

Go After 421

Chapter 421

“Young man, even if you leave now, I’m afraid that there are others with ulterior motives who will not let you go. The truth is, no matter how you think, you have already been regarded as an imaginary enemy. Luqman didn’t move from his seat as he persuaded Calvin slowly.”

What do you mean? Do you want to forcefully drag Harvey Group forcefully into your fight? I’m telling you. There’s no way. Calvin turned his head. His eyes flashed with a piercing light and his overbearing aura could not be ignored.

What a bold man!

“Luqman gazed at Calvin’s sturdy and strong physique as he stood tall and straight. Even Luqman, who was used to all sorts of situations, trembled slightly at the sight of him with his unique temperament.”

“He appreciated young men like Calvin. If there were more people like him in society, there would be a higher number of educated and intellectual citizens. That would be great.”

“A light of approval shone in his eyes as he said with admiration, ““Mr. Harvey, I think highly of you. You aren’t afraid to be yourself. The success of the Harvey Group is well-deserved. But I have to tell you, I’m afraid you can’t escape from this battle. Someone has already pulled you into this in the dark. You can’t retreat even if you want to. Why don’t you sit down and listen carefully to my explanation?”””

“These words sent a chill down Calvin’s spine. His eyes were filled with anger. He sneered. ““Mr. Wood, you possess a higher position and more power than me. I’m sure you have no problem suppressing me. But I’m telling you that I won’t allow anyone to be in the way of Harvey Group’s interests. No way.”””

“Sigh, young man, you still don’t get what I mean. Luqman pitied him. He calmly stood up and advised him. ““The rule that Old Master Harvey had set is certainly wise, but in reality, it doesn’t work. It is what it is. The fact that things have gotten this far is proof of it. I’m sure that Old Master Harvey knows this as well. Otherwise, he would not have allowed Martin to delve into politics.”””

“Mr. Wood, forgive me, but I really don’t understand what you mean. I don’t think that our corporation has been involved in anything, and I don’t think we are unrealistic either. We do things the right way and we have never had anything to hide. I’m sorry, but I’ll have to leave now. Calvin gave his final words decisively and left.”

“Luqman stood firmly, watched him leave and sighed in his heart. It was a good thing for a young man to be ambitious, but if he was too arrogant, he would be at a disadvantage.”

“He smiled and muttered confidently, ““Mr. Harvey, I’m sure you’ll come to me sooner or later.”””

“His voice wasn’t particularly loud, but Calvin still heard him, even though he was leaving in a hurry. He felt a chill and an inexplicable sense of unease in his heart as he subconsciously quickened his pace.”

The weather was hot and dry.

Summer had just begun but the summer wind was already blowing.

“In Harvey Manor, the cold wind blew through the night.”

Everyone was still awake. Many of them were strolling about in the backyard.

“After Belle coaxed Jerry to sleep, she wasn’t sleepy at all.”

“Since noon, there had been no news of Calvin. Until now, he hadn’t returned and she hadn’t been able to reach him.”

Her heart was burning with anxiety.

“The weather now was at a perfect temperature. So, it wasn’t suitable to have the air-conditioning on. Belle ordered the housekeeper to turn off all the air-conditioning in Fragrance Garden and open all the windows instead.”

“The night wasn’t that dark yet, and the garden lights were still brightly lit.”

“She walked down the stairs and slowly came over to the garage where the electric vehicles were parked. Leaning against the old lemon tree, she felt that her heart was weighing down.”

She had to wait for Calvin to come back or else there was no way she would be able to fall asleep.

“These days, they always went to work and came home together. They worked together to run and protect Harvey Group. Since they had gotten married, this was the first time he hadn’t come home with her.”

“When Jerry asked her about his whereabouts, she was worried too.”

“He was her man and her shoulder to lean on. She didn’t like this feeling of him being out of her grasp. Kate had mentioned the other day, that love should be strong and firm. Since she had insisted on marrying him, then she had to consider every possible outcome. Belle had to be ten times stronger than any other woman in facing the ups and downs, and any temptations that he might come upon in the future. To marry such an extraordinary man, she had to think way ahead of what was in front of her.”

“In Wullen Town, she understood Kate’s determination. None of the excuses mattered. What was important was her life after marriage. That was her mother’s concern. She understood it and never went against it.”

“That night at the party, a cold pair of hands reached out to her and that day at the supermarket, she was sure she had seen Liya, but she could not find any evidence to prove the incidents herself. All these occurrences gave her a bad feeling. It was as if something was brewing silently, but she didn’t know what.”

“As she recalled her mother’s worries and persistence in Wullen Town, she was really touched. After all, which mother wouldn’t want to give their best to their daughter?”

“Back then, she made an escape, to avoid such a life where everything seemed glamorous on the surface, but was dark and sinister within. However, she couldn’t resist her heart. She loved him and yielded to the urge to follow him back. Since this choice had already become reality, she could not go back on her word now.”

“Since she had made her choice, she had to be responsible for her marriage. She knew she loved him. So, she had to be responsible for her own life as well as Jerry’s.”

She wanted to live positively and fill her life with excitement. That was what she wanted the most.

Being pessimistic and negative had never been her desired attitude towards life. She despised and had a disdain for such an attitude.

The sound of an electric vehicle started getting closer and clearer.

She lifted her head.

“Calvin sat up straight in the electric vehicle. Under the street lamps, his handsome brows were slightly furrowed. He was so buried in his thoughts that he completely missed Belle, who was anxiously waiting for him against the tree trunk.”

“Meanwhile, Belle recognized his familiar figure with just one glance.”

“Hello, Mrs. Morris. The driver greeted Belle politely.”

“Good evening. You’ve worked hard, Belle replied politely and nodded as she walked towards Calvin, who was getting off the electric vehicle.”

“Then, the driver turned the electric vehicle around and left.”

“Belle, why are you here? Calvin did not come to his senses until he heard Belle’s voice. He turned around and saw Belle throwing herself into his arms, holding him tightly and burying her face in his chest.”

“Calvin was taken aback. Soon, the corners of his lips curled into a smile.”

It seemed that this woman missed him. They had been separated for the entire day after all.

What’s wrong? He stroked her soft hair with his hand and asked gently.

“Belle buried her face in his arms for a long time. After making sure she wouldn’t cry, she looked up, her almond-shaped eyes wide open and her face full of resentment.”

“Calvin, what’s the matter with you? Why didn’t you answer your phone? We decided on having lunch at Grand Hyatt Apartments, why didn’t you come? It’s so late. Couldn’t you have called me to give me a heads up? Don’t you know that I’ll be worried? Why, why did you do this? Do you even notice my presence?”

“She shot him a series of questions loudly. Her tone was filled with dissatisfaction and distress. Her little face was flushed, and her cheeks were puffed up with anger. She stared directly at him with her eyes wide open.”

Calvin was stunned by her sudden series of questions. He lowered his head and looked at her aggrieved face. It was as if his heart had been scratched by a cat. It ached slightly.

She had been worried and was standing here waiting for him.

“Knowing this, he felt happy yet sad.”

“This foolish woman, what if he hadn’t come home for the night? Would she have waited there all night?”

“Belle, didn’t you go shopping with Lottie? I thought you would be shopping all day. He asked in surprise. His big hand moved over to caress her face as he spoke gently.”

“Who told you that? We said we would have lunch at Grand Hyatt Apartments. So, why would I shop for an entire day? Do you think I’ve never shopped before?! Belle said with her red lips pouting. As she thought about the fear she felt throughout the day, tears started streaming down her cheeks. She even choked up a little.”

Calvin was dumbfounded. He did not expect things to be this serious.

He didn’t intend to go out earlier that day.

“However, after receiving Luqman’s call, he spent an entire afternoon contemplating whether he should be meeting him or not.”

“If he didn’t meet him, he might offend that horrid politician and give off the impression that he was too lofty and arrogant. He couldn’t support him, but Luqman was a political figure who called personally to meet him, a business tycoon. He must have really thought highly of him. He might be considered frivolous if he didn’t even meet him.”

“So, he finally decided to meet him.”

He booked a room at one of the hotels he owned and went over to the room earlier. One of the reasons he did this was to hide from the public. He was afraid that the media might photograph them and spread the news that might lead to a misunderstanding with Yadriel. He had thought everything through.

“Nevertheless, he didn’t expect such a meticulous arrangement would have also ended up with him getting photographed.”

“Moreover, didn’t all women love shopping? Belle had gone out with her best friend and he assumed they would take up the whole day. So, he didn’t even take her into consideration.”

“At noon, he turned off his phone before taking a nap.”

“When he met Luqman, he saw that he was surrounded by special agents in black. He knew that they were his bodyguards. So, he turned off his phone on his own and placed it on the table. Luqman returned the gesture and did the same to dispel any concerns he might have.”

“It wasn’t until Belle asked him why he hadn’t answered her calls did he realise that he had forgotten to turn his phone back on. Earlier today, he was in a rush to leave. His mind was also preoccupied with worries.”

“He immediately took out his cell phone and showed it to her. He gritted his teeth and said, “I am such a dumb*ss. I turned my phone off and forgot to turn it back on. What kind of husband doesn’t report to his wife? B*stard. I deserve to be beaten.””

“After saying that, he took her small hand and gently patted it on his face. Then, he picked her up and walked to the Fragrance Garden’s foyer, smiling slyly.”

Chapter 422

“Belle was soon pulled into his arms. She stuck her face against his chest and listened to his calm and rhythmic heartbeat. After knowing that he did not intend to make her worried, she felt relieved. Her face flushed.”

“You aren’t allowed to do this again in the future. No matter what you do, you must call me to let me know that you’re okay. Belle pressed her face against his chest and said relentlessly.”

“Don’t worry, honey, I will. He was secretly overjoyed by her concern for him. Although she had been way too worried, he was glad to know that she cared.”

“He carried her to the sofa and hugged her tightly. She stayed in his arms and was as gentle as a kitten, soft and adorable.”

Luqman’s face and words suddenly flashed across Calvin’s mind. His heart sank.

“Now that he had Belle and Jerry, his attitude towards life had become completely different. He had a lot to consider. He wanted to protect the interests of the Harvey Group, but he also wanted to protect the woman in his arms and Jerry. He wanted to give them a blissful life. So, he didn’t want to get involved in any sort of trouble.”

“However, Luqman’s words made him a little uneasy.”

“Although he was a scheming politician, he hadn’t spoken his words casually.”

He mentioned that Calvin had already been dragged into this battle. Was it really so?

“However, why didn’t he sense anything abnormal? Perhaps the enemies were hidden too well.”

“No matter what, he couldn’t let his guard down too easily now.”

“Calvin, have you eaten yet? Belle raised her head in his arms and saw his deeply furrowed brows. Her heart tightened. There was a kind of inexplicable worry on his handsome face. Belle was used to reading his expressions and she felt an indescribable feeling of anxiety and unease.”

“Calvin was lost in his thoughts. So, he did not respond to Belle’s question.”

“Calvin, what’s wrong? Did something happen? She asked uneasily, sitting upright and observing his face.”

“Hearing her concerned voice, Calvin came to his senses and met her gaze. He put his hands on her shoulders, smiled, and replied softly, ““I’m fine.”””

“Was there really nothing wrong? Belle did not believe him. She only looked at him, with her eyes filled with anxiety. ““Calvin, can you tell me where you went today?”””

Calvin paused for a moment. His eyes were bright and a charming smile appeared on his face.

I haven't gone anywhere. I just had to meet a client. He acted calm and didn't want her to worry about it.

"A meeting with a client? His secretary didn't have any such meeting on his schedule. Obviously, he was lying and didn't want her to know about it."

"Belle knew better than anyone else that since he didn't want her to know, it was useless for her to continue asking. She knew that she couldn't pressure him too much. So, she scrambled out of his arms."

"Since you were working, I'm sure you haven't eaten. I cooked a few dishes for you today. Let me heat them up for you. After she finished her words, she walked towards the kitchen."

"Indeed, Calvin had not eaten anything today. His conversation with Luqman had made him completely lose his appetite. It was only when Belle brought him a bowl of hot soup did he begin to feel hungry. He picked up his bowl and started wolfing down his food."

"Slow down. Don't eat so hurriedly, she said softly as she picked up food for him and put them on his plate."

"As Calvin drank the hot soup, he said emotionally, ""Belle, no matter how good the outside food is, it can never be compared to your home-cooked food. My wife's cooking is the best."""

"When Belle heard this, she smiled sweetly."

"Then, you should come back and eat more often. Don't eat outside. If you have meetings to attend to, just eat a little. Belle sat next to him and reminded him very seriously. In reality, she would rather have him stay with her everyday. She didn't want him to disappear all day just because he was stressing himself out over work."

"If it weren't up to them to protect the family business, she would much prefer living a frugal and ordinary life. As long as they could be together everyday and love each other as they grew old, she didn't mind living a simple life. She didn't want to be busy all the time. Although their life was rich and filled with pleasure, it wasn't the life she wanted."

"Alright, I will try my best. Calvin nodded his head and agreed. He stretched out an arm to hug her and give her a small kiss on her tiny face."

"Eww, your mouth is oily. I hate it. Belle laughed as she whacked him."

Calvin giggled.

"After the meal, he ordered Larry to clean up, and they walked upstairs with their arms wrapped around each other's waists."

"Take a break first. I'll run the bath for you. After going upstairs, Belle pressed Calvin down onto the sofa. She walked into the bathroom, turned on the tap, and got his clothes ready."

The night was getting darker. The people who were strolling around Harvey Manor had all returned to their villas. The sound of insects chirping could be heard as the night sky dimmed.

“As soon as Belle lay down and snuggled into the quilt, Calvin finished his bath and followed her by climbing onto the bed.”

“Go and dry your hair. Sleeping with wet hair will give you headaches. Belle felt that this was a bad habit. So, she urged him.”

“Don’t worry. It’s still a while before I go to bed. Calvin giggled and climbed into the sheets. He immediately drew close to her body, and her thin, revealing nightdress clung to her soft and delicate body. The thin bed sheets suddenly became warmer after Calvin climbed in. It was getting so hot that Belle couldn’t stand it anymore.”

“He planted his warm lips on hers. His fiery skin seemed to burn her with every touch. Soon, they were entangled together into a ball and he took over her...”

“That night, the two of them made love. It was gentle and sweet. The two of them could really feel the love for the other. The joy they felt was intoxicating and they didn’t want to part even for a moment. Throughout the night, they held onto each other passionately as they slept.”

“In the spacious and bright office, the amber-colored curtains cast a gloomy shadow on Sergio’s face.”

“A picture of Calvin and Luqman sitting and talking happily was displayed on Sergio’s phone. He tightened his grip as he gritted his teeth, and his knuckles even started turning blue.”

“Calvin, I didn’t expect you actually dared to support Luqman at a time like this. You know very well that he’s one of my family’s opponents, yet you still support him so openly. Aren’t you sowing discord? What do you take me for? What do you take the Wood family for? So much for your principles of separating politics and business. It turned out that you just wanted to go against my family and embarrass us. This is a clear threat. F*cking disgraceful. Sergio’s eyes were burning with fury as these words burst out from his lips.”

“If I don’t teach you a lesson, you will never learn, he said fiercely as he took out his cell phone to make a call.”

“Calvin Harvey, I can only blame you for picking the wrong side of the battle. Let me tell you. No one in this world will be able to stop the Xanthe family from moving forward. He thought to himself.”

“In the underground parking lot of the International Triumphal Court, Calvin had just got out of a Hummer and strode forward in large steps.”

“A thin, dark shadow flashed in front of him.”

Who is it? Calvin’s eyes flashed as he bellowed.

“The dark shadow moved into a corner at the side, but there was no sound.”

Calvin furrowed his brows as he quickly stepped forward.

“Who are you? He quickly sprinted to the corner, and surely enough, there was a dark shadow curled up there. Since it was slightly dark, he couldn’t see the person clearly.”

The dark shadow stood shivering and with her face buried in her chest. She did not look up or answer Calvin's question.

"Confused, Calvin stretched out a hand to lift the person up and drag her out."

"It hurts. Calvin, it's me. Calvin had just dragged the person's arm and took a few steps forward when she cried out in grief."

"After a few steps, the lighting became clearer. Only then did Calvin get a good look. It was Liya."

"It's you again? He frowned. When he reached out to grab her earlier, he felt as if the arm was particularly weak. He felt that it was a woman. So, he reduced the strength in his hand. Otherwise, he might have pulled her so hard that she would have fallen flat onto the floor."

"What in the world are you trying to do? This time, Calvin's expression was not friendly. She was here again. Was she waiting for him? What was her intention? Looking at her ambiguous appearance, it was really suspicious."

"Calvin, I don't mean any harm. I just wanted to see you. The woman shook her head desperately, hugging her body with her arms around her shoulders, and spoke weakly. Her limpid eyes were filled with mist, and she looked at him pitifully."

"Who are you? Do I know you? Why are you always following me? When he was stopped by her that day, Calvin already had doubts in his heart. Once again, he was still being followed by her like this. He found it extremely odd. This time, he must find out what her reasons were. When had he ever met a woman like her?"

"Calvin, I'm Liya. I just want to see you from afar. I have admired you very much since I was young. Now that I've seen you become the master of Harvey Manor, as well as the president of Harvey Group, I'm really happy for you. There are many who admire your prestige. Believe me, I mean no harm. Liya's eyes were full of adoration, and her big almond-shaped eyes looked innocent."

"Calvin's brows furrowed even more tightly. Since she was young? It seemed that this woman really was an old friend. She should be someone he knew. However, why didn't he have any memories of her? His memory wasn't that bad. Nevertheless, right then, he could not recall anything about her."

"He combed through his memories from the past, but in the end, he still shook his head."

"Since this woman claimed that she knew him, he had to make things clear even if he didn't want to. He immediately asked, ""Which department do you work in at Harvey Group?""

Chapter 423

"When Liya saw that Calvin was willing to speak to her, she softened her tone and her face lit up with excitement. She immediately blinked her bright eyes and replied in a crisp voice, ""Calvin, I am now working in the newly established web studio.""

"So, you're the newly recruited computer expert? It dawned upon Calvin. It was no wonder he had no impression of this woman. She was a new recruit whom Belle had hired. Since Belle was in full control of the matter, he paid no attention to it. This woman must be Belle's old friend or acquaintance and she must have known Calvin through Belle."

“When he thought about it this way, his doubts subsided.”

“Since you’ve been recruited by Ms. Morris, you’d better work well. She’s a very qualified superior. As long as you perform well, she will recognise your talents, said Calvin calmly. ““I hope I won’t see you in places like this again from now on.”””

“After that, he did not take a second look at her before passing her and walking away.”

“Calvin, do you really not remember me at all? Liya saw that Calvin was about to leave. She didn’t know when she would be able to find the chance to speak to him alone again. Hence, she was unwilling to give up and continued to ask him questions.”

Calvin stood still. He looked a little annoyed.

“Liya, whether I know you or not, it doesn’t matter. In the company, everyone is treated equally. As long as you do well, Ms. Morris and I will both reward you. Additionally, I don’t think I know you from anywhere. If you know me, then I thank you for paying so much attention to me. But from now on, please don’t call me by my name anymore. He clearly emphasised his words with a cold, tough, and rude tone. He didn’t want to say anything else to her.”

“Liya’s eyes were instantly filled with tears. Her face was very pale, and she lowered her head intently.”

It wasn’t until Calvin’s figure had walked far away that she lifted her head from her chest. She wiped away her tears and slowly walked towards the Harvey Group.

“She knew it. For a rich man like him, that tiny incident meant nothing. She was just a humble woman. Why would he remember her?”

Belle sat on the sofa and stared at a newspaper in hand. Her eyebrows were knitted into a straight line.

“On the front page of the newspaper, Calvin and Luqman were sitting opposite each other, and the scene of them talking and laughing could be seen clearly. It was obvious that this was the reason Calvin had come back very late the night before. She had been waiting for him all day and he didn’t even show up to their lunch date at Grand Hyatt Apartments. She knew that something was going on. It turned out that not only was she right, but it was also no ordinary matter either.”

“However, he kept it from her. He didn’t tell her because he didn’t want her to worry.”

“Although she understood why, how could he not tell her about something like this!”

“They were now husband and wife, and they were a family. They should share all sorts of ups and downs in their lives.”

“All of a sudden, her heart felt heavy.”

“At such a critical time, he openly went out to meet Luqman. Wasn’t that another way of telling the public that Harvey Group was on his side?”

That was not a good thing.

Wouldn’t Yadiel see that as a threat?

“It was very likely that this action would offend Yadriel as a politician from Capital City. Furthermore, Yadriel was Brooklyn’s subordinate. How was that alright?”

“At the thought of this, Belle’s whole body felt uncomfortable.”

That b*stard. How could he leave her in the dark? She was so anxious.

“She had a lot on her mind and was really worried. She was supposed to hire a tutor for Jerry that day. To make sure the tutor was qualified, she carried out all the interviews personally. Because of that, she was delayed and wasn’t able to go to work together with Calvin.”

“She hurriedly briefed the newly hired tutor and ordered Larry to bring the tutor and Jerry to the study. Then, she grabbed her briefcase and rushed out the door.”

“However, before she could even head out, Ruth walked in with a grin on her face.”

Chapter 424

“Good morning, Mrs. Morris. Seeing Belle, Ruth greeted her politely with a smile.”

“Belle stopped and asked with a smile, “”Morning, Ruth. What brings you to Fragrance Garden?”””

“Ruth stepped forward and informed her. “”Actually, it has to do with you. The Old Madam wants to see you.”””

“Oh, I see. Belle was stunned. So, the Old Madam knew that she hadn’t gone to work yet. She immediately asked, “”Ruth, do you know why she’s looking for me?”””

“I’m not too sure about that. She just told me to call and ask if you were still around. When she heard you hadn’t left yet, she asked me to come over to invite you there.”

“Surely enough, it was so.”

“Belle chuckled. “”Okay, Ruth, let’s go then.”””

Ruth nodded with a smile. The two of them got onto an electric vehicle and headed for Ink Garden.

Sophia was sitting on her lazy chair as usual. The air conditioning was set to a nice temperature and it was very comfortable.

“When Belle silently walked in, Sophia was still resting with her eyes closed.”

“Her head of silver hair was combed neatly, and her wrinkled hands rested on her knees. Her face was riddled with age.”

“Belle watched her quietly. For the first time, she felt that this old woman in front of her had really aged. She was past her golden years.”

“She stood there silently, hesitating whether she should wake her up.”

Sophia suddenly opened her eyes and looked at her with her blurry eyes.

Grandma. She hurriedly bowed and called in a soft voice.

Sophia looked at her with her eyes wide open.

“That year, Sophia’s eyesight and hearing had deteriorated quite a lot. It took her a long time to get her vision to focus and see things clearly. Her hearing wasn’t as sharp as it used to be either.”

Are you Belle? Sophia looked at her and asked in a trembling voice.

“Grandma, it’s me. Belle came closer to her and raised her voice to her ear.”

Sophia heard her clearly and her eyes lit up. She turned to look at her.

“Belle, my good granddaughter-in-law. She looked excited and grabbed her hand. “”Come, sit down in front of me. Let’s have a good talk today.”””

Okay. Belle obediently sat down on the chair in front of Sophia.

“Belle, I know that you are busy, and there are a lot of things to deal with at the company. The house is so huge, and you still have to work and take care of your husband and son. It must be hard on you. Sophia held her hand and patted the back of her hand as she spoke lovingly.”

“It’s okay, Grandma. These are my responsibilities. I’m still young after all. Belle smiled relaxedly, as if she was not afraid of anything.”

“Belle, do you know what I’m most proud of in this life? Sophia asked with a smile.”

Belle was dumbfounded and quickly shook her head with a smile.

“Sophia chuckled and said loudly, “”I’m most proud of the fact that my grandson, Calvin, has married you. You are the pride of the Harvey family.”””

“As soon as she said that, Belle was a little shocked. After a pause, she quickly shook her head and denied it. “”Grandma, you are being too dramatic with your praise. I am just an ordinary woman. I don’t deserve such praise.”””

“She knew that Sophia had a good impression of her, but Sophia had gone overboard with her words. It was impossible. Belle was sure that she was just saying it out of courtesy.”

“So, she just smiled and didn’t take it seriously.”

“Belle, don’t doubt me. I’ve lived to this age. So, I read people well. You’re an amazing granddaughter-in-law. You’re definitely worthy of my praise. As if she had seen through Belle’s thoughts, Sophia once again held her hand tightly and praised her.”

“Sophia’s words were sincere. Upon hearing this, Belle felt warmth in her heart, and her eyes became a little moist.”

“Belle, I’m getting old. In the future, you will be in charge of this family. I hope that you can shoulder this important burden. Take good care of the Harvey family and make us proud. I am placing all my hopes on you. Please don’t let me down. This way, even if I end up in the afterlife, I will be happy. As Sophia spoke, her eyes turned moist and she even choked on her sobs.”

“Belle suddenly had a sad feeling, and her heart tightened. She took Sophia’s hand and said comfortingly, ““Grandma, don’t say that. Your body is fine. You’ll live at least another decade or two.”””

“When Sophia heard this, she laughed heartily.”

“Child, I know my own body well. It’s a miracle that I’ve even lived until now. I am content. Now, I have a great-grandson, a good grandson, and a good granddaughter-in-law. For me, this is better than anything else. I am really satisfied with life. Sophia sighed and pointed at the cup of water on the table.”

Belle immediately understood and quickly picked up the porcelain cup on the table. She supported Sophia’s head whilst she fed her a sip of water.

“Grandma, have a good rest. Let’s talk more some other day. Belle was worried that she was tired and consoled her softly.”

“No, Belle. I want to talk to you while I can. I’m fine. Don’t worry about me. I have wanted to tell you these for a long time, Sophia said seriously, shaking her head.”

“Belle knew that Sophia rarely looked for her, except when she had something to say. Thus, she just told her very seriously, ““Grandma, go ahead and speak your mind. I’m listening.”””

“Good girl. Sophia held her hands tightly and said earnestly, ““Belle, an outstanding woman grows through the rain and storm, you must be able to withstand the test of time. To marry into a wealthy family, you must know how to face what comes your way. Be courageous and more forgiving than any other ordinary woman. I’ve watched you grow up. So, I know you have all of these qualities. I still remember when I first saw you as a child. I immediately knew you were to be Calvin’s wife. I am never wrong.”””

“Sophia’s words were from her heart. Although it seemed like she was praising Belle, but in fact, she was preaching to her about the principles of life. There was a deep meaning behind her words.”

Belle listened carefully as she pondered over the meaning behind Sophia’s words and actions.

“Child, it’s not easy to be a woman from a wealthy family. It is not as glorious as it looks on the surface. The hardships you will face are much more than that of ordinary women. So, I’m begging you, no matter what hardships you face, you must protect the Harvey family empire together with Calvin. Can you promise me that you’ll never give up?”

“Sophia held Belle’s hands tightly, and her muddled eyes were suddenly so bright. She looked straight at her, and expectations were written all over her face.”

Chapter 425

“This was Sophia’s wish. She understood what she meant but she still could not wrap her head around some of the things she said. Nevertheless, she did not hesitate and promised solemnly. ““Don’t worry, Grandma. I will do my best to handle the Harvey Group and protect the family. This will be my home in the future and it will be the place that I will protect with my life. Grandma, rest assured, I will not let anything happen to it.”” ”

“With that, she knelt on the ground and lay her head on Sophia’s knee as tears streamed down her cheeks. ”

“She knew that Sophia had always treated her well. She once thought that Sophia cared about her only because she was aware of Martin’s sins. However, she changed her mind. Sophia had always known that Tristan was associated with her father’s death. She truly cared about her. Her love and care for her were irreplaceable. She was grateful to have met her.”

“Belle. Sophia stroked her head, choked by her sobs. ““Back then at Wullen Town, when you refused to return with Calvin, I knew the reason behind your actions, although everyone else failed to understand it. You don’t wish to be part of a prestigious family, nor do you wish to bear the responsibilities. It’s too exhausting. I understand it perfectly well. Hence, I was on tenterhooks. Please forgive me for not stopping them from bringing you back as I yearned for your return. Calvin can’t live without you, nor can we, the Harvey family, survive without you.”” ”

Belle’s heart was filled with mixed emotions. Sophia was being so honest to her. She truly understood what was on her mind.

“Living a simple life and growing old with the person she loved was something very precious to her. However, her future was sealed from the moment Sophia laid her eyes on her. She was fated to bear many responsibilities. This was her destiny.”

“Nevertheless, as time passed, she did not regret it. She loved Calvin. Hence, she would muster the courage and accompany him on this journey, even if there would be lots of challenges and obstacles ahead. ”

“Grandma, don’t worry. I will do my best to handle everything. Since I have already made my decision, I will not back down, no matter what. I’m not afraid of the challenges ahead and I have never regretted marrying Calvin, not even when I did, seven years ago. She smiled as tears trickled down her cheeks. ”

“Good, good. Sophia was so ecstatic that her hands quivered. She wiped away the tears on her face and said, ““Your promise put my heart at ease. Even if I die right this second, I will leave knowing that everything is in good hands.”””

Belle held Sophia’s lined hand in hers. Her expression was solemn.

“Belle, all the large companies in this world have been through lots of ups and downs. You reap what you sow. Harvey Group has been through many obstacles. It has almost gone bankrupt many times but there was always someone who stood up for the family and saved the company despite the struggles. All this while, the Harvey Group had contributed a lot to society. Some still consider it as private property and think that it is only natural that we protect it for the sake of our family. However, I have a different opinion. Everything has a purpose in life. What is special about Harvey Group? Why did we survive when the others didn’t? In my opinion, those who have gone bankrupt did not contribute enough to society. Hence, they lost their business. We are the perfect example. The Harvey Group survived because we never go against our principles to earn money, nor do we take advantage of others for our own benefits. Only people with integrity and principles can earn money. It’s rare to see integrity and principles among businessmen. We don’t need to be the best, but we should always abide by our principles. Sophia glanced out of the window as she reminisced about her past. She revealed everything that was on her mind.”

“Belle listened attentively and finally, she understood what was on her mind. She learnt that the Harvey Group had achieved great heights through hard work and perseverance. It was no miracle. In fact, she was moved.”

“Belle, I still have some records about the family history and the development of the Harvey Group with me. I will instruct Ruth to bring them over to Fragrance Garden by today. Do spend some time going through them when you are free, Sophia said earnestly.”

“Okay, thank you, Grandma. Belle nodded and thanked her.”

“Belle, I have gone through a lot in my life. I have always done good, but I am, after all, just a human. I have my own share of mistakes. Sophia seemed to be filled with anguish as her voice faltered. She stared blankly ahead, apparently in distress as she looked back on her past. She looked down.”

Belle was startled. Sophia had always been optimistic and confident. She rarely saw her looking so crestfallen. Was it true that people change once they grow in age? Or was Grandma’s health deteriorating?”

The thought crossed her mind and she was about to give her some words of comfort.

“Sophia sighed and closed her eyes. With a heavy heart, she said, ““Belle, Grandma once did something wrong. I may have my own reasons for acting in that manner but deep down, I knew that I was being selfish. Every time I recall what happened, I will be plagued with guilt.”” ”

Belle raised her head and looked at her in surprise. Even Sophia had done something wrong in the past. What was it? Why was she filled with sorrow when she thought about it?

She glanced at her sullen expression and wondered. It was truly a shock as she had never seen her in this manner before.

“She held her hands tightly and attempted to comfort her. ““Grandma, we experience many things in life. It’s only natural for us to make mistakes. So what if you made a mistake? There’s no reason to feel guilty. Besides, it’s not necessarily your fault.”””

Belle tried to encourage her. She even grabbed a porcelain cup from the table and fed her some water.

“After taking a few sips of water, Sophia finally calmed down.”

“Belle, listen to what I’m going to say. If I don’t tell you the truth, you won’t understand why I’m so concerned. If you happen to experience something similar in the future, it will serve to guide you before you make a decision.”

Belle was silent. Did Sophia really want to tell her the truth? Could she bear the pain and agony again by talking about her past?

“Just as she was pondering the matter and wondering whether she should stop her, Sophia’s voice rang.”

“Back then, Evan brought a woman back to the house. A nine-year-old girl tagged along. To be frank, I was really shocked and distressed. After investigating the matter, I discovered that the woman was just a prostitute and she was actually married. I was furious when I received the news and I wanted to drive

the woman away. However, Elmore disagreed, as the woman was pregnant, whereas Evan's wife was infertile. I did not have a choice and was forced to let her stay. To everyone's dismay, she suffered a miscarriage two months later. The woman was in agony and almost committed suicide. After investigating the matter, I realized that Evan's wife was responsible for the tragedy. She fed her some abortion pills. Without a doubt, we were in the wrong and we were forced to let her stay. Hence, she stayed with us for another three years. Three years later, Evan met MLexie, and MLexie gave birth to Martin. We were shocked yet delighted when we received the news. After all, we finally have a grandson. However, we were afraid that Evan's wife would harm the baby again. Therefore, we made an excuse and did not allow MLexie to stay with us. Finally, MLexie gave birth to a boy and a girl. However, I made the wrong decision. I drove the woman and her daughter away. Alas, after Elmore's death, Evan's wife could no longer tolerate their presence. Besides, the woman's husband kept threatening and blackmailing us. I did not really like her from the start and after that incident, I could not bear it any longer. "

Sophia sighed as she finished telling the story. She seemed to be exasperated as well as feeling guilty.

Chapter 426

"It just so happened that Evan's wife had come over to Ink Garden to complain about her. She was in tears. Well, she knew that I detested the woman. Hence, she came over frequently to complain about her. To be frank, ever since the woman and her daughter had stayed in Emerald Garden, everything had become chaotic. She was always crying, and eventually, even Evan could not tolerate it anymore. He rarely came home and was no longer interested in the woman. He lived elsewhere and focused on MLexie. I knew that the household was in a mess and it would be a disaster if it continued. Besides, Elmore had just passed away. I wish that the atmosphere could be quiet and peaceful. Hence, I drove the woman and her daughter away without giving them a chance. "

"When Sophia talked about the matter, it was apparent that she was in distress. She did not have a choice back then and she was exasperated."

Belle lowered her head and pondered the matter. This was the fate of being a mistress to a man from a prestigious family.

"No matter what Raina did, even if she was infertile, they could not get a divorce. Hence, Evan had lots of mistresses and seldom came back for the past ten years. "

She heard that Evan had a mistress in Africa as well and they were living together.

"Alas, I've heard that she died from an illness after she was driven out of the Harvey Group. I had no idea what became of her daughter. I did ask Blake and Otis to find them after they were driven out, but the woman had already passed away when we found them. The daughter had been returned to her father. She was after all his flesh and blood. I thought that it was a good idea and it was the best option then. I was finally at ease. I instructed Blake to send them some money so that the daughter can get a proper education. After all, I felt apologetic. The woman had suffered a lot when she lived in Emerald Garden as the madam would not leave her alone. Besides, I drove her out just because I disliked her. It was kind of cruel but I did not have a choice. There was no reason for her to stay. She was married, and she only brought trouble to the family. However, from this incident, I gained some experience. Hence, that's why I never allowed MLexie to stay with us."

“She was not considered part of the Harvey family. Only after Martin and Aleena had grown up did I let them stay in the Harvey Group. When Martin and Aleena were still kids, I did not dare to make it known when I brought them over to play. They were really cute, and I adored them. Hence, every year, I would bring them over and let them stay at Ink Garden for a while. This would be kept a secret from Raina. Ink Garden was the only place I found safe enough to keep them. Eventually, Raina discovered what happened. Although reluctant, she was forced to accept it, under my orders. However, ever since Mlexie and the kids stayed with us, the atmosphere in Emerald Garden changed once more. Not long after, Evan seldom came home again. Besides, the Harvey Group had prospered, thanks to Hudson and he had become well-known in the industry. In comparison, Evan did not have any achievements. Hence, he went to Africa. Even now, I don’t really know what he’s doing, but I heard that he has started some businesses. ”

Tears coursed down her cheeks as she spoke. She was filled with anguish and she seemed to age suddenly in an instant.

“Back then, the Harvey Group was facing some difficulties. To overcome the crisis, Elmore forced Evan to marry Raina. However, Evan did not have any feelings towards Raina. As a result, he seldom came home and no longer cared about what happened to the family. Things turned out to be a disaster. It was not what she wanted.”

“However, she never expected that Martin, whom she had cared for since he was just a kid, would bear such resentment. For the sake of his future, he betRhyised Ethan. ”

“Tears continued to trickle down her cheeks. Belle did not utter a response. However, she was filled with anguish as well. After a long silence, she held Sophia’s hands and said reassuringly, “”Grandma, it’s all in the past. You did not have a choice. It’s not all your fault. Even if the woman stayed in the Harvey Group, her life will still be tough. After all, she had nothing. Driving her out was actually a better option for her. Nobody could have foreseen her misfortune after that. Hence, don’t feel guilty, just let bygones be bygones.”” ”

“Belle could only comfort Sophia in this manner. Somehow, her mood was affected. ”

“Belle, you are right, but I still feel guilty. After all, the woman died right after she was driven out of the Harvey Group. No matter what, I still bear some responsibility for her death. If I wasn’t so concerned about the family’s reputation and allowed her to stay, she might not have died, Sophia replied, sighing deeply. ”

“Belle wiped away the tears on her face with tissue paper. She sighed. This was not an easy matter to deal with. There was no right and wrong. It was very complicated. Sophia was feeling guilty because she was kind. It was only natural for her to feel guilty. Hence, she continued. “”Grandma, don’t worry. I will not let something like this happen again in the Harvey Group. If I ever meet the girl in the future, I will compensate her for the loss. As for Martin, he is currently working hard to pay for his sins. Once he has repented, I will allow him to come back to the family. After all, he is part of the Harvey family. Nobody could ever change that!”” ”

“Good girl. I was right about you. Hearing what she said, Sophia was over the moon and seized her hand. Tears streamed down her cheeks and relief washed over her. ”

“Grandma, don’t worry. I know what I need to do. Belle held her hand and smiled. “”This is my duty as Calvin’s wife.”””

“Okay, that’s great. Sophia was so jubilant that she nodded her head repeatedly. She sighed. “”Belle, my health isn’t what it used to be. I’m near my end. As I look back on my past, I couldn’t help thinking about what would have happened if I had chosen otherwise. Now that I have told you everything, I feel much better. One last thing, Blake and Otis are remarkable and talented. They are my confidants and have helped me a lot throughout the years. They are well aware of everything happening in the Harvey family and I don’t wish to lose them. Hence, I will now hand them over to you. Let them follow you. They will help you when you need them.”””

“Sophia seemed to have revealed everything that had been troubling her. Once she was done, she heaved a sigh of relief. However, she was exhausted and started to doze off. After all, she had spoken a lot.”

Belle was worried as she noticed Sophia’s current mental state. She quickly nodded her head in agreement.

She patted her back and helped her to lie down. She then tucked her into bed. Sophia really seemed to be exhausted. She closed her eyes and fell into a slumber upon finishing her sentence.

“Suddenly, Belle was filled with anguish. She was under immense pressure as her responsibilities doubled.”

“Grandma, please have a good rest. Don’t worry. As long as I’m here, I’ll definitely make sure that the mansion and Harvey Group are in good hands. I will protect them and let them persevere despite the challenges ahead. Belle promised silently to herself. She stayed for a while until she was sure that Sophia had fallen asleep before she left.”

“Soon, Ruth entered the room to stay by Sophia’s side and take care of her.”

Chapter 427

Belle walked out of the Ink Garden and headed straight for Harvey Group.

“Mr. Bennett, who gave you the permission to publish the news? Did you get my permission to do so? Who is the reporter responsible for this? What do they want and on whose orders? I want you guys to give me a satisfactory answer regarding the identity of the culprit. Belle came out of the elevator and was walking towards Calvin’s office when she heard Calvin’s bellows. At first, she was shocked, but she soon realized what was happening. “”You guys don’t have the right to reveal my story to the public. Consider this a warning. You guys had better apologize or I’m definitely going to sue you. If you feel that you have the ability to go against me, then you may ignore what I’ve said. However, I won’t give you a second chance.”” ”

“Obviously, Calvin already received news about what had happened. He was smart and sharp. Without a doubt, he knew that something was amiss. ”

“Belle stood in the corridor, debating whether she should go in and ask him. After pondering the matter, she decided to enter her office first and put down her stuff. She would find him once he had calmed down. ”

“As soon as she entered her office, she noticed that someone was already inside. At first, she thought it was the cleaner but to her surprise, she saw Liya standing in front of her desk. Her gaze seemed to be riveted upon something on it. ”

She pursed her lips in displeasure.

“Liya, why are you in my office? Belle’s expression darkened. She walked towards her and made her annoyance noticeable.”

“Liya didn’t expect her to come in at this moment and was caught off guard. However, she calmed down quickly and put on a smile. “”Ms. Morris, the global car network program has been designed. I want you to have a look but you weren’t here. I just came in a few minutes ago.”” ”

“Really? Belle put down her bag and asked casually, “”Don’t you know that you cannot enter a superior’s office as you wish? It’s very impolite to do so. Aren’t you aware of that?”” ”

“Erm... Liya did not know how to respond. She knew that she was in the wrong and flushed crimson as she lowered her head in embarrassment. “”I’m sorry, Ms. Morris. I thought that you were in your office as you normally are around this time. Hence, I did not think too much when I entered.”” ”

“Your explanation sounds plausible. However, I would like to ask, don’t you need to knock on the door before you enter? Shouldn’t you leave at once upon realizing that nobody was in the room? Belle asked sternly. “”If you don’t know the rules, I can instruct Mr. Parker to teach you.”” ”

Belle was about to make a call to Mr. Parker upon finishing her sentence.

“She was getting more suspicious of Liya. Something felt incredibly wrong, although she was not sure what it was. Nevertheless, she was concerned about Liya’s attitude and behavior. ”

“How could a top scholar act so recklessly and enter a superior’s office without permission? It really seemed that she had done it on purpose. There were rules in the company. If she didn’t reprimand her, incidents like this might happen again in the future. ”

“Ms. Morris, no! Please don’t sack me. Working at Harvey Group has always been my dream. Now that my father is ill, I really need the money as my family is struggling financially. Please don’t drive me away, I beg you. I’m sorry for disobeying the rules. I will not do it again. Is that alright for you? Out of a sudden, Liya dashed over and pleaded as she stopped her from making the call. ”

Belle was surprised. She just wanted to call Benson and instruct him to explain to her about the company’s rules and regulations. She didn’t mention anything about driving her away. What was she doing?

“Just as she was in a state of bewilderment, someone coughed and she spun around to see Calvin entering. He still looked furious. ”

“Ms. Morris, I beg you, don’t sack me. I will study the company’s rules and regulations well and I will never defy you again. Please forgive me. Liya pleaded pitifully and held her hand. Her eyes brimmed with tears and anyone would have sympathized with her.”

“She had her back to Calvin. There was no way that she would have noticed Calvin coming in. However, Belle couldn’t help feeling that she was putting on an act because she knew that Calvin was near.”

“For a moment, she was confused. Liya didn’t seem to know Calvin. She had not been in the company for long and she worked in the network department. Calvin rarely came over. Why was she acting in this manner? If she was putting on an act because Calvin was near, what made her think that Calvin would speak up for her? ”

“Everyone in the company was aware of her relationship with Calvin. Hence, what was the point of her putting on an act? ”

“Suddenly, she felt a lump in her throat and was feeling very uncomfortable. However, she could not wrap her head around Liya’s behavior. She heard Calvin asking, “”Ms. Morris, what happened?”” ”

“Just as Belle was about to respond, Liya’s action shocked her. ”

“As soon as she heard Calvin’s voice, she spun around as though she had found her knight in shining armor. Her eyes shone and she dashed over and grabbed Calvin’s suit timidly. She looked at him with pitiful eyes and begged him. “”Calvin, help me. We have lived together for three years. Please ask Ms. Morris to forgive me. I won’t repeat my mistakes. I really entered by accident and I meant no harm. Calvin, I beg you.”” ”

Liya stared at Calvin with her moist and glistening eyes. She looked pathetic and was obviously in distress.

She appeared to be in such a pitiful state that any man would be moved at a glance.

“However, Calvin frowned. He glanced at her hand which was holding his suit and bellowed, “”Let go of me.”””

The coldness in his voice made Liya’s face turn pale. Tears streamed down her cheeks and she spoke dejectedly.

“Calvin, when I was young, Miss Hattie Patel and Martin wanted to bully me, you always helped me and sided with me. Now that we are all grown up, you have already forgotten about me. However, it’s alright. Even if you have forgotten about me, I will always remember your kindness. Liya wiped away her tears and choked with sobs.”

What she said startled Calvin and his mind started racing.

“To think that she knew Hattie Patel and Martin and could even tell him their names. Besides, she mentioned that she had lived in Harvey Manor for three years. ”

“Based on what she said, she should be someone he knew. After all, he grew up in Harvey Manor.”

Was she that little girl?

A woman who was Evan’s mistress followed him back to Harvey Manor. Sophia did not like her but was forced to let her stay. That little girl was the woman’s daughter. She had always been bullied and reprimanded by the others in the Harvey family.

“He widened his eyes in surprise and he looked at her. The more he looked at her, the more he realized that she did look like that little girl.”

You're that little girl? What's your name again? Was it Li... Calvin asked in disbelief.

"Yes, yes, Calvin, you've finally remembered me. Liya raised her head and looked at him with moist and glistening eyes. She was filled with delight and a smile appeared on her face. Tear streaks could still be seen on her face."

Belle was stunned as she stood near them. She gaped in disbelief and forgot to respond.

It turned out that Liya was the little girl.

"Calvin understood what happened in an instant and calmed down. He said indifferently, ""It happened so long ago when we were kids. I still remember it but I didn't expect it to be you."" "

"Upon finishing his sentence, he walked past her and stopped in front of Belle. With a wide grin, he said gently, ""Belle, for some reason, Liya had stayed in Harvey Manor for three years. We were still young back then and I barely remember what happened. However, since she has mentioned it, I do recall something like that. Since I know her, if her mistake isn't something severe, just forgive her for my sake."" "

"When he finished speaking, he noticed that Belle did not respond. She was still in a daze and her face was pale. He laughed and stroked her face as he said gently, ""Belle, wake up. You will be laughed at by your employees if they see you in this manner."" "

"To be honest, he could understand why she was shocked, as he found it hard to believe as well. Logically speaking, Liya had nothing to do with the Harvey family. There was no reason for him to help her. However, he still had some memories of his childhood. The little girl was always bullied in Harvey Manor. Even the servants belittled her. She was always reprimanded and beaten. Sometimes, she was beaten till she was severely injured. He could not bear to see someone being bullied in that manner and had helped her a few times. However, that was all. He was never interested in her. It was pure nonsense."

"It wasn't until Calvin's hand touched her face, which was cold, that Belle came to her senses. Her mind began to race. "

Liya was a cunning woman!

Her instinct told her that Liya was sharp and was not what she seemed. Her actions proved it.

"To make matters worse, she hired her. It seemed that she had hired someone with bad intentions. "

"After a long silence, Belle smiled in exasperation. She was at a loss for words and didn't know how to deal with the situation. "

"I didn't mean to drive her away. She misunderstood me. I just wanted Mr. Parker to teach her the company's rules and regulations, and how to be a good employee. Belle calmed down and smiled. She said lightly, ""I didn't expect her to react so emotionally and beg for your help. Doesn't she seem guilty?"" "

"As she spoke, Belle sneered and faced Calvin. ""As a staff member who had just started working in our company not long ago, she entered my office without my permission and peeped at the company's confidential documents. Honey, shouldn't I teach her a lesson?"" "

She was brimming with confidence as she spoke. She even raised her eyebrows and her expression was cold.

“She did something like that? Calvin’s expression changed when he heard this. He shot Liya an icy, cold stare.”

“Liya’s face grew pale and she lowered her head. In a state of panic, she explained, “Calvin, Ms. Morris, I’m sorry. I did not look at the documents on purpose. I was just curious. I know my mistakes and I will not repeat them in the future. Please forgive me. My family is struggling to make ends meet right now and I don’t wish to lose this job.””

“Upon finishing her sentence, she began to sob.”

Chapter 428

“A woman burst into tears in front of her husband, attempting to get her husband’s sympathy by acting pathetically. Belle felt like she might puke in disgust. She felt a lump in her throat and she felt incredibly uncomfortable.”

She shot her a cold glare.

“Belle, how about this? You can do whatever you want. We should not allow those who don’t know the rules to remain in the company. That’s a breach of integrity. After hearing what she said, Calvin understood immediately what happened and spoke his mind.”

Belle raised her eyebrows and gave him an enigmatic smile as she glanced at Liya.

“At this moment, Liya’s face grew dispirited.”

“How about this? You can leave your design over here. I will let you know my thoughts once I have looked through them. You may leave now. Remember to go through the company’s code of conduct. I hope that you will not repeat your mistakes in the future, Belle said lightly. All Belle did was to look at her and smile. She did not hold a grudge against her.”

“Was that all? Liya was a little surprised. She thought that Belle would drive her out of the company in front of Calvin. After all, she was trying to seduce Mr. Harvey a moment ago. However, to her surprise, Belle did not sack her, nor did she punish her. She let her go even after Calvin said that she could do as she wished.”

“For the first time, she felt that Belle was not as simple as she thought. She did not have a high social status, connections, or a powerful family background but she was able to make Calvin fall in love with her and become his wife. She must be someone very smart, with a high EQ and IQ.”

“The thought crossed her mind and she decided to mask the hatred she felt towards her. Instead, she forced a smile and bowed, showing that she was grateful and said, “Thank you, Ms. Morris, for letting the matter slide. I’ll take my leave first.””

“Sure, you may leave, Belle said indifferently with a smile on her face.”

Belle watched as she disappeared from sight before she turned around.

“She did not sack her although her mistakes were sufficient for her to do so, as right at the moment, she remembered what Sophia said. She remembered Sophia mentioning that she was filled with guilt for driving the woman and her daughter away.”

It was very likely that Liya was the little girl whom Sophia had mentioned about. Liya was probably the daughter of the woman who followed Evan home and was then driven away from Harvey Manor.

“After considering what Sophia said, she changed her mind. Besides, there was no need to sack her for a mere trifle like this. It was unnecessary.”

“Although the incident had left a bad impression on her, she did not wish to drive her away that easily.”

She had every reason to believe that Liza had ulterior motives for coming to work at Harvey Group. One of them was to seduce her husband.

“It was better to place her somewhere under her direct supervision, than to drive her away and allow her to make a move behind her back, so that she can keep an eye on her and observe what she was plotting.”

Both of them had gone through a lot of ups and downs in the past. She did not believe that Calvin would fall in love with a woman like her.

She found it hard to believe.

“Besides, she wanted to prove that she had not wasted her love and effort on the wrong person.”

“Belle, are you letting her go just like that? Calvin was surprised that Belle did not punish her and let the matter slide so easily. Hence, he couldn’t help but to enquire.”

“Of course, you have asked me to let her go for your sake. I should at least respect your decision, Belle replied with confidence, raising her head as she laughed.”

“No, thanks. I did not ask you to let her stay. Calvin raised his eyebrows and grinned. Ignoring what she said, he stretched out his arms to hug her.”

Belle acted immediately and dodged it. She raised her head and looked at him proudly.

“Belle, are you going to give me a piece of your mind again? Calvin gritted his teeth and demanded. His heart yearned for her but he did not succeed in hugging her.”

What’s the rush? I have something to talk to you about. You’d better be serious. Belle’s expression was solemn and she tilted her head as she glanced at him.

What’s the matter? Calvin looked at her in puzzlement.

Belle narrowed her eyes as she looked at him. Her gaze was cold. “Tell me the truth. Were you planning on betRhysing me?”

“Calvin was stunned for a moment, and he almost burst into laughter when he saw her expression.”

“My dear wife. I only have eyes for you right now. Nobody else could catch my attention. Why would I betRhys you? Please talk sense, Calvin cried.”

“So, you won’t bet Rhys me even if someone seduces you? Are you sure? Belle’s eyes widened as she asked in a more serious tone.”

“Of course. Besides, who would dare to seduce me? Everyone in the world knows that I have a gorgeous wife. Who in the world would have the guts to come and seduce me? Do they wish to be humiliated? What an unspeakable twaddle! Calvin teased.”

“Hmph, flattery will get you nowhere. Belle laughed but she continued. ““I don’t think so. I’m pretty sure Liya wanted to seduce you. She was quite enthusiastic about it.”” ”

“Calvin sighed when he heard what she said. He frowned. ““Belle, you hired Liya. You were the one who said that we should keep her. I did not have a say from the start nor do I know what had happened. Even if I knew her in the past, it was all when we were just kids. I barely remember anything. This doesn’t mean anything.”” ”

“Of course it doesn’t mean anything. Belle snorted with disdain. ““However, even if you are not interested in her, what would you do if she continues to pester you?”” ”

“Belle’s gaze was overbearing as she looked at him. With her arms crossed, she tilted her head and asked, ““Tell me, what would you do?”””

“Hey, you’re being unreasonable. Calvin felt that Belle was messing with him, and didn’t know whether to laugh or to cry. He couldn’t help but to express his exasperation. ““It’s like you are interviewing me. I’m against it.”” ”

You will have to bear with it. Belle’s face fell and she demanded him. “I’m feeling uneasy. Tell me immediately. What would you do if this happens?”

“Well, Calvin had no choice but to take it seriously. He pondered for a while and after a long silence, he spoke resolutely.”

I won’t be fooled. I only have eyes for you and I belong only to you. Nobody will be able to seduce me. Are you happy with my answer?

Calvin’s voice trailed off and he paused. He seized the opportunity when she was not paying attention to drag her into his arms.

Belle was paying attention to his facial expression to see if he was telling the truth. She was caught off guard when he dragged her onto the couch. The scoundrel put his hand up her skirt.

“Well, if my answer doesn’t satisfy you. I have another method. This will definitely put you at ease. Calvin teased and started kissing her.”

“Oh, stop. Unable to control herself, she cried out. Flustered, she stretched out her hand to grab his ear and she pulled it hard. Calvin grimaced in pain and stopped what he was doing.”

“At this moment, Belle didn’t sympathize with him. She glared at him and warned him. ““Calvin, I’m warning you. If you dare to bet Rhys Jerry and me, I will never forgive you, and I will definitely teach you a lesson.”” ”

“Upon saying that, she pinched his ears again.”

“Calvin howled in agony and yelled, ““Oh, no! Someone wants to murder her husband.”” ”

Belle pursed her lips and laughed.

“Calvin was in pain. He bit her rosy lips in revenge and nibbled on them. However, he understood her heart when he saw her furrowing her brows in pain, and immediately let go of her. Instead, he proceeded to kiss her gently. ”

“Both of them had forgotten about everything else, and they were locked in an embrace till noon.”

It was not until Belle remembered the newspaper she saw on the couch that morning that her heart skipped a beat. She recalled the moment that she heard him blowing a fuse in his office a few hours ago. This was not something minor.

She hurriedly pushed him away and urged him to sit up.

“Calvin, you’ve seen today’s newspaper, haven’t you? Her jaws tightened as she asked in a panic. ”

“Calvin was stunned for a moment before he recalled why he had come to her office. He was there to tell her what happened. In fact, he was in a bad mood before he entered, but somehow, the sight of her cheered him up and he forgot what he wanted to say. He was on cloud nine, just to be with her, that he had almost forgotten about it. ”

“The downside of having a stunning wife, he muttered as he sat up. ”

Belle helped him as he out his suit on. Both of them sat facing each other.

“Calvin, be frank with me. Are you going to support Luqman? Belle asked in a serious tone. ”

“Calvin’s eyes were crystal clear as he asked with a solemn expression, ““What do you think about this?”””

“I’m absolutely against it, Belle responded immediately. ”

Why?

“I don’t need a valid reason. According to the Harvey Group’s code of conduct, we can’t be associated with them in any manner. We must treat both the Xanthe family and the Wood family equally. I have already expressed my opinion to Sergio when he enquired that day at the party. Belle kept her explanation simple, as it was pretty obvious. ”

Calvin pondered for a moment before nodding.

“Why did you go and see Luqman? What’s more, why was it published in the news? Are you foolish? Belle was on tenterhooks. ”

“Do you think that’s what I want? This is obviously a scheme. Someone is plotting something against the Harvey Group. Calvin stood up abruptly and his expression was frightening. ““Belle, I’m here to remind you to be careful. Now that the Harvey Group has gained power, many are jealous of us and wish to harm us. You must be careful.”” ”

I will. Belle thought of something and it made her uneasy. She nodded her head.

Don't worry too much about this. I will get to the bottom of the mystery and find out who is behind this and what their motive is. I will find out what they want. Calvin's expression darkened. He had never felt like this before. Someone was toying with him right under his nose. This was indeed infuriating.

"Calvin, it is obvious that someone wants us to be involved. They want to see us offending the Xanthe family. Who could it be? How nasty and abominable. Belle was furious. The person pulling the strings behind the scenes was too ruthless. They were willing to do anything to achieve their goals."

"Yes, Belle, we have to be careful for the time being. Don't worry. You have me. Everything will pass eventually. Calvin comforted her as he thought of what Luqman said. They were already involved in the scheme, whether they liked it or not. The thought crossed his mind and he no longer dawdled, and left after reminding Belle to be careful. "

"To be honest, if he was to choose between Yadriel and Luqman, he would prefer Luqman. After all, nobody knew what happened to the chemical factory. Although the conspiracy behind it had been concealed, what was done was definitely against his principles and values. Besides, it definitely had something to do with Yadriel. Hence, for the sake of the country and the people, Luqman would be a better choice. "

"However, he was a businessman. He didn't want to get too involved in political matters. Besides, no matter who won the position, it would only be for a few years. The economy was stable for now. Hence, it didn't really matter who'd win the position. Nothing much would change in the end. What's more, it has nothing to do with the Harvey Group."

"He needed all the energy to focus on the Harvey Group's future development. He did not have any time to be involved in politics. In his opinion, politics were only for people who were idle and had nothing to do. It was just a useless and boring game. "

Chapter 429

"Aron, it looks like I need the Xeqint back in action. Upon returning to his office, Calvin immediately called for Aron. "

"Mr. Harvey, I feel that there is something amiss recently. Everything seems to be fine on the surface, but I have a bad feeling about this. Aron also felt that something was wrong. He furrowed his brows and expressed his concerns. "

"Yes, I agree with you, Calvin said with a serious expression, nodding his head. ""Aron, bring some men along with you and investigate the matter. Find out who was responsible for snapping the photo when I met Luqman yesterday. We must find out why they published it in the newspapers and what their motives are."" "

Aron nodded. He turned around and left.

Calvin made a call to the Harvey Group's lawyer. His gaze turned cold. A City's media had gone overboard. How dare they publish a photo of him without informing him. It was infuriating.

"The next day, Belle arrived at the company Tristany in the morning."

“Calvin worked late the night before. She couldn’t bear to wake him up so Tristany in the morning. Hence, she came over herself.”

“The company had implemented some new protocols. Besides, she was diligent and meticulous, and always tried to supervise everything by herself. This made up for the past flaws and they had made considerable progress.”

“It was raining cats and dogs. The atmosphere was gloomy, just like the weather. Lightning flashed brilliantly and a clap of thunder followed.”

Belle arrived at the company in the rain. The security guard had just opened the doors and the cleaners were busy cleaning up the corridors.

“She took the VIP elevator to the 88th floor. Naturally, she had not been satisfied with the program designed by the network department recently and was quite worried about it. Hence, to be on the safe side, she asked for three top scholars specializing in software engineering, whom Calvin had previously sent abroad, to further their studies. She was going to meet them in person and request them to take part in the program’s design. After all, they were Calvin’s subordinates and were far more reliable.”

The corridors were pitch black as the secretaries had not arrived at work yet. It was way too Tristany and the necessary preparations were not done.

“Belle walked to the window and opened the curtains. A bolt of lightning flashed across the sky and struck the awning outside the building. She couldn’t help but to tremble, and she turned around to turn on the lights.”

The bolt of lightning revealed the reflection of a dark figure in the hallway on the window panes. Belle widened her eyes alarmingly.

“The next moment, she heard frantic footsteps in the hallway. Whoever it was, the person was obviously tiptoeing but Belle could still hear the sound of someone running away.”

“Belle had a bad feeling about this. Without hesitation, she spun around.”

She caught a glimpse of a form darting away from the hallway.

“The intruder was agile and nimble. Within seconds, the figure had disappeared completely.”

Who’s there? Belle demanded. She quickly chased after the figure.

“The intruder was running towards the stairs. She chased after them, but the person was too fast. Upon arriving downstairs, the intruder was nowhere to be seen.”

“Security, close the entrance immediately and look for anyone suspicious. She quickly called the head of the security department.”

“Within minutes, the entrance of the International Triumphal Court was closed.”

“The guards began to search the building, looking for anyone suspicious.”

“Belle stood in the hall on the 88th floor. Her expression was solemn, and she frowned.”

Who in the world dared to break into the President's and Vice President's office? What was the intruder's motive?

The thought crossed her mind and she dashed into her office in a hurry.

The door of her office was open.

"She pushed it open. Surprisingly, everything was still neat and tidy. There was no sign of anyone rummaging for something."

She remembered that she had closed the door the night before. It seemed that the intruder had entered her office. What about Calvin's?

She immediately ran towards Calvin's office.

"However, the door of his office was shut tightly. There were no signs of anyone entering."

It looked like the intruder was after her.

Belle recalled the eerie events that had happened to her in the past few days as well as Liya's strange behavior the day before. Her heart pounded rapidly.

"At this moment, her phone rang and she answered it. Calvin's voice rang. ""Belle, what happened?"" "

"Calvin had just arrived at the International Triumphal Court. To his surprise, he saw the employees standing in front of the building. The rain was still pouring but the entrance door was locked by the guards and nobody was allowed to enter. "

"Puzzled by this, he enquired one of the security guards and learnt that the entrance had been closed under Belle's instructions. "

Calvin was shocked. Did something happen?

"Belle arrived at the company before him. Could it be that something had happened to her? Worried, he dialed her number. "

"Calvin, come up quickly. Belle felt much more at ease when she heard Calvin's voice. She urged him to come upstairs immediately. "

"Are you alright? Calvin heaved a sigh of relief when she answered the call. However, he was still filled with concern."

I'm fine. Belle shook her head.

"After a while, Calvin arrived at her side. "

"Calvin, I saw a dark figure slip into my office when I walked into the corridor this morning. Before I could see who it was, the person had already run away using the stairs. Hence, I gathered the guards to search for the intruder. Upon seeing Calvin, Belle finally calmed down. However, her expression was solemn as she told him what happened. "

An intruder barged into your office? Calvin was shocked. His gaze turned ice-cold. This was indeed astonishing. It was the first time anything like had this happened in the Harvey Group. An intruder was found on the 88th floor which belonged specifically to the President and the Vice President.

He patted her on the back to calm her down.

He dialed Aron's number immediately.

Aron was instructed to check on the progress with the security guards. He came over upon receiving the call.

"Mr. Harvey, Ms. Morris, the security guards had searched the entire building, including the corridors, stairways, toilets, and meeting rooms. However, there was no one suspicious. Aron reported upon entering. "

"It's impossible. I saw it with my own eyes. It happened right in this hallway. The person was fast and agile. I did not manage to see if it was a man or a woman. I didn't even have time to turn on the lights, Belle retorted upon hearing what he said. She was telling the truth. She had really seen someone. It did happen but why was there no trace of the intruder? Why? "

"She could neither wrap her head around the incident nor did she think that it was just a hallucination. It was the same as before. She did feel someone lurking in the corridors but upon turning around, there was nobody in sight. "

Could it be that she had imagined all of it?

"No, it was impossible."

Calvin knitted his brows in concentration. His expression was solemn. He couldn't help recalling what Luqman said. Was Harvey Group already on someone's hit list?

"But, Ms. Morris, I have checked everything. Aside from the cleaners and our employees, there was no one suspicious, Aron said confidently. "

Are you sure you weren't imagining it? Calvin turned around to look at Belle as he asked with concern. "Could it be a hallucination as you have been pretty tired at work lately and the corridors were pitch-black?"

Hallucination? No way.

Belle immediately shook her head.

"Ms. Morris, is there anything missing from your office? Did anything seem unusual? After all, Aron had a lot of experience in situations like this and enquired immediately. "

"Well, nothing seems to be missing. Belle shook her head, looking dejected."

"Aron, open the doors and instruct everyone to get back to work. Keep this a secret and don't tell anyone about it. Calvin instructed after pondering for a moment. "

Aron promised to keep it a secret and left.

“Calvin, don’t you believe me? Belle glanced at him after Aron left.”

“Calvin drew closer and noticed that blood had drained from her face. He helped her to a chair and said gently, ““I might have my doubts if it was someone else, but I will believe you, no matter what.”” ”

Really? Belle’s face lit up.

“Of course. Calvin wrapped his arms around her shoulders and said affectionately, ““Please, you are my wife and you are Jerry’s mother. You are the person I trust the most in this world. If I don’t even believe you, who else could I trust?”” ”

Thank you for believing me. Belle smiled and rested her head on his shoulder.

“However, we need evidence if we are to do anything. I will make a mental note of this incident but we better keep it a secret for the time being before we know who we are facing. I’ll let Aron and his men inspect your office later. If the person really has any ulterior motives, they would definitely leave a trace. Believe me, Calvin said softly as he held her hand. ”

Okay. Belle nodded. She recalled what happened on the night when she stood by the lake and was about to tell him about the incident when his phone rang.

“Aron, what’s the matter?”

“Belle couldn’t hear what Aron said but she heard Calvin’s response. ““Record the names of everyone present at that time including the employees and hand the list to me later. Besides, get two men from the Xeqint to come over to Ms. Morris’s office and inspect it. Remember, do not let anyone know about this.”” Calvin paused for a while as he put down his phone, and said to Belle, ““Belle, I have something urgent to attend to. I’ll be going out for a while. Two men will come over later on to inspect your office. Have a good rest in the meantime and don’t stress yourself thinking about it. Don’t worry. I’m here. Everything will get better.”” ”

“Seeing that he was very busy, Belle nodded her head. She decided to tell him what happened some other time. ”

“Soon, Aron came over with two men. They inspected the office. After a while, they looked at one another and walked out of the office. ”

Belle wanted to stop Aron and ask him what they found but Aron was in a rush. He only turned around and smiled politely at her.

“Mr. Harvey, we really did find this thing. Aron entered Calvin’s office and handed him a pinhole camera. ”

Calvin held the pinhole camera. His expression darkened and it was scary.

Luqman was right. Someone was targeting the Harvey Group. They had already made a move.

“Don’t tell Ms. Morris about this for the time being. She will be worried. From now onwards, you are in charge of the Harvey’ Group security. Something might occur to the Harvey Group in the near future. No matter who it is and what they want, we cannot let anything happen to the Harvey Group. We have to protect it, no matter what. Calvin’s expression was solemn and his gaze was cold. ”

Aron's instincts told him that the matter was serious and he nodded his head.

Chapter 430

The hall of the Sky Blue Restaurant was lavishly designed. Love and lust filled the air.

Calvin put on an air of indifference as he entered the restaurant. His gaze was ice-cold.

"Someone asked to meet him at the restaurant. Whoever it was, the person was being pretty mysterious."

"At first, he was reluctant to come. However, many bizarre events had occurred in the past few days and he felt kind of lost and unsure about what to do. Something was definitely amiss. He felt as if he was losing control of what was going to happen soon. Naturally, he loathed this feeling, as he was used to being in control and things had always turned out his way."

Anyone could discern that the Sky Blue Restaurant was a place for lovers when they go on dates.

"However, someone requested to meet him over here."

"If he was not mistaken, the other party must be a woman."

"What kind of woman was she? He wondered where she got the guts to plan a date with him. On top of that, he wanted to know her true motive."

He passed through a dimly lit corridor and arrived in the VIP room. The scent of perfume wafted towards him.

"The VIP room at the restaurant cost a fortune. The customer would be required to spend at least fifty thousand dollars. Naturally, it was simply regarded as loose change for Calvin. The Sky Blue Restaurant was notorious in A City for being a place full of love and lust. However, who was the other party? Why did the person choose to meet him over here out of all places?"

"He stood at the door. Looking through the translucent glass, he could deduce that the room was dimly lit. The warm, earthy colors seemed to be inviting him to enter the room. A heavenly scent filled the air."

Calvin sniggered and a look of disdain was carved on his face.

"He reached out his hand to turn the brass doorknob. As the door clicked open, the smell of perfume greeted him."

The aroma of the fragrance engulfed him and he furrowed his brows in disgust.

"The room reeked of an exotic and overpowering perfume. He loathed it. Apart from Belle's scent, he could not tolerate anything else. The strong scent of perfume almost made him puke."

"At that moment, he steadied himself and walked into the room."

He stood in the room and his gaze fleetingly crossed each corner of the room. There was nobody in sight. He knitted his brows as he pondered over the matter.

Was someone toying with him?

He couldn't help but to clench his fist as burning anger spread through his body.

"Is anyone here? He demanded in a low, deep voice."

Complete silence greeted him. The room was still as dimly lit as before.

Could it be that he had gone to the wrong place?

"He took out his cell phone and checked the message. According to the message, he was at the right place."

"He stood there for a while and pondered the matter. After a while, he spun around and left the room."

"He walked straight out of the Sky Blue Restaurant. Yet, nobody stopped to talk to him. Surely enough, someone was toying with him."

Rage coursed through his veins. Bizarre events were unfolding. It was getting weirder each day.

"Hey, aren't you Mr. Harvey? Just as he was about to turn around and leave for good, a seductive, beautiful voice purred. The voice was pleasing to the ears. It was soft and sweet."

Who's there? Calvin quickly looked in the direction of the voice.

"A woman with exquisite makeup, wavy hair, and dressed in a luxurious gown was approaching him. She was smiling pleasantly and she looked elegant and friendly."

Are you Zoella? Miss Yates? Calvin's gaze fell upon her. He masked the surprise in his eyes and smiled.

"Yes, I am. Zoella giggled and drew closer."

Calvin pondered for a while. He put on a mysterious smile and assumed an air of indifference. "What a coincidence to meet you here. You surprised me."

"Zoella's eyes twinkled. There was a faint, alluring smile on her face. She had an elegant demeanor. As she approached him, she extended her hand. "Mr. Harvey, it's my honor to meet you over here. Why don't we have a drink together?" "

"Calvin narrowed his eyes. Zoella's family was not on the same social ranking as the Harvey family. However, she had succeeded in founding the Sky Sword Group without anyone's help. To be frank, it was indeed remarkable."

"Her online shopping system was gaining popularity in the current market. In fact, it was starting to replace the need for a physical shop. Her business could definitely be considered a success."

"Although her company was still no match for the Harvey Group, it would eventually gain more power in the future. Her company was not to be underestimated."

"However, they were not close personally. He did not wish to have a drink with her."

"Miss Yates, I'll pass. Besides, it won't look good for us if we were caught drinking today in such a place. To avoid any misunderstandings, especially with Mr. Jones, what about I invite him as well and we can have a drink together in the future? What do you think? He smiled and tactfully rejected her offer."

Zoella masked her displeasure at being rejected. She was simmering with anger.

“Oscar! The plump and vulgar man. To think that she would be associated with an a*shole like him. What a disgrace! It made her want to puke in disgust. However, she could only endure the humiliation before the issue was settled.”

“Mr. Harvey, you must be thinking about your wife. That’s why you’re rejecting me. Tsk, tsk, you are such a loyal husband. Mrs. Harvey is so blessed to have met you. Zoella masked her irritation and laughed as she complimented him.”

Calvin gave her an enigmatic smile.

“At this moment, there was nobody else in sight. There didn’t seem to be anyone who wished to meet him. It looked like he had been fooled.”

“However, he was starting to doubt his encounter with Zoella. Was it really a coincidence?”

She seemed pretty calm and at ease. There didn’t seem to be anything suspicious about her.

“Once he had confirmed that he had been tricked, Calvin no longer had the mood to continue their conversation.”

“Just as he was about to leave, Zoella said in a low voice, ““Mr. Harvey, since we have met, I have something to tell you. Would you be interested?”” ”

Calvin froze in his steps.

“He glanced at her. She was beaming with energy. There was a gleam in her eyes and she was grinning, inviting him to accept her offer.”

“Somehow, it made his hairs stand on end. Something felt eerie.”

“What do you want to say? I’m all ears. Calvin raised his eyebrows and turned around, smiling as he responded.”

“Let’s talk over there, Zoella said with a smile after surveying their surroundings. Slowly, she walked towards a tree.”

“Calvin narrowed his eyes. After a moment’s hesitation, he followed suit.”

“Mr. Harvey, we have known each other ever since we were kids. Hence, I would like to remind you to be careful, no matter what you do. Zoella stood under the tree as she glanced up at him.”

Calvin’s tall and slender figure was facing her. Their shadows seemed to be intertwined.

“Under the moonlight, the man in front of her was so handsome that her heart melted. Zoella’s heart raced as she glanced at him. She masked the trace of disappointment that flashed across her face as she clenched her fists. She thought of Oscar and his plump figure and all she felt was utter disgust.”

They were so different. One was so handsome while the other was downright disgusting. It would be a shame if anything happened to the man in front of her.

She didn't expect that Belle would be so blessed as to meet such an outstanding man in her life and make him fall in love with her.

She cast a frigid smile.