

## Heiress 1151

### Chapter 1151

Christopher thought, 'All my hard work has been for nothing. Am I

back at the same starting line as Justin? No, this can't be!'

Christopher wanted Bella, and he was determined to marry her.

Celeste walked gracefully to Wyatt's side, linking her arm with his, and

said, "Yes, Mr. Iverson, love can't be forced." Her tone was gentle, yet

each word was sharp.

She continued, "We all understand that you truly care for Bella. But

love requires mutual feelings to last. As Bella's family, everything we

do is ultimately for her happiness. If she marries someone she

doesn't love, it would be like robbing her chance at finding happiness."

Asher remained silent, his lips forming a mocking smirk as he looked

disdainfully at Christopher.

Celeste was gentle and smart. She had a profound understanding of Wyatt's character and focused on the emotional side without

mentioning Justin. This allowed Wyatt to empathize with his daughter's situation.

Christopher's expression stiffened, turning pale with an icy and cold

gaze while struggling to maintain composure.

"Christopher, Celeste has a point. A fruit that is forcefully picked isn't

sweet."

Wyatt let out a deep sigh and said, "Don't lose hope, but don't become

too obsessed either. Let things happen naturally."

Although Bella was reluctant to go to the hospital, Justin managed to persuade her and accompany her for treatment.

After tending to her minor injuries and applying medication, they

returned home at night.

"Why do you always have to be so stubborn and go against me? I told you this minor injury didn't require a trip to the hospital. Ah! Ouch!" Bella winced in pain as she strained her waist while getting out of the car, causing her delicate eyebrows to furrow. She took in a sharp

breath.

Justin felt anxious watching this, and his breathing became

increasingly heavy. He quickly reached out and pulled her into his embrace. "Bella, don't be stubborn," he said softly. "Do you know how loud you were during treatment at the hospital?"

Bella blushed shyly. "N-no, I wasn't!"

"How can you deny it? I thought I was at the entrance of a delivery room, and you were giving birth to our child," Justin murmured with furrowed brows as he planted a heavy kiss on her sweaty cheek.

His breath was labored, and his embrace was a little rough, as if

punishing her.

'Child...' Bella felt a bitter ache in her heart, which made her flinch.

instinctively.

Justin didn't find her reaction strange, assuming it was because of her injuries. Without saying a word, he lifted her up and walked into

the villa.

The events of the horse racing event during the day were like nuclear explosions, each one shaking the nation to its core and already

toppling headlines nationwide.

Even Wilma knew about it. She had skipped dinner and sat in the living room, waiting for the young master and young madam to return.

"Young Madam! How are your injuries?!"

Wilma expressed concern for Bella's injuries, noticing her pale complexion. She felt her heart ache watching Justin carry her in his arms, unable to walk on the ground.

"I'm fine, Wilma. I can still walk on my own." Bella said, reassuring

Wilma.

She lightly tapped Justin's chest, who was carrying her. "It's all because of him, blowing things out of proportion. I'm not made of paper. Why would anyone think that?"

Justin let out a soft chuckle and affectionately said, "Ah yes... My

Bella, the fierce warrior goddess, you're the most striking and

remarkable woman I've ever encountered."

He didn't favor characterizing women as "strong". Who would want to

be labeled strong if it wasn't necessary?

Chapter 1152

Justin felt that his woman should be pampered like a delicate flower. He wanted to shield her from raging storms and troubles.

Bella was starving, her stomach growling audibly. Wilma quickly went

to the kitchen to make dinner for the pair, while the restless young

woman insisted on taking a bath.

“I want to take a bubble bath. I smell like horse manure!”

“No, the doctor explicitly instructed me that your wounds cannot come into contact with water for a week. It could lead to an infection.”

Justin carried her back to the room. “Let me help you clean up, okay?”

Bella grumbled as she frowned. “Can you wipe it clean?”

“Of course, when have I not helped you?”

Justin’s warm breath brushed against her ear as he whispered, “I promise, you’ll be spotless inside out.”

“Don’t get any funny ideas. I’m really tired tonight and just want to sleep!”.

Bella’s mind filled up with suggestive thoughts that made her blush, along with the man’s naughty and dirty words.

Her body gradually warmed up, feeling restless and flushed, and her heart softened.

Justin’s gaze intensified, and he sighed reluctantly. “Your delicate waist can’t withstand any more excitement. Even if I want to, I’ll wait until you’re better.”

In the bathroom, Bella sat amidst the misty, warm vapor. Her snow- white, silky body was completely exposed before Justin.

With a damp towel in hand, he gently wiped her body, kissing her pale

neck affectionately.

Though he tried to control his desire for her, he couldn't hold back his deep love for Bella. Even without physical intimacy, they could share

passionate kisses.

"You're usually very articulate during meetings at the Salvador Corporation," Bella said as she wrapped herself in a bathrobe and leaned against him. She gently traced circles on his throat with her

fingertips.

She continued, "Why were you so quiet when you met Wyatt today?"

Can't you see that Christopher is trying to take credit for your work?"

It's obvious that you're the one who found the culprit and set

everything up, so why does he get to claim your success? Doesn't he

have any shame?"

Justin held her close, afraid she might slip. He couldn't resist planting a kiss on her tender lips.

"I don't mind who gets credit as long as your troubles are sorted. Protecting you is what matters most to me," Justin whispered softly.

Bella felt a lump in her throat and tears filled her eyes, leaving her momentarily speechless. This was why she loved him-his selflessness towards her.

"I wish I could please everyone," Justin sighed, gently comforting

Bella. "Sometimes it feels like I'm always falling short."

"No, Justin, you're doing so well," Bella muttered, her voice choked

with emotion.

She thought to herself, 'You'll always be my hero. But I won't admit

that, Or else I'm afraid I'll make you too proud.'

Chapter 1153

After cleaning up, Justin was worried that she might overexert herself, so he gently carried her to the dining room for dinner.

He had been busy all day, and his usually pristine white shirt now gave off a warm scent mixed with his sweat.

To Bella's surprise, she felt a little lightheaded. Instead of finding it unpleasant, she nestled her nose against his chest, sniffing like an eager kitten.

"What's this? Are you trying to eat me?" Justin teased her with a smile as his lips brushed her forehead.

“Even if I wanted to, wouldn’t you have to take a proper bath first? You’re such a stinky man,” Bella said, blushing and turning away. “You usually keep yourself quite clean. How come you didn’t bother to take a shower this time?”

Justin simply replied. “I didn’t have the time. I’ll go wash up after we finish eating.” Bella pursed her lips, feeling warm inside.

A spread of exquisite dishes filled the table, some of which were

prepared in advance by Wilma and only needed reheating, making the preparation quick.

“Wow! Wilma, you’re amazing!” Bella sat at the dining table, clapping

like a happy schoolgirl.

“Madam, don’t flatter me. Your culinary skills surpass mine by far!

Several dishes here are your brother’s favorites, and you’re the one

who taught me how to make them. Have you forgotten?” Wilma

laughed genuinely.

“Is that so? I must have forgotten.” Bella laughed in response and

shifted her attention back to her meal, feeling a bit embarrassed.

Although Bella knew Wilma was complimenting her, such words

would inevitably dredge up some unpleasant memories between



them.

Justin understood the pain she had endured before, his eyes hinting

at bitterness as he gently wiped her lips with a napkin.

Just as he was about to speak, Bella quickly fed him a piece of

shrimp and said, "No need to apologize. Remember, we agreed not to dwell on the past." Justin relaxed his grip, forcing a smile as he chewed the meat.

Indeed, nothing tasted as good as the dishes prepared by his beloved partner.

Just then, the sound of the door opening echoed from the foyer, and three robust men burst in, instantly bringing a festive atmosphere to

the villa, reminiscent of New Year's celebrations.

"Wow, Bella, you're so heartless. You're eating all this food by yourself. Isn't this too much?!"

Axel exclaimed as he hurried over and took a piece of bread to eat after not having eaten all day due to reviewing case files..

Ralph followed closely behind and quickly devoured a chicken drumstick with the intensity of someone who had just completed a marathon.

"I've been interrogating criminals all day. My mouth is as dry as a desert. Chewing on some meat will help satisfy my thirst!"

The two privileged young masters of the Thompson family ate so

much that they could be mistaken for starving men who had been stranded on an island, leaving Justin and Ian speechless. Ian remarked. "They are like black holes, devouring everything."

Bella helplessly rested her chin on her hand. "If Wyatt aonens AyatMilesaw this epan€thdy probably want to strangle them. They are

acting as if they've never been fed."

Happy to see the A men enjoying their meal ima qaickiy inujtes! thé) Vee ee oe us! There's plenty of food! even made

noodles, but since the young master isn't fond of noodles, didn't

serve them. If any of you want some, I'll bring them out now."

Axel and Ralph nodded eagerly. "Yes, please! Are there any extra

dishes too?"

Bella sighed and rubbed her temples. "Just having something to eat is good enough. Who needs all the extras?!" Ian couldn't watch anymore and quietly reminded them, "Gentlemen,

shouldn't you show some concern for our young madam? As her elder brothers, should you not ask how she's doing after such a big

incident?"

Axel and Ralph looked at rand i as one munched on ste

citer agauicchoria beet ri eae echoed in unison, "Can't she just eat normally? No need to make a fuss!"

Ian was speechless, thinking to himself. 'Am I just anxious, or are these two just clueless?' Bella leaned against Justin's chest laughing so uncontrollably that

her body shook.

Chapter 1154

Justin's strong arm held Bella's delicate waist, gazing at her with

affection and a smile.

Axel and Ralph led very hectic lives, seldom seen together. When they did show up as a pair, it meant that things were complicated.

Ralph let out a burp, his expression turning serious. "Shannon took a

urine test this afternoon, and it's confirmed she used drugs. She insists it's not drug abuse but merely using medication. She argued that she believed the injections were just regular beauty treatments provided by her plastic surgeon, Dr. Fairchild. She claims to have no

knowledge of this and believes she's being set up."

Bella was suddenly shocked.

The drugs given to Shannon were actually prepared by Simon, who had a wide knowledge of pharmacology. She trusted him completely in this aspect and never questioned his expertise.

However, she was shocked when he directly injected the drugs in her. Such a large dosage could be lethal!

Bella strongly defended Simon. "Ralph, this matter has nothing to do with Dr. Fairchild. Shannon must be desperate and trying to drag someone down with her in her final moments, throwing Dr. Fairchild under the bus." Bella vigorously defended Simon.

"I know Simon, Bella. Dad has helped him, and he's close to you," Ralph said with a serious expression as the playful exchange between siblings disappeared from his eyes.

"But as a police officer, I have to remain impartial and follow the law.

I can't misuse my position for personal reasons. Shannon claims

she's being set up by Simon. Even if she's not telling the truth, we still need to bring in Simon for questioning and follow protocol," Ralph

added.

Bella lowered her long lashes, feeling somber and quiet.

Justin furrowed his brows slightly. Naturally, he didn't want to see any conflict between the siblings. He gently took Bella's hand,

soothingly massaging her palm. "Hey Captain Ralph, we get it. Just

do what you think is right."

The term "Captain Ralph" made Ralph feel some warmth toward

Justin. But Bella felt uneasy inside. She knew that Ralph was right, but she just felt bad for Dr. Fairchild. She didn't want anyone else

around her to suffer because of her.

The vibe when the siblings were together was seldom this heavy.

Ralph's heart felt heavy. Not wanting to linger under his little sister's

gaze, he murmured, "I still have some things at the station I need t

deal with first, so I'll head back."

He then turned to Axel and continued softly, "Axel, please accompany Bella more. It's rare that you both can spend time together.

Just as he was about to leave, Bella suddenly rose and threw herself

into Ralph's arms, tightly embracing him. "Ralph, please don't go! I

didn't ask you to leave!"

Ralph opened his arms right away to hug her back, feeling emotional.

Even though they were close like the others, being half-siblings

created a small distance between them. This made it rare for him to embrace his sister so intimately. Every time he wanted to show his love for her, he'd hesitate due to shyness.

“I thought you were mad,” Ralph said softly, lowering his head and gently stroking her hair with his large hand.

Bella looked up with a dewy face and shook her head. “Ralph, how could I be mad at you? I know about your journey from passing the police academy entrance exam to joining the criminal investigation team and now becoming the captain of the team. It hasn’t been easy for you. I shouldn’t have been so

stubborn and mixed public and private matters. Go ahead and do what you need to do. Whatever happens, I’ll support your decision.”

Ian observed the intimate interaction between Bella and Ralph while sneaking a glance at Justin’s expression, which turned out to be as, dark and angry as he had anticipated.

Justin let out a deep breath. Despite trying to keep his cool, jealousy and anger colored his eyes.

“Hey, feeling jealous?” Axel pulled up a chair and plopped down next to him, munching on a pastry and speaking with his mouth full.

“If this little bit of drama gets to you, how will you handle being around us and Bella in the future? You’ll be crying all the time!”

Chapter 1155

Axel said, “When the time comes, you won’t be Jerkface Justin

anymore. You’ll turn into Crybaby Justin.”

Justin could feel his blood pressure surge. He pressed his lips

together tightly and softly said, “Although you’re Bella’s elder brother, she has a husband now. You should know how to be discreet at your age.”

Axel almost choked when he heard this and glared at Justin while patting his chest.

“If Drew hears you say that, you’ll be in big trouble,” Axel warned.

“It won’t happen,” Justin replied coolly. “He wouldn’t want to see his, sister become a widow.

Axel was lost for words.

On the other hand, Ralph was busy with Shannon’s case. It was no small matter. Not only was she involved in drugs, but there were also multiple lives at stake. Unless she was convicted and justice was served for the lost souls, Ralph would have trouble sleeping and eating.

After dinner, they gathered in the living room for a chat. Suddenly, Ralph’s phone rang. It was his colleagues from the station calling. When he hung up, his expression turned visibly grim.

“Ralph, what happened?” Bella asked with concern in her eyes.

Ralph looked at Justin with a complex expression. “Mr. Salvador, your

father 1155

father has hired the best lawyer in Savrow to represent Shannon. He’s currently at the police station, requesting bail for her.”

“Damn it! He thinks he can just bail her out whenever he wants? Does he think the police station is his playground?”

Ian couldn’t contain his anger. “Some lawyers have completely lost their conscience. They would take on any case! They talk about equality before the law, but I believe they’re just slaves to money, the

scum of humanity!”

“The best lawyer in Savrow?”

Justin and Bella exchanged knowing glances.

“You mean Hunter Lovett?”

Ralph was surprised. “You know him?”

Bella sneered, “We go way back.”

Justin frowned. “Yeah, he’s basically the Salvador family’s lackey.”

Hunter was ruthless and cunning, not someone to be messed with

“Right now, we need to figure out if Shannon is really guilty as soon as possible. If it turns out she’s only involved in drug abuse, and with

the Salvador family’s connections and Hunter’s legal expertise, there

might be a chance for her to get bail.’

Axel Hooked serious as he spoke to Justin. “Mr. Salvador, I’ve gone

through your mother’s case files. It’s been two decades, and some

evidence is missing. If you’re thinking of accusing Shannon of

deliberate murder, the odds of success are low.”



Bella's eyes widened in astonishment as she stared at Justin's cold and stern profile. Justin even sought Axel out. He truly did everything in his power to seek justice for his mother.

"Furthermore, in Linny's case, it was Winston who committed the murder, with Shannon as the instigator and an accomplice. But if Hunter helps her prove her innocence and puts all the blame on Winston, she might only be sentenced to about ten years, not facing the death penalty." Axel spoke calmly before adding another harsh truth.

The atmosphere instantly felt heavy, making it hard for everyone to breathe.

Bella asked anxiously. "Axel, we have the recording of Linny's chat with Shannon and Bethany. Can't that be used to prove Shannon's guilt?"

Axel shook his head. "That was clearly obtained illegally and can't be used as admissible evidence in court."

Bella slumped against Justin, feeling a mix of despair and frustration like she hadn't in a long time.

Justin put his arms around her, holding her shoulders firmly but gently. "I get it. Even if I find the person who helped Shannon plot against my mother years ago, all I have is testimonial evidence. But what if I told you, I have physical evidence?"

Chapter 1156

The other three were stunned. Their jaws dropped.

Bella grabbed Justin's hand. "Justin, it's been twenty years. Where did you get the evidence from?" Justin clasped her hand and spoke with a low, hoarse voice. "

Remember when I told you that I was going to track down the maid who once served my mother?" Bella nodded obediently.

"Perhaps people have a premonition before disaster strikes. Before Shannon had her accident, that maid tried to flee the country. Ian sent someone to catch her in time, and then I used a little persuasion."

Justin took a deep breath and continued, "In order to save her son, she revealed some truths in her panic. It was even beyond what Shannon confessed in that recording."

He was fundamentally kind-hearted. If not for being pushed to extremes, how could he have used a child's life as a bargaining chip

Bella believed that even if the maid remained stubborn to the end, Justin wouldn't harm the maid's son. It was beyond him. If he did, how would he differ from people like Christopher?

"Shannon murdered my mother. Shannon poisoned my mother with her own hands." Justin's eyes were bloodshot, and he tried his best to restrain the surging hatred in his heart. His hand, which was held

"Poisoned with her own hands..." Axel and Ralph were shocked, their cheeks stiffening. Ian's body staggered as if struck hard by a heavy blow.

Bella felt like she couldn't breathe. It was as if her chest was crushed by a giant stone. If it were anyone else, they would have gone insane, but Justin didn't lose his mind. The more composed he appeared, the more her heart ached.

Ralph asked urgently. "Mr. Salvador, what exactly happened?"

"The maid confessed. She followed Shannon's orders to switch out my mother's antidepressants, but she only replaced them with ordinary supplements that wouldn't be lethal. However, perhaps Shannon sensed a thaw in the relationship between my mother and Gregory during that period. Afraid of trouble, Shannon switched the supplements with a small dose of poison. Over time, the poison would accumulate, causing cardiac paralysis and sudden death."

Justin's broad shoulders trembled subtly. Each word he uttered felt chilly and infused with deep-seated hatred. Bella's eyes welled up with tears, her palm lightly caressing his back "How did the maid know such intricate details?" Axel asked eagerly for information, possessed by his instincts as a prosecutor.

"She saw it." Justin tightly grasped Bella's hand, as if only by touching her so directly could he maintain his composure. "She said that two days before my mother's suicide, she noticed that every time she replaced my mother's medication, Shannon would sneak in while she wasn't looking and switch the medicine. But she never mentioned it

to her or dared to ask a single question."

"That's because if Mrs. Salvador had died of cardiac arrest, the maid responsible for Mrs. Salvador's care would have been taken away for investigation."

Bella's mind raced, calmly analyzing, "By then, no matter what the maid said, it would be futile because the medicine was under her care. Since she switched it, she would bear all the blame alone. She had already thought of this at the time. But she was already trapped, with no way out, so she had to walk that path to the end." Justin paused, his handsome face growing paler. "But on the day of the incident, there was an unexpected turn of events. That is, my mother, who originally went to the garden for a walk, found that she

had forgotten her camera, so she turned back to the room..."

"And then she happened to see..."

Shannon

Bella's heart sank heavily.

Justin lowered his gaze and nodded. "Yes. The maid had been hiding outside the room, eavesdropping on the situation inside. Because of

her close relationship with Shannon, her nerves were on edge

that period. She couldn't have a single night of peaceful sleep.

Ralph gritted his teeth fiercely. "Hmph! Let her make up for the sleep in jail!"

"The maid said that although she couldn't see what was happening inside at that she had heard a few arguments between my mother and Shannon. She said my mother had been like an

emotionless person since coming to the Salvador family, but that

was the first time my mother. O explode ) eve

loaded in 5 & Weir frightening

Chapter 1156 the maid."

"And then?" Bella stared at him without blinking.

Chapter 1157

"Then she heard the room suddenly go silent, and then I saw it with my own eyes..."

Justin couldn't continue speaking. His chest heaved violently, his eyes were bloodshot, and his hands were trembling uncontrollably. Bella could feel the cold sweat on his palms.

Justin could vividly recall the tragic scene of his mother falling from

the building in front of him.

It was the first time he realized that when a person fell from a height and crashed into the ground, the sound they made was so muffled and heavy. He could even distinctly hear the brittle sound of bones

shattering.

Justin only had a glimpse of the scene, but the pain and trauma from that glance would haunt him for a lifetime, almost crushing him time and time again.

“Don’t say it anymore, Justin. Please don’t continue...”

Bella embraced him as tightly as possible, wishing that she could

take away his pain. Although Justin hadn’t cried yet, she couldn’t help

but shed tears, soaking his white shirt.

“It’s okay. Although my heart is filled with hatred, it hasn’t clouded my judgment, nor has it caused me to collapse.”

Justin’s eyes cleared up, becoming gentle. His rough fingertips wiped away the tears on Bella’s cheeks.

“The main reason is because you’re

by my side. Bella, you don’t know how important you are to me.

You’ve given me immense courage, which prevented me from sinking

into despair.”

At this moment, Axel and Ralph finally understood what Asher meant by Bella being Justin's lifeline.

When the emotions of the young couple had calmed down a bit, Ralph frowned and asked, "The maid heard the argument in the room disappear, and then you heard the sound of Mrs. Salvador falling from the building, almost simultaneously. Can this indirectly prove that Mrs. Salvador's fall is related to Shannon? After all, the only one present at the time was Shannon."

"You just said that Mrs. Salvador's relationship with Chairman Salvador had improved at that time, and she showed unusual anger when she discovered that Shannon had switched her medication. None of this seems like behavior indicating suicidal intentions."

Axel also joined in the analysis. "Although there's no concrete evidence, perhaps the truth is as we suspected. It was likely that Shannon pushed Mrs. Salvador down."

“The maid said that after my mother fell, Shannon hurriedly ran the room, coincidentally colliding into the maid who had been

eavesdropping. At that time, Shannon threatened the maid not to say a word and gave her a large sum of hush money, letting her leave t

Salvador family forever. The maid said it wasn't about the money but

because she was afraid of Shannon taking revenge, so she chose to

take the money and remain silent.” Justin held Bella in his arms,

gently comforting her.

Ralph reminded him sternly. “This is a crucial witness. You must

protect her.”

Axel's eyes blazed with fury. “At present, we need to establish the charge of Shannon's drug abuse and keep her detained without release. Then, we must quickly gather evidence to prosecute Shannon

for intentional murder!”

It was only now that Bella understood why Justin didn't arrest Shannon on charges of inciting murder or other crimes.

Because there was only one chance, and it had to be used precisely. It couldn't be taken lightly, and they couldn't act hastily!

Bella's eyes sparkled with curiosity. "Justin, you mentioned... There's physical evidence?"

Justin's gaze deepened, his big hand hooked her waist, and he leaned in to whisper in her ear, "Later, when we're alone, I'll tell you slowly."

\*

Taylor and Yvonne stood outside a basement door. Gruesome

screams reminiscent of slaughtering pigs could be heard from the

other side.

Taylor felt physically sick from the sounds, but Yvonne remained composed as ever, her expression indifferent.

Taylor remarked. "You're truly impressive. How could you remain indifferent and stoic at the sight of this? Among the women I've met, only Ms. Thompson has such exceptional mental fortitude as yours."

Yvonne smiled coldly. "It's already a tragedy that I look like Bella. Don't I even deserve my own personality?"

"I didn't mean anything by it..." Before Taylor could finish his

sentence, the basement door opened.

Christopher emerged, his clothing soaked in blood.

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## Chapter 1158

Christopher's chest was heaving heavily, and sweat was mixed with blood, trickling down his delicate face.

His eyes were sinister and cruel, like a vengeful spirit that crawled out from the depths of hell. There was a tinge of bloody satisfaction.

"Mr. Iverson." Both Taylor and Yvonne bowed respectfully.

Christopher tossed the blood-stained whip he held onto the ground.

He removed his gold-rimmed glasses and wiped the blood droplets off the lenses with the corner of his shirt.

In Sentania, whenever he felt stressed or in a bad mood, he would go hunting in the deep mountains. He didn't have that luxury in Savrow, so he could only resort to beating people. He found that beating people was much more interesting than hunting. This kind of entertainment would have to be retained in the future.

The two subordinates followed quietly to the door of the room. Taylor noticed that Christopher's hand was still bleeding from a wound, so he nudged Yvonne, who was standing dazed nearby.

"Ms. Smith, Mr. Iverson's hand is injured. Hurry up and help him. bandage it!"

Yvonne snapped out of her daze, hesitated for a moment, then approached, "Mr. Iverson, your hand is injured. Let me help you..."

"Ah!" Before she could react, Christopher grabbed her wrist ferociously and dragged her into the room.

With a bang, the door slammed shut. Taylor stood dazed at the door, worried for Yvonne.

As soon as they entered the room, Christopher hungrily kissed Yvonne's trembling lips, and his hands ruthlessly tore apart her clothes. As they neared the bed, Yvonne was left with only her underwear, her arms shielding her chest as her last line of defense, trembling in fear. "No, please, Mr. Iverson..."

"Yvonne, do you dare refuse me?"

Christopher pressed down on her soft figure, glaring at her pretty face, which resembled Bella's so much. "Even if Bella refuses me, what right do you have to refuse me?!"

With a swift motion, he slapped her across the face!

Yvonne's cheeks swelled up from the blow, her ears ringing.

She had been with Christopher for almost ten years, and even though he treated her as a toy, he had never laid a hand on her before.

This slap extinguished the last bit of hope Yvonne had for him.

The perfect, kind, gentle young master she once knew seemed to be drifting further away, and she was starting to lose sight of him.

Christopher froze abruptly. His lips were pale and dry, slightly parted.

Before he could say anything, his phone rang.

Christopher pulled away from Yvonne's body, reaching into his pants pocket for his phone.

The name displayed on the screen made his brow furrow deeply.

"Why do you have time to call me?"

“If I didn’t call, how would you handle the current trouble?” The voice on the other end chuckled playfully.

Christopher turned his back to answer the call, but Yvonne still faintly heard the voice on the other end.

It was a captivating voice, elegant and low, highly recognizable. It was a voice that, once heard, would be unforgettable.

“Even you know about it.” Christopher’s attitude toward him was surprisingly respectful.

“Yes, Ms. Thompson is quite the character. Her face mesmerizes people, and her personality is so compelling that she won’t stop until she turns the world upside down. She is truly a heroine among women. I quite like her indomitable spirit.”

Christopher’s chest tightened. He left a white mark on his lower lip from biting into it.

“But rest assured, I am not one to steal someone else’s love. I compete with you for the woman you love.” The man chuckled lightly.

“Not only will I not compete with you, I’ll even help you get Ms. Thompson.”

Chapter 1159

Christopher’s sluggish spirit suddenly cheered up. “Please tell me more.”

The voice said, “Take a look at your phone. There’s a gift for you.”

He immediately glanced at the screen, and sure enough, there was a new email notification.

Yvonne stared fixedly at Christopher's rigid figure. She became increasingly curious about the identity of the person on the other end of the phone. Who could change Christopher's arrogant demeanor?

Christopher pressed his pale lips tightly together and opened the new email. Inside the email was a diagnostic report from a hospital.

His brows furrowed deeply, and he quickly scanned through it. His pupils suddenly contracted as a huge shock seized his heart, causing him to almost drop the phone.

The man joked. "What's wrong? Surprised?"

"Is this real? No... This can't be real..." Christopher repeatedly scanned the diagnostic report, trembling uncontrollably. He felt as if he had fallen into an icy abyss. "Bella... How could she have possibly been pregnant with Justin's child? How could they have had a child?"

"What's wrong with having a child? Just because she was pregnant, you no longer love her?" The man sneered, his tone dripping with cold disdain, as if he regarded everything as worthless.

"You should be grateful. That child was stillborn, so you don't have to raise Justin's child. After all, being a stepfather is no easy task."

Christopher was deeply affected, his eye sockets flushing crimson as if crying blood, unable to break free from the agony for a long time.

"They had a child, and to this day, Justin knows nothing about it. Ms. Thompson has never told him." The man continued, laughing to himself. "Not only does Justin not know, but even Chairman Thompson as well as Ms. Thompson's doting brothers are all unaware. Just think, if the men of the Thompson family were to learn that Ms. Thompson had a miscarriage for Justin, not only that, but also lost the right to be a mother... Do you think they would still support Ms. Thompson and Justin reuniting? It's impossible, isn't it?"

Christopher gripped the phone tightly, pain spreading throughout his body, his face as pale and stiff as if on the verge of death.

The man was right. The greatest pain in Bella's life was the grief of losing a child. But this pain was the ace up his sleeve to completely tear Bella and Justin apart! As long as he could hinder them from being together, he was willing to do anything!

Christopher's eyes flashed with a fierce light. "Thank you for your help. If I can win Bella with a single move, in the future, I will definitely repay you generously."

The man replied. "Over these years, you have managed the business of Sentania very well, which has helped me a lot. This is just a small favor. You don't need to worry too much about it."

After a moment of silence, he suddenly remembered, "Oh, by the way. You can't personally spread this matter. It will only arouse suspicion and backfire."

Christopher said, "Understood. I've already chosen a spokesperson."

Christopher pushed his blood-stained glasses with his slender fingers, an evil smile playing at the corners of his eyes. "No one is more suitable than her."

A horse racing event has plunged both the Salvador and Hoffman families into a dual crisis.

The heat surrounding the "Shannon Horse Racing Video" remained high. Despite Salvador Corporation's public relations department working overtime to control public opinion and delete indecent videos, this thing was like lice in the hair, impossible to completely eradicate and still spreading wildly in the shadows.

Chapter 1160

[Who has the video of Shannon? Can you send me a copy?]

[Good stuff should be shared!]

[I want it too!]

[+1!]

[Hehe~ I've already seen it. It's very exciting. PM me if you want it!]

[Damn! What's so interesting about a middle-aged witch touching herself? You guys have such weird tastes. Send me a copy too!]

The greatest trouble for the Salvador family was the loss of reputation, but the trouble faced by the Hoffman family was more complicated.

The incident involving the injury of KS Group's racehorse at the horse racing event quickly spread nationwide. Not only did the underhanded tactics in the competition cause severe damage to reputation, it nearly resulted in Bella's serious injury.

All of this directly caused Hoffman Group's stock to hit the limit down the next day, evaporating tens of billions in the stock market.

Several domestic partnership agreements were also canceled one after another, fearing that the Hoffman family would use the same methods against them. The KS Group might be wealthy enough to demand an explanation from the Hoffman family, but if they were deceived, they would have to swallow their pride.

Liam was frantically dealing with the mess, but his arrogant and domineering behavior at the horse racing event had also spread within the circle.

Others only pretended to show him respect due to his status as the second master of the Hoffman family, but in reality, his personal credibility was shattered, and no one believed his lies.

Overnight, the Hoffman family was isolated, and the Hoffman group faced an imminent crisis. Logan was already an old man in his twilight years, and with this blow, he was overwhelmed by anger and directly admitted to the hospital.

Claire, Zoe, and Liam all stayed in the hospital ward.

Logan leaned against the head of the bed, his pale face flushed with anger. "More failures than successes! None of you have the ability to solve the troubles of the Hoffman family. What's the use of keeping me alive? If we can't get through this storm, I will immediately dole out all my wealth to society, and all of you can be damned!"

Zoe was scared out of her wits! Logan's wealth... That was such a huge piece of meat! If she lost her inheritance, she would cry to die.

Logan lamented bitterly. "Heaven does not favor my family! I only had that one promising son... God, why did you take away my Finn!"

"Finn! Look at what has become of the Hoffman family. If you were here, how could it have come to this?" Claire remembered her late husband and couldn't help but cry.

Liam gritted his teeth, "Dad, please don't get too worked up. I'm already trying to calm this storm. I'll slowly convince those board members who canceled the cooperation..."

"Hmph! Do you think I don't know your capabilities? If you had been more courteous to Bella and the Thompson family at the time, how could it have escalated to this?" Logan was utterly disappointed in Liam, angrily rebuking him. "From the incident until now, public opinion, stock prices, cooperation—can you explain any of them clearly to me? Your own reputation is in question now. How can you save the Hoffman family? Do you think you can still save face?"

Liam felt a lump in his throat, his chest tight with frustration. He truly felt embarrassed for being scolded by his father in front of the whole family at his age.

"You shouldn't show your face for now, in case you make things worse. Hand over the projects you're in charge of to Ryan temporarily, and let him deal with the mess in the group. The public doesn't want to see your face. It's better for you to stay far away now, so people don't become more disgusted with our family!"

With a wave of his hand, Logan promoted Ryan to a position as an interim CEO. Even if it was temporary, Ryan almost gained the highest decision-making power, second only to Logan!

If an interim CEO was appointed, the official position would not be far behind. Liam was stunned. His face was filled with resentment and as pale as plaster.

After all the years he spent toiling for the Hoffman family, it was all for naught. Just because of a damn horse racing event, Liam lost his authority and wiped away all his painstaking efforts.