Chapter 23 Am I Too Hideous for the Public Eye?

At the Bolton residence.

Cathy hummed while cooking, her mood was a thousand times better than before.

Abner lugged his stool into the kitchen. With his hands resting on his cheeks, he watched her cook. "Mom."

Cathy stopped her chopping as she looked up. "Yes?"

The child stared at her eyes. "Our eyes look alike. Do you think you're my mother?"

"I wish you were my real mom."

Cathy smiled awkwardly and went back to her chopping. "I never had children—"

She could not finish her sentence.

She gave birth to a stillborn baby five years ago.

Did that count as a child?

She felt like the knife in her hand had sliced through her heart and changed the topic immediately. "Have you met your mother before?"

"No, we haven't."

Abner shook his head. "I heard that she died due to complications when she gave birth to us. But I

always thought that she was alive, waiting for us to look for her at a far corner of the earth!"

down to hug him.

Cathy sighed when she heard the naïve enthusiasm in his voice.

Cutting a tiny chunk from the turkey in her hands, she stuffed it into his mouth before bending

"If you believe that she's alive, she will be alive. Grow up quickly and look for her!"

Abner chewed on the turkey, but Cathy's warm embrace made him drowsy.

In the study upstairs...

How he wished that she was his mother.

"Are we letting that woman off the hook, just like that?"

husband.

her.

That woman orchestrated the loss of his mother's dignity, and nearly succeeded.

Arius sat on the study table, debating with the older version of himself.

Adrian glanced at his child. "Of course not."

However, this time, he limited his retribution.

Ember's business was at its infancy. Adrian would use his influence in the business world to harm

He thought that his father should not let the woman off the hook so easily. Afterall, he was Cathy's

If Abner and Arius' identities were exposed, they will lose their chance at living peaceful lives.

He promised the woman that he would protect the twins.

Even with his great influence, he would not risk his children's peace.

If things were worse, he might not be able to satisfy the media's curiosity.

"What does that mean?"

He was more mature than Abner, hence, he was able to regulate his emotions better. He rarely

Thus, seeing his frustration made Adrian smile. "You care about Cathy that much, huh?"

expressed his anger.

Arius bit his lip with frustration at his father's silence.

Arius blushed and looked away. "She's your wife and my mom."

Adrian crossed his arms as he stared into his son. "Is that all?"

"Of course!" Arius exclaimed before leaping off the table.

"Since you're unwilling to take revenge against that woman, I will."

"Wait!"

He turned to march out of the door, but his father stopped him.

The young child stared at Adrian.

Arius stares made Adrian cough awkwardly and squirm in his seat.

"Oh. The fool."

tomorrow!"

gotten her a gift.

standing in the sun.

skin is loving it!"

about her gift.

the bathtub that day.

"Master!"

towards the door.

there for a while.

photos and bragging to her friend.

"I wish I had a pair of sweet, handsome sons as well!"

Cathy pouted at Quinn. "My husband isn't ugly..."

Hearing her call him her 'husband' made Adrian grin even more.

his torrent of questions immediately.

Adrian smiled maliciously. "Yes, she's thrilled."

Arius picked the box up, eyeing it carefully. "A beauty kit?"

"I asked your cousin to get her something today."

Sighing quietly, Arius hugged the beauty kit to his chest and left. "I forgive you. For now."

"Uncle! Is Cathy back? Did she tell you how easy work has been? Is she happier?" Tyrell released

Tyrell guffawed, then added, "Don't worry! When I'm on the job, I'll get it done well! I promised

"Don't worry, uncle! I will come up with her long-term solution to protect dear Aunt Cathy

"Okay." Adrian's voice deepened with danger as he muttered, "And I will carefully consider your

He knew his cold and calculated father. Where was this generosity coming from?

Adrian frowned and pointed at a box on the table. "Take this to her and say that it is from you."

Adrian forced a smile at his son's receding back.

Suddenly, his phone rang.

to prevent her from any injuries, didn't I?"

"Yes, and your allowance will be safe from you too."

future as well, Tyrell."

Tyrell shuddered.

Tyrell fell silent for a moment as if deep in thought.

It was an imported brand that she had heard of, but never had the opportunity to own.

She did not expect for Arius to get her such an expensive gift after she had complained about

She took a few photos of the beauty kit and opened it carefully. After applying some product on

her face, she sent a voice message to Quinn excitedly. "My son gave me some miracle water! My

Leaning on the doorframe, Adrian felt a smile creeping up his face as he watched her prattle on

He did not expect her to be so thrilled over such a small gift, and would go to the extent of taking

After dinner, Cathy cradled her new beauty kit up to her room. She was thrilled that Arius had

Quinn could not hide her admiration. "I'm curious about their father too. Didn't they say that Mr. Bolton is ugly and peculiar? How could he have such wonderful children?"

"When will you share a photo of your husband to me?"

"Not so soon. Very few people have seen him, which I suspect is because he keeps a low profile. I

The word 'husband' sounded like honey to his ears and reminded him of how alluring she was in

While sending some milk to Arius and Abner, the butler encountered Adrian, who was lingering at the door, and greeted him out of respect.

don't want to be the person who leaks his photographs."

"No! Yours is hideous – his entire family looks bad!"

"Don't make excuses – he must be hideous!"

"Your husband must be a monster, which is why you never let me see him!"

Quinn's voice blared from Cathy's phone.

Cathy switched the screen off in shock. "My friend and I are joking."

"Joking about me?"

Hearing his greeting, Cathy immediately stopped her playful banter with Quinn and turned

Only to see an elegant man leaning against the doorframe. He looked like he has been standing

His overwhelming aura caused Cathy to take a few steps back until she fell backwards onto the bed.

Adrian entered the room and closed the door, then began to close in on her.

Raising his hand, he trapped her with her body against the bed.

Then, he fished her phone out of her hand and tapped on the screen to bring Quinn's video up.

Immediately, Quinn's startled face appeared on the screen.

His warm breath blossomed over her face as he said, "Tell her, am I too ugly for public eye?"

He turned down her phone volume, then bent down to speak to Cathy. "Cathy."