

Chapter 805 Bitter Feelings Therefore, the only thing that Titus could do in the final moments of his life was to keep Julia company and take her places to enjoy some good food to make it up to her. On the other hand, Julia knew what Titus was thinking after their 30-year marriage. In fact, one look at Titus' face was enough for her to tell what was on his mind. However, that was precisely why Julia felt bitter on the inside. Soon, tears rolled down her cheeks as she said, "You're not going to die, Titus. You are not! We'll find a suitable kidney for you! I'm sure we will!" Julia wrapped her fingers around Titus' hand tightly, afraid that the man would be gone forever if she ever let it go. Needless to say, Titus was able to see through Julia's fear, so he patted her back and told her to ease her mind. "You and I both know how unlikely we'll find a compatible donor." "No." Julia refused to accept the truth as she hugged Titus and rested her head on his shoulders, crying non-stop. Titus smiled gently and patted her back. "Alright, stop crying. There are others watching us here. It's okay." At the same time, Julia knew her current state was embarrassing since all bystanders had their eyes on her. She then looked up and reached for her handkerchief in her pocket to wipe her tears. After that, she stopped crying and replaced her sad look with a smile in an attempt to be the elegant socialite she always was, looking as if she didn't just cry at all. "Alright, let's not talk about that. After all, we're here for the blueberry cake. Let's go." Julia tried to keep herself together and responded with an affirmative hum, seizing the man's arm while stepping forward. Soon, both of them made it to the cashier as Titus coughed and placed an order. "I'd like to have a blueberry cake." The cashier looked up and said apologetically, "I'm sorry, but that lady just bought the last piece of blueberry cake." Meanwhile, Sonia, who happened to have her back toward them as she sat in her seat, somehow sensed someone pointing at her just when she turned around and put her glass down. The moment Sonia exchanged gazes with the couple, the three of them paused in a trance. "It's you?" "It's you both?" While the three of them simultaneously said that, the cashier gazed at Sonia and turned her attention to Titus and Julia before realizing the three of them knew each other. Therefore, she decided not to interfere with them and say anything else. "Why are you here?" Julia hugged Titus' arm and asked with a slightly darkened look on her face. While Titus looked at Sonia silently with his glacial gaze, Sonia smiled coldly and stood up in front of the couple who used to treat her badly. "The Gray Family doesn't own this place, so why can't I be here? Who would ask a dumb question like that, Mrs. Gray?" "You..." Julia grew furious, but Titus quickly stood in her way with his arm stretched out to tell her to calm down. Then, he stepped forward to confront Sonia himself, but he continued to remain silent as he kept his eyes on her. For some reason, he started losing himself the longer he looked at her face. She looks so much like her! To Titus, the side view of Sonia's face and every part of her facial features reminded him of his mother. Although he was able to notice this back then, he didn't really keep that in mind and had slowly forgotten how Sonia looked like his mother. However, when he saw her during the press conference back then, it suddenly occurred to him that Sonia might be Rina all along. He had made this assumption by judging from the time she was adopted and her resemblance to his mother, only to later find out that he was wrong. While he had no idea whether he should thank or blame his fate for that, his eyes that were fixed upon Sonia's face were filled with complicated emotions. I should be lecturing her now, but I just can't utter those words out of my mouth. I just can't! Regardless of Titus' mood at that moment, Sonia somehow found it strange when looking the man in the eye. After all, she had only seen Titus' sinister gaze every time they locked eyes with each other, but in the face of his current expression, she surprisingly didn't feel uncomfortable at all. Although Titus' eyes still seemed sinister and wicked to Sonia, there was also another indescribable feeling that she could sense from his gaze. At the same time, she felt uncomfortable with that feeling,

for it seemed like her limbs were tied up. Nonetheless, Sonia didn't express her actual feelings; she hid them well as she looked Titus in the eye and sized him up in silence. It had been a long time since she last saw him, but even she knew that Titus had been frequently admitted into the hospital. At the same time, Tina had also approached Sonia and begged the woman to help him out—this suggested how serious his condition was. However, it wasn't until she saw Titus' skinny and sickly look that she realized what she had heard was true. For some reason, Sonia felt bitter on the inside when she saw Titus' emaciated appearance as she reckoned she should be happy that the man whom she considered her enemy was dying, yet she didn't feel gleeful at all. Instead, her heart was filled with sadness and unhappiness. Am I feeling sad now? Sonia bit her lips, wondering whether she was feeling bad for Titus' severe condition. No way! This is impossible! I'll never feel sad for Titus unless I'm out of my mind! Sonia clenched her fists and took a deep breath, suppressing all of her thoughts while she pretended to glare at the couple in annoyance. Then, she turned her attention to the cashier and asked, "Hi, is my blueberry cake ready?" While Sonia's question alleviated the tension of the atmosphere, Titus decided not to stare at her anymore and kept his head down in a broody manner. As for Sonia, she couldn't help but feel surprised with Titus' strange reaction, for he typically had an unfriendly attitude. After all, the man didn't take kindly to her every time they met, which often led to a heated argument because Sonia could never endure it without talking back. Therefore, she was left bewildered by Titus' reticent response that day, but she quickly reckoned it was because he was sick and weak to talk. As she was trying to think of an answer to explain Titus' unusual behavior, the cashier suddenly called out to her by saying, "Miss, your blueberry cake is ready." "Alright, thank you." Sonia smiled at the cashier and extended her arm to receive the bag. However, just when Sonia had stretched her arm out, Julia seemingly saw something and squinted before she seized the former's hand and jerked the woman toward her. "Ah!" Sonia nearly fell onto the ground, but fortunately, her quick reflexes prompted her to get a hold of the edge of the desk just in time to maintain her balance before she lost her footing. "What are you doing, Mrs. Gray?!" Sonia stood still and let go of the desk. Her face was dark as she questioned the woman with a glare. While every other customer's attention was drawn by Sonia's voice, they all looked at her in puzzlement and wondered what was going on. At the same time, Titus was also surprised by his wife's behavior, but he quickly regained his senses and gently spoke to Julia with a frown on his face. "What are you doing? Let her go. This is no place for us to settle our vendetta. We're out in the open, and doing anything impulsive is only going to put us in trouble." Nevertheless, Julia ignored Titus' words and fixed her gaze on Sonia's wrist, looking closely at the scar on it. As she shivered from head to toe in agitation, she then said, "Look, Titus." "What are you looking at? You'd better let me go now, or I'm going to call the cops." Unhappy and annoyed, Sonia tried to free her wrist, but Julia's grasp was too tight for her to resist. "Please stop moving and let me take a look at it. Please!" Upon hearing her plea, Sonia paused in a trance and even stopped struggling. She looked at Julia in disbelief and asked, "D-Do you know what you just said?"

Chapter 806 Was There Really Nothing Else?

Is she begging me? Is Mrs. Gray begging me now? In that instant, Sonia was overwhelmed with complicated emotions as she asked herself whether she was happy about it. Soon, she quickly had an answer to her own question—no. While she reckoned she should feel unhappy to see her enemy begging her, she somehow didn't feel happy at all. Right now, she could only feel a myriad of emotions.

At that moment, Titus was too overwhelmed by surprise to even be bothered by Sonia's emotions as he glared at Julia agitatedly. "What are you doing?! Why are you begging her?" You're embarrassing me in front of Sonia, Julia.

Meanwhile, Julia obviously knew that her action of begging Sonia had reflected badly on the Gray Family by making it seem submissive to the Reed Family. However, she couldn't be bothered by that as she was too desperate and curious to know the story behind Sonia's scar. "Look, Titus. There is a scar on her wrist." Julia quickly flashed Sonia's wrist in front of Titus as she spoke to him in an agitated manner.

"What scar?" Titus frowned. He felt a surge of anger coursing through him, but in the end, he reluctantly did as Julia said and set his eyes on Sonia's wrist. However, when his eyes fell upon it, he froze and wondered about the spot where the scar was on her skin. The scar... It's where Rina's red mole used to be.

Titus finally realized why his wife was so agitated because he knew she must have discovered what he had previously assumed and thought that Sonia was Rina, but deep down, he didn't think that was true. Therefore, he tried to remind Julia of the reality by telling her that it was Sonia they were talking to, not Rina. We found Rina a long time ago, and she's staying at home right now. Do not get influenced by the press conference that day. Wake up!

However, Julia stared at Sonia tearfully as complicated emotions filled her eyes. "W-What's the story behind your scar?"

In response to Julia's unusual agitation, Sonia frowned her eyebrows and asked, "Why are you asking me about my scar?" I have your daughter, Rina, to thank for this scar. How else do you think I got this scar otherwise?

"Please just answer me first. How did you get the scar?" Julia seized Sonia's wrist and wrapped her fingers tightly around it as she sounded more and more desperate. "Was there anything else here before you got the scar? Please answer me!" She desperately asked Sonia for an answer, wanting to know the truth behind her scar.

In the meantime, Sonia only pursed her lips in silence, her eyes fixed on Julia whose anxiety and impatience had gotten better of her. While she had a red mole in the same spot before she got the scar, there was somehow a voice in her head that told her not to tell Julia anything about her wrist because it would invite chaos in the future. As a believer of her own intuition, Sonia decided to follow her hunch, not to mention her personal vendetta with Julia. Without any idea why Julia was so concerned about her scar, she believed that Julia must be harboring an ulterior motive for doing that. Thus, Sonia didn't think she should tell her enemy anything, fearing it could be a trap that was meant for her to fall into. At the thought of that, she looked down and hid her expression. "Nope, there used to be nothing on my wrist at all. Nothing! I got the scar from a burn not long ago," she replied.

As Sonia retracted her arm from Julia, the latter was suddenly sent falling backward due to the sudden jerk. Seeing that, she quickly stretched out her hand to reach for Julia because she didn't want her to fall, but before she could do so, Titus was already one step ahead of her as he wrapped his arm around his wife's shoulders and saved her from the fall.

Meanwhile, Sonia heaved a sigh of relief and quietly took her arm back, trying to make it seem like she hadn't done anything at all. Nonetheless, that didn't change the concern and worry within her as she couldn't help but wonder why she would be worried for Julia who nearly fell. I must be out of my mind! In fact, ever since she met Julia in the hospital the last time, her impression toward her had somehow improved even though she couldn't explain why. Therefore, she was panicky about the unusual feelings that were overwhelming her.

"Are you alright?" Titus looked at Julia with a panicked look on his face.

"I'm fine." Julia nodded her head, feeling a little upset.

After glimpsing Julia for a while, Titus looked up and turned his attention to Sonia with a darkened expression as he spoke unpleasantly. "Is this how Henry taught his daughter to become an uncivilized person? How could you just shove someone away like that?"

Upon hearing that, Sonia lost her temper and stared back at Titus without flinching. "That's funny, Mr. Gray. Did you just say I shoved her away? When did I do that? Wasn't she the one who grabbed my wrist first? She nearly fell because she lost her footing when I tried to retract my arm from her, so how does that make me the one who shoved her away? If you really want to do this, I could also say that it was Mrs. Gray who tried to take advantage of me because she grabbed me by the wrist in the first place. How does that sound?"

Upon hearing Sonia's reply, the expression on Titus' face took an uglier turn. Just as the two of them were about to engage in a heated argument, Julia immediately seized Titus' arm in desperation and told him to calm down. "Alright, Titus. Don't stoop to her level. We're out in the open where there are people around us, so let's not embarrass ourselves here." Deep down, Julia couldn't stand watching the two of them argue because that was what broke her heart.

While Tina and Rina had both argued with Titus before, she never felt such a strong urge to stop Sonia and Titus from quarreling with each other because she simply couldn't bear to watch it. Although she had never experienced something like this in the past, it felt confusing yet new to her. Strangely enough, she even wished that Sonia and Titus would get along well with each other. What's wrong with me? Julia fiddled with her palms and set her eyes on Sonia's wrist. "Sonia, was there really nothing on your wrist? Like a..."

"No! Nothing!" Sonia pursed her lips and cut her short rudely. "I've already said no, so what makes you think asking me a few more times is going to change anything?"

Julia's eyes darkened as disappointment was written all over her pale face. She then blinked and responded with a hoarse voice. "Are you sure..."

Upon seeing Julia's sympathetic look, Sonia began to feel a pang of guilt on the inside as her heart started to pound faster and faster. The next second, Sonia's face turned as pale as a white sheet when she noticed that. Damn! Something must be really wrong with me! My heart is pounding, and I'm feeling both panicky and guilty. Why would I feel guilty toward Mrs. Gray, though? She clenched her fists, and her breathing intensified while she struggled to accept the truth.

Soon, Sonia quickly realized how much Julia was affecting her rationality, and she recalled the last time when the woman had shown her concern in the elevator. It was then that she started to care more

about Julia's feelings, making her think she was not in the right mind. Thus, Sonia closed her eyes and tried to force herself to calm down.

I must leave! I have to get out of here now! If I stay here any longer, I'm going to get brainwashed by Mrs. Gray. This woman is like a toxin that spreads. At the thought of that, Sonia grabbed her blueberry cake and took a deep breath. She suppressed her anxiety while trying to make herself sound as calm as possible. "Mrs. Gray, I don't know why you're so interested in my scar. I don't care what you're up to either, but you'd better not try any monkey business on me. Otherwise..."

Chapter 807 I Wish She Was Rina

"Or what?" Titus interrupted Sonia and asked, "Are you going to kill us?"

Sonia knitted her eyebrows with a smile. "Guess what? I'm not because that's only going to make my hands dirty, but I could do something else to make you suffer from a fate like death, Titus." Soon, she stepped forward and spoke with a glacially hushed voice. "I know you were the one who ordered Jessica and Sandra to poison my father, as well as the other dirty things that you did. So, once I gather all the evidence I need, your death sentence awaits!"

Upon hearing Sonia's words, Titus was left with his eyes wide open, his face turning pale as he stared at the lady in horror like he was asking how she knew it without saying it.

As Sonia chuckled coldly and left the pastry shop without responding any further, Titus had his sinister eyes glued to the lady who was walking further away. A few years ago, he secretly bribed Sandra and her daughter to poison Henry without telling anyone, including those who were close to him. While he thought his dark secret would remain buried forever, Sonia's threat came like a bolt from the blue.

Was it that dumb lady, Jessica, who told her? No, I don't think so. If she told Sonia she was the one who poisoned Henry, Sonia would surely come after her, so I doubt she was dumb enough to do that. Someone else must have tipped Sonia off about that, but who?

Titus squinted with his wicked eyes, swearing that he would find and kill the snitch to leave no loose ends behind.

"What's on your mind, Titus? You look scary!" Julia was frightened by Titus' menacing expression.

However, Titus blinked and hid his menacing look before he returned to his calmer self, shaking his head in response. "Nothing."

Sensing his reluctance to elaborate further, Julia decided not to press on and kept her head down in a disheartening manner. "Titus, do you think Sonia had a red mole on her wrist?"

"What do you mean?" Titus furrowed his eyebrows and gazed at his wife. "Do you really hope that Sonia is Rina?"

"No! No!" Julia immediately shook her head and waved her hand in denial. "Of course not! It's just that Sonia and Rina both share way too many things in common. They were both adopted around the same time, which was the third day when Rina was taken away by Henry. Besides, Sonia also has your mother's looks, and her red mole could be right where her scar is right now. With all these similarities, it's very hard for me not to think that she is Rina. Most importantly, you saw what she ordered too. She

loves blueberry cakes!” Julia then grabbed Titus by the collar and smiled, agitatedly saying, “She loves blueberry cakes, but not everyone loves that because Rina doesn’t like them even though I do. Honestly speaking, I’m pretty disappointed to find that my daughter didn’t inherit the same taste as I do, yet Sonia and I share the same taste, apart from her similarities with Rina. For that, I can’t help but have a strange feeling about it within me.” What Julia didn’t say was that she was actually secretly feeling happy about everything.

In the face of Julia’s smiling expression, Titus responded with a gloomy look. She is over the moon now that she is talking about Sonia, so does she really look like she doesn’t hope that Sonia is Rina? Titus then let out a sigh and patted Julia’s hand. “Alright, let’s not talk about her anymore because nothing you say is going to change the fact. Sonia is not Rina because Rina is back with us, so no matter how many similarities they share in common, they’re all just coincidences. I don’t know why you’re so obsessed with the thought that Sonia could be Rina because you apparently forgot that Rina has already returned to our side now. What you did wasn’t right because you broke Rina’s heart the last time, and if you do that again, Rina is not going to like you anymore.”

In response, Julia didn’t say a single word but was aware of her inappropriate action. For some reason, she couldn’t stop herself from caring about Sonia and thinking that she was Rina. In fact, it even seemed to her that Sonia looked more like Rina than Rina herself, sometimes. After all, Sonia had way too many things in common with Rina, like the time they were adopted, the taste that she shared with Julia, her striking resemblance with Titus’ mother, and the scar on her wrist. On the other hand, the ‘Rina’ who had returned to the Gray Family didn’t seem to possess any of the traits Julia observed from Sonia. Just like she mentioned earlier, she couldn’t seem to love Rina even though she had treated her well. Despite knowing that was wrong and had to be corrected, Julia was still disturbed by her struggle to show Rina her motherly love.

At the same time, Titus wasn’t sure whether his wife really listened to any of his words without getting an affirmative response from her. Thus, he rubbed his forehead and replied in a tired manner, “Alright, let’s forget about everything else. We’re here for the food, aren’t we? Since the blueberry cakes are all sold out, why don’t we get something else instead? We’re already here anyway, so let’s not go home empty-handed.”

“Alright.” Julia forced a brittle smile.

Meanwhile, Sonia returned to her car and entered it, whereupon she threw the blueberry cake onto the front passenger seat. Leaning in the driver’s seat, she closed her eyes and was able to feel the pressure that filled the interior of her car. At the same time, her mind was flooded with images of Julia’s tearful eyes when they met each other earlier. Recalling Julia’s unusual gaze, Sonia couldn’t help but wonder whether the former was being agitated or happy to see her, but at the same time, she was confused by that reaction because she didn’t know what Julia was up to. However, she was sure the reason Julia would ever react that way was because of the scar on her wrist.

As Sonia’s disturbing thoughts continued to haunt her, she suddenly opened her eyes and turned on the headlights. Then, she raised her hand and took a look at the new scar on her wrist, her eyes lighting up in puzzlement. Why is Mrs. Gray so concerned about the scar? She’s even changed her attitude toward me completely because of that. At the thought of that, her heartbeat intensified as she looked forward to an answer, but shortly after that, she immediately restrained herself from thinking about it any

further. At the same time, she rubbed her cheeks so hard that her make-up was fading away until the pain prompted her to stop.

No! I mustn't think about it anymore! I mustn't! It's only going to get scarier if I keep thinking about it, and I don't think I can handle it. So, I must keep myself from thinking about it. Sonia bit her lip and forced herself to stop thinking about Julia, whom she reckoned had swayed her emotions way too much lately. Thus, she told herself that she should stop thinking about Julia before things turned ugly. I must stay calm! Stay calm! Clenching her fists, Sonia calmed herself down and tried to rid her mind of all the negative thoughts, but even after a few moments, she was still preoccupied despite her calm exterior. Even when she arrived at Bayside Residence, her confusion and fear still continued to bother her.

By the time Toby returned, it was almost 12 AM. Thinking Sonia was already in bed, he gently tiptoed into the house, as he didn't want to startle and wake her up by accident. Nevertheless, when he turned on the lights in the living room after he changed his shoes, he was frightened by the sight of Sonia sitting on the couch with her head kept down, but even so, he immediately kept himself together and regained his composure. Then, he walked toward her with a pair of furrowed brows while speaking with an annoying voice that showed his concern despite his frustration. "It's late. Why are you still up?"

However, Sonia didn't respond at all, remaining still as if she didn't hear anything at all. Thus, Toby quickly paused what he was doing and checked on the lady, only to realize she was caught up in a trance.

Chapter 808 Toby's Counseling

Besides, Toby was also able to tell from Sonia's aura that she seemed depressed and preoccupied, as if she had just gone through something saddening. "What's wrong?" Toby sat down beside Sonia and grabbed her shoulders, gently nudging her. "Did something happen?"

When Sonia felt the nudge, she finally snapped out of her trance and blinked, her darkened eyes finally brightening up. "You're back." She looked at the man with a smile on her face.

Toby responded with an affirmative hum. "Yeah, I'm back, but why are you still up at this hour? Why are you sitting here in the living room without turning the lights on? Was there something that happened? Tell me what happened."

In the face of the man's bombardment of questions, Sonia shook her head and sighed. "Nothing."

However, Toby didn't seem to believe Sonia as he pursed his lips and asked, "Then, why are you acting so strange if nothing happened?"

Sonia responded with silence, knowing she couldn't hide what she was thinking from the man.

"Just tell me what happened." Toby ruffled her hair with his hand and said with a concerned voice, "Don't keep me in the dark. You know that'll only make me even more worried."

Feeling warm on the inside, Sonia stopped sitting up straight as she gave in and hunched. Resting her head on his shoulder, she explained, "I ran into Titus and his wife an hour ago."

"Titus and his wife?" Toby, who was caressing Sonia's hair, paused for a second.

"Yeah."

“Where did you run into them?”

“I went to the pastry shop nearby to buy some blueberry cake after visiting my father. Then, when I was waiting for my order to be ready, Titus and his wife showed up,” Sonia answered.

“Did they give you a hard time?” Toby knitted his eyebrows.

“No, they didn’t.” Sonia shook her head. “We quarreled a bit as usual, but...”

“But what?” Toby’s heart skipped a beat.

Sonia raised her hand. “When Mrs. Gray saw the scar on my wrist, she began acting strange. She then caught my hand and asked me about the scar, wanting to know whether there was something else there before I got it. Do you think...”

Before Sonia could finish her sentence, Toby’s face changed as he tightened his arm around her waist. Then, he gulped and asked in a serious manner, “Did you tell her about it?”

“Wait.” Sonia looked up and fixed her gaze on the man. “What?”

“I said, did you tell her about your scar and what was there before you got it?” Toby kept his eyes down, his tone sounding as if something went wrong.

Sonia shook her head. “No, I didn’t. I had no idea why Mrs. Gray was asking me about my scar, and I wasn’t sure whether it was a trap, so I brushed her off without telling her anything.”

Upon staring at Sonia and making sure she wasn’t lying, Toby heaved a sigh of relief and started to put his mind at ease. “Alright, that’s good,” he said with his arm still around Sonia’s waist.

Sonia squinted. “Why does it seem to me you’re nervous? Are you worried that I told her about my scar?” She looked at the man.

Toby blinked shortly before he returned to his normal state with a calm look on his face, as if there was nothing wrong. “No, I’m not. You said it yourself that you didn’t want Mrs. Gray to know about your scar because you were worried that she could be up to something. I feel the same way too, so of course, I wouldn’t have wanted you to tell her everything. That would have been stupid. If she was up to something, I wouldn’t be able to save you since I wasn’t by your side.” He poked her head with his finger.

While Toby’s response dispelled the doubt within Sonia, she rubbed her forehead and replied, “Hey, who are you calling stupid here? I’m smart enough to know that I can’t tell the Gray Family everything. After all, they are my enemy, so if you won’t stop calling me stupid, I’m going to be so mad!” She acted as if she was angry and glared at the man.

Toby chuckled and gently pecked her on the lips. “Alright, you’re not stupid. You’re smart.”

“Of course!” Sonia jutted her chin in complacency shortly before her expression returned to a complicated one.

In the meantime, Toby could also notice Sonia's emotional look just when he thought her mood had been lifted. Thus, he furrowed his eyebrows once again and pinched her chin to lift her head up, looking her in the eye. "What's wrong?"

Sonia patted his hand and said, "It's nothing, actually. I just realized I have a special feeling with Titus and his wife."

Toby's face changed as he asked with a steady tone, "What special feeling?"

Sonia rubbed her forehead. "Well, I kind of care about them because I used to hate them a lot. Back then, I would gloat over their misery, but ever since the last time I ran into Mrs. Gray in the hospital, something changed between me and them. I can't believe I'm concerned about their feelings now, and my mood tends to change because of them. Am I out of my mind, Toby?"

Toby kept his head down slightly, placing his chin on her head and rubbing it. "You're not out of your mind. You're just too empathetic."

"Empathetic?" Sonia knitted her eyebrows.

Sonia responded with an affirmative hum and said, "Yes, that's what makes you go soft easily. Furthermore, Titus is sick, which makes the entire Gray Family look miserable, so when you see them, you tend to empathize with them due to your kind nature. After all, you can never do anything, such as gloating over someone's misfortune, and that renders you susceptible to them."

Toby's words somehow made sense to Sonia, but the lady still seemed a little skeptical as she asked, "Are you sure that's the case?" She looked up and fixed her gaze on the man.

In the face of her unwavering eyes, Toby felt his guilt haunting him as he looked away and took his eyes off hers to divert his attention. "Of course." He faked a cough before answering with a hoarse voice.

Little did Sonia know that Toby was actually just making up a plausible story to keep her imagination from running wild. In fact, the reason her emotions were so susceptible to Titus and Julia was because of her blood relation with them. After all, blood relations were the most magical thing in the world, even though they might not be aware of their relationship, not to mention the hatred they had for each other. It was exactly what held Sonia together with Titus and Julia, making them feel differently toward each other. Although Toby was aware of the influence their blood relation had over them, he restrained himself from telling Sonia the truth by lying to her that she was being too kind, thinking he was doing that for her own good.

Sonia's blood relation with Titus and Julia had never influenced her so much, but her feelings toward them have grown a lot stronger now. I suppose I have to do something before things get out of hand.

At the thought of that, Toby cupped Sonia's face and said in a serious manner, "From now on, you have to stay away from Titus and his wife as much as you can. Your soft spot for them will only get the better of you and even keep you from exacting your revenge on them."

"Come on! That's not going to happen." Sonia laughed.

"Just in case!" Toby didn't laugh with her but instead continued to show a serious look on his face.

In the face of the man's stern look, Sonia decided to stop being funny and nodded in a serious manner. "Alright. Alright, I get you. You have a point. I have started acting a little strange ever since the last two times I met them. Somehow, I have a feeling that they are leading me by the nose, like I'm not myself anymore. So, I should probably stay away from them."

Chapter 809 Do I Look Old to You?

"I'm glad you know that." It was after hearing Sonia's answer that Toby let go of her face with satisfaction. Then, he pulled her up and asked, "You ought to be in bed at this hour, yet you're still awake. Anyway, are you hungry? Do you want to eat a little something?"

Sonia shook her head. "Nah, I'll pass. I don't want to put on weight, and I'm not starving either. I should have been the one asking you that question because you just came back from work. Are you hungry?"

"Nope." Toby shook his head too.

Soon, Sonia yawned and said, "Well, since you're not hungry, you should probably get ready for bed now. After all, you just had a long day, and I think you're probably beat now, aren't you? Look at your dark circles." She pointed at the man's eyes.

Toby touched his eye bags and chuckled in an unconcerned manner. "It's not that serious."

"Not that serious? Come on. You haven't slept in 36 hours." Sonia pursed her lips, appearing unhappy.

Meanwhile, Toby shrugged his shoulders in response, thinking it was no big deal that he hadn't slept in 36 hours. After all, he had gone without sleeping for 2 to 3 days straight in the past, but his intuition told him not to talk back because he would only piss Sonia off.

At the same time, Sonia had no idea what the man thought as she dragged him to the bathroom and pushed him inside. "Alright, you'd better take a shower now and get to bed. It's getting late now."

"Alright, I'll take a shower right away." Toby looked back at the lady behind him with a smile.

Upon taking Toby to the bathroom, Sonia dusted off her hands and returned to the room, where she sat on the bed and leaned on the headboard. Then, she stretched out her arm and reached for the crystal ball on the headboard, holding it in her hands while playing with it.

Admiring the raining snow within the crystal ball, she curled her lips and smiled brightly. In fact, she was deeply disturbed and vexed ever since she returned from the pastry shop because she couldn't stop thinking about Titus and Julia.

Not knowing why her attitude toward Titus and Julia had changed so much, she became annoyed and started to let her imaginations run wild while figuring out the reason behind it. However, the more she dwelled on that matter, the more confused she got, which was why she ended up sitting on the couch in a trance until Toby returned.

Fortunately, Sonia began to feel her mood lifted after Toby's counseling as her strange concern about Titus and Julia faded. Maybe Toby was right. I guess I only care about Titus and his wife because of my empathy, which is what makes me go soft. Well, let's just hope that's the reason behind it, or else... Just when she was absorbed in her thoughts, the room door was open, whereupon Toby came into view with a loose bathrobe on him that made him look manly by revealing his muscular chest.

At that moment, Toby was stepping forward while wiping his hair with a towel. At the same time, water droplets could still be seen dripping from his hair before they fell upon his bathrobe and disappeared without a trace. Sonia then put aside the crystal ball and stopped leaning on the headboard, sitting straight with her eyes fixed upon him. "Why didn't you dry your hair before coming in?"

"I want to keep you company," Toby responded, walking closer to the bed before he sat down.

Sonia rolled her eyes upward. "Who needs your company?"

"I said I want to keep you company," Toby said while looking at her.

Sonia was helplessly amused. "Alright, give me the towel. I'll help you."

"Okay." Toby responded with an affirmative hum and gave the lady his towel.

Then, Sonia knelt behind Toby and started wiping his hair with the towel. As his soft and smooth hair felt like silk, she loved it so much that she didn't feel like taking her hands off it. However, she soon felt a stitched scar on the man's scalp. While it was probably about 2 centimeters long, it looked like there were a few stitches there. Besides, the scar looked like it had been there for a long time. The next moment, she paused what she was doing and furrowed her eyebrows, gently rubbing the scar with her fingertips in a sympathetic manner. "How did you get this scar?" she asked with a bitter voice, which suggested how uncomfortable the unsightly scar made her.

Toby opened his eyes, feeling Sonia's touch as he instantly knew she was asking about the scar. Thus, he answered with a soft voice, "Tyler threw something, which accidentally hit me when we were kids."

"Tyler did that?" Sonia raised her voice.

Toby replied with an affirmative hum. "Tyler was a 3-year-old kid back then, and he liked to toss almost everything he got his hands on. Thanks to him, a mug flew my way and hit my head one day when I came home."

Rubbing the scar, Sonia answered with a slightly gloomy face, "I thought you went through something that left you with a scar like that, but I didn't expect that it was Tyler who did that to you. I guess he's always been quite a nasty scoundrel, hasn't he?"

Nonetheless, Toby couldn't feel happier upon hearing her words that expressed her disgust. "You're right."

"Alright, sit still. I'm still drying your hair, so stop squirming. I don't want to hurt you." Sonia patted the man's shoulder.

Toby sat straight obediently, as he was told, just like a soldier in the military force, stern yet adorable. After wiping his hair, Sonia reached for the hair dryer and started blow-drying his hair with it. Since Toby's hair was short, it didn't take long for it to be completely dry. Then, she put the hair dryer back into the drawer, but as soon as she did that, she quickly found herself pinned to the bed by the man.

When Sonia looked up, she saw Toby staring at her as well with an ambiguous gaze, which seemed like two black holes that could suck a person's soul away. At the same time, she could feel the man's heavy breathing just inches away from her cheek while sensing his eyes fixed upon her lips like a hungry beast.

As Toby lowered his head closer and closer to hers, she knew what he was going to do and quickly resisted him by placing her hands on his forehead, stopping the man from lowering his head even more. On the other hand, Toby was stunned by Sonia's reaction, as he didn't expect to face any resistance. Thus, he gazed at the lady with his eyes wide open, as if he was asking her why she wanted to stop him.

Sonia puckered her lips, revealing her white teeth while looking at him and shaking her head. "No! You haven't slept since yesterday. Aren't you tired?" I wish this guy could take his health more seriously. How can he be thinking about doing that right now?

Nonetheless, Toby shook his head as well and spoke with a hoarse voice, saying, "Nope, I'm not tired at all."

Sonia rolled her eyes upward at him in response. "You may not be tired, but I'm worried about you, so like it or not, you're going to bed early tonight. You're not as young as you used to be back in your twenties anymore. You're thirty this year, so how much longer do you think your body can take it?"

Toby was left with his eyes wide open, feeling somewhat annoyed to be reminded by Sonia of his age. I know I'm thirty, but does that make me look old? I thought they said men become more charming as they age. In fact, a man is in his golden years when he turns thirty, but why does she make it sound like I'm an old man? At that instant, Toby felt a little disappointed upon hearing Sonia's words.

On the other hand, Sonia noticed the bitter look on Toby's face and pushed him to the side. "Alright, what you need now is sleep. Do you know that? Get to bed now."

Toby pursed his lips and asked, "Do I look old to you?"

"What?" Sonia blinked and asked.

"You said I'm thirty and that I'm not as young as I used to be in my twenties." Toby looked askance at the lady. "So, do you really think I'm old?"

Sonia was amused yet helpless. "I didn't say you're old. Instead, what I mean is that a thirty-year-old man may not be as fit as a man in his twenties, and that's why you shouldn't take your health for granted just because you think you're still young. I'm telling you this because I want what's good for you. Do you get me?"

Chapter 810 Good News

Toby looked at Sonia with his unwavering eyes, without saying a single word. Suddenly, he turned around and faced away from her, speaking in a gloomy voice. "You're just trying to tell me that I'm old after everything you said?"

She said I'm not like I used to be in my twenties. In other words, she is saying that my physical condition is getting worse than those in their twenties because the older we get, the more our health goes downhill. Therefore, I'm sure she is saying that I'm old.

Sonia's lips stiffened as she was rendered speechless. No, that wasn't what I meant, but why does he keep thinking that I'm saying he is old? Great, now he is pissed! Sonia rubbed her temples, feeling helpless yet amused. "No, that's not what I meant. Please trust me."

Nonetheless, Toby continued to ignore Sonia, facing away from her. Thus, she gently nudged his shoulder. "Hey, trust me. That's really not what I meant."

While Toby remained nonchalant, Sonia let out a sigh and hugged his shoulders, planting a kiss on his face. "Do you believe me now? If I had thought you were old, I would have left you long ago. I'm just worried about your health because you haven't had a good rest for a while. Don't forget—you're not Superman. Your body is made of flesh and blood, so please take good care of your health. Furthermore, you can only feel energized with enough rest, don't you think so?"

Soon, Toby sat straight and turned his face to the side, looking back at Sonia as he finally gave her a response. While Sonia heaved a sigh of relief, Toby gazed at her and said, "Give me one more kiss, and I'll believe you didn't mean it."

Sonia raised her eyebrows and chuckled. "You really know how to push your luck and get what you want." Despite her words, she kept her head down and planted a kiss on the man's face.

It was then that Toby eventually turned around and wrapped his arms around her waist, hugging her. "That's more like it."

Sonia helplessly shook her head. "So, can we sleep now?"

"Okay." Toby nodded, thinking Sonia was right, as he could only feel energized with sufficient rest. Alright, I'll sleep now and prove to her I'm not old tomorrow. I will let her know that a thirty-year-old man can be fitter than one in his twenties. At the thought of that, his eyes lit up for a split second before they were back to normal. Then, he closed his eyes while hugging Sonia in his embrace.

Meanwhile, Sonia had no idea what Toby was up to, only heaving a sigh of relief when she saw the man's eyes closed. Soon, she began to relax and closed her eyes, feeling satisfied that she could finally sleep peacefully after the trouble she had just gone through. Thank god he didn't make things harder for me, or I would still be struggling to pacify him. If that had gone on, there would be no telling when I would be ready for bed. Thus, I guess I'm happy that I can have a peace of mind now. Sonia smiled and buried herself in the man's arms, finding a suitable position as she closed her eyes and drifted off.

When Sonia woke up the next morning, she found herself lying in bed alone. Thus, she placed her hand beside her, right where Toby was sleeping. Feeling the warmth next to her, she believed Toby woke up not long ago, although she wasn't sure whether he had left home. Then, she reached for her phone on the headboard and took a look at the time, only to realize it was 7.30 AM as it had already dawned outside. After that, she put her phone away and yawned, sitting up straight on her bed before she folded the blanket and walked out of the bedroom.

When Sonia came to the living room, she didn't see anyone else, so she shifted her gaze to the door and realized Toby's flip-flops were right there. Therefore, it was obvious to her that the man had already left home. At that instant, Sonia felt a stab of disappointment for failing to see him even though she had woken up earlier. Nonetheless, the disappointment didn't last long as she hummed and went ahead to take a shower. At the same time, she remembered Toby had told her that he would be busy the next few days and might be back late. Thus, she didn't expect to see him back early and was hence able to adjust herself accordingly. As soon as she finished her shower, she received a phone call from the police station. "Hello."

It turned out that Jessica's trial was on the same day, which was why the police had called to inform her to attend the hearing. After hearing the officer out, Sonia nodded and said, "Alright, thanks for the reminder. I'll be there." She put away her phone when she finished her words, letting out a sigh as she walked closer to the dining table and poured herself a glass of water. Upon taking a sip, she rubbed her forehead and pursed her lips, wishing she could tell the police that Jessica had poisoned her father. Nonetheless, she didn't do that because she didn't have substantial proof to justify her statement, not to mention the far-reaching consequences that would follow her action, as it involved the Gray Family and Sandra.

In fact, Sonia intentionally told Titus that she knew he was the one who ordered Jessica and Sandra to poison her father the night before because she wanted to observe his reaction. Although Titus was panicky at first, he quickly hid his emotions and remained calm, which made her heart sink at the sight of that. After all, if Titus had continued to look panicky when she sounded him out, it would have meant that he might have left some loose ends behind that would perhaps make it easy for Sonia to gather the evidence she needed.

Nevertheless, reality spoke otherwise as Titus quickly went back to his calm self without showing any signs of anxiety, even though Sonia had found out what he had done. Therefore, Sonia doubted Titus left any loose ends behind and that he was confident that the police wouldn't be able to find anything to testify against him. Because of that, she held back her urge to tell the police that they poisoned her father, thinking it wouldn't help the situation at all. Without any useful evidence, Jessica's charges would remain the same, while Titus would only be detained for interrogation at most. Thinking it would serve no purpose, Sonia decided to put her plan on hold until she could find some evidence that could help her bring them to justice.

As Sonia was caught up in her thoughts, she was suddenly interrupted by another phone call. She then snapped out of her trance and reached for her phone, realizing it was Zane who was calling. It was then that she was reminded of how long she hadn't met Zane ever since she rekindled the old flames with Toby. Not knowing what he was calling for, Sonia grabbed the chair and sat down before picking up the call. "Hello."

"Sonia, I have good news for you." Zane, who was sitting in his car, crossed his legs while holding his phone to his ear. At the same time, he was holding a file in his hand while tapping his knee with it, speaking in a rather casual tone,

Sonia appeared interested, asking with a smile, "Really? What's the good news?"

"Didn't you tell me to collect some genetic samples of some of the smartest people in the world earlier? I previously had someone visit a few overseas gene banks, and I have gathered what you want, so doesn't that sound like some good news to you?" Zane set his eyes on the dossier on his knee with a smile.

Sonia paused, surprise written all over her face. "That's some good news indeed." In fact, she was hoping that Jessica could bear a child who could take over Paradigm Co. in the future, but deep down, she condemned Jessica for her wicked character and dim wit. Thus, she was counting on the father's superior gene to be passed down to the child in terms of his appearance, character, and intelligence.