

Heiress 621

Chapter 621

Asher paused, then lowered his voice. "Also, Christopher Iverson is much more cunning and devious than you or I can tell. Like an iceberg, you can only see the fraction that's on the surface. He left the country for 15 years and suddenly returned from Sentania to approach you. Bella, you're the heiress of KS Group. You have a higher net worth than any princess or queen. You're just a very low- key person. You're definitely the woman of every man's dreams. I don't believe that Christopher Iverson is completely sincere about you. I'm sure he has ulterior motives toward you."

As he said this, he scowled. "To be honest, Justin Salvador is somehow better than Christopher Iverson."

"Asher!" Bella's heart trembled as she clutched her cup tightly.

"At the very least, he gives his all for the woman he loves and doesn't have any ulterior motives about

it.”

“Ha! That’s true. He really gave his all and more for Rosalind Gold.”

Bella slammed her teacup on the table, and her eyes reddened. “He even enlisted in the army and tried

to die on the battlefield because

he thought she dumped him!”

“But hasn’t he risked his life for you too? He even got injured because

of it and still hasn’t recovered yet. We don’t even know if it’ll leave any

permanent after-effects.”

Bella’s heart began beating even harder as her expression faltered.”

That’s not the same.”

“Bella, I don’t think you fell for the wrong person or that you were

blind for loving Justin deeply. He has displayed all of his faults, including the fact that he didn’t love you,

from the start. It was cruel, but at least he was straightforward.”

slightly

Asher sighed deeply and leaned forward to gently take her si

cold hand. "At the very least, Justin has never lied to you. A man who loves you can have many faults, but they absolutely cannot be dishonest to you."

Bella's eyes flickered, and she hung her head, dispirited.

After bidding her family goodbye, Bella and Steven headed back to

Savrow.

They were about to pass the highway exit when Bella suddenly said,

though in a calm tone, "Head to Tideview Manor."

Steven frowned slightly but still answered, "Alright."

When they reached Tideview Manor, Bella did not contact Justin directly but called Wilma instead.

"Young Madam, to tell you the truth, the young master hasn't been

back for three or four days."

Wilma was extremely worried. "I called him a few times, but he hardly picked up. When he did, he

sounded weak. But when I asked him how he was doing, he said he was fine."

Bella's heart clenched tightly, like someone was squeezing it.

Wilma sighed. "I raised Young Master Justin, so I know he's very considerate and only likes to tell me the good things, not the bad things. Ever since he was young, he would grit his teeth and endure everything alone whenever he got sick or encountered troubles. No matter how much I asked, he just would not tell me. Young Madam, can you contact him? I'm so scared something's happened to him!"

Wilma's voice was tinged with tears.

"Don't panic, Wilma. I'll find him." Bella comforted her gently.

Justin might refuse to see anyone else, but he would not refuse to see Bella.

After Bella finished talking to Wilma, she pondered for a moment before calling Ian.

"Mr. Harris."

"M-Ms. Thompson! Good evening!"

Ian usually spoke in a very friendly manner whenever he picked up a call from her, but this time, he sounded a bit flustered.

Bella would not believe him if he said everything was fine.

"Where's Mr. Salvador? He's not at home, so where has he hidden."

himself?" Bella frowned slightly, a little unhappy.

"M-Mr. Salvador is on a business trip overseas."

"Ian Harris, let me remind you that lying to me has serious.

consequences." Bella's tone was dark and very threatening.

"Um... Young Madam, I'll tell you the truth! Even if I get fired by Mr.

Salvador tomorrow, I have to tell you the truth!"

Ian choked up. "Please hurry and come see him. He's in a very bad

condition. I'm afraid things will get serious if this continues!"

Chapter 622

Elsewhere, Justin was recuperating alone in one of his private villas in the suburbs.

Today was the last day for the first course of treatment, so Justin knew that Bella would send someone

over with more medication.

He did not think that she still felt something for him.

But rather, he knew that she did not want to owe him anything.

During the day, Justin felt fine, apart from the pain in his chest. But unexpectedly, he began to have a

high fever once night fell.

“lan... lan?”

Justin’s throat was hoarse and dry. He would suddenly feel cold, and/ moments later, he would burn up.

It was hard for him to keep his eyes

open.

He called lan’s name a few more times before remembering that he had sent lan to the office to get

some important documents. That fellow was probably still on the road right now.

Justin struggled to get up and only noticed then that his bedsheets and blankets were soaked through

with sweat. His hair was sticking to his forehead, and his pajamas were drenched, as if he had gone for

a swim.

He changed into a fresh set of pajamas before heading downstairs to

get some water.

Right then, the doorbell rang.

Confused, Justin walked over slowly to the display linked to his doorbell camera and tapped on the

“camera” option to view who was

at the door.

When Bella’s beautiful face entered his vision, his dull eyes

immediately lit up, and his heart started beating uncontrollably fast.

“Justin Salvador, I know you’re in there. Open up!” Bella’s expression

was as cold as ice as she stared straight at the camera.

Justin pursed his lips silently.

“Are you really dead, or just pretending to be dead? Open the door!”

Bella put a hand on her hip as she glared at the camera. “I hope you have a will done. I’m coming in to

collect your corpse!”

Justin could not help but cough at her razor-sharp words.

“Don’t assume that you’re the only one who knows how to use that

move. I know how to use it too!”

Bella was a little anxious now, and her temper flared as she pounded

the door with her fist. “If you don’t come out, I’m not leaving-”

Unexpectedly, before she could finish speaking, the door opened.

Wearing dark blue pajamas, Justin stood tall before her. He was pale and smiling weakly, yet strikingly.

“Ms. Thompson, it’s very cold outside. Please come in.”

How could he let her suffer in the cold outside? His heart would ache.

Bella’s heart sank when she noticed that Justin had lost a lot of weight.

He was visibly pallid.

Had he not been taking his medication on time? Not long ago, he looked like he had obviously gotten a lot better, so how did he get like this again?

Bella bit her lower lip and walked inside.

Justin mustered his energy and led her to the living room.

“How did you get here, Ms. Thompson? Did Ian tell you about this place?”

“Don’t blame Mr. Harris. He was looking out for you.”

Bella sat down on the sofa and looked straight at him with a stern gaze. Her voice was calm and cold, so he could not tell if she was concerned. "You don't have many reliable people by your side. You're really foolish if you really fire him because of this. There's working for a foolish boss like you, either. I'll offer Mr. Har at KS Group. You'd better not cry when that happens."

"You're overthinking it, Ms. Thompson." Justin gazed deeply in eyes.

int in

e

Because of the joy in his heart, even if he pretended to be calm, he could not stop his dry lips from curling upward. "I've been working with me for so many years. How could I let him go? I just..."

'I just didn't want you to worry...' Justin thought to himself.

He suddenly recalled how Bella determinedly distanced herself from him and how she stood with Christopher Iverson that night. Her entire being screamed rejection and annoyance at Justin.

That was why Justin no longer had the courage to say that he did not want her to worry.

“You keep calling me Ms. Thompson and being weirdly polite. Why aren’t you calling me by my name anymore?” Bella narrowed her eyes slightly and asked indifferently.

“Because I know you don’t like it.”

Bella was slightly stunned by this, and an inexplicable sour feeling

arose in her heart.

Chapter 623

“It was my fault for pushing you too hard in the past. From now on, I won’t make you do anything that

makes you feel uncomfortable

anymore

Justin’s shockingly pale face made him look like a swain in distress, which dazed Beedia.

She coughed lightly and placed the bottle of pills she was holding on the table before moving up.

“This is the second course of treatment. Remember to take them on time. I’m leaving now.”

“There’s no need to take it back.” Justin shook his head.

“What do you mean by that Justin Salvador? You don’t want to live anymore?”

Bella frowned. "You're sasisising saar in the business world with a net worth in the hundreds of billions You're willing to leave all behind?"

"No. I just don't think you owe mee Although! saved you, repaying you and atoning for my sisiss"

Justin shook his head again. "You don't have to blame yourself what happened to me. And besitios, don't need to keep taking the medicirie"

Better? Who was he kidding?

dooing much better now. I

Bella was extremely angry and sneered. "Is this a new trick of yours?

ere you taking one step back to gain pity? it's a shhaine because it would have worked on someone more compassionate."

"I know." Justin smiled bitterly. "That's why I don't have any other intentions. I truly don't need it

anymore.”

Bella felt mixed emotions upon hearing this, but she said coldly, “If that’s the case, I have nothing more to say either. If you won’t appreciate my gratitude, there’s no need for me to cling to you. I won’t stoop so low. Once you’re done with this round of meds, you don’t need to take any more medication. Too much is bad for your health, too. You should pray that things turn out well.”

She then turned to leave, but Justin reached out and stopped her.

“It’s rare for you to visit me, and it’s cold outside. Why don’t you have a cup of hot tea before leaving?

I’ll go make it now. It’ll be quick.”

Bella hesitated for a moment, but she surprisingly did not refuse him/

She sat back down on the sofa and watched as Justin headed toward the kitchen.

In her mind, she replayed what Asher said to her.

She and Justin were the same kind of people when it came to how

sincerely they treated someone. If they had decided that someone

was their person, they would dig out their hearts and offer them up on

a silver platter.

It was just a shame that he had disregarded hers when she loved him

so passionately in the past. From then on, it was truly difficult for her

to open her heart to him once again.

Suddenly, there was a loud sound of a cup shattering on the ground.

“Justin!”

Bella’s heart skipped a beat, and she instantly stood up to rush toward the kitchen.

A ceramic cup had shattered all over the marble floor.

Justin was kneeling on the fragmented pieces, with one hand supporting himself against the floor and

the other holding on to the edge of the table for dear life. His whole body was covered in sweat, and his

breathing was weak and labored.

“W-What’s wrong with you?!”

Bella’s expression twisted in shock as she hurried over to him, intending to help him up.

But Justin was too heavy. She exerted all her strength, but she still could not get him up.

Bella had no other choice but to squat down and sweep the sharp fragments away with her hands, afraid that he would fall over and cut himself on them.

“B-Bella...”

Justin used all his strength to raise his head. His cheeks were burning red, and his gaze was dazed and vacant.

Bella was stunned to see this. She hurriedly felt his forehead.

It was as hot as a boiling kettle!

“How did this happen? How did you end up having a fever?!”

Bella’s heart was stricken with anxiety, as she was shocked and angry at the same time. With red eyes, she yelled at him, “Did you take your medication on time or not? Bastard!”

Justin’s breath was hot, and he was delirious with a fever.

Subconsciously, he opened his arms to pull the woman in front of him, whom he loved so deeply, into his arms.

“Bella... Please give me some of your love... I beg you... Please, just a little...”

Bella's emotions surged as her lips parted slightly in astonishment, and her eyes slowly turned red.

"Justin, you..."

"I just want... A little bit of your love."

A hoarse, garbled moan came from the depths of Justin's dry throat, which tugged at her heartstrings.

"But I'm scared too... Because I know I'm not worthy..."

Chapter 624

Bella could feel every single one of Justin's shallow but heavy breaths against her neck. It burned like

fire against her skin.

A blush rose to her cheeks.

"Justin Salvador! Are you crazy? What are you saying? Justin!"

His hot sweat had soaked his thin palamas through and even soaked Bella's clothes too.

Justin was dazed, and his mind was muddled. His whole body was in so much pain that it felt like he

was about to disintegrate and fall

apart.

There was only one thought remaining in his mind, which was to hold the person he loved. Even if he

was demeaning himself on teento a

scoundrel, he really did not want to let go of Bella..

“Bella... Don’t leave me... Please don’t hate me...”

Justin buried his damp face into her shoulder, obviously chot

It was pitiful and heart-wrenching to hear.

Bella felt a warmth on her shoulder but could not tell if that was h

sweat or his tears.

A bitter feeling began to spread slowly from the deepest reaches of Bella’s trembling heart through her

entire body and wrapped around her soul tightly.

Bella thought to herself, ‘When have you ever been this humble before

me, Justin Salvador? Back when I was crying and putting all my self- respect on the line to beg you not

to divorce me or leave me, you threw the divorce papers in my face mercilessly and forced me to cut all

ties with you as soon as possible. You were so merciless and heartless.’

Bella simply looked at Justin’s wretched state and suddenly scoffed, though her eyes were red. “Justin

Salvador, are you delirious with a fever? What nonsense are you saying?"

"It's not nonsense. It's my heartfelt words..."

Justin shook his head stubbornly as sweat continuously dripped down his face. "Bella... I love you..."

Bella's eyes widened.

She froze. On the surface, she looked calm, but her ears had turned

so red that they looked like they were about to drip blood.

Justin used his last ounce of strength to look up and reach out to

caress the face he thought about night and day.

His eyes were hazy but filled with deep affection.

"Bella... I know what I'm saying. I love you... And only you..."

In the next second, Justin lost consciousness and collapsed in

Bella's arms.

"Oof... Bastard! Why did you have to keel over right here?! You're so damn heavy!"

Bella's eyes widened in a glare, both anxious and angry. She clenched

her fist and was about to hit him on the back.

But suddenly recalling that he was injured, she unclenched her fist mid-air and gently laid her hand over his sweat-drenched back, sighing softly.

“If we knew that things were going to end up this way earlier, why did we act the way we did back then?”

Justin... It’s too painful to love you. We should both move on.”

Ryan and Ian got to the entrance at the same time.

Although Ian was like an impulsive teenager sometimes, he was, after all, the chief secretary to the president of Salvador Corporation and was very observant.

With a glance, he could tell that Ryan was in a bad mood—a very bad one at that.

“Mr. Harris, how is your boss doing?” Ryan asked anxiously.

“He vomited blood two more times and even started developing a high fever.”

Ian felt miserable when he remembered how Justin looked like he was in agony last night. He hated that he could not take on the pain for him.

“How did it fucking turn out like this?...Fuck!” Ryan’s eyes were a little bloodshot, and he clenched his fingers so hard that his knuckles.

cracked.

“I’ve already informed the young madam. Previously, Mr. Salvador did get a lot better after taking the medicine the young madam gave, so

the young madam must know a way of treating him!” Ian did not have any great solutions to offer, so all he could do was place all his hopes on Bella.

Right then, Ryan noticed the black Bugatti parked at the entrance and recognized it as Bella’s car.

He narrowed his eyes slightly and pondered for a moment before saying, “Wait. Let’s not be in such a rush to head in.”

“Huh?” Ian was puzzled.

“It’s rare for them to have some time alone, so let them have a moment longer to themselves.”

Chapter 625

Ryan was a good wingman for Justin. Otherwise, what sort of friend would he be?

Trying to move an unconscious Justin, who was 189 cm tall, back to his room was equivalent to trying to move a mountain.

Luckily, there was an elevator in this villa. Bella dragged the bastard's body back to his room like she was dragging a corpse. By the time she helped him up onto the bed, her dress had been soaked through by a mixture of both her own sweat and Justin's sweat.

"You're so damn heavy!"

Bella was exhausted and panting heavily, but she had no time to rest. She hurried into the bathroom and soaked a towel with cold water before wiping Justin's body to bring his temperature down.

After she was done bustling around, Bella sat on the edge o heavily, so tired that she did not want to move anymore.

"I'm seriously exasperated with you. Why were you moving about much when you were having such a fever? You're really troublesome don't you know that?"

Bella glared at Justin, who was still delirious from the fever. Her tone was cold, but she felt anxious.

After all, he only ended up this way because of her.

Wait a second!

Ryan frowned, observing Carrie's movements carefully.

Why did she look like she was having a PTSD reaction? Could she have been constantly beaten at home in the past?

Did Carrie have such a fearful reaction when Zoe raised her hand against her because Bethany used to hit her frequently?

Was that the case?

"When did you two get here? Why didn't you guys let me know?"

Bella came downstairs and jumped in fright when she saw the two men sitting quietly in the living room.

She hurriedly tried to calm her unsteady breathing.

Ryan put his phone away and flashed his teeth at Bella with a devious smile. "Ah, we just didn't want to intrude. You two get to meet so

rarely that we thought you should have more time to nurture your feelings. We just didn't want to be there disturbing you."

"Nurture our feelings, my ass!"

Bella was so angry that she wished she could use her stiletto heel to stab holes into Ryan's mischievous, smiling face.

Ryan crossed his legs and turned to appraise Bella closely, propping his chin on his hand.

He noticed that her lips were glossy and her cheeks were red with a flush that had not yet receded, and the ever-so-experienced Mr. Hoffman raised an eyebrow in interest. 'My brother has done it, hasn't he? Wow, Justin looks really serious on the surface, but he's just as horny as hell. What an asshole!'

"Young Madam! You finally came! There's hope for Mr. Salvador now!" Ian gazed at Bella with stars in his eyes, smiling so widely that he was about to burst into tears.

Bella had no time to correct his form of address for her right now and said' seriously, "Mr. Harris, Mr. Salvador's high fever was caused by

the recurrence of his internal injuries. It shouldn't be neglected. I've

just contacted one of the hospitals under KS Group that has high security and is better at maintaining

patient's privacy. I've also

contacted the doctor in charge. You and Mr. Hoffman should get

ready to head over there now."

Ian bowed deeply. "Thank you, Young Madam! I just knew you still

have feelings for Mr. Salvador! You wouldn't have just let him die!"

"I wouldn't have let him die, but that has nothing to do with whether or

not I still have feelings for him. Don't make such a far-fetched

assumption."

Bella's tone was icy as she refused to allow Ian's assumption to

stand.

She walked down the stairs and walked up to Ryan with a cold gaze.

Ryan's heart trembled when he met her gaze, as he felt a strong chill. "Mr. Hoffman, let's step aside to

talk.”

Chapter 626

Justin gripped Bella’s chin with his fingers and leaned down to kiss.

her.

Ryan and Ian waited downstairs, feeling bored.

Ian paced back and forth worriedly, glancing upstairs from time to

time.

Meanwhile, Ryan sat on the sofa, wearing a dark expression, as he watched the security footage over

and over again on his phone.

He watched the footage of Zoe bullying Carrie again and again with a sick fascination.

Ryan got angry every time he watched it.

“What are you watching so intently, Mr. Hoffman?” Ian shuffled closer

out of curiosity.

He had just moved closer when Ryan looked up and said coldly, “Go away. This is my family affairs.”

Ian was intimidated by his sharp gaze and hurriedly retreated.

Ryan watched the recording one more time.

He watched as Zoe approached Carrie in the video, and Carrie reacted by curling up pitifully in fright,

covering her head tightly with her arms. Her movements were so practiced that it made his heart ache

beyond

measure.

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Chapter 627

Outside the villa, Bella got into Ryan's luxury car.

"Bella, it's rare for you to willingly be alone with me."

Ryan's eyes always carried a seductive charm as he looked at the beauty beside him with a smile. "I do feel quite flattered to be in the presence of such beauty, but I fear if Justin, that green-eyed monster, finds out we were chatting alone, he'd explode with anger. And he's still sick too."

"If not for Carrie, do you think I'd be willing to breathe the same air as you?"

Bella crossed her legs and folded her arms as she spoke coldly but calmly. "Is the famous casanova Mr. Hoffman sick of the same old flavors? Is that why you've set your sights on our dear Carrie?"

At the mention of Carrie's name, Ryan's heart leaped, and a tingling

sensation filled his whole body. His voice trembled slightly as he said,

"Bella, you know about me and Carrie?"

"You and Carrie? Ha! I don't understand what you mean by that." Bella

sneered coldly.

"Bella, I have nothing to hide at this point."

Ryan took a deep breath, his heart beating wildly as he said decisively,

"I've fallen for Carrie. I want to be with her."

"And how many women have you already fallen for so far this year?" The mocking smile on Bella's face

deepened. She did not hide her

disgust toward him at all.

"She's definitely the one I love the most!"

"Do you mean you love her the most among all the ladies you also

love?"

“Bella, I’m serious about Carrie!”

Ryan’s face flushed with anxiousness as he turned to look at Bella earnestly. “I admit that I used to be

a player and have dated many

women in the past. But with those women, it was always just

transactional. We took what we needed from each other, and when

our needs were met, we’d part ways amicably. I’ve never actually had any feelings for them, but

Carrie’s different. I have real feelings for her. Bella, every fiber of my body feels for her!”

“But you still extended your claws toward your best friend’s younger sister. Do you think it’s thrilling, Mr.

Hoffman?”

Bella felt that his words were just ridiculous. “Also, Carrie is the type

you’ve never encountered before, so it must be particularly refreshing for you. After all, men love to

challenge themselves with the newest

and most difficult ones. Then, once you’ve gotten Carrie, you’ll

discard her just like you have with the other women you’ve dated. Once the novelty has worn off and

she can't satisfy your vanity like a normal girl, you'll leave her heartlessly, like she's a used rag."

"A used rag?! I fucking wish I could just keep her in my arms forever and treasure her! Bella, don't you have even a single bit of trust in me?" Ryan's voice cracked.

"You want me to trust that a player will change his ways? I'd sooner believe pigs could fly." Bella really wanted to roll her eyes at him.

"Fu-Why can't a player change his ways? Everyone has to settle down eventually!"

Ryan wore a serious expression as passion began to burn in his eyes.

"Bella, I know you've always loved Carrie as a sister. But please believe me. I swear on my character-ah, no! I swear on my life! I love! Carrie as sincerely as ever. I want to be with her and spend my future with her!"

"Fine. Then let me ask you a question."

Bella suddenly set aside all her mocking and asked in a very serious tone, "What if your mom, your sister, and your grandfather object to

you being with Carrie and even go as far as to say that you'll be disowned by the Hoffman family if you

marry her? You can forget

about getting a single thing from them, and your family will never

have peace because of this. Would you still choose to be with Carrie?"

Ryan's eyes were red as he clenched his hands into fists tightly. "

might not be able to get the entirety of the Hoffman Group right

and perhaps the risk you speak of does exist. But I've already de

and made up my mind about Carrie. I will do all I can to protect will never let anyone bully her again,

including the Salvadors!"

"That's not what I asked."

Bella pursed her lips coldly, unable to hide her disappointment." There's only one way you can protect

her, which is to marry her and

make her your rightful and legal wife. Otherwise, that so-called protection of yours will, in a way, harm

her!"

Marry?!

Chapter 628

Ryan was dumbfounded. He clenched his jaw. Caught off guard, he was unable to react right away due to the sudden shock.

Bella saw that he did not react and thought that he was a coward.

She burst out laughing and said, "Back then, you had the guts to say

to my face that you wanted to marry me. Now that I'm asking you if you dare to marry Carrie, why have

you suddenly become mute? Or is it that, in your eyes, Carrie is the Salvadors' least significant

daughter, so there's no value for you in marrying Carrie? All she's worth is to be

hidden away as your secret lover, huh?"

"Bella Thompson! You-!" Ryan's blood was boiling. This was the first

time he had ever gotten mad at Bella.

He could finally understand why Justin vomited blood.

Justin must have been provoked by her!

"Alright, there's no point in me saying too much. I respect a

true love in this world, but I don't want Carrie to suffer with yo

Thinking of Carrie, who had suffered so much in the Salvador f Bella teared up a little. "She's already

had a very hard life. I don't w

her to suffer even more. Ryan, the world you live in is too

complicated. Its weight might be unbearable for a simple girl like

Carrie. Just think about what I said carefully."

After sending Justin to the hospital, Ryan dragged his exhausted tbody back home.

Right, home.

Now, he referred to the villa he shared with Carrie alone as home.

He might have a mother and a sister, but ever since his father passed

away, his mother had become depressed, often going abroad to get

treatment, while his sister studied overseas. The vast Hoffman.

residence was always cold and quiet, never lively.

Yet, the past few days he had spent with Carrie had made him feel

comfortable, relaxed, and warm.

He even greedily hoped that days like these would last forever.

“How’s Carrie doing?” Ryan asked Yasmin urgently the moment he walked in.

Yasmin frowned worriedly and sighed. “Ms. Salvador is in her room. I

kept trying to coax her to sleep, but it seemed like she was still in shock. She just wouldn’t close her eyes. It’s quite heartbreaking see.”

Upon hearing this, Ryan felt his throat choke up with guilt, and he walked upstairs with heavy steps.

“I’ll go sit with her.”

“Ms. Hoffman, what are you planning to do with Ms. Zoe?” Yasmin hesitated for a moment but still asked.

“Yasmin, don’t you think I’m really useless sometimes?” Ryan asked glumly with his back toward her.

Yasmin was taken aback.

She had been working for Ryan for 10 years now, and he had always been a proud and unyielding man. He had never looked so lonely and unsure of himself before.

“Mr. Hoffman, you’ve always been a godlike existence to me. Why do you say that?”

“Because I didn’t raise my sister properly and even allowed Carrie to get hurt. To be honest, I don’t know what I should do either.”

When Ryan remembered how Zoe’s face twisted viciously as she abused Carrie, he felt defeated. “At most, all I can do is send her back. to Inalia. But is that going to solve the problem?”

“Mr. Hoffman, let’s go about it slowly. As long as you don’t give up on Ms. Salvador, no matter how much Ms. Zoe dislikes it, she’ll accept this reality.”

Ryan arrived at the door to Carrie’s room, calmed himself, opened the door.

“Carrie? I’m back.”

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Only a single light over the bed was turned on in the quiet bedroo

Chapter 629

Carrie sat alone at the head of the bed, curled up with her arms

wrapped around her knees and her head buried between them,

motionless.

Ryan took off his black fur coat and put it over the sofa, afraid of

bringing the chill to her. He walked to the bed with light steps and sat

down on the edge of the bed.

“Carrie... Does it still hurt?” Ryan placed his large hand on her head

and stroked her soft hair gently.

Carrie shook her head slightly..

“Then, shall we go to sleep?” Ryan asked thoughtlessly.

Right after he said that, he regretted it.

Shit... It just made him look like he only wanted to sleep with her,

that was not what he meant.

“I’m not sleepy.”

Carrie finally said weakly, “I just want to sit here quietly for a while.”

“Alright, I’ll sit with you then.”

Ryan’s hand slid downward to lovingly rub the back of her warm neck,

his eyes overflowing with tenderness. “I won’t sleep if you don’t. If you think I’m annoying, I’ll just sit

here with you, and I won’t make a

sound. If you get thirsty or hungry, you need someone to order

around, don’t you?”

“What if I stay up all night?”

“I’ll stay up all night too.”

“That’s okay... You should go to sleep.” Carrie urged him softly, never

looking up.

A bitterness welled up in Ryan’s heart, and his breath hitched. “Alright.

I’ll leave if you don’t want me here.”

As he said this, he moved to leave.

Right then, Carrie suddenly reached out to grab his arm, breathing

harder as her grip tightened.

“Carrie?” Ryan was surprised.

“Don’t go, Ryan... Don’t go!”

Carrie slowly looked up, her lips trembling. Her pink face was covered

in tears. “I lied... I’m sorry... I want you to stay with me. Ryan, I want you here with me!”

Ryan choked up at this, and he gently wiped her tears away with his finger. “I won’t go. I never intended

to. I was just teasing you.”

Carrie looked at him tearily as she kneeled on the bed, looking like a pitiful yet charming kitten.

“Ryan... Please hug me.”

Ryan’s eyes instantly reddened. It was hard for him to suppress his love for her. His heart felt like it was

about to explode as he pulled her

soft body into his arms.

He breathed in deeply as he hugged her tightly.

“I’m hugging you now.”

“Tighter...”

Ryan hummed in acknowledgment as he pressed his chin into the crook of her neck, his thin lips

rubbing against her red earlobe.

“A little tighter, please?”

“Okay.”

Ryan tightened his arms once more, stroking her trembling back with his large palm. “I wish I could

bury you in me, Carrie. I really wish I

could.”

Under the light, the pair embraced each other tightly, as if they wished

they could become one.

Chapter 630

They did not know how long they had been hugging for when Carrie finally felt sleepy.

Ryan got onto the bed, and the two of them lay there together. They seemed like a loving, newlywed

couple.

Carrie rested her head on Ryan's sturdy arm, her small face buried in his chest. She sniffled a little before closing her eyes.

was war

"Carrie, can I ask you something?" One of Ryan's arms around her shoulders, while the other gently rubbed her forearm.

"Mm...okay."

"Do you like me?" Ryan's heart was beating loudly when he asked his question.

"Hmm... Of course I do."

"Not like a brother, I mean the romantic sort."

Ryan coughed slightly, and his face was flushed. "Like the way your older brother Justin likes Anna."

Carrie's clear eyes flickered, and she clutched Ryan's black shirt, fiddling with the delicate buttons.

"I... Don't know."

Ryan sighed and smiled bitterly. "Alright. Let's go to sleep now."

“But I like being with you. When you go out, I can’t do anything but

worry about you and wait for you to come home. When I’m with you, everyday feels so short. When I

see you, I feel really happy.” Carrie’s eyes were half-closed as she spoke softly.

Ryan’s breathing became heavier, and his palms, which were wrapped around her shoulders, were

completely damp with sweat.

“There was one day you came back really late and came to my room

to check on me. I pretended to be asleep, but actually, I was awake

the whole time.”

When Ryan heard this, his heart clenched.

That night, he had gone out with Yasmin to deal with some people. who had been working against him-

his Uncle Liam’s cronies.

Ryan had always shown Carrie the cheerful and enthusiastic side of

himself.

He would never let her see his dark, cruel, and ruthless side.

Carrie pursed her lips. “That day, there was a really strong smell of blood on you. And your hand was

wounded. When you touched my forehead, I could feel it.”

As she said this, she took his right hand and took off the black leather glove covering it.

Although the wounds on his knuckles and fingertips had already scabbed over, the scars remained.

“Ryan, I’m worried that you’re doing something dangerous outside.

I’m worried something will happen to you. I’m so scared...”

Carrie’s heart twinged, and her lashes fluttered as she kissed his

scars. “I don’t understand. I don’t know. Is this the sort of like you were talking about?”

Ryan’s heart thumped hard. Finally, unable to hold back the tide of his feelings, he flipped her over and

pressed her beneath him.

In all her twenty-two years of life, Carrie had never been this close to

a man before.

Ryan was her first, and she was slowly learning to accept him, though

it seemed like he was the only one she could accept.

“Carrie, don’t tempt me... I’m afraid I won’t be able to hold myself

back.”

“Do you want to kiss me, Ryan?”

Carrie obediently wrapped her arms around his neck, pouting her pink, glossy lips slightly. “I-I’m ready!”

“No...”

Ryan restrained himself and finally sighed in surrender, returning to his previous position and pulling

Carrie close as he murmured, “I’ll wait for you to accept me completely, Carrie.”