

## Heiress 801

### Chapter 801

At this very moment, Bethany looked at her mother's cold and

indifferent face, feeling as though her mother had never truly loved her father. They were worse than strangers.

Bethany asked, "Mom, it's been three days since Dad last visited you.

He seems indifferent. Aren't you concerned at all?"

"Hmph, rushing things won't do any good. Your father is just like Justin. They won't take you seriously if you cling to them. However, if you keep your distance, they'll come closer to you."

"Men are all so fickle!" Shannon's lips curled into a playful smile as she vented her frustration, though her emotions were in disarray.

Shannon did not reach out to Gregory for the past three days. Her reluctance to contact him stemmed purely from fear, rather than any

other motive.

Despite being deemed fit for discharge from the hospital, Shannon could not muster the courage to return home. Instead, she chose to stay confined within the hospital walls, using the excuse of needing

further recovery to avoid facing Gregory.

That night, after Bella caused such a scene, Shannon had distinctly

sensed a shift in Gregory's demeanor toward her.

Throughout her stay in the hospital, Shannon pondered how to clarify

things with her husband and rebuild his perception of her.

Suddenly, the door to the hospital ward swung open.

"You guys wait outside. I'll go in and see Shannon."

"Yes, Chairman Salvador."

Upon hearing Gregory's voice, Shannon and Bethany were both

stunned.

Shannon swiftly reached for a powder box hidden beneath her pillow and hurriedly applied powder to her lips to accentuate her weary

appearance.

As Gregory entered the room, she leaned weakly against the bed's headboard, casting a pitiful gaze at him with her tear-filled eyes.

"Bethany, I'm thirsty... Can you please get me a glass of water?"

The unexpected tears reminded Bethany of Rosalind, whom she considered an insufferable nuisance.

"Dad! You're finally here!" Bethany covered her mouth, pretending to

be pleasantly surprised.

Gregory gazed at the frail figure resting on the bed, his dark eyes devoid of emotion, sending shivers to run down Shannon's spine.

"Bethany, you've done well taking care of your mom these past few days. I've arranged for the household staff to take care of her needs. You should go home and get some rest," Gregory said.

"Okay... Well then, I'll head back now"

Bethany cast a glance at Shannon before stepping out and closing the door behind her gently.

"Ms. Salvador, do you need a ride back?" The bodyguard at the door asked politely.

"No, there's no need. Just pass me the car keys. I feel like going for a drive," Bethany responded.

Bethany entered the underground parking lot with a heavy heart.

After spending three days in the hospital, she felt like she reeked of disinfectant. Now, all she craved was to buy some stylish clothes and indulge in a luxurious spa treatment to refresh herself.

Just as she approached her car, she suddenly felt a sharp pain in her

neck.

“Argh!”

Bethany’s vision darkened as she slipped into unconsciousness.

As she collapsed, Yasmin’s cold and beautiful face appeared behind

her.

“Take her away.”

“Yes, Ms. Yasmin.” The two bodyguards promptly obeyed her orders and dragged Bethany’s unconscious form away without hesitation.

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The atmosphere in the hospital ward was tense.

In the past, Shannon held a special place in Gregory’s heart, receiving his utmost care and attention. Although Gregory could not guarantee his presence by Shannon’s sick bed every day, he consistently expressed deep concern whenever she faced a minor ailment. Even amidst his busiest schedule, he would still try to visit her every day.

However, three days had elapsed without Gregory’s presence, a scenario previously deemed implausible.

“Greg...”

Shannon leaned weakly against the bed’s headboard and delicately / wiped her trembling, powder-coated lips. Her tear-filled eyes fixed on Gregory. “Have you been busy lately? I guess you’ve been caught up with the company’s affairs and couldn’t find time to visit me... My condition is nothing serious, just a perforated eardrum. It’s not a big

deal... I’ve already undergone surgery...

Shannon's words were cut short by Gregory's somber interruption."

Shannon, I'm here with a question. Was everything Bella mentioned the other day true?"

Shannon was startled by Gregory's question. Her eyes quivered intensely.

"Greg, after all this time, you're still questioning my loyalty? I'm your wife. You know how devoted I am to you! I've given birth to two daughters for you, nearly losing my life giving birth to Carrie. I've

sacrificed so much for you.... Why would I even consider being disloyal to you by associating with someone accused of murder?"

"Greg, have you stopped loving me? When love fades, suspicion taints every action, and every word will be deemed wrong!"

Shannon's words overflowed with anger, yet her heart quivered with fear.

All the resentful questioning was nothing but a cover for Shannon's inner panic and turmoil.

"I'm not referring to the man named Harry Young. I'll look into whatever is between you two on my own."

Gregory's expression remained composed. "I'm talking about Celeste. Were you the one behind the attack on her?"

"No! No! It wasn't me!"

Shannon vehemently protested, her voice strained. "Why would I want to harm her? What would I even gain from hurting her? Why would I

take such a risk?"

Gregory simply watched Shannon protest, his hand clenching tightly around his phone, which had turned warm from his touch.

During the past three days, Gregory instructed his secretary to discreetly investigate the relationship between Shannon and Harry. Although it had not unfolded precisely like what Bella had described- where Shannon had exchanged sentimental items like her necklace with him- there was some truth to it, Shannon did indeed know Harry. They had even crossed paths on multiple occasions during their time

at TS Channel.

Another revelation came to light. Despite the absence of call records between Shannon and Harry, Gregory took precautionary measures and got ahold of Bethany's communication logs.

Among the many numbers, one did not align with Bethany's social

circle.

Upon further investigation, Gregory discovered that the number lacked registration under a real name. However, its location coincided with the direction of Harry's rented house.

After learning about this, Gregory's heart sank at once.

Bethany was born in the elite circle. All her life, she has associated solely with high society and has never befriended anyone beneath her social circle, let alone visited the slums.

Hence, there was only one possible explanation for using Bethany to establish contact with someone from that IP address.

“Shannon, do you know what attracted me to you the most then?” Gregory took a deep breath and asked.

Shannon was startled once again, her mind scrambling to recall.

She believed that Gregory must have been charmed by her youthful allure and captivating beauty. After all, most men tend to prioritize physical allure over emotional depth

Yet she had overlooked one crucial aspect.

As the designated heir of the Salvador family, Gregory was born into wealth and privilege.

However, despite the relentless pursuit by elite socialites in Savrow and aspiring female celebrities, none fulfilled their dreams of

becoming his wife.

As for Shannon, she was nothing more than a small-time actress. She lacked Celeste’s beauty, and her family background was even less

remarkable.

So why did Gregory choose Shannon among the multitude of female celebrities on the TS Channel?

“Because back then, your eyes radiated purity and innocence. I was captivated by your genuine and unassuming nature. You made me want to protect and cherish you. With you, I found the sense of pride and contentment that every man desires.”

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Shannon was left dumbfounded.

‘Purity and innocence?’ Shannon wondered, her disbelief deepening. These terms seemed better suited for Gregory’s mother, the woman

he adored.

The more she pondered, the more it grated on her nerves.

“But now, it seems you don’t need my protection anymore. Even in my absence, you’d find ways to pursue your desires and go to great lengths to seek revenge against those you despise.”

Gregory’s expression grew stern, and his brows furrowed. “However, consider this your last warning. I expect you to behave yourself from now on, refrain from causing trouble to innocent individuals, and stop bringing any more trouble to me or the Salvador family. Otherwise, I’ll have no choice but to send you abroad for a quieter life, away from

the conflicts and disputes of Savrow.”

Upon hearing Gregory’s intention to send her away, Shannon was overwhelmed with a mix of shock and anger. Her entire body started trembling with fear.

“Gregory... What do you mean by that? Are you trying to say that you’re over me? Are you planning to abandon me after a few words of slander by Bella? Or is it because you have illicit intentions toward Wyatt’s wife? Is that why you’re taking this out on me? Is that why you’re trying every means to get rid of me? So that you can welcome

a new woman into your life?!”



“What nonsense are you spewing now?!” Gregory’s brows furrowed in anger, his voice hoarse.

“Well... I got that right, didn’t I? You’re feeling guilty, aren’t you?”

Shannon’s back stiffened, her neck tensed, and her eyes tinged with red as she glared at the man. “Back when Celeste was still on the TS Channel, there were rumors about your ambiguous relationship with her! There were even talks of you privately favoring her with resources and showing intentions to keep her!”

Gregory’s eyes narrowed, his fists clenching in silence.

“Celeste is your ideal partner, while I’m just the fallback option, right?”

These words, long suppressed within Shannon’s heart, felt like a thorn finally extracted, unleashing a surge of both anger and relief.

“If Celeste hadn’t ruined her reputation with drug abuse, she would’ve been the one to marry into the Salvador family, not me. I wouldn’t even stand a chance, would I?”

“Are you done talking?” Gregory questioned her sharply, his tone icy. Veins bulged on his forehead.

“Well, since you’re so fond of Celeste and so eager to defend her, why didn’t you step in when she faced that humiliating incident on stage during the anniversary celebration? You were present in the audience. Why didn’t you rush to her aid like Wyatt? Why didn’t you marry her?!”

“You didn’t because you were afraid You were afraid of being tainted by such a scandalous woman. You were worried she would tarnish your reputation as the Salvador family’s CEO! Since you ignored her back then, what’s the point of pretending to be righteous and

compassionate now?”

Gregory bellowed, "Shannon, shut up!"

Shannon smirked with disdain, her gaze filled with contempt. "Your son longs for another man's daughter, and you yearn for that man's wife. The Thompson family must be something extraordinary."

Gregory, enraged and humiliated, lashed out and slapped Shannon.

Shannon felt her eardrums throb with pain. Tears streamed down her cheeks as she seethed with hatred.

Gregory recoiled. His fingers trembled as he clenched them tightly.

This marked the first instance in Gregory's life where he resorted to violence against a woman, contradicting the values instilled in him by his upbringing. Yet Shannon's actions had left him with no choice.

"You... You actually laid your hands on me! How dare you?!"

Shannon erupted into tears, sprung up from the bed, and ran barefoot

toward the balcony.

"What's the point of living anymore? I might as well be dead!"

Gregory's eyes widened in alarm. "Someone get in here now! Hurry!"

Gregory's secretary and bodyguard who were stationed outside the ward, rushed in at once. Upon seeing that Shannon was about to jump off the balcony, they immediately grabbed her arms from both sides as if they were apprehending a criminal.

Shannon wept hysterically, tears streaming down her face, looking utterly wretched.

“Have two maids take turns to watch over Shannon, and the both of you shall remain stationed at the door around the clock. If anything happens to Shannon, I will hold the both of you responsible,” Gregory

ordered sternly.