

# Loving You In Secret by Debbie Meza

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### Chapter 427

Harvey was very efficient. It did not matter that it was nighttime and no one was working. He still had ways to help Vicky to file for the divorce when he had all the documents. It only took him a night to file the divorce paper and send the divorce certificate to Tyler's mansion.

Tyler played with the divorce certificate nonchalantly. He curved his thin lips into a smile that could scare a child. His eyes gleamed coldly and maliciously.

Vicky's heart pounded heavily when all she heard was Tyler's cold voice, and she did not even see his expression at all.

"Tyler, we can't be together." Her voice was soft. "Please let me go."

"Let you go?" Tyler sneered. "Why didn't you think of letting me go when you climbed onto my bed and forced me to marry you?"

"I was naive and stupid. I'm sorry," Vicky said.

"What's the use of saying you're 'sorry' after you killed a person?" Tyler asked.

Vicky's fingers turned white. "You don't love me anyway! Why do you want to keep me by your side? You can have any woman you want!"

Tyler's voice was indifferent. "Probably because a man is born with the love to challenge the impossible. We yearn for things we can't get."

Vicky's breaths grew labored. Just as she wanted to say something, someone tapped her shoulder.

Harvey, standing beside her, shook his head.

Vicky understood and said nonchalantly, "Tyler, we're divorced now and are no longer related. Don't ever call me in the future. Bye."

"Vicky Shaw! How dare you—"

Vicky swiftly hung up, not allowing Tyler to speak any further.

"Maybe he's trying to stall us," murmured Harvey. "We need to leave now."

A few steps later, Vicky remembered something and said, "This phone is from him. Maybe there's a tracking device in it. I should throw it away."

Harvey nodded and glanced at the wedding band on Vicky's finger.

Vicky, noticing his gaze on her ring, curled up her finger for a while. Before Harvey knew it, she took off the wedding band too. There was no telling if Tyler was crazy enough to implant a tracking device in the wedding band.

"Alright. Let's go."

After Vicky threw away the phone and her wedding band, both of them left.

Jencity was situated at the border of Zendonía with sunny and rainy weather.

When Vicky got into the car, it started to rain heavily. She looked outside the dark scene, and her heart started to throb with fear. The distress and agony Tyler brought on to her were too significant. Even at this point, she had not detached herself from the fear.

Harvey could pick up on her distress as he sat next to her.

He looked toward her. "What's wrong?"

Vicky looked down. "It's nothing."

The rain fell on the window and created gentle taps on the screen. The road on a rainy day was desolate as there were barely any cars or pedestrians.

Jencity was a less developed city, unlike the bustling Stoneford City.

At first, Harvey thought Vicky was worried about how they were going to leave. He said, "The border is very close. Even if we can't leave by plane, we can just drive."

Vicky nodded after knowing that. "Okay."

As the car was halfway to the border, Harvey's phone rang. The voice from the other side of the phone was extremely clear in the quiet car.

"Mister Sparks, Hexy informed us that all of the exits in Jencity are blocked, and many unknown people guard them. I think they're after you and Miss Shaw..."

Harvey raised an eyebrow. "They're after me and Vicky?"

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"I heard they were looking for a man and a woman. It happened too suddenly, so this is all I could get. Mister Sparks. If they're looking for you, you'll be turning yourself in if you leave now."

Harvey's pupils shook. "Alright. I got it."

He hung up the phone right after that.

"What's wrong?" Vicky looked at him worriedly. "Is there a problem?"

Harvey sported a reassuring expression and smiled carefreely. "Nothing. Tyler's reaction is very quick. He has the entire town on lockdown."

Vicky's pupils shrank, and her face turned pale. "Tyler has the city in a lockdown? Then, is he going to find us?"

If Tyler found her after this escape...there was no telling that he might just break her legs! The uncontended fear and horror filled her eyes. She started to pant and breathe heavily.

Harvey picked up on her amounting anxiety and behavior, and he asked with furrowed eyebrows, "Vicky, what's wrong?"

Vicky wanted to tell him she was alright, but her body betrayed her as she shook uncontrollably. Even her teeth were grinding out of fear.

Harvey tried calling out to her a few times before she finally reacted by looking back at him with her pale face. "I'm sorry, I-I zoned out just now.

What did you say? Can you say it again?"

Harvey looked at her horrified expression without a soul. He felt sorry for her. "Vicky, I'm not Sebastian. I won't let Tyler take you back so easily."

This was not the first time he went against Tyler, and he was probably the only person who understood what Tyler was capable of.

Tyler had many tricks up his sleeve. He was good at disguises was too naive, and she was never his match.

Vicky smiled forcefully. "Alright. Thank you."

Even with that said, she felt uneasy. She did not know what would happen if Tyler captured and brought her back again. Would he break her leg, or...he would give her to another man she did not know?

Since they were unable to leave Jencity, Harvey got his man to find a place for them to rest. Staying in a hotel was not an option because it was the first place Tyler's men would search.

Vicky did not know how Harvey did it, but he found a two-bedroom apartment. The apartment had everything, and though it was small, it was very clean and neat.

Harvey said, "This apartment belongs to my friend. They're going to search everywhere these few days, so we should stay here to stay off the radar."

Vicky was surprised. "We?"

Harvey looked solemn. "Vicky, until we leave Zendonía, I suggest you stay in my sight and not leave me."

Vicky was stunned by this, but she knew very well what Harvey meant. Although it was inappropriate for them to stay together in the apartment, Tyler was too strong... She was really scared of him.

Harvey knew why Vicky was stunned. He laughed faintly. "Don't worry. I don't have the habit of forcing myself on a woman." i

Indeed, Harvey did not look like those lustful, disgusting men. He had been a gentleman with her all the time.

Vicky was less worried having that thought in her mind. "Alright."

Soon, the sky turned dark, but the rain never ceased. It hit the tree branches audibly.

Click! A sound came from the door.

Vicky's eyelids fluttered open at this.

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A tall man approached her slowly.

Out of the blue, a bolt of lightning appeared in the sky. A cold, ferocious mask looked extremely scary under the light from the lightning. The man approached her quickly and touched her cheek softly.

His voice sounded soft in the weirdest form possible as he said, "Vicky, you're not going anywhere. You're mine. Even when you're dead, you're still mine!"

Suddenly, his soft voice became cold and sharp. "But why are you such a bad girl? Why do you keep thinking of running away? Since you can't

control your legs, then... You shouldn't keep them. I'll chop them off for you, okay?"

Before Vicky could react, a sharp dagger appeared in the man's hand. The lightning struck the sky once more, illuminating even the room. The dagger glinted sharply.

The man swung and stabbed it into her leg—

"Aah!" Vicky opened her eyes.

Rumble! The thunder and lightning struck together.

With the light from the lightning, Vicky could temporarily see the

'Was that a dream?' she thought.

Knock, knock, knock!

There was a knock on the door, and Harvey's voice rang from the other side of the door.

"Vicky, are you fine?"

Vicky, turning on the light at her bedside, said raspily, 'I'm fine.'

After a few seconds of silence, Harvey replied, 'That's good to know. Rest well. Call me if you need anything.'

He did not ask Vicky to open the door nor barged right in. It eased Vicky for sure.

"Okay."

After a whole day of rain, the sun shone brightly the next day.

The moment Harvey left his room, he smelled the aroma of food. He took a turn and walked into the kitchen.

A slim woman was busy in the kitchen. The aroma was coming from the pan in front of her.

Harvey walked over and asked, "Vicky, what are you doing?"

"I'm making breakfast." Vicky looked up. "I saw fresh ingredients in the refrigerator after I woke up, so I thought of making breakfast."

Harvey looked at the food prepared and smiled. "I didn't know you were such a good chef."

The food was cooked nicely and created a vibrant, appetizing appearance. There was also salad. Harvey felt hungry just by looking at them.

Vicky turned off the fire and said, "It's not good for us to go out and eat now, so we can only eat something simple."

Harvey's gaze wavered. "That's very thoughtful of you."

"We're still in Zendonía. Anything can happen." Vicky looked gloomy when she mentioned Tyler. "Tyler is a very careful and smart man. We need to do anything we can to stop him from finding us."

Vicky found a pair of mittens and was about to bring the pan to the dining table when Harvey stopped her. "Let me do it."

Vicky did not insist on doing it by herself.

Both of them started to enjoy the breakfast once they sat at the dining table. All of a sudden, Harvey asked, "Did you have a nightmare last night?"

Vicky paused and nodded softly.

Harvey did not ask further and said, "I've already sent my men to check around. Once we have the chance, I'll make arrangements to send you out of the country in the shortest time. I'll be here with you before that time arrives. Don't worry."

Vicky put down her cutlery and looked at the man in front of her.

"I'm your ex-fiance and Tyler's wife. I mean, I'm your enemy too... Why are you helping me?"

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Harvey did not avoid Vicky's question and answered, "I did many bad things to you in the past, so I'm just trying to atone for my sins. Also, Tyler isn't a good guy..."

Harvey frowned, and his gaze darkened the moment Tyler's name came out of his mouth. "He's a despicable jerk!"

Vicky did not reply. 'Calling him a despicable jerk doesn't do justice. He's a lunatic!' she thought.

Her heart throbbed just by hearing Tyler's name. She did not want to continue to discuss Tyler, so she changed the topic. "I never cooked for you before, have I?"

Harvey shook his head. "No."

Vicky asked curiously, "What kind of person was I when you first knew me?"

Harvey curled his lips into a faint smile when he was reminded of the past. "You were more active in the past. Your eyes were pure and spirited. At that time, you didn't know how cruel the world was and was a little arrogant."

Vicky was surprised. "I was...like that?"

Harvey looked back at her. "To tell you the truth, you've changed so much. I hardly recognized you when I came back to see you."

Vicky said nothing and fell quiet. 'Love can change a person tremendously after all.' After breakfast, Harvey reached out to his subordinate for more information. As he expected, the security was even tighter than yesterday. That was not all. The worst news was Tyler had arrived in Jencity too.

The door opened, and Harvey came in with a pot of roses. He had disguised himself before he went out.

Vicky saw the flower in his hands and muttered, "This is..."

Harvey took off his hat and mask and smiled. "It's for you."

"For me?" Vicky was surprised.

"Yes." Harvey placed the flower on the window. "Although Tyler is here, he can't long and just stays here. When he leaves, that's going to be our chance."

They had been staying in Jencity for a week. All this while, Jencity had been on lockdown where people were allowed to enter but no one was allowed to leave.

Tyler came here personally to search for them. Harvey could not find the opportunity to leave, so he had been stalling.

"I think Tyler is going to stay here for one more week before he has to leave." Harvey looked at Vicky, and his eyes twinkled with hope. "I know you've been quite bored staying in the apartment the whole week, so it's good if you can take care of the flowers. I remember you used to like roses in the past."

Everyone liked flowers, and Vicky was not

This was the first time she smiled at him this way. She never smiled so brightly at him, even when she was his fiancée. Her smile was as beautiful as a fully bloomed flower.

Harvey just stood there and could not look away.

After Vicky expressed her gratitude, she started to look at the flowers and did not notice the look on Harvey's face.

Suddenly, the phone rang and pulled Harvey back to reality. He picked up the phone.

"Boss, I have bad news!" His subordinate sounded very anxious. "A few strangers appeared at the apartment you're at now. I think your place isn't safe anymore!"

The look in Harvey's eyes changed. "Okay. I understand."

He quickly hung up the phone and said, "Vicky, we need to leave now."

Vicky was shocked, and no hint was needed to tell her what was going on.

"Alright."

Five minutes later, they were both in a normal black sedan car. However, the driver had a troubled look on his face after he drove not too far away. "Mister Sparks, a few cars are tailing us."

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Baam! The rear-viewing mirror shattered in a deafening noise.

Not a second later, she heard gunshots firing at the car.

The car was bulletproof and the bullets did not pierce through the glasses, but the car would eventually suffer a certain degree of damage if the attack continued.

Harvey turned around, and his expression darkened at the sight of the black car behind them.

He pulled out a handgun and narrowed his eyes sharply.

Baam! Baam! Baam!

He fired three shots, and the cold wind instantly dispersed the smoke from the gunpoint. The car that was chasing them seemed to be bulletproof as well, and Harvey's attack only managed to slow it down slightly.

"When will our backup get here?" Harvey asked the driver.

"It'll take another ten minutes."

The attack had come too fast for Harvey to make an exit plan.

10 minutes were not long, but it would be challenging to stall until his backup arrived when he was clearly outnumbered.

Vicky shivered in fear as she watched the would capture her.

While she was absorbed in her thoughts, the car she was in started to shake.

Crash! A car came out of nowhere and bumped into them.

They were moving at too high a speed that the driver's full attention was on the car behind them, so there was no time for him to react before their car was flipped to the side.

The car rolled off and stopped eventually.

The driver lost consciousness and Harvey managed to shield Vicky with his body the moment the car flipped.

Once everything returned to silence, he

"Vicky, are you alright?"

She nodded. "I'm fine, are you-"

Her gaze landed on his forehead and noticed a stream of blood scrolling down his face, giving him a rather frail appearance.

He did not seem to care about his injuries and said, "Vicky, we need to go."

She knew there was no time to waste and got out of the car without another word.

As soon as they got out, her eyes widened at the sight of cars surrounding them.

Sensing a cold glare on her, she turned around and paled.

Tyler stood expressionlessly next to a black car and she noticed that it was precisely the car that hit them.

The sky turned dark, and the clouds gathered for a storm.

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Tyler's expression was unreadable, and the look in his eyes was as dark as the sky above him.

"Come here," he uttered calmly.

He did not say her name, but Vicky knew it was a command directed at her.

The fear that had taken root within her reacted to his voice, but just when she was about to walk over to Tyler, she was grabbed from behind.

"Don't be afraid, Vicky." Harvey's lips curled into a casual smile as he watched Tyler from the distance. "I won't let anything happen to you."

Her fear eased slightly, and Vicky managed to calm herself. "Okay."

Tyler turned to look at Harvey as he shielded Vicky with his body and smiled. "You never know to treasure what you have until you lose it. Mister Sparks, do you take pleasure in stealing from others?"

Harvey's expression darkened slightly, but he did not lose his composure. "Would you have held onto Vicky had I not returned? She's just a tool you use to seek revenge, Mister Hart. Get off your high horse."

'A tool Tyler uses to seek revenge?' Vicky thought and narrowed her eyes.

“Mister Sparks, you’re just a loser. Why would I bother wasting my time to seek revenge against you? You must’ve gotten stupid after staying in prison for three years,” Tyler said emotionlessly.

Harvey was not at all offended and smiled carelessly. “I find it weird that a ‘winner’ like you would chase after a woman who didn’t love you back a few years ago. I’ve finally gotten out of prison, and it seems to me that you haven’t learned anything at all because you’re still chasing after a woman who doesn’t want you. If one woman turns you down, she might be foolish, but if all women turn you down... Well, don’t you think you should start reflecting on yourself, Mister Hart?”

Vicky noticed that Tyler lost his composure, and his expression darkened. Enraged, he hissed, “Shut up.”

Harvey smiled and simply continued, “Tyler, if a woman doesn’t want you, what’s the point of forcing her to stay? Vicky is doing whatever she can to get away from you, and we both know what that means. Besides, you don’t even love her, so why won’t you let her go?”

Tyler seemed to have regained his composure at the mention of Vicky’s name, and his expressionless mask was once again in place. “That’s between me and my wife. Stay out of this.”

“Your wife?” Harvey lifted an eyebrow. “Haven’t you two gotten a divorce?”

“Are you talking about these?” Tyler took out two certificates from his pockets, and the golden print of the words ‘Divorce Certificate’ glittered under the gloomy sky.

Tyler turned his attention to the woman standing behind Harvey. “Do you really think this means anything without my signature?”

Vicky’s heart sank at his words, and he shot her a half-smile. “Vicky Shaw, maybe you should check to see if your marital status is married or divorced.”

Harvey glanced at Vicky reassuringly before turning to face Tyler once again.

“Tyler, this is between us, so leave Vicky out of it.”

“I suppose she has nothing to do with this,” Tyler said. “But since you’re so protective of her, that just makes me want to keep her even more.” He then ignored Harvey and said to Vicky, “I told you to come here, Vicky.”

Her expression darkened with determination as she stared at him. “I’m not going back. Not even if you kill me right here and now.”

Tyler narrowed his eyes dangerously. “Vicky Shaw, this is your last chance. Come here.”

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Vicky avoided eye contact with Tyler and refused to move.

Tyler sneered. “Very well, Vicky. I hope you won’t regret your choice.”

She kept her head bowed, not daring to meet his eyes.

Just then, Harvey suddenly shoved Vicky to the side. “Vicky, watch out!”

A deafening noise of a gunshot echoed in the air, and before she could register what had happened, she felt blood splashing onto the back of her hand and looked up abruptly to find a gun in Tyler’s hand.

Both Harvey and Vicky were being held at gunpoint, and smoke oozed from the pipe. Realization dawned on her and she immediately turned to look at Harvey. He covered his arm with one hand; blood oozed from the gaps in his fingers.

Had Harvey not pushed her out of the way, she would have been the one who was shot.

Her eyes widened in disbelief. "You..."

"Since you've chosen to be my enemy, I see no reason for me to hold back," Tyler said mercilessly.

'Enemy?' She thought. 'That's right. Harvey is his enemy, and since I've chosen to leave with him, that makes me... Tyler's enemy as well. It makes sense that he'd shoot me.'

Though she saw the logic in Tyler's words, she still could not help the chills that traveled down her spine.

Baam!

Just then, gunshots were fired around them, and a few of Tyler's subordinates collapsed.

Relieved, Harvey said, "Vicky, our backup is here."

He only attempted to initiate a conversation with Tyler to stall.

Harvey grabbed Vicky's wrist and said, "Stay close to me, Vicky."

Chaos erupted following the gunshot, and Harvey took the opportunity to leave with Vicky, i

She fumbled after him as her mind replayed the cold look sense the malicious intent in his eyes and realized that he truly meant to kill her.

"Mister Sparks, right here!" A car drove by swiftly and stopped.

A young man inside shouted, "Get in now. Tyler Hart's backups are on their way as well! If his people get here, we won't be able to get away!"

Harvey knew the severity of the situation and pulled Vicky into the car without hesitation.

The young man was an excellent driver and drove the car through the obstacles swiftly, leaving all the cars and people behind them.

The man stopped the car in an isolated alley and said to Harvey, "Mister Sparks, this is a safe zone. You've been shot, and we need to remove the bullet before Tyler starts searching the area.'

The man was Jackie Tierney, Harvey's most trusted subordinate. He was a skilled fighter and was quick on his feet, so he had overcome countless troubles as he remained by Harvey's side throughout the years.

Harvey was pale from the blood loss and nodded. "Sure."

Harvey knew that it would not be easy to leave Jencity easily and had prepared numerous places to hide ahead of time.

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Once they were in the apartment, Jackie contacted a doctor right away.

10 minutes later, a man in his thirties who wore a pair of frameless glasses stepped in with a briefcase in his hand.

The man seemed confused. "Harvey has always been swift... How did he get shot?"

Jackie glanced at Vicky, and so did the man. Instantly, he froze. 'This is Miss Shaw...'

"Miss Vicky Shaw," Jackie said.

Vicky noticed something odd about the doctor and Jackie but did not question them.

Instead, she greeted the doctor politely. "Hello. I'm Vicky Shaw.'

The man smiled at her. 'Hello, Miss Shaw. My name is Alexander Raven.'

"Do you know me, Doctor Raven?' she asked.

Alexander froze.



“Miss Shaw, Doctor Raven here is bad at memorizing faces and can’t tell people who look alike apart,” Jackie said. Seeing that Vicky wanted to continue the subject, he immediately urged, “Alexander, there’s no time to waste. Mister Sparks is waiting for you to remove the bullet in him.”

“Sure.” Alexander took one last glance at Vicky and said, “I will go check on him.”

Harvey had been shot in the arm, so the extraction went smoothly.

After the surgery, Alexander strolled out of the room and said to Jackie, “I’ve already taken the bullet out. Try your best to keep the wound away from water, and he needs to rest...”

Alexander seemed to know that it was unrealistic to ask Harvey to rest for too long and said, “Just stay still for at least a week.”

Jackie nodded. “How is Mister Sparks right now?”

“He is unconscious. It’s normal for people to come down with a fever when they’re shot, so someone has to remain by his side for the first three nights,” Alexander said. “I’ll get him some medicine. Make sure you feed it to him on time every day. He’ll recover faster that way.”

“Water...” Harvey mumbled.

Soon, a glass of cool water was fed through his lips. Once soft, gentle voice of a woman saying, “Do you need more?”

Harvey slowly regained consciousness and saw a

Vicky tested his temperature and was relieved. “Your fever has finally come down. Hang on. I’m going to get Mister Raven.”

Vicky hurried out of the room. Shortly after, Alexander and Jackie walked in.

Alexander ran a routine check on Harvey and smiled. “Your fever has indeed come down. You’re past the critical phase now. All that’s left is for you to rest.”

Vicky noticed that Jackie needed to say something to Harvey and said, “I’ll go prepare some soup.”

Once she left, Alexander said, “Harvey, your fever burnt through a day and a night. Miss Shaw has been the one caring for you.”

Harvey was unconscious, and Jackie needed to take care of the follow-up while Alexander needed to check Harvey constantly to adjust his dosage of medicine, so the duty of taking care of Harvey fell upon Vicky.

The three had a silent agreement on what they were supposed to do, and Harvey was slightly taken by shock.

Alexander studied Harvey and said, “Harvey, she seems nice. Why did you give up on her and choose that woman all those years ago? That woman never loved you—”

“Alexander.” Harvey interrupted him. “That’s in the past.”

“In the past?” Alexander sneered. “You’ve done quite a lot of stupid things for that woman back then. Now that you’ve finally gotten out of prison, you went to Tyler Hart’s territory and abducted his wife. Are you sure you aren’t doing this for that woman? I told you before. If you’re willing to go that far for that woman, you should’ve just settled down with Vicky, but what did you do?”

Chapter 435

Jackie noticed the dark look on Harvey’s face and interrupted Alexander, “Alexander, it’s not the time for this. Mister Sparks has just woken up, so just let it go. Besides, he was injured because he tried to protect Miss

Shaw.'

Alexander scoffed. "God knows if he is really doing this for Vicky or for that woman. I heard that she plans on returning."

"No matter what happened, she once saved Mister Sparks' life. You know that he doesn't like owing people. He's just trying to pay his debt..." Jackie said.

"He almost got killed and went to prison for three years. Isn't his debt paid? Stop bringing that up as if he has to spend the rest of his life paying that debt! Is Harvey responsible for her entire life simply because she saved him once?' Alexander retorted in annoyance.

Jackie's tone weakened. "But Miss Shaw... She doesn't even like Mister Harvey. Besides, Vicky Shaw approached Mister Sparks with an ulterior motive as well."

Alexander seemed to know a lot about the past and scoffed at his words." Whatever motive Vicky has, she's still better than Gloria! If she truly loves Harvey, she wouldn't keep Tyler Hart on a hook. If she doesn't love Harvey, she shouldn't have given him hope! Anyway...' He stared directly into Harvey's eyes. "You've made a mistake once and suffered for it because of that woman. As your good friend, I don't want you to repeat the same mistake again. Also, it's best that you stay away from the Shaw women. Vicky is now Tyler's wife, so what's the meaning of stealing her away?"

"Vicky lost her memories," Harvey said. "She's forgotten all about the past."

Alexander stilled. "So?"

"Maybe it's a good thing that she forgot." Harvey smiled lazily. 'Once Gloria comes back, she's probably here to stay. I won't get in between her and Tyler again, but Vicky...' He paused. "I owe her too much to see her get hurt again.'

By the time Vicky returned with the freshly cooked soup, Alexander and Jackie had left. She brought the warm bowl of soup toward the nightstand and asked, 'How are you feeling? Is your wound hurting?'

Harvey turned his head with a frown."... It hurts."

Vicky paled and set the bowl on the nightstand before whispering, "Hang on for a second. I'll get Mister Raven to come in.\*

She was just about to leave when he grabbed her by the wrist. 'Blow it and it won't hurt."

Vicky froze and simply stared at him in confusion.

The amusement in his eyes deepened at the sight of the dazed look on her face. "You used to take care of me whenever I got hurt, and you'd blow on my wound when it hurt."

She pulled her arm away. 'Mister Sparks, don't try to fool me simply because I lost my memories."

"It's true.'

She shot him a glance.

He looked pale, but his almond-shaped eyes glittered sincerely.

"Even if that's the truth, it's in the past." Vicky did not waver. "It's best to not mention it again, Mister Sparks.'

He looked at her. 'Why are you calling me Mister Sparks again? I've only been unconscious for a day, and you're already distancing yourself from me again?'

"Despite the relationship between us in the past, I... I'm not interested in you at all," she said calmly. "To avoid any sort of misunderstanding, it's best to address you this way."

He chuckled. "Why are you so serious? I'm just messing with you."

She sighed a breath of relief.

It had been bad enough for her to owe Harvey a debt, so she did not wish to be romantically involved with him in any way. After all, their relationship in the past had been complicated, and she would have never sought his help had she not run out of options.

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Vicky lifted the bowl on the nightstand. "You should eat something."

He stared at her intently. "My arm is injured, and I can't eat on my own."

Vicky had foreseen his response and unfolded a portable table before placing it on the bed.

"You're injured on your left arm, not your right one. You can easily eat on your own as long as I place the bowl in front of you on the bed."

After a few moments of silence, Harvey chuckled and shook his head. "I thought you'd changed, but you haven't. Not at all."

Harvey had only been joking.

Ever since he woke up, there had been a big frown on Vicky's face, and he purposely tried to cheer her up with jokes, knowing she was unsettled by Tyler and the fact that Harvey was shot.

Indeed, Vicky had been tense because she did not expect Tyler to shoot and Harvey to take the bullet for her.

Harvey's jokes had temporarily taken her mind off her troubles, and she quickly realized that he was trying to cheer her up.

"Thank you for saving me," she said.

He looked up at her. "I promised that I won't let anything happen to you. I intend to keep that promise."

"Just focus on getting better for now," she said hesitantly. "If... If we can't get out of the city..."

He knew what she was about to say and interrupted her, "Jackie is on it now, and we'll be able to leave within a week."

Vicky felt anxious. "Are you sure that we can leave?"

Tyler was far too resourceful, and she consistently lived in fear under the feeling that she could never escape.

She would jolt awake every night, thinking that she had been found.

Harvey smiled, and the look in his eyes darkened. "Something happened to Hart Corporation, so he has to go back even if he doesn't want to."

A week later, Vicky saw the news about Tyler on her phone. When she saw Tyler returning to Stoneford City, Vicky felt conflicted.

Knock, knock!

Someone knocked on the door, and Jackie stood by the door. "Miss Shaw, the car is ready for you. We can leave now."

Vicky walked out of the room, and when she noticed that Jackie was alone, she asked, "Where is Harvey?"

Jackie smiled. "He needs to take care of something and left ahead of us. We'll meet him at the dock."

Vicky nodded and was about to leave when she spotted the rose bracelet on the table. It was an accessory that Harvey brought for her when he came back from the outside.

Though inexpensive, it looked delicate and the petals even had a faint fragrance, which Vicky loved.

She stopped for a moment before putting the bracelet on and leaving with Jackie.

Chapter 437

The sea breeze caressed Vicky's cheek. Jackie glanced at the time while he tried to call Harvey, but his phone was unreachable.

Vicky stood next to Jackie and asked, 'What's wrong? Did something happen?'

Jackie shook his head thoughtfully. "I don't know. Mister Sparks' phone is turned off."

Half an hour had passed since they arranged a time to meet up, but none of them heard anything from Harvey, which was an ominous sign that implied Harvey might be in trouble.

10 minutes later, Jackie made one final phone call to Harvey and finally made a decision. "Miss Shaw, something might've happened to Mister Sparks. We shouldn't be out in the open, or others might find us. Let's go back for now. We'll have to wait until I reach Mister Sparks."

She nodded. "Sure."

To prevent having their hideout spot discovered, Jackie sent her to another apartment and once she was there, he said, "Miss Shaw, I might have to disappear for a while to search for Mister Sparks. You—"

She nodded. "Go ahead. Don't worry about me. I won't leave the room or open the door for anyone."

Jackie could not help but stare at her.

Though Vicky was also from a wealthy family, she did not seem to fit into the typical stereotype of a high-status young woman.

Both Alexander and Jackie thought that Vicky was a much better match for Harvey in comparison to Gloria.

Perhaps it was because Gloria was frequently exposed to arts like music, she was sensitive and sentimental, so she would often feel hurt by just a few words others said. However, Gloria simply occupied a place in Harvey's heart, and even when Vicky was engaged to him, Gloria's importance to him remained unparalleled.

"Miss Shaw, if anything happens, just call

"Sure."

Jackie left.

However, shortly after that, a group of people snuck up to the apartment. The head of the group asked, "Are you sure this is the place?"

One of the thugs whispered in response, "Easton, this has to be it. Harvey's right-hand man, Jackie, was seen leaving this apartment! You were the one who said that you saw Harvey buying a bracelet the day before yesterday, right? We're definitely right."

The group was a gang of local thugs

They did not have the chance to resume their activities until after Harvey was imprisoned, but time changed and despite their previous success in Stoneford City, the gang was barely surviving in a much smaller city in the present.

Whenever Easton thought about their former glory, he would curse at Harvey in resentment.

One day, he received an update about spotting Harvey at a jewelry store.

Harvey's portrait was seen in Easton's house, and he would curse at the portrait every single day, so all his subordinates recognized Harvey's face.

Thugs were often quick on their feet and managed to spot Harvey despite his disguise. Since the gang had been in Jencity for years and had countless connections, Harvey had not noticed he was being followed.

"Ha! I didn't expect him to get out of prison so soon. I didn't even hear about it..."

Easton sneered viciously. "If this is the case, we should make sure he receives a grand welcome." He glanced at his men and said, "It shouldn't be difficult to capture his little lover."

One of his men smiled fawningly. "Don't worry, Easton. Jencity is our territory, and it's a piece of cake to kidnap a woman. Just go back and rest.

I guarantee you that I'll have the woman delivered to you within an hour."

Easton nodded with contentment and left.

Knock, knock!

When Vicky heard knocking on her door, she frowned.

Chapter 438

Vicky glanced at her phone and noticed that there was no text or phone call.

Knock, knock, knock! The knocking grew louder, and it sounded as though the person outside was about to barge in.

Since whoever was at the door had not said anything, Vicky dared not to make a sound, but the banging on the door simply grew louder as she refused to open the door.

Her heart sank at the trembling door and took out her phone to call Jackie, only to realize that she had no signal. 1

The person outside the door had clearly come prepared with a signal jammer.

Bang, bang, bang!

The noises grew louder, and she started to pant heavily.

Vicky hurried to the balcony and opened the window.

The apartment was located at least 10 stories high, and she would never be able to escape from the window.

Just then, a deafening sound pierced through the air as the door flew open.

Meanwhile, Harvey had made all arrangements and was about to head to the dock when he suddenly received a phone call.

A young woman's voice rang, "Harvey Sparks, do you know that Gloria is back?!"

Harvey narrowed his eyes darkly as he recognized the voice. "What happened to her?"

He did not deny knowing that Gloria had returned.

"What happened to her? She was in a car accident and is now in the emergency room!" the woman gritted out.

He scowled. "Is it bad?"

"The doctors came and said that she's been in critical condition twice! You know that she doesn't know that many people here in Stoneford City since the Shaws fell! She's finally overcome her demons and come home, yet you didn't even bother to pick her up from the airport when you knew that she was alone. Do you know th-"

He interrupted her impatiently, "Where is she now?"

"She's in the city center hospital right now!"

The flight from Jencity to Stoneford City took four hours, but it was Vicky instead of the time that Harvey was worried about.

Just as he hesitated, the woman shouted once again, "Harvey, what could be more important than Gloria's life? If something happens to her, you might not even be able to see her for the last time."

Harvey could leave with Vicky at any time, but the possibility of Gloria dying took precedence, so he made the decision right away. "I get it. I'll come back as soon as possible."

In the hospital.

A young woman ended the phone call smugly while an elegant woman stepped out of the ward behind her.

"Selene, we can go now."

Selene turned around and said proudly, "Gloria, Harvey is on his way here to see you right now as soon as he heard that you're injured!"

Chapter 439

The woman standing across Selene had silky black hair.

With delicate features, she had an air of elegant beauty about her as her eyes shone soulfully under the light. Her skin was as fair as snow, and her demeanor was both innocent and alluring.

Dressed in a beige white dress, her frame was tall and slim, giving her the impression of a fallen angel.

Gloria frowned. "Harvey is coming to see me? I thought that he was busy with something."

Selene smiled. "Nothing is more important than you."

Gloria kept her eyes trained on Selene for a few moments in silence before questioning, "What did you say to him, Selene?"

Feeling slightly guilty, Selene muttered, "Nothing much..."

"I've contacted Harvey a couple of days ago and he said that he was busy so he can't return to Stoneford City for the moment. What did you say to him for him to come running back?" Gloria asked calmly.

Finally, Selene decided to tell the truth. "... I just don't think that there's anything more important than you. Besides, I didn't exactly lie. Our car did run into trouble and you are injured..."

"It's just a scratch. You can hardly call this an injury." Gloria took out her phone and continued, "Selene, if you call Harvey in my name again, there's no point for us to remain friends."

She glided her finger across the screen of her phone and made the call.

"The number you have dialed is unreachable at the moment."

She scowled, and after a few thoughtful moments, she decided to send Harvey a text message instead.

[Harvey, I'm fine. Selene was just exaggerating. Don't let me keep you away from what you were doing.]

By the time Harvey was done with making all arrangements, he noticed that his phone had run out of battery, and it was not until he boarded the flight that he remembered he had not contacted Jackie. Alas, it was too late because the flight had taken off.

"D\*mn it! How can I be so unlucky?!" Easton cursed after destroying anything he could find in the house.

The others kept their heads bowed in silence, while Vicky did the same as she was being tied onto a chair.

Easton glared at Vicky. "Why is it you again?! D\*mn it. Do Harvey Sparks enjoy dating his ex?!"

It became clear to Vicky that Easton knew her.

A man whispered, "Easton, since she is Tyler Hart's woman, maybe we should just let her go. Harvey doesn't have much power here in Zendonía, but Tyler Hart. Isn't someone we can afford to cross."

Easton slowly regained his composure and scanned Vicky up and down. "Miss Shaw... Wait, no, it's Missus Hart. It's been some time."

Vicky stared at the scarred man wordlessly.

Easton did not mind her silence and simply sat on the couch behind him. "You sure have some tricks up your sleeves if you manage to get Tyler Hart to marry you after just one night with him. But since you're married to Tyler, why would you be with Harvey?"

He asked curiously, "Don't you know he's the one person that your husband hates most in this world?"

Chapter 440

Vicky lowered her eyes to hide the emotions within them. "I... I was kidnapped by Harvey Sparks."

"I see..." Easton hated Harvey but dared not to cross Tyler.

Since Tyler was Harvey's enemy, Easton saw Tyler as his ally.

He turned on the television and said, "I've informed your husband about you. He should be here by tomorrow." He waved his men over. "Untie Missus Hart."

A few men immediately stepped forward to untie Vicky.

Vicky had thought that she would suffer greatly at the hands of Harvey's enemies and had not expected to be saved by Tyler. However, she knew that what awaited her would only be worse if she returned to Tyler.

"Mister Easton, Tyler is busy with work most of the time, and I don't think he has the time to pick me up. I can just go back on my own. Let's save everyone the trouble," she said.

"No way." He glanced at her. "You were kidnapped by Harvey in my territory, and I might be in trouble if Tyler Hart decides to hold me accountable for that. If he's busy, he can always send an assistant over."

Easton seemed determined to hand her over to Tyler in person.

She felt anxious, but she kept her emotions from showing on her face.

Just as she contemplated ways to escape, the news came on the television.

"The world-famous pianist, Miss Gloria Shaw, has returned to Stoneford City today..."

Vicky's heart sank at the mention of Gloria's name.

Tyler had returned to Stoneford City earlier that day, which was precisely why they had chosen to leave Jencity on the exact same day.

'Tyler has been in Jencity for so long, so why did he leave all of a sudden?' she thought.

'Can it be that he left not because something happened to Hart Corporation but to see Gloria instead?'

"Gloria Shaw..." Realization dawned on Easton. "It's no wonder that Harvey City. So he went to see her."

Vicky jolted and turned to look at Easton. "Harvey went back to Stoneford City?"

“Don’t you know?” Easton shot her a look of surprise. “I sent my men to look into Harvey’s whereabouts when others captured you. I received a report from the airport that Harvey boarded a flight headed toward Stoneford City an hour ago.” He chuckled. “Had he not left all of a sudden, it wouldn’t be so easy to steal you away. He left you to rot for Gloria Shaw’s sake back then. Who would’ve known that his priority remains after all these years? Though...” His lips curled into a mysterious smile. “You should be thanking me, Missus Hart. Without me, you would’ve never gotten to marry Tyler Hart.” She froze. “What do you mean?”

“Have you forgotten? Both you and Gloria were kidnapped at the same time, and Harvey was given the choice to rescue only one person, to which he responded by running to Gloria’s rescue. I wanted to make him suffer, but after hearing about the feud between him and Tyler Hart, I decided to send you to Tyler instead. In the end...” He chuckled devilishly. “I helped you become Missus Hart. A woman from a fallen family like you would’ve never had the chance to get anywhere close to Tyler Hart had it not been for that night, won’t you say?”

Vicky was shaken to the core.

Just then, a man rushed in. “Easton, we reached Mister Hart.” The man glanced at Vicky sheepishly. “T-They said that...Miss Shaw eloped with Harvey, so she’s no longer Missus Hart. They said that you can do as you please with her... The more gruesome, the better...”

Chapter 441

Vicky panted heavily upon hearing the dreadful news, and Easton frowned as he turned to look at Vicky. “She eloped with Harvey?”

Vicky moved her lips to speak but felt numb. She might suffer less in the hands of the thugs in front of her compared to being captured by Tyler.

Easton was at a crossroads and turned to shoot a look at his subordinate who sent Vicky into another room.

Once the door was closed, Easton said, “What do you think Tyler is doing? Is this supposed to be a test?”

Vicky had not been taken far away and could hear Easton by standing behind the door.

“Well, it’s hard to say,” his subordinate said. “There’s a possibility that this woman is throwing a temper tantrum or something.”

Easton nodded. “She is still Tyler’s woman, so it’s not up to me to teach her a lesson, or I’ll suffer when they kiss and make up.”

“Should we...send her back, then?”

“But what if she really did elope with Harvey? Sending her back will only upset Tyler!”

“That’s true.”

Easton frowned. “I thought that I could blackmail Harvey with this woman. Who would’ve expected Gloria? Great! What are we supposed to do with her now?”

His subordinate considered the situation momentarily and suggested, “If you don’t want any trouble, why don’t we just let her go? She can go wherever she wants or find whoever she wants. Whatever happens to her won’t be our responsibility.”

Easton hesitated. “Jencity is underdeveloped with all sorts of people around. You toss a beautiful woman like her onto the street, and they’ll devour her within a day. What if...”

“They were the ones who refused to take her back, so how is this our fault? No matter what happens, we can’t be held liable as long as she’s not with us. Maybe she’ll go



straight to her lover, Harvey after she's released. If this provokes Tyler, he might declare war against Harvey, and we can just let those two fight it out."

Easton lifted his eyebrows. "What are we waiting for, then? Toss this woman out! Nothing good ever comes with her!"

After being kidnapped for a short while, Vicky was tossed out onto the street as though nothing ever happened.

They had taken her phone before tossing her out and left without a they were afraid of bad luck if they stayed next to her.

She wandered on the strange streets and spotted a young woman from afar. She hurried over and said, "Miss, I lost my phone. Can I borrow yours for a moment?"

The young woman was in her early twenties and looked extremely innocent. "Sure." She handed Vicky her phone.

Vicky accepted it and said, "Thank you."

She wanted to call Jackie at first but recalled she did not even remember his number. She could only remember Harvey's number.

After a brief moment of hesitation, she decided to try her luck.

"The number you have dialed is unreachable at the moment. Please try again later."

When she heard the answering machine sound as expected, disappointment filled her heart.

She had never been to Jencity in the past. After what happened in Forever Night, she felt insecure and was barely maintaining her composure on the surface, when in truth, she felt both helpless and dazed.

Easton mentioned that Harvey had gone to see Gloria, and she smiled bitterly as she thought, 'I should've never trusted other people.'

#### Chapter 442

Vicky thought that Harvey would bring her hope, but she found herself pushed deeper into despair instead.

When Harvey did not answer the call, she tried to call Cece, only to feel a sharp prick on the back of her neck.

Her gaze faded, and before she lost consciousness, she saw the young woman's evil smile.

Five hours later, Harvey finally arrived at the hospital and found Gloria waiting by the entrance.

"I'm sorry, Harvey."

He froze when he saw how perfectly healthy Gloria seemed. "Gloria, I thought..."

Gloria glanced at Selene, who was standing behind her, and said, "Selene had been foolish enough to mess with you. I called you as soon as I found out, but your phone was switched off. I tried texting you, but you haven't replied either."

The look in Harvey's eyes darkened. He took one pointed look at her before turning to leave without a word.

Gloria's eyes widened slightly. Harvey never treated her so coldly.

Seeing she was at fault, she hurried after him. "Harvey, did something happen?"

Harvey stilled and turned to look at her. "Can I borrow your phone?"

She nodded. "Here."

He took the phone and dialed Vicky's number. When he failed to reach her, his expression darkened, and he immediately tried to call Jackie instead.

Once the call was answered, Harvey blurted, "Jackie, it's me. Is Vicky with you?"  
"Mister Sparks... Miss Shaw. Is missing!" Jackie said.

"Aahh!"

Terrifying screams were heard from the room next door, followed by dark, evil chuckles.  
"Oh, my. I just love breaking the legs of beautiful ladies... This feels so accomplishing!"  
Vicky sobered and remembered where she was.

She was, once again, kidnapped and seemed to have been transported overseas. She was locked in a dark room, and someone would come to deliver one meal to her before locking the door.

She had been in the room for three days, and the room next door seemed to be a torture chamber as she heard screams and wails every day.

She curled up against herself at the screams, feeling like she was the one getting her legs broken.

Another day passed and the door to her room flew open. This time, it was not the person who came to deliver food for her.

The person would only open a small gap in the door as though they were concerned she might run if the door was completely opened.

Sunlight pierced through the opened door, and she narrowed her eyes at the light.

Once her eyes adjusted to the light, she looked up and saw a towering figure before her.

"Vicky," a familiar, frosty voice rang. "Do you know what you've done wrong?"

Chapter 443

Tyler's voice sounded both strange and familiar as it echoed in the room.

Vicky's eyes were filled with tears due to the sunlight. Despite her swollen eyes, however, she finally saw his dark, brooding features.

He stood with his back facing the light and looked down at her as though he had full control over her life.

"Tyler Hart..." she muttered hoarsely. "Why are you here?"

He stood tall before her and said, "You tried whatever you could do to seek help when you were sent to Forever Night, so why haven't you done the same when you're locked up here?"

Vicky only had a meal and a glass of water each day, and she simply curled against the corner, looking as pale and helpless as a frail porcelain doll. 1

She looked around and realization dawned on her. "Is this...you again?"

Were you the one who sent people to kidnap me?"

He kept his eyes on her and said, "Yes."

She paused for a few moments before laughing.

"It's bad enough that you played this trick once, and here you are, playing the same trick... Don't you get bored?"

"It doesn't matter if it's fun. What matters is that it worked." He lifted an eyebrow as he saw her shivering and chuckled. "Why are you shaking? Are you that scared of me?"

He was standing at a distance from her and started getting closer, which simply made her shivering worse.

He crouched and looked her in the eyes as he whispered into her ear, "If you are that afraid of me, what even made you run away?" His voice was melodious and pleasant, but each word felt like a blade that pierce directly through her.

He grabbed her by the chin with a half-smile. "If you had the courage to run, it just means that I haven't punished you enough." He caressed her cheek gently. "Looks like I've been too easy on you. Vicky, how should I punish you this time?"

She could not help but back away from him, but her back was already against the wall, and there was nowhere else to run.

No matter where she ran to, he would always find her.

His fingers were as cold as ice, sending chills down her spine as he touched her face.

"Did you really think Harvey Sparks could help you?" He lowered his voice seductively.

"Gloria had a few scratches, and he immediately flew back to Stoneford City to see her, leaving you behind. You mean nothing to him. Sebastian Mills can't help you, nor can Harvey... No one can help you."

His words echoed in her mind and replayed in a loop.

"No one can help me..." she mumbled. "That's right, no one can help me."

His finger trailed down her face and onto her body as he studied her. "Have you betrayed me in the past few days?"

For a moment, she wanted to say 'yes' in a desperate attempt to provoke him, but fear drowned her when she saw the cold look in his eyes.

"No."

Tyler did not seem surprised. "He loves another, so it's only normal that he won't touch you. Though..."

He scanned her up and down. "You know that I don't like people touching what's mine."

He tore her clothes apart, and the buttons on her shirt snapped.

She instinctively tried to cover herself in the ice-cold air, but could not bring herself to move at all in the man's intimidating presence.

As though trying to humiliate her, his fingers traveled down her skin.

Chapter 444

Like a lifeless commodity, Vicky was helpless and at Tyler's mercy.

She reached out to grab his hand abruptly. "Don't."

"Don't, what?" he asked.

She bit her lower lip. "Don't continue."

"Why should I do as you say?"

She was rendered speechless.

The door to the room opened, and the light from the outside shone into the room.

Without even bothering to close the door, he inspected every inch of her body as though she was not a person.

Her tears had run dry a long time ago, so she had not shed a single tear since she was imprisoned. Even in the present, she did not cry despite shivering.

She watched blankly as he cleaned his hands with sanitizing tissue paper.

"Take a shower," he said. "Change into something clean."

With that, he turned and left the room.

As she walked out of the room, she realized that they were not overseas or at a clubhouse but in a quiet mansion instead.

There had never been any perverted man next door, and it had all been an act Tyler had put up to scare her.

She knew that while it had been an act this time, Tyler might actually make it happen the next time she tried to run.

After taking a shower and changing into new clothes, she walked out of the room and did not know where to go. She seemed to be the only person there.

The silence sent chills down her spine as she walked toward a room where the door was left open.

She knocked on the door and walked in to find Tyler leaning elegantly against the couch with a lit cigarette between his fingers. The smoke hovered around his face, making it difficult to see his expression.

She kept her head bowed and walked toward him.

He glanced at her and said, 'Wait.'

'Wait?' she thought in confusion. 'For what?'

She decided against asking as he got up to walk toward her only after the cigarette burnt out.

After all the suffering and torment, Vicky had lost weight and he could easily pick her up. Vicky dared not to struggle in his arms, and he lowered his gaze expressionlessly.

"Behave, and I might forgive you."

Before she had the chance to realize what he was talking about, he carried her into the bedroom.

She knew what he intended to do by carrying her into the bedroom, but Tyler had never been known to be so forgiving, and she did not expect him to forgive her so easily.

As she was absorbed in her thoughts, he captured her lips and scowled when he noticed her dazed state. "Focus."

Chapter 445

Harvey had arrived at the place where Tyler proposed to meet with him.

He received a report that Vicky had been found by Tyler, and Harvey knew what it meant.

It would be challenging to convince Tyler to let her go, but he could not simply give up because it had all been his fault.

Once he stepped into the mansion, he noticed that there were no guards. As he stepped into the living room, not a soul was seen, and Tyler was nowhere to be found. Harvey checked the time and scowled, wondering why Tyler had not appeared in time.

Tyler was a punctual man. Even if he saw Harvey as his enemy, it was unlikely for Tyler to be late to spite him.

Amid his confusion, he heard the noises of a woman crying from upstairs. It was hardly noticeable, but he caught the sound because of how quiet the mansion was.

Harvey had a great hearing and instantly realized where the sound was coming from, so he started to walk up the stairs with heavy footsteps.

As soon as he reached the second floor, the cries became more distinct. It sounded familiar, and he immediately recognized that it was Vicky's voice.

Just as he was about to get closer, he heard a few moans and instantly stilled.

He was a grown adult and knew what the sound indicated. Though he had expected Tyler to do everything in his power to humiliate him, he had not expected Tyler to go so far.

He clenched his fists and suppressed the urge to barge in.

There were no guards and the door was not closed, which meant Tyler was not afraid of being seen.

More precisely, he might be expecting Harvey to barge in.

'The woman I wanted to protect has fallen in Tyler Hart's hands because of my mistake...' Harvey thought. 'Just like what happened all those years ago.'

He closed his eyes and shivered helplessly, knowing that he could not go inside. If he walked in on them, Vicky would only be pushed deeper into despair.

A few hours later, he heard footsteps coming from the floor above. Harvey, who was sitting on a couch on the first floor, looked up.

Tyler was walking down the stairs elegantly with Vicky in his arms, and as he moved, Harvey could see Vicky's reddened face. Her eyes were closed, and she seemed to have fallen asleep with a frown.

Harvey stood up and stared straight into Tyler's eyes. "Tyler, why did you bring her down here?"

Tyler arrived on the first floor and sat on the couch with Vicky in his arms. She seemed exhausted and leaned into his chest as she turned in her sleep.

"You want to take her away, right?" Tyler said hoarsely. "How are we going to negotiate if she isn't here?"

Chapter 446

Harvey smiled. "Why bother putting up an act when you don't have the intention of letting her go in the first place?"

He would be a fool if he did not know what Tyler's intention was.

Tyler did not deny the accusation and said, 'I've only invited you here to get your opinion on whether the cuff I ordered for Vicky suits her. You've always been familiar with her preference, and she'd always wear whatever you give her all the time...'

He lowered his gaze to Vicky's bracelet and played with it with his fingers." I recall that you gave her a rose-patterned necklace on the day you were engaged and even put it on for her."

Harvey's expression darkened at the mention of the engagement, and he glanced at Vicky's wrist.

He twitched when he saw that she was wearing the bracelet he bought for her, and the remorse within him deepened.

While the two men were conversing, Vicky had a dream.

Like the time she dreamt of Alex Torres getting his legs broken, she was once again standing in a third-person perspective.

She saw herself standing in the middle of a presidential suite in a hotel while a man sat elegantly on the couch in front of her. Even though she was standing and he was sitting, his presence remained terrifying.

"Today's the engagement party between you and Harvey, right?" The man's voice sounded like it was coming from a different dimension.

She lowered her head until her hair covered the look on her face as she whispered, "Yes."

"What a shame," the man said. "His true love gets kidnapped on the day of your engagement party with him. He left you alone at the party, making you the laughingstock of all the guests. As if that's not enough, between you and Gloria, he chose to save her and left you with Easton. Miss Shaw, you came close to being defiled by those thugs," the man drawled.

She looked up at the man nervously. "Thank you, Mister Hart, for helping me. Without your help-

He interrupted her. "You should know the rivalry between me and Harvey, right?"

She paled and fell into silence.

Tyler narrowed his eyes darkly. "You wouldn't be naive enough to think that I rescued you out of the kindness of my heart, right?"

She trembled wordlessly and he leaned back while crossing his legs. "Spend the night with me, or with Easton and the others. Take a pick."

"I choose...you, Mister Hart," Vicky said.

"Then strip," he said coldly.

Because she had come from her engagement party earlier that day, she was dressed in a dreamy white dress.

She tried to take her dress off, but she found herself frozen in place.

Tyler simply sat on the couch with his piercing gaze on her without a word.

She tried a few more times, but she failed to move her fingers.

Instead of mocking her, he said, "Are you nervous, Miss Shaw?"

"... Yes."

"How troublesome." He put out the cigarette in his hand and waved her over. "Come here."

She bit on her lower lip and slowly walked toward him.

Tyler reached out and pulled her closer by the waist.

She fell onto his lap and he muttered hoarsely into her ear. 'Let's get to know each other better, then.'

Chapter 447

Tyler's breath heated Vicky's skin, and her heart raced as she sat on his lap stiffly.

Just then, Tyler spotted the necklace around her neck and said, "Is this from Harvey?"

"Yeah."

"Do you like it?"

"It's a style that I like."

"Harvey has always been good at making women happy," he said emotionlessly.

Vicky did not respond, and he reached out to play with the necklace gently.

"Mister Hart..." she muttered nervously.

"He's gone to save another woman, so why are you still wearing this?" Tyler asked. 'Do you love him?'

Vicky looked into his eyes. "What about you, Mister Hart?"

"Me?"

"Can you sleep with another woman when you're in love with another?"

"Don't you know that men are capable of separating their hearts and bodies?" His lips sneer. "Harvey, too, got engaged with you yet went to risk his life for another woman.'

Vicky was rendered speechless.

"Besides..." He caressed her cheek. 'If I can't get the older sister, I'll I am curious as to why he picked you.'

She narrowed her eyes coldly. "Why you-mmph!"

Before she could finish her sentence, he tilted her chin up and devoured her lips.

In the midst of her daze, she heard Tyler muttering, "If you prefer to sleep with me in the dress you wore to get engaged to Harvey Sparks, I will leave it on..."

When Vicky woke up the next day, Tyler was already gone, and all ruffled, giving her the appearance of an abandoned rag doll.

Harvey had abandoned her, and Tyler picked her up to toy with before casting her aside.

Sensing a cold sensation around her ankle, Vicky jolted awake as she heard a cold voice saying, "Tyler Hart, that's enough!"

"It's enough when I say so. Harvey, you don't have the right to accuse me of anything."

Harvey wanted to say something else, but he paused when he noticed that Vicky was awake. "Vicky..." He looked at her guiltily.

"Harvey?" She felt confused at first, and when she looked up to find Tyler next to her, she instantly sobered and looked down at her body.

She was tightly wrapped in a blanket, leaving only her head, neck, and legs in the air. Underneath the blanket, she was completely naked. Since Tyler had not bathed her, she felt highly uncomfortable.

It felt as though he had taken her out of the room by casually wrapping her in a blanket like he would an old, damaged merchandise.

Tyler lowered his gaze to the woman in his arms. "Finally awake? Mister Sparks here has been waiting for hours on the first floor."

'Hours?' she thought. 'Can it be that...'

Realization dawned on her and she paled, her eyes widening. Quivering, she snarled, 'You pervert!'

Chapter 448

Vicky recalled all the revolting things she was forced to say to avoid suffering at his hands.

"Pervert?" Tyler smiled and narrowed his eyes coldly. "That's not what you said just now, Vicky. Should I help jog your memories of what you said earlier?"

She glared daggers at him with bloodshot eyes; there were no tears but resentment and hatred instead.

Seemingly ignorant of how close she was to a mental breakdown, he added, "Or maybe Mister Sparks here can help you remember. He probably heard everything."

Unable to suppress her anger any longer, Vicky slapped Tyler across the face, and he did not bother to dodge it.

She was weak and had not been able to strike hard, but she soon realized that she had struck him in front of Harvey.

Tyler narrowed his eyes darkly, and her heart sank.

She instinctively wanted to run, but there was nowhere else to run when she was in his arms.

Tyler seized her lips without warning, all while Harvey

He stood and wanted to stop him, but he stilled when he saw the fear in Vicky's eyes.

He knew that he was the person who caused all her suffering.

In the morning four years ago, Vicky returned dazedly wearing the same white dress she wore at the engagement party. The blood stain on her

white dress was a sign of his foolishness. However, she did not shed a single tear despite how red her eyes were.

Sometime later, Tyler finally let her go, and the wounds on her lips opened once again, causing blood to ooze from her lips in the most seductive manner.

"Am I still a pervert?" he asked with her blood on his lips.

Tyler had been calm and even gentle to her since he appeared before her in the room, but his actions sent chills down her spine. At that very moment, Vicky realized there could not be a more evil man than the one before her.

She dared not to cross him again, but he was not satisfied with her silence and scowled.

“Why aren’t you saying anything? Do you still think that I’m a pervert?”

Her heart sank as she uttered weakly, “... I won’t say it again.”

It was an answer to his previous question, and he nodded. “Do you admit that you were wrong?”

She closed her eyes in silence, and he kept his eyes trained on her. “Well?”

She remained quiet and stubbornly refused to admit that she was wrong.

Tyler’s tone darkened. “Vicky Shaw.”

“...” She knew that admitting that she was wrong would make her life much easier, but she could not utter a word with the weight on her chest, and she simply did not want to beg for his mercy.

“Vicky Shaw.” His voice grew as cold as it sounded from her dream earlier.

“This is your last chance. Do you admit that you were wrong?”

Chapter 449

Vicky bit her lip and turned pale, but she refused to respond.

Tyler did not seem affected by it, but the look in his eyes simply grew darker.

“Vicky, remember that you brought this to yourself,” he said before standing from his seat with her in his arms.

She shivered and felt as though she was soaked in ice-cold water despite being tightly wrapped with a blanket.

Just then, Harvey went and stood in Tyler’s way with a sharp, cold look that she had never seen on his face before. “Let Vicky go.”

Tyler lifted his eyebrow. “Why should I?”

“Because she doesn’t want to go with you.”

Amused, Tyler chuckled. “If she doesn’t want to leave with me, do you think that she wants to go with you instead?” He lowered his gaze at Vicky. “Why don’t we ask her and see who she wants to leave with?”

It seemed normal for him to seek Vicky’s opinion, but Harvey jolted in response to his words.

After being Tyler’s rival for years, he knew Tyler like the back of his hand and realized that Tyler was certain Vicky would choose to stay with him.

“Vicky.” Harvey lowered his voice as he looked at the frail woman before him. “Let me take you away from here, okay?”

All he needed for a nod, and he would risk his life to take Vicky away from Tyler.

Vicky turned to look at him and smiled. “It’s fine. Thank you for helping me so far.”

After attempting to run twice, she finally realized that she could never escape Tyler.

Tyler had always had full control over the situation and had only allowed her to run away because he enjoyed the chase.

“Vicky.” Harvey stared into her eyes and said, “I’m sorry.”

Had he not left Jencity abruptly, Tyler would have never gotten her.

“It’s not your problem.” She shook his head. “He always gets what he wants. H

‘I should have known this right from the start,’ she thought to herself. ‘Tyler did everything to tell me that no one can help me. Not Sebastian, and definitely not Harvey.’



She did not blame Harvey for leaving. After all, surviving with someone's help was destined to be short-lived, and she could only blame herself for being powerless.

"Vicky..." Harvey muttered.

"Just go." She interrupted him and looked at him calmly. "Don't feel guilty. I made my choice. Besides, I'm still married to him, so where else can I go? I'll eventually have to face reality, and running won't help me."

Tyler remained quiet and simply observed their exchange.

Vicky made it clear that she chose to stay instead of being pressured into it by Tyler and said, "Alright, just go. I need to rest."

Harvey stood still and stared at her quietly. After some time, he finally moved and turned to leave.

Chapter 450

Tyler did not stop Harvey.

Harvey left sorrowfully and turned around as he walked through the gate. As he took in the sight of the mansion behind him, a sharp pain pierced through his chest.

He placed his hand over his chest dazedly in disbelief. He never expected himself to experience heartache over another woman apart from Gloria.

After Harvey left, the mansion returned to silence. The sun was still shining, but the house was as quiet as a haunted house.

Vicky watched as Harvey left and continued to stare off in the direction of where he went for sometime later before finally looking away.

In truth, she was not looking at Harvey but at the door he left through instead.

When she turned and met Tyler's dark, brooding eyes, she jolted in shock.

Tyler had looked at her with disgust and contempt in the past, but he had never looked at her with such a sharp, piercing glare before.

She lowered her gaze to avoid eye contact with him, and he simply chuckled before carrying her up the stairs.

They returned to the bedroom, and he closed the door behind him. Unable to contain his anger, however, the door slammed shut, causing the wall to shake slightly.

Vicky's heart sank because she knew that Tyler was about to make her pay for her insubordination.

He set her down on the bed and looked down at her. "If you were so reluctant to part with him, why didn't you leave with him?"

The afternoon sun shone onto Vicky through the window, and she looked up. "Why did you marry me when you love her so much?"

He narrowed his eyes. "Hm?"

"I am getting flashbacks." She tugged a strand of hair behind her ear and looked at him with a faint smile. "We've known each other for a while, haven't we?"

Tyler's eyes, which were often as unwavering as a calm lake, flickered with emotions for a split moment, and Vicky caught sight of it.

He resumed normality almost immediately. "So what?"

"People keep saying that I slept with you for wealth and fame and that I was shameless for forcing you to marry me. But if you are that reluctant to marry me, it's not like I can force myself on you." The look in her eyes darkened. "Harvey has been involved with the woman who you love and can't seem to get, so you went to sleep with his fiance... There's no better way to get revenge, is there?"

Tyler narrowed his eyes darkly as he studied her thoughtfully.

Sometime later, he smiled and said in a seductive tone, 'Looks like you've recalled the night of your engagement party with Harvey.'

Despite losing her memories, rumors of how she managed to marry Tyler never ceased, and she already heard from Sasha and Sheila that Harvey was defeated and left Stoneford City by the time she tricked Tyler into sleeping with her. i

The Shaws fell at the same time, but what she dreamt of earlier happened when she had just gotten engaged to Harvey. It was around the time when Tyler and Harvey were in the depth of their rivalry, and she was not supposed to know Tyler in person at the time.

However, Tyler mentioned that Harvey gave her to another man for Gloria's sake, while Harvey said that Tyler plotted the entire incident so he would benefit from it in the end. Combining what she had been told so far and what she saw in her dream, she concluded what had happened.

She stared into Tyler's eyes and questioned, "Why haven't you mentioned that we knew each other from the start?"

Chapter 451

Tyler remained composed. "It's all in the past. What's the point of bringing that up now?" Vicky clenched her fists. "I've lost my memories! You know that, don't you? Why didn't you tell me?"

He studied her flushed cheeks and said, "Am I supposed to tell you that you practically attached yourself to me after that night? You kept causing trouble using that night we spent together as your leverage and even..." He paused. "Do whatever you can to sleep with me again."

"That's impossible!" she blurted out.

"That night, you were kidnapped by Harvey's enemy, but so was Gloria. He was given the choice of saving only one, and he went to Gloria's rescue instead. I helped you out of pity so that you wouldn't end up in the hands of those degenerates."

She scowled. "But you were the one who made me choose between Easton and you..."

"I was just saying that to scare you. I didn't expect you to agree to it without putting up a fight." He walked over and pinned her against the bed as he looked down at her. "You were one of the most beautiful women in Stoneford City and Harvey Sparks' fiance. I wouldn't be a man if I turned down a beautiful woman who was throwing herself at me."

"You are a piece of trash! You have no shame!" Vicky roared with bloodshot eyes, enraged that he was bragging about taking advantage of her.

Tyler sneered and tore the blanket on her body away from her body mercilessly.

"Vicky, it's the first time I've seen a woman as ungrateful as you are."

She shivered as the cold air greeted her skin. Vicky reached for the blanket on the bed to cover her body as she glared at him warily.

Tyler did not try to pull the blanket away and simply stared at her coldly.

She could not help but back toward the corner of the bed to get away from the man before her.

Tyler stood tall, blocking the sunlight that shone in through the window. "I told you that you'd save yourself some punishment if you behave, but I'm not happy with your performance earlier." He lowered his gaze thoughtfully. "You've tried to run away with other men multiple times...so how should I punish you now?"

Vicky was unaware of the humiliation and torture she would be put through. It was not until she saw what Tyler was truly capable of that she realized what it meant to cross him and all thoughts of escaping from him were buried at that instant.

Once they returned to Stoneford City, Vicky's phone was taken from her, and she was not allowed to contact anyone outside.

She knew that plotting to divorce Tyler and running away with Harvey would cost her, and when Tyler walked into the room, she backed away frantically.

"Tyler, I'm not your prisoner! You are out of line here!"

He stared at her expressionlessly. "And it's not out of line for you to run away with another man or try to divorce me behind my back?"

"That's my right! I don't want to continue this marriage. Don't I have the right to end it?"

"You don't," he said. "Alright. Just come over here and save yourself the suffering."

Vicky was on the brink of a breakdown from being locked in the mansion with no means to contact others.

Chapter 452

"No." Vicky's heart raced as Tyler closed in on her. "Don't push me, Tyler! Or

"Or, what?" Tyler questioned coldly. "Or you'll kill yourself?"

She panted heavily, and tears began to pool in her eyes.

"Try killing yourself, and I'll make you suffer a fate worse than death," he said mercilessly.

The resentment in Vicky's eyes deepened, and she grabbed the lamp next to her before flinging it at Tyler.

He simply tilted his head to the side, and the lamp flew past him.

She grabbed a glass and threw it at him, but he managed to dodge it again.

Vicky was throwing whatever she could get her hands on to stop the man from approaching, but Tyler was swift and got right up to her in a few long strides.

Vicky refused to submit to him and fought him with all her might. "Tyler, you trash! You are a pervert! Let me go! I'm not your pet!"

His expression darkened at her resistance. "You put on an act of being submissive for the past two days. I assume that was just to get my guard down so that you could run away with another man again, right?" He grabbed onto her wrists easily and sneered. "I won't trust you again, Vicky Shaw."

Tears scrolled down her cheek. "Trust me? When have you ever trusted me?"

She fell toward the bed without a care for the shattered glass on the ground, and Tyler swiftly caught her before she landed.

"Vicky!" He narrowed his eyes coldly. "Move again, and I'll make sure that you can't get out of bed at all."

"You are insane! Insane!" All her pretenses melted away at the hatred burning within her. "Tyler Hart, you are a disgusting scum of a ma-mmph!"

He swallowed her words with a dominating kiss, and Vicky bit down on his lip fiercely.

He paused and looked at her with a ruthless look in his eyes.

Vicky did not fret and stared back with eyes lit with resentment. "Tyler, you disgust me!"

He sneered. "You'll regret that, Vicky."

"What I regret most is marrying you!"

His expression darkened, and without a word, he tossed her back onto the bed and pinned her down with his body.

The next day, Tyler entered the bedroom in the evening to find Vicky sitting on the bed, hugging her knees.

The tray of food on the nightstand remained untouched, and he narrowed his eyes maliciously. "Vicky Shaw, are you trying to starve yourself to death?"

Chapter 453

Vicky turned around blankly. "Just kill me, Tyler!"

She had not eaten or drunk anything for the entire day, and her voice was extremely hoarse.

Contrary to her frantic state, Tyler remained composed and shot her a look before making a call. "Bring dinner in."

Nanny Paterson was replaced by a strange young woman on the duty of looking after her. The woman seemed ordinary, but she appeared swift and agile, so it was easy to tell that she was trained.

During the day, the woman came with the food without saying a single word. Vicky knew that the woman was not there to care for her, but to supervise her instead.

A few minutes later, someone knocked on the door.

Knock, knock!

Tyler got up and brought two trays of food inside; one for him and the other for Vicky.

The food was steaming, and the trays were filled with Vicky's favorite dishes, which Tyler had clearly communicated with the woman ahead of time.

Tyler walked over and said coldly, "Are you eating on your own, or do you need me to feed you?"

She silently glared daggers at him.

After studying her for a while, he said, "It looks like you want me to feed you, then."

He set his tray of food down and picked up a spoon before scooping a spoonful of food, feeding it to Vicky. "Open up."

She refused to move, and he scowled. "Vicky, open your mouth."

Vicky raised her arm abruptly and flipped the tray in his hand.

Bang! The tray fell onto the ground with a loud noise, and all the food spilled on the carpet.

Tension rose when this happened, but Vicky did not look away when Tyler stared at her. There was no fear in her eyes, and they were instead filled with determination.

He grabbed her by the chin and sneered. "Vicky, don't believe for a moment that I won't hurt you."

"What makes you think that?" She smiled bitterly. "There's nothing you won't do, Tyler Hart."

He narrowed his eyes ruthlessly at her careless expression. "Vicky, are you sure you want to keep provoking me?"

"When I obey, you'll say that I'm doing it to get your guard down so I can escape. I do as I please, and you say that I'm provoking you. Tyler, what do you want from me?"

He leaned closer and stared into the blank look in her eyes. "I want you...to never run from me again."

She looked up and stared into his eyes. "Had I not found out that you love another woman, I would've thought that you were deeply in love with me."

He did not waver at her words. "If thinking that makes you feel better, you can lead yourself to believe that I'm in love with you."

“So, you still don’t want a divorce?”

Chapter 454

“Yes.”

Vicky smiled coldly. “She is back. You know that, right?”

Tyler’s eyebrow twitched slightly. “I do.”

“Since the woman you love is back, her substitute should get out of the picture. Have you...not considered rekindling the romance with her?”

Tyler looked away for a split second before regaining his composure. “Since I’ve already chosen you, I won’t choose another.”

She chuckled. “I don’t think you’re determined not to choose another...but that she might not pick you, right? If she chooses to be with you, will you still say those words?”

He moved his lips to speak but fell into silence in the end.

Vicky understood what he meant and kept her eyes trained on him, despite the sorrow within her. “Tyler, there isn’t a woman on earth who enjoys being with a married man. I know that you feel uncertain if she will be with you even if you divorce me...but I can tell you that she’ll never be with you for as long as you’re married to me. You’ll still stand a chance if you divorce me, but if you don’t...” She paused and stared into his eyes. “You won’t stand a chance at all.”

The look in his eyes darkened, and neither of them was willing to look away.

He remained expressionless and said, “So what?”

“You might not care about my feelings, but...don’t you care about how she feels?”

“Why should I care?” he retorted.

Vicky froze.

“Why should I care about someone who doesn’t care about me?” Tyler continued coldly. Never in Vicky’s wildest dreams did she imagine Tyler would say such a thing.

Seemingly aware of her thoughts, he asked, “Am I that cheap a man in your eyes?”

“But...” Vicky muttered, “If you don’t care about her, why did you keep the things she gave you?”

He paused and fell into silence once again when he thought of the items Vicky found in his study.

“Tyler, you’re just trying to fool yourself.” Vicky felt both amused and heartbroken at the realization that the almighty man was running from reality.

“Vicky, did you really think that I’d divorce you simply because of what you said?” He questioned. “Love is replaceable in my world, and I can survive without anyone. As for her... From the day she abandoned me, she lost the right to have my attention.”

Realization dawned on her. “So, did you marry me...to spite her? Was that your way of telling her that you can survive without her? Or...did you marry me simply because we’re relatives and I look like her?”

Tyler scanned her in contempt. “You’ve overestimated yourself.” No longer wishing to continue the subject, he brought over another tray. “Vicky, this is your last chance. Are you eating on your own, or do you need me to feed you?”

She looked away. “I’m not eating.”

His lips curled into a sneer. “If you don’t feel like eating, let’s do something else, then.”

He then lowered his head and captured her lips.

Chapter 455

Vicky refused to eat and had not ingested any food apart from the water she had been forced to take by Tyler.

She was stuck in a marriage she did not want, but she refused to be kept like a pet. In merely two days, Vicky lost tremendous weight, and Tyler resorted to giving Vicky injections with the necessary nutrients. However, the injections could only keep her alive for so long, and Vicky was fading away as she fought back for her life.

Eventually, Tyler returned home one day and said, "Vicky, I told you that you'd meet a fate worse than death if you try to kill yourself. You clearly didn't listen, so let's see how stubborn you can be."

After leaving the room, Harry brought over a group of doctors in white coats. i

"Mister Hart, I've brought them here and interviewed each of them myself. They're all skilled actors and have played doctors countless times in the past, so one can hardly distinguish them from real doctors."

Tyler glanced at the actors. "You will be rewarded if you manage to fool my wife, but if you screw up and she finds out about who you are..." He paused. "You know the consequence."

The actors in white coats said respectfully, "Mister Hart, we'll act it out flawlessly."

Tyler nodded. "Go inside to inspect her, then."

"Yes."

The group entered the room and surrounded Vicky.

After starving herself for the past few days, Vicky lost the strength to even get out of bed, and as the doctors walked over to inspect her ankles, an ominous feeling took over her.

"Tyler Hart, what is this?!"

He ignored her and simply stared at the doctor expressionlessly. "Well?"

After the inspection, one of the doctors said, "Mister Hart, are you sure that you want to proceed with the surgery?"

Vicky's eyes widened. "Surgery? What surgery?"

"I told you that you'll pay if you try to run again. I was going to spare you if you had behaved, but..." he said coldly. "Your performance is

unsatisfactory. If you enjoy laying in bed so much, you'll do that for the rest of your life."

A flush of red appeared on Vicky's pale face in rage. "Tyler, this is my body. You have no right to do as you please to me!"

"Your body?" he questioned mockingly. "From the moment you refused to eat and seek death, you've abandoned your body. Had I not ordered my people to give you injections, you would've starved to death by now. So, your body now belongs to me," he said and turned his attention back to the doctors. "Is everything ready at the hospital?"

The doctors dared not to meet his eyes. "Yes, Mister Hart. Everything...is in place."

"Good," he said and lifted Vicky from the bed. "Since everything is in place, let's go."

Vicky was both terrified and furious. "You wouldn't dare, Tyler Hart!"

Chapter 456

"You'll know if I dare to/ Tyler said coldly and carried Vicky outside.

She felt chills down her spine and thought to herself, 'Why would I be stupid enough to challenge if he dares to do it? He's a lunatic, and there's nothing he won't do. He did say that he'll make me pay if I try to run again and he is a man of his word. If he dared to break Alex's legs, he'd do anything he wanted to an orphaned daughter who had no

support from her family, just like how he doesn't have to face any consequences for chaining me up in this mansion.'

Tears filled her eyes. 'Tyler, you can't do this to me. I don't owe you anything.'

"Ha." He laughed and kept his dark eyes on her. "How dare you say you don't owe me anything?"

Disgust filled his face as he recalled the past and gritted out, "You can never repay me enough for what you owe me."

The car was already waiting outside the mansion, and when Tyler appeared with Vicky at the entrance, Harry immediately opened the car door for them. Tyler went in with Vicky.

Vicky no longer had the strength to fight, and she started to resent her foolishness. She thought that Tyler would admit defeat once she showed that she was willing to die to get what she wanted, but she forgot that she was nothing but a toy to Tyler. He could care for her when he was in a good mood but punish her mercilessly if she ever upset him.

That was the difference in whether he loved a woman.

After the door was shut, Harry got into the car, and as the car moved forward, the scenery outside flashed by.

Vicky was not afraid of death, but she was terrified by the idea of suffering a fate worse than death. She grabbed onto his shirt with tears in her eyes. "Tyler, I don't want this..." She shook her eyes and pleaded, "I don't starve myself again... I'll eat. Let's go back... Okay?"

She did not know if pleading would help, but she knew that fighting Tyler stubbornly would not benefit her.

Tyler did not waver at her pleading. "Vicky, do you think that I'm doing all this to get you to eat?" Each word he said pierced through her like sharp blades. "I've given you the chance and time, but you let it slip."

He reached out to wipe away her tears and coaxed, "I know that you don't like being locked up, so I figured that this is the best solution... Don't worry. It won't hurt. You'll just go to sleep, and everything will be done by the time you wake up."

She shivered as regret filled her heart.

With that, Tyler headed toward the hospital with Vicky in his arms.

Chapter 457

The car soon arrived at the hospital, and Tyler carried Vicky out of the car.

The sunlight shone on his face, casting a shadow over his alluring features.

Vicky could no longer remember why she fell in love with the man before her nor could she recall why she started developing feelings for the man again after losing her memories.

The scent of sanitizer in the air filled her nose, and she knew the consequences she would face if she continued to be stubborn, so she whimpered, "I... I was wrong."

Tyler paused and looked at her.

Her eyes were red, but there were no tears when she met his eyes and continued, "I was wrong. I won't... I won't run again."

In the end, she caved.

Tyler studied her for a few moments and chuckled. "Do you think that I'll forgive you every time you make a mistake if you just apologize?"

“No...”

“No?” The look in his eyes was chilling. “You seem to have no qualms about disobeying me, though.”

“I promise that I won’t do it again.”

“Your promise means nothing to me,” he said sarcastically. ‘You promised the same the last time, yet you turned and ran away with Harvey Sparks immediately after that.’

She moved her lips to speak but decided against it.

‘The last time?’ she thought. ‘It’s precisely because I found out about what happened that I did everything in my power to run from him out of fear.’

She knew that Tyler could not be reasoned with and simply looked up with tears in her eyes. “I won’t do it again. I... I realize my mistakes now. I won’t run again. I’m begging you, Tyler. Don’t do this to me.”

“Please?” Tyler was amused and stared at her mockingly. “Back when Harvey was around, you refused to admit to your mistakes because you thought he was there to back you up. Now that no one is there to help you, you decide to beg me for forgiveness.”

Vicky knew nothing she said would please him, and she shivered. “What can I do for you to let me go?”

“Let you go?” He gazed down at her. “Still haven’t given up on running?”

“That’s not what I mean.” She kept her hand on the hem of his shirt. “What can I do for you to forgive me?”

“I gave you the chance, and you threw it away.”

“Something must’ve gotten in me... I won’t starve myself again.”

The cold expression on his face eased slightly. ‘Is that so?’

Seeing hope, she nodded. “Yes. I won’t do anything that’ll upset you again.” He fell into silence thoughtfully.

Chapter 458

Vicky stared at Tyler and waited for his response.

He looked at her thoughtfully. “Do you really admit to your mistakes?”

“Yes. I know that I was wrong.”

“And you won’t do it again.”

“I won’t. This is the last time.”

He studied the hope in her eyes and said, “I still think that the surgery gives me more security compared to your promise.”

She froze, and the hope in her eyes faded. She stared at him and whispered, “Were you toying with me?”

He lifted an eyebrow but did not deny it. “That’s right.”

“Is it fun to toy with me?”

“It’s fun, but most importantly, I want you to have a taste of what it’s like to be toyed with,” Tyler said casually. “At least I didn’t promise you something, only to break that promise, did I?”

He started marching forward again, and Vicky could no longer suppress her emotions.

“Why won’t you just kill me, Tyler?! Who are you to do this to me?! How dare you?!”

“I can do this because I’m your husband!” he said.

Soon, the two arrived at the surgery room where the doctors were already waiting by the door. Mister Hart, all preparation for the surgery is done.”



“Alright.” Tyler nodded.

It could take years for one to protect what was important to them, but it would only take one moment to destroy it. The same applied to both love and one’s body.

Fear swarmed her, and she struggled to get up from the bed to run away from this hellish place. “I don’t want this...”

Instead of consoling her, Tyler simply studied the pale look on her face and said, “You’ve lost all strength to fight back after starving yourself for days.” He caressed her cheek and chuckled. “That saved me quite a lot of trouble. If

She grabbed his hand frantically and pleaded, “Tyler, I won’t run again... Please.

Please don’t do this to me! I can do anything so long as you spare me for this time!’

The fear was so distinct in her eyes as all colors faded from her face. She trembled as she looked at Tyler like he was the god that held her fate in his hands.

Though the Shaws had fallen, Vicky grew up being educated as a high-born lady, and no matter what happened, she had always remained prideful.

However, her pride had finally shattered before Tyler’s relentless attempt to destroy her.

At that moment, she had lost the last strand of pride she had.

Vicky had never been so terrified, and Tyler felt slightly dazed as he looked at her.

“Tyler, let’s go home... Let’s go home, okay?” Tears fell from her eyes. “You can lock me up if you want to, and I won’t go outside if you won’t let me. From now on, I’ll do as you say...”