Chapman felt a sharp stabbing pain in his chest as he thought of that.

The pain in his heart was more than a hundred times than what he felt on his body.

Right then, the door of the ward was pushed open.

A tall woman came in. She was beautiful and elegant, but she stared at Mr. Chapman blankly.

"Ashlyn.." Mr. Chapman said weakly.

Ashlyn walked up slowly and gazed at Mr. Chapman, who was lying on the bed.