

Heiress 251

Chapter 251

Amelia watched the dizzying fight and found it more thrilling than an action movie.

“Come on, Bella!” Amelia cheered her on.

Bella could barely dodge the man’s violent kicks. She was speechless as she thought, ‘Is this really the time to be cheerleading?!’

“Amelia! Call the police now!”

“Oh, right!” Amelia came to her senses and hurriedly took out her phone.

The man in black did not expect such a fragile-looking beauty to be so skilled at fighting.

Seeing that he could not subdue Bella, the man focused his thoughts on Amelia. Suddenly, he turned around and changed his target to Amelia.

Amelia’s phone fell to the ground. She froze in place out of fear and closed her eyes tightly. “Ugh!”

There was a muffled groan. Amelia opened her eyes in a panic, only to see Bella using her arms to shield her from the knife attacks.

There was a long cut in Bella’s suit jacket. Bright red blood started dripping down in a line.

“Bella!” Amelia exclaimed in shock as tears poured down her face.

Bella was panting and covering her bleeding arm. Her scalp had a numbing pain, and she was sweating profusely.

This man was not just trying to rob them. He was a hired killer!

Just when the man in black raised the knife to stab Bella again, he suddenly leaned back because someone had grabbed him by his back collar.

Bella seized the opportunity to attack him with a roundhouse kick, kicking the dagger away from them.

“Ah!”

Immediately afterward, the man let out a painful scream.

“Crack-!”

Bella watched helplessly as someone dislocated the attacker’s arms seamlessly, as if they were Legos.

It was a real feast for the eyes.

“It’s you?!”

Bella looked stunned. She forgot about the pain in her wound and just stared blankly at the man in front of her, who had subdued the attacker under his feet. The gentleman was like her knight in shining armor./

“What a coincidence! We meet again.” Christopher smiled gently at Bella.

He ground his high-end, handmade leather shoes onto the attacker’s face. The attacker was in

so much pain that he pounded the ground with his fists.

“Ms. Bella!” Steven shouted while running toward them.

“Steven! Come quickly! Bella is injured!” Amelia was so scared that her eyes turned red again as soon as she saw Steven.

“Ms. Bella! How did this happen?!”

When Steven saw a pool of blood on the ground, his heart ached, as if the blood were his. Tears gathered in his eyes as he asked, “Who hurt you?!”

“Why are you here? Is your mom feeling better?” Bella took a deep breath and chided him. “Is this the time to be thinking about my mom? You must go to the hospital immediately!” Steven felt severe pain, as if he were the wounded one. He bent down, wanting to pick Bella up. Unexpectedly, Bella took half a step back and stubbornly shook her head. “It’s not a deep wound, so there’s no need to make such a fuss. Amelia is quite frightened, though, so please comfort her. I’m fine.”

“Ms. Bella...” Steven’s eyes were blank for a moment. He clenched his fingers feebly.

Bella had always been a stubborn and tough lady. Even after being injured, she did not shed a single tear.

“Bella, let Steven take care of you. I’m fine...”

Amelia felt guilty. Her tears could not stop sliding down her cheeks. “It’s all my fault... I’m such a dumb cow! Bella wouldn’t have been hurt so badly if I didn’t drag her down...”

“Silly girl, what are you talking about?”

Bella raised her hand and pinched Amelia’s wet cheek. She sighed and said, “It’s my fault for implicating you. I’m the one who should be apologizing to you.”

On the side, two of Christopher's bodyguards tied up the attacker and put him in a car.

"Are you okay, sir?!" Christopher's secretary turned pale with fright. His boss moved so fast that they could not keep up.

"I'm fine." Christopher dusted his suit off gracefully and looked at Bella longingly.

His deep eyes were sultry.

Bella took a deep breath, walked straight to him, and said politely, "Sir, thank you very much for your help. But can you let me deal with this man? It's very important to me."

The man curled his lips slightly. "Of course, but I have a condition."

"Go ahead."

As soon as she said this, Bella felt her body being lifted. Christopher carried her in bridal style again. He was so fast that even Steven did not have time to react.

Bella shrieked. The moment she looked up, her eyes collided with Christopher's tender gaze, "Let's go to the hospital to get your wound treated first. Then you can do whatever you want."

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At the emergency room of Savrow Hospital, Rosalind had already received a blood transfusion, but she was still in critical condition.

When she was brought in, her entire face was so pale that it was almost transparent. The cuts on her wrists were hideous and deep.

Patrick, Jean, Gregory, and Bethany were waiting in the corridor.

Jean was heartbroken and bawled while calling out her daughter's name.

"That's enough! How could you cry like this at your age? You're embarrassing us!" Patrick admonished her with a gloomy face.

"Are you kidding me? Our daughter's life is hanging by a thread, but as her father, you only think about how I'm embarrassing you. Do you even have a heart?!"

Jean grabbed and pulled her husband's collar while crying hysterically. "My son is already in prison. Rose is the only child I have now! If anything happens to her, I won't be able to live anymore!"

Patrick's face was glum. His daughter attempted suicide because of a man, and his wife was making a fuss.

Patrick already had an inferior complex with Gregory. But this time, he felt even more embarrassed in front of his brother-in-law because he could not figure out how to deal with his wife and daughter. In a fit of rage, Patrick shoved Jean, who stumbled to the floor.

"Are you done making a scene?! This is a hospital. Do you think this is a farmer's market? Look in the mirror! Do you still look like the wife of a chairman?!"

"You... You pushed me..." Jean collapsed on the floor. She was so stunned that she forgot to cry.

"Aunt Jean, Uncle Patrick, please stop arguing! What's most important is that Rose can survive the critical period." Bethany hurriedly stepped forward to help Jean. However, she was secretly smiling.

If Shannon had not been assisting with the investigation at the prosecutor's office and Gregory had not dragged her over to console Jean, Bethany would not have cared about Rosalind's well-being.

Since Bethany was already at the hospital, she would have to complete the act. Thus, she could not laugh, no matter how secretly happy she was.

“Gregory, my daughter has become like this because of your son. You must give us an explanation!”

Patrick had nowhere to vent his anger, so he could only blame Gregory. “My daughter and

your

son have been in a relationship for so many years. She gave Justin the most precious years of her youth! Now that their marital news is spreading, everyone in Savrow knows that my daughter is Justin’s fiancée. At first, their wedding was set to be after Old Master Nigel’s birthday. Your son and that woman delayed finalizing their divorce, but we put up with it for Old Master Nigel’s sake. Now that his birthday has passed and they have finalized their divorce, how could your son suddenly back out at this time? What kind of girl from a good family can bear this kind of betrayal? Your son is just forcing my daughter off a cliff!”

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Gregory was frustrated. His face was glum, and he did not know what to say.

“We... Although we’re not as rich and influential as the Thompsons, we’re decent people who deserve respect. Justin is bullying Rose by treating her so callously!”

Jean stood up with Bethany’s support and said angrily, “Chairman Salvador, our family will not let this slide! If Justin breaks up with my daughter, we will definitely leak it to the press. We can all go to hell together!”

She knew that Rosalind attempted suicide to force Justin’s hand in marriage.

Rosalind and Justin were childhood sweethearts. As long as that man still had a hint of nostalgia for Rosalind, he would not sit idly by and watch her die.

Even if they could not get married in the end, Jean would strive to get the maximum benefit from the Salvadors. That way, she could also save her family from bankruptcy. No matter how she looked at it, this was a profitable deal!

Gregory sighed repeatedly. He looked troubled.

With Shannon's arrest making headlines, if news spread about the CEO of Salvador

Corporation two-timing his fiancée, forcing her to commit suicide, Salvador Corporation's reputation would go down the drain, and their stocks would plummet.

At this point, Gregory no longer cared about Justin's willingness. He simply made a decision. "Don't worry, when Rose wakes up, you can tell her that I will make sure Justin marries her as planned."

After hearing this, the Golds' expressions relaxed a little.

However, Jean still had lingering fears when she thought about the past. Justin was gaining more power in Salvador Corporation. He was no longer the weak, illegitimate son who would listen to Gregory's orders. Thus, Justin might not even care about the promise that Gregory made.

At this time, a series of footsteps came from the end of the corridor.

Justin's handsome face was pale, as if it were covered in frost. He walked toward them with Ian in tow.

"How is Rose?"

Before Gregory could answer, Jean rushed over with fiery eyes and grabbed Justin's shirt. "Justin! What did my daughter ever do to you?! Look at what you've done to her! Do you want Rosalind to die so that you can get back together with your ex-wife?!"

"Mrs. Gold! Calm down!" Ian hurriedly pulled Shannon away from Justin.

This caused a big stir. Even though there were bodyguards standing guard over the area, some onlookers still poked their heads to watch the fun.

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“Calm down?! My daughter is still in critical condition right now! She has shed tears for this heartless man. Now she has even shed blood for him. I don’t even know if she’s alive, so how do you expect me to stay calm?!”

Jean pointed at Justin’s cold and pale face. “Justin! Since you weren’t serious about Rose, why did you lie to her that you wanted to marry her?! How can you go back on your word when you’ve already proposed?! My daughter is so kind. Back when you attempted suicide, she was the one who found out in time and saved you. Rose is so good to you, so how could you hurt her like this?! Where is your conscience?!”

Justin felt a severe headache.

His traumatizing childhood replayed in his mind. He felt so strangled that he almost could not breathe.

The fragments of memories deep in his mind that he tried hard to forget surfaced.

Christopher took Bella to the hospital for emergency treatment of her wound.

Bella did not let Steven follow her. Instead, she asked him to take care of Amelia. That was because she did not want Amelia to see her wound and cry harder.

That pitiful girl was soft-hearted and timid. Amelia kept crying and blaming herself on the way to the hospital. Even Steven felt sorry for her.

Thus, Bella did not want Amelia to feel even more guilty.

Fortunately, Bella ducked back quickly when the attacker lunged at her, so the wound was not too deep.

When she came out of the treatment room, Bella's fair and slender forearms had been coated with medicine and wrapped in gauze. She had also been given a tetanus shot.

Her coat was torn and dirty, completely unwearable.

At this moment, she was only wearing a thin burgundy dress. Her pretty and delicate face was as fair as snow, with a faint blush on her cheeks. Even when she was injured, she still looked astonishingly beautiful.

Christopher lowered his eyes and saw her long, curled eyelashes. His eyes darkened with desire.

He took off his suit jacket and put it gently on her shoulders. "It's cold outside. Put it on."

"No, I'm not cold." Bella panicked and reached out to take it off.

However, Christopher held the collar of his suit jacket and wrapped it tightly over her delicate body.

"The bandage on your arm is quite exaggerated. Aren't you afraid that your lovely sister and loyal secretary will be worried when they see you like this? Just wear it."

Bella pursed her lips tightly. She hesitated and did not resist anymore.

This man was too considerate and understanding, so she could not refuse the things he did for her.

"Sir, why were you there?"

"I also stay in that neighborhood." Christopher lied. Although the neighborhood was his family's development, he did not live there.

“Oh? What a coincidence!” Her eyes flickered, but Bella did not ask further questions.

“When they were cleaning your wound, it hurt me just looking at it. You didn’t even flinch. You truly are the strongest lady I know.” Christopher changed the subject and kept looking at her.

“Many girls are strong at heart. You will meet many like me in the future.” Bella smiled politely.

Christopher smiled slightly and thought, ‘I don’t want to meet anyone else. I just want to get to know you.’

“Thank you for taking care of me. But don’t you think you’re a bit upfront for suddenly picking up a stranger, bridal style? Although I know you have good intentions, I don’t like getting too close to strangers.” Bella’s tone was still polite. She really cared about being picked up.

“Sorry, I was too anxious when I saw that you were injured.”

Christopher pushed up his glasses. His clear eyes were apologetic as he spoke. “I’ll keep my distance in the future.”

Bella smiled. He was so sincere that she could not hate him for it.

“Oh, by the way, I don’t know your name yet. Do you mind telling me your name?”

Christopher’s heart trembled. Just as his lips parted, a cold and deep voice came from behind. “Bella!”

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Bella was startled.

She turned around slowly with eyes full of indifference, as if he were a stranger.

Justin, who was just a few steps away, stood frozen on the spot. He felt so alone when he saw Bella and Christopher standing together. His tall body trembled, and he felt as if he had

stepped off a tall building, free-falling to the ground.

He pursed his lips and lowered his gaze. That was when he noticed that Bella's arm was wrapped in gauze. His heart clenched, and he subconsciously took a step forward to get closer to her.

"Your arm..."

Bella stepped back as if Justin were contagious. It gave Christopher the opportunity to step in front of her to protect her.

Justin's throat tightened. He looked into the man's sullen eyes, and electric sparks seemed to be coursing between them in a silent fight.

"I won't allow what happened at the bar to happen again."

Christopher pushed his gold-rimmed glasses slightly. His narrowed eyes were dark and aggressive. "You have already snatched her from me once. Do you think I will let you do it a second time?"

"Who are you to her?" Justin stared at Christopher with intense eyes and asked in a cold voice. Justin had been deceived horribly by Bella's brothers before, so he was afraid that this man was also one of Wyatt's elusive sons.

However, the way this man looked at Bella was full of affection and longing. It did not look like brotherly love.

"Someone closer and more important to me than you will ever be." Bella opened her mouth at this moment and stabbed Justin with her harsh words.

Christopher looked back at Bella with a satisfied smile.

“Justin, I remember telling you off at the karaoke bar just now. I really don’t understand why you keep pestering me.’

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The man’s eyes suddenly turned red. “Bella, are you naive? You got drunk with a stranger. I’m afraid that you’ll...”

Bella frowned impatiently and interrupted him with disdain. “I don’t care what you think. Your opinions disgust me. I’ve already vomited once tonight, so don’t make me puke another time, Mr. Salvador.”

Those words could not be more heartbreaking for Justin.

Justin’s pale lips parted, and the jealousy in the deepest part of his heart arose.

There were so many shocking events today that shook Justin to the core. His headache

overwhelmed his nerves, and he felt like he was one step away from an emotional breakdown.

Why? Why was he so hung up on her after they got divorced?

Did he really regret getting divorced?

Justin fell into an endless loop of self-doubt.

Was he wrong from the beginning?

“Mr. Salvador! Ms. Gold... Ms. Gold is no longer in critical condition.”

At this time, Ian rushed over and shouted the good news. He did not notice that Bella was also there.

By the time Ian saw Bella, it was too late.

Seeing their gloomy expressions, Ian really wanted to slap his big mouth.

“Mr. Salvador, it turns out that you already have a partner.’

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Christopher figured out everything in an instant. He curled his lips slightly and said, “Then why are you still pestering Ms. Thompson? Do you want a polygamous relationship?”

Justin’s eyes darkened, while Ian was speechless.

That was unpleasant to hear.

Bella’s eyes widened slightly in shock. She thought, ‘He called me Ms. Thompson... He actually knows who I am?!’

“Now that you’re divorced, you shouldn’t continue to pester Ms. Thompson. This is basic etiquette.”

Christopher glanced at Justin with cold eyes. “Since you can’t be a good husband, you can at least be a decent human.”

“What are you saying? Are you insulting Mr. Salvador?!” Ian’s face flushed with anger as he stepped forward to defend Justin.

“It’s alright. Leave him alone. Let’s go back.” Bella did not want to cause unnecessary trouble in a public space.

“Okay.” Christopher put on a gentle smile and returned to Bella’s side obediently.

Justin watched as the outstanding couple gradually disappeared from his field of vision. His heart stopped, and the blood in his body solidified into ice.

Chapter 255

Someone else had occupied the spot next to Bella.

Justin subconsciously covered his quivering heart. He wondered how his heart could hurt so much, as if it had been dug out entirely.

It was not until this moment that Justin truly felt the reality of their divorce settling in.

In the underground parking lot, Steven rushed over to Christopher and Bella when he saw them.

“Ms. Bella, how are your injuries?”

“It’s just a trivial matter. Where’s the attacker?” Bella only cared about this at the moment.

“Don’t worry. I have already sent someone over to take him away to the dungeons. He can’t escape.” Steven whispered in her ear.

“Good. Steve, we have a big job to do in the next few days.” Bella narrowed her beautiful almond eyes dangerously and patted his shoulder.

Steven nodded seriously. “I’m always ready to fight!”

“Wait here. Let me say goodbye to him.”

With that said, Bella turned around and walked toward Christopher.

At this moment, the man standing with his hands behind his back beside the Bentley looked like an exquisite sculpture.

“As you may have noticed tonight, Mr. Salvador and I have a complicated relationship.”

Bella raised her beautiful eyes and met the man’s smiling face. Her tone was filled with guilt as she said, “I really had no choice but to pull you into this drama... I shouldn’t have gotten you involved in this. I’m sorry.”

“There’s no need to apologize. It’s an honor to be used by you.” Christopher’s voice was clear and seductive.

Bella pursed her lips lightly. This made her feel even more embarrassed.

The man added with a smile, “If you find it useful, you are welcome to use me again.”

“Sir, you must be joking.” Bella smiled bitterly. “I don’t want this to happen again.”

“You shouldn’t get water on the wound for a week and watch for an infection. It’s late, so you should go home early.”

Christopher’s eyes were full of reluctance, but he knew when to keep a distance. He said goodbye to Bella and turned around to get in the car.

“Wait a minute!” Bella knocked on the car window.

The tinted car windows slowly rolled down, and Christopher looked at Bella with a smile.

“You just called me Ms. Thompson in front of Justin. How did you know who I was? You knew

who I was from the first time you met me, right?” Bella was extremely curious. If she did not get an answer, she probably could not sleep well.

“Yes.” Christopher stared deeply into Bella’s clear and watery eyes.

“I never show my face in public, and few people in Savrow know my identity. How did you know who I was? Have we met before?” Bella asked repeatedly. Her eyes were sparkling.

Christopher’s thin lips curled up slightly. “I’ll tell you the next time we meet.”

Christopher’s secretary and bodyguard also got in the car. The two luxury cars drove off in front of Bella.

Suddenly, Bella remembered something and slapped her forehead. “Oh, no! I forgot to ask his name again!”

The Bentley sped through Savrow’s vibrant night scene.

Christopher stared at the glass window. Among the gorgeous neon lights, what appeared in front of his eyes was Bella’s stunning and enchanting face.

He narrowed his upturned eyes and gently touched the cold glass window with his fingers.

“Bella... I didn’t expect to meet you like this.”

“Mr. Iverson, I just briefly checked on the relationship between Justin Salvador and Ms. Thompson. There is no information about their marriage, but I found out that they were officially divorced just this month.”

The secretary was flipping through his iPad and said in an optimistic tone, “Ms. Thompson is single now!”

“It doesn’t matter. She said that I am closer and more important to her than Justin ever will be.” Christopher was thrilled when he thought of those words.

“Congratulations, Mr. Iverson! You beat Justin Salvador!” His secretary was happy for him.

“This isn’t remotely enough.”

Christopher’s gloomy and cold eyes, which were like arctic icebergs, only melted for Bella. What I want is to be the only one in her heart.”

Chapter 256

It was already past midnight when they returned to Bella’s private villa.

Amelia was worried about her sister and kept trying to stay awake. Her eyes were bloodshot from exhaustion, and she looked so pitiful.

“Amelia, stop blaming yourself. I’m fine. Don’t you have classes tomorrow morning? Go to bed quickly.” Bella sat next to Amelia and reached out to hug her.

“Bella, do you think that I’m useless? You protected me when I was a child. Now that I’m grown up, I still can’t do anything for you...” Amelia pouted as tears filled her eyes again.

“Silly girl, what are you saying?”

Bella flicked Amelia’s forehead and said, “Because of you and Aunt Celeste, our family’s bond became stronger. You are our baby and our most precious little lucky star. If you really want to do something for me, then you should work hard to realize your dream. When you make a name for yourself in the

entertainment industry, I'll make you my spokesperson. That way we can keep the wealth within the family, and it can save me some money. How nice is that?" "Bella, I'll definitely succeed!" Amelia wiped away the tears with the back of her hand and nodded seriously.

After Amelia washed up, she fell asleep in seconds as soon as her head touched the pillow. Bella covered her sister with the quilt and walked out of the room.

Steven was already waiting for her in the study.

"I think Rosalind is hospitalized tonight. Have you found out the reason?" The warmth in Bella's eyes disappeared as she sat down on the sofa.

"Yes. She attempted suicide by cutting her wrists and was rescued in time. She's currently out of danger."

Steven paused for a moment. A cold glint flashed across his dark eyes. "Justin has always been by her side."

"Well, of course. That fake bitch tried to kill herself because of him. Even if Justin dies, he will have to be buried next to her." Bella mocked, not at all surprised.

"Miss, what do you think about Rosalind's suicide?"

"It's the funniest joke I've heard all year!"

Bella leaned on her side, closed her eyes, and rubbed her sore temples. "She hasn't become the wife of Salvador Corporation's CEO or killed me yet, so how could she be willing to die first? Besides, people who really seek death won't want to be discovered."

"So, you think that Rosalind is doing this just for show?"

Steven frowned in confusion. "But why did she make such a risky move? Wasn't she going to marry Justin soon? Did Justin think twice about marrying her? Is that why she's threatening him with her life?"

Bella felt frustrated. "Who knows? Maybe he has his eye on someone else now that he's about

to marry Rosalind. He thinks that the grass is always greener on the other side anyway. He's a ruthless man, so I won't be surprised if he abandons her."

"That's true. But I still hope they can get married smoothly. That way, they can rot together and stop harming others."

Steven ground his teeth angrily and asked, "Who do you think sent the attacker? Shannon? But she's still in detention with Mr. Axel, so she shouldn't have time to arrange these things."

Bella's eyes gradually turned gloomy. "That man is a martial artist. Judging by his boxing and kicking skills, I think he's from an underground boxing ring. He has no technique, but he knows very practical killing moves. Shannon has no time to plan this, and Bethany doesn't have the chance to meet such a person. Only Rosalind meets all the criteria. She used to live in Meridan for three years. Axel had done a background check on her before. Her interpersonal relationships were very complicated. She had affairs with multiple men. Maybe this simple-minded brute is one of them, and she used him to do her dirty work."

Steven's eyes trembled. He felt that Bella's analysis made a lot of sense.

"As for the reason this man attacked me, I have no clue. Instead of playing the guessing game here, we might as well ask him tomorrow."

Bella suddenly remembered something and leaned forward. "By the way, did you leak this news to my eldest brother?"

Steven sighed helplessly. "I wouldn't disobey your order. I didn't reveal a word to Mr. Asher."

"Phew... That's good."

As soon as she finished speaking, Bella's phone rang.

Asher's name on the screen made Bella's hair stand on end. Her eyes widened in fear.

She hurriedly put her phone aside, not daring to answer it.

Soon after, Steven's phone rang. However, he dared not reject his boss's call!

"Hi, Mr. Thompson." Steven forced himself to calm down.

"Get Bella to answer the phone."

Steven did not put the phone on speaker mode, but Asher's voice was deep and resounding, which made Bella's eyelids twitch.

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Steven replied, "Ms. Bella has gone to bed, Mr. Thompson..."

"Steven, you're becoming more ballsy now, huh? Are you starting to collude with Bella to deceive me?"

Asher rarely showed his temper, but he was intimidating when he was furious. "I won't repeat myself. Get Bella to answer the phone. Otherwise, you will no longer be her secretary by dawn." Bella's heart was beating like a drum. She was terrified. She quickly took over the phone, put it to her ear, and said in a sweet voice, "Ash..."

Asher took a deep breath to suppress some kind of emotion and said in a deep voice, "Bella, come out now. I have something to ask you."

Bella walked out of the villa's door with a worried heart.

Under the dim street lights, Asher stood in front of his black Aston Martin with a stern face.

His elegant gray suit made him look more solemn. The shadow of his long legs under the street light was fascinating.

What a handsome big brother! However, at this moment, Bella panicked when she saw him. She was like a troublemaking student going to see the principal.

"Ash..." Bella walked up to Asher in small steps and pursed her red lips in fear.

"It's cold at night. Let's talk in the car."

Without another word, Asher took off his suit jacket, wrapped it around Bella's thin body, and pushed her into the car.

They sat in the backseat of the car. Finally, Asher could not hold it back any longer. He held her shoulders and asked urgently. "Where did that man hurt you?!"

"My arm..."

Bella did not dare to lie anymore. She lowered her eyelids and felt like a child who had made a mistake.

Asher's handsome face turned pale. He touched her slender forearms and slowly rolled sleeves with shaky breaths.

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her

The snow-white gauze came into view. Asher's eyes instantly turned red.

"It's okay, Ash. It's nothing serious. It doesn't even hurt anymore." Bella hurriedly explained for fear that her brother would be worried.

Asher put down her sleeves again and held her slightly cold hand.

Asher's grip was so tight that Bella's fingers turned red. She lowered her head in

embarrassment and guilt. "I'm sorry, Ash. I shouldn't have hidden this from you. But I think I can handle this by myself. I just didn't want you to worry about me."

After a crushing silence, Asher said word for word, "He will die for hurting my sister."

Bella's pupils shrank. Her heart clenched.

Her eldest brother had been a saint for so long. At this moment, he seemed to have returned to the days when he was revered as the king of the underworld-"The Matrix".

"Ash, I know you want to avenge me, but you promised me before..."

Bella hugged him and nuzzled her cheek against his heaving chest. "That when you come back to me, you will turn over a new leaf. You promised not to touch those things in the past. That guy is just a hitman. It won't do anything if we burn him to ashes. The mastermind is still at large! Our family has always been good at seizing opportunities. Since we have such a great pawn, it'll be a waste not to use it to its fullest potential, don't you think?"

The murderous intent in Asher's eyes gradually subsided. He took a deep breath and reached out to the passenger seat with his long arm. He picked up a brown paper bag and handed it to Bella.

"Open it and take a look."

Bella blinked, took out the documents inside, and was startled to see the contents. "This is..." "Steven told me about that man a long time ago. He was more anxious than you to find out who that man is, so he took a shortcut and asked me for help."

Asher suppressed the anger surging in his deep eyes. "But that punk didn't tell me about your injury. Hah! He really knows how to avoid responsibility!"

Bella thought, 'Steven is such a loud mouth! I should start calling him Loose-lipped Lovett.' "I told him not to tell you, so don't blame him." Although Bella was complaining about Steven, he was her secretary after all, so she still had to speak up for him.

"If he does this one more time, I will make sure he goes back to his own family business. No one can tell me otherwise." Asher was stern and intimidating.

Bella pursed her little mouth and kept quiet.

She was not even afraid of her father, but she was terrified of her eldest brother when he was angry. She would immediately turn into an obedient puppy.

Bella carefully looked through the stranger's details in the file.

Suddenly, her beautiful eyes widened, and she exclaimed, "It's him?!"

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The man's name was Memphis. Asher's file contained a detailed background check on the man and even a plastic surgery report.

This man had undergone full-face plastic surgery.

Bella was shocked to see the man's original face before plastic surgery. She recognized him as Rosalind's fitness trainer-cum-lover in Meridan because Axel had shown Bella his social media account before.

“That’s him! The man who groped Rosalind!”

Bella was so excited that she told Asher everything.

After all, the photo of Rosalind being groped had left a deep impression on her.

Asher coughed lightly, frowned, and laughed. “Bella, watch your words.”

“I’m right!”

Bella gritted her teeth and smiled slyly. “Oh, I knew it! It’s definitely Rosalind!”

Asher’s eyes suddenly turned cold and filled with overwhelming anger. “Before, I thought that woman was just jealous and only capable of playing some small tricks. I didn’t expect her to be so ruthless. I really underestimated her.”

“But it’s strange. Why would this man undergo full-face plastic surgery?”

Bella curled her red lips and teased, “Why did he have to lose his face after being with Rosalind?”

“Continue reading the file.” Asher reminded her with a dotting smile on his face.

Bella flipped through the pages. It was a debt contract from a casino.

“Hah! I didn’t expect him to be a gambler. He owes quite a sum too... \$5 million...”

Asher said calmly, “He’s in debt. The casinos, banks, and loan sharks are all looking for him, so he went for full-face plastic surgery to renege on his debt.”

Bella suddenly had an epiphany. Everything came together at once, and she understood the whole situation.

“This man was short on money, so out of desperation, he went to extort Rosalind. After all, Rosalind was the fiancée of Salvador Corporation’s president, which equated to a human ATM. Through her, he could get whatever she wanted.”

“Then Rosalind took advantage of this man’s greed and requested another condition.”

Asher’s breathing was heavy. He stretched out his long arms to pull his sister into his embrace in a protective stance. His eyes were bloodshot. “That condition is to hurt you.’

“I guess this idiotic couple didn’t communicate well enough. Rosalind was planning to ‘die’ 1 the day that man attacked me.”

Suddenly, Bella looked at Asher with admiration. “But it has only been a few hours since the incident. How did you find out everything so soon? You even have this man’s debt contract.

You’re like a god!”

“It’s a coincidence.”

Asher narrowed his eyes slightly and stroked his sister’s soft hair. “The casino in Meridan that he frequents was one of the places I controlled, so I still have my people there. It’s just a matter of words checking on someone.”

Bella was so shocked that she could not close her gaping mouth.

She gasped and thought, "The Matrix is so cool!"

Gregory blocked the news of Rosalind's attempted suicide from leaking to prevent any damage to Salvador Corporation's reputation.

In the study, the Salvador father and son once again fell into a stalemate.

"Justin, things have already gotten to this point. The only way to resolve this is for you and Rose to get married as soon as possible!"

Gregory gave Justin an ultimatum. His tone was authoritative and stern. "Isn't that what you wanted? Since there is no time to hold a wedding ceremony, we can host an engagement ceremony first. We should get it done as soon as possible to prevent more trouble from arising."

"I will find a way to get her out of this depressive episode."

Justin felt suffocated, but his eyes were resolute. "But I can't marry her."

"What did you say?!"

Gregory's eyes widened in anger. "You were the one who insisted on Rosalind back then! You even divorced Ms. Thompson without telling everyone just so you could marry Rosalind as soon as possible! Now you have abandoned your ex-wife and forced your current fiancée into depression. What the hell are you thinking?! How could you break your promise and be so heartless?! You're nothing like me!"

Justin sneered. His mocking eyes pierced through Gregory.

Chapter 259

Gregory said, "What are you laughing at? Do you think what I said is funny?!"

“Yes.”

“Justin! You’re so impudent!” Gregory’s eyes were red with anger as he slapped the table angrily.

“Instead of asking me to marry her, you might as well just say it’s to restore the company’s image. That way, I’ll commend you for your frankness. But you want to talk about character, so I can only say that the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree.” Justin furrowed his eyebrows and bluntly exposed Gregory.

There was bitter ridicule in his laugh.

Justin did not know if he was laughing at Gregory or himself.

“What did you say?!” Gregory was stunned. The muscles around his eyes twitched.

“I wanted to marry the Rose that I grew up with. Now, I can no longer convince myself to marry the person she has grown up to be.”

Justin lowered his long eyelashes. “But she did save my life. If it weren’t for her, I wouldn’t have been alive today. So to repay her, I will be with her during her depressive phase and wait for her to get better before I formally break up with her.”

“You... You want to break up with Rosalind?!” Gregory thought he had misheard, so he asked again.

“Yes.” This time, Justin spoke without hesitation.

“Rosalind suffers from severe depression and attempted suicide because you postponed the wedding! If you break up with her, you’ll just force her to die! How can she endure this emotional turmoil?!”

Gregory was so furious that he wanted to spit fire.

“That’s why I won’t mention it for now. When she is rehabilitated, I will mention the breakup to her.” Justin’s eyes were cold and dead. He had already made up his mind.

Gregory was so shocked that his pupils shrank. He slowly sat back on the leather chair and looked at him probingly. “Are you breaking up with Rose because you fell in love with Bella Thompson?”

Justin felt his heart tremble, but he blurted out without thinking, “I don’t like her.”

“Hah! You are my son. Although you didn’t grow up under my care, you still have my blood flowing in your veins. I know you better than that!”

Gregory narrowed his sharp eyes and smiled mockingly. “After your grandfather’s birthday party that night, you were so reluctant to part with Bella when Wyatt picked her up. I even heard that you brought her home and humiliated Rose in front of her. Justin, you have never been so indecisive since you were young. If you didn’t want something, you wouldn’t even look at it. Why do you keep giving in to Bella and showing her mercy at every turn? How could you deny liking her?”

“I’ll say it one last time. Our breakup has nothing to do with Bella.”

Justin suddenly stood up. His eyes were red, and his veins were bulging along his long neck. He looked so pale. “Even if it’s not Bella, but someone else, Rose shouldn’t stir up trouble and accuse an innocent party.”

“That’s all because she loves you! If she doesn’t care about you and only cares about your identity and power, why would she go to trouble Bella? Women get jealous easily. The more they care, the easier it is for them to get emotional. What’s more, Bella has been married to you for three years. Isn’t it normal that Rosalind feels threatened by Bella?”

When Gregory said this, he suddenly thought of Shannon.

At that time, Shannon was also like Rosalind. She loved to cry, make trouble, and crawl into his arms coquettishly. When they were intimate, she would be sweet and affectionate. He gradually became obsessed with her, so much so that he could not extricate himself.

To Gregory, this was what love was. He thought that Rosalind must be so in love with Justin that she would risk her life for him, just to keep his heart.

It was just like what Shannon did to Gregory.

“Bella loved me once too.”

After saying these words, Justin felt as if a nail had been pierced through his throat. “In the three years she and I were married, she never hurt anyone. When did love become a reason to slander and hurt others unscrupulously?”

He stopped talking to Gregory, turned around, and walked straight to the door.

“Justin! Are you going to let our company...’

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“Don’t worry. The company is not yours alone. Even if I don’t marry Rosalind, I will jeopardize the company.”

Chapter 260

Justin walked out of the study with a pale face. His chest was so tight that he was about to suffocate.

He found that Bella was like a scar seared in his heart. He did not dare to touch it because the slightest touch hurt so much that his body might fall apart.

However, what he dared not recall was the fact that Bella had once loved him.

Justin was proud by nature. When he was poor and hungry as a child, he never begged for money or humbled himself.

He and Bella were like gamblers at the betting table who were fighting for not money but dignity.

Justin must never admit that he was the loser in this bet.

“Mr. Salvador.” Ian hurriedly walked up to him. “I have three things to report to you.”

“What is it?” Justin forced himself to calm down. A thin layer of sweat broke out on his forehead.

“The first thing is that Ms. Gold has woken up, but she’s not in the right state of mind. She keeps shouting to see you.”

Justin’s eyes darkened. “The second one?”

“The chairman has found a very powerful lawyer for Shannon, who will be released early tomorrow morning. I found out that her cousin Zephyr had taken all the blame. Shannon is getting away unscathed.” Ian lowered his voice and sounded a little upset.

“What’s that lawyer’s name?” Justin frowned coldly.

“His name is Hunter Lovett.

Justin was shocked. Gregory was indeed a veteran to be able to hire Hunter Lovett, the top attorney in the country, to represent Shannon.

Ian took a step closer to Justin and continued, “What’s interesting is that Hunter Lovett is actually the eldest brother of the young madam’s loyal secretary, Steven Lovett. He’s actually the third son of the Lovett family! What a small world!”

Justin’s dark eyes flashed with surprise.

Although the Lovett family was not a wealthy family, they were extremely famous in the legal circle. Steven's father, Neil Lovett, was a well-known judge in the country. He was revered as the "god of justice" in legal and political circles. Neil had three sons. His eldest son, Hunter, served as a legal consultant for two large conglomerates. He had won numerous high-profile lawsuits domestically and abroad and had never been defeated. Neil's second son, Clarence, followed his father's legacy and became a strict judge.

Neil's youngest son, Steven, seemed mediocre, but his resume was astonishing.

After graduating from high school, Steven went to Savrow University of Political Science and Law on scholarship and became the youngest person at Savrow University to achieve a doctorate in law. He was a man of the hour in college. He could rely on his looks to earn a

living, but he still got a full scholarship and ranked first in every course. He was nicknamed "Aces".

However, such a rare talent willingly became Bella's secretary, who took care of her daily life like a male nanny.

Bella was truly surrounded by hidden talents.

Justin could not help but feel bitterness in his heart. He said solemnly, "It's only a matter of time before Shannon is released. But it doesn't matter. There is no way she can join the board of directors now."

"The young madam is so amazing to be able to strike down that witch in one blow! Hehe... Mr. Salvador, it's all thanks to the young madam that we have gotten a bargain this time!" Ian rubbed his hands happily.

Justin looked at him coldly. His handsome face darkened as he said, "If you admire her so much, why don't you work for her?"

Ian was speechless.

“In the past, I won many battles, but you never got so excited. Think clearly about who pays your salary.”

Ian kept quiet.

“What’s the third thing?”

“Oh! I found the man who was with the young madam last night. It’s really quite shocking to find out his identity!” Ian was creating suspense again.

Justin’s eyes suddenly darkened. His voice was hoarse. “Who is he?”

“He’s Christopher Iverson, the fourth and youngest son of Iverson Group’s chairman. He has been living in Sentania and just returned to Savrow a few days ago.”

Christopher Iverson from the Iverson Group?

Justin’s heart twitched, and his charming eyes were gloomy.

There were millions of projects in Savrow, and Iverson Group owned half of them. In Savrow, there was a saying in the business community that the south was owned by the Salvadors, while the north was owned by the Iversons.

The two families had hundreds of billions of dollars in assets and were separated by a deep river. They seemed to be in harmony with each other, but in fact, they were at odds and had never stopped.