

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 581 She Wants to Soar, Just Like Chloe

Chloe took a deep breath. 'I'm so tired of hearing that name.'

She handed the lunchbox to Lucas and forcefully kicked open the office door in frustration.

Xavia let out a startled cry. She covered her face and hid behind Joseph while Megan looked Chloe up and down in disdain. "Why didn't you knock? You scared me."

"Why should I knock when I'm looking for my husband? Are you doing something inappropriate that you don't want others to see?"

"How dare you! O-Of course, not..." Megan retorted, stealing a glance at Joseph. It went without saying that she secretly wished she could engage in some secretive affair with him. That way, her life would have changed entirely, just like Chloe's.

"Are you here to have lunch?" Joseph looked at Chloe lovingly.

However, Chloe locked her gaze on Xavia behind him, her eyebrows furrowing slightly. "Why

are you covering your face? It's not like you're a ghost that's afraid of the light."

"Xavia has suffered enough. Please choose your words carefully," Megan snapped.

"She's suffered enough?"

"The swelling on her face is quite severe, and she might be left with scars," Joseph replied.

Chloe paused. "What happened?"

"She said it was Noah who did it."

“What? Noah? That’s impossible.”

Noah and Xavia had no connection whatsoever. Besides, Noah was always gentle and polite to others. How could he be capable of violence?

“I’m not making it up! It was Noah who hit me!” Xavia exclaimed as she stepped forward.

Chloe got a good look at Xavia’s face. Both of her cheeks were inflamed and swollen, which stood out in stark contrast to her usual fair and attractive appearance. It appeared somewhat comical, resembling special effects from a drama. Yet upon closer inspection, multiple places where the skin had torn open were visible, clearly indicating the use of force rather than scratching with nails.

The phrase “skin split open” came to Chloe’s mind, and she instinctively touched her own face as if she could feel the pain.

“Do you know why Noah hit me?” Xavia continued, a fleeting look of hatred crossing her eyes.

Chloe remained silent, staring calmly at the woman in front of her.

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“He said it was because I almost caused you to drown in the pool, so he slapped me twice as punishment,” she explained.

“Do you have any evidence?” Chloe asked.

“No, but I can confront him face to face,” she replied.

If there were surveillance cameras in the alley at that time, she would have already retrieved the footage.

“So what’s your purpose in coming here? Are you trying to get Joseph to help you?” Chloe asked calmly, elegantly sitting down on the sofa.

“Damn right, she is! Noah beat Xavia, and we can’t let him off the hook so easily,” Megan said, “She’s carrying a child of the Whitmans. What if something happens to the baby? We have to clarify the situation.”

Chloe smiled at her and said, “Is being pregnant with another woman’s husband’s child worth celebrating?”

Xavia’s face turned pale. “It isn’t, but I have no choice. I don’t have the protection that you have. I’m all alone and can only turn to Joe for help. This time around, he slapped me. I can’t imagine what he might do next.”

“Noah wouldn’t do something like that,” Chloe firmly defended Noah, not wanting Xavia to cause trouble for him. Besides, even if it was indeed Noah who hit her, so what? She should be thankful to him. Even though the hits were harsh, they could not compare to the harm that Xavia had wanted to inflict upon her.

Joseph’s jaw clenched, feeling a twinge of bitterness. ‘Why do I feel like my wife’s trust in me is less than what she gives that brat?’

Xavia shifted her gaze toward him. “What do you think, Joe? If you think it’ll offend the Sullivans, I’ll pretend this incident never happened.”

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Score 9.5

Chapter 582 Did Someone Order You to Do This?

Chloe chuckled sarcastically. ‘Afraid of offending the Sullivans? Trying to use reverse psychology, huh?’ She crossed her arms and looked at Joseph threateningly.

Joseph met her gaze and groaned inwardly. To be honest, he really wanted to take this opportunity to teach Noah a lesson, and it had little to do with Xavia. “I’ll call Noah over,” he said.

Xavia’s face lit up, tears shimmering in her eyes. “Thank you, Joe. You’re so kind to me.”

Chloe scoffed. Her anger flared as she retorted, “If you find trouble with Noah today, don’t expect to step foot in my room tonight.”

Joseph took Chloe’s hand and pulled her aside. He looked at her helplessly and said, “I’m not helping Xavia. I just want you to see Noah’s true colors.”

Since Xavia dared to confront Noah, it meant she was speaking the truth. It would be perfect if he could expose his true nature in front of Chloe right now.

“Even if it was Noah, so what? He was just helping me to get revenge. And what about you? Are you helping Xavia vent her frustrations?” Chloe challenged Joseph, her words logical and well-founded.

Joseph fell silent. After a while, he said in a serious manner, “Noah isn’t as innocent as he appears on the surface. If he can be so ruthless toward Xavia, what guarantee do you have that he won’t treat you the same if you disagree with him? I know a person’s true character is hidden beneath their facade. I’m just worried about you. Besides, I’m just calling him over. I won’t interfere or help Xavia.”

After all, he had to consider Desmond.

Chloe blinked, her skepticism lingering. “Are you absolutely sure you won’t take any action?”

Joseph gently caressed her silky hair and said, “I swear on my life that I won’t do anything. All I’m worried about is you.”

“Oh, stop it. Don’t think you can dismiss me with just a few sweet words,” she playfully scolded, giving him a mischievous look.

“I’ll have Lucas call Noah now.”

“Remember your promise. You said you wouldn’t do anything to Noah,” Chloe warned, playfully poking his solid chest. “If you help Xavia in any way, don’t expect me to stand by your side.”

“Fine, but can you stop openly favoring him like this?” Joseph expressed his discontent, his displeasure evident on his face.

Ignoring him, Chloe turned to Xavia and said, “If you’ve wrongly accused Noah, you should apologize to him.”

“Sure,” Xavia replied confidently.

One hour later, Lucas pushed open the door and led a young boy into the office. He wore black framed glasses, khaki pants, and a white T-shirt. Carrying a backpack, he looked like he had just finished classes.

Noah scanned the room, then looked at Joseph. “You called me here for something?”

Sitting in his chair, Joseph instructed Xavia, “Tell me the story again, and give me all the details.”

Xavia clenched her fists and approached Noah. She removed her mask, and her eyes were filled with intense hatred. “You dragged me to that alley and hit me yesterday. Look at my face! The doctor said there might be scars. We have no grievances between us, so why did you do this to me?”

As she spoke, her eyes turned red and tears began to stream down her face.

Megan chimed in, “Although Xavia’s livelihood depends on her hands, she has to present her face to her audience. You look young, but you’re as evil as they come. Did someone order you to do this?”

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Score 9.5

Chapter 583 Eustace Appears

Noah reached up and took off his glasses. He rubbed his eyes in confusion as he looked at Xavia. “May I ask who you are?”

Lavia’s anger surged, her desire to lash out at him almost overwhelming. But now that she was in Joseph’s presence, she forced herself to remain composed. With a sneer, she remarked, “Pretending not to recognize me?”

“Sorry, that’s not what I meant.” Noah gestured toward her face while smiling shyly. “Your face is so swollen that I can’t recognize you...’

“Pfft...” Chloe could not hold back her laughter.

‘Good one, Noah.’

What Xavia cared about most was her appearance. Hearing Noah say that her face was so swollen that he could not recognize her, Chloe was confident that Xavia must be infuriated.

“Have you forgotten who you hit yesterday? Shall I remind you? There were witnesses who saw it. Should I call them over?” Xavia said, forcing each word

out of her lips. Without preparation, she would not have come asking for Joseph's help.

Chloe stopped laughing and frowned. 'Seriously? Did Noah really hit her?'

Megan triumphantly added, "The witness is downstairs. I can call them up right now."

Noah remained calm and composed. He looked at Joseph as if an understanding had dawned upon him as he said, "Mr. Joseph, did you call me here today to stand up for Ms. Xavia's injustice?"

Upon hearing this, Chloe's face sank. Even though Joseph claimed to be doing it for her sake, in reality, he had called Noah here to seek justice for Xavia.

Twirling his pen rhythmically between his fingers, Joseph sat in a commanding position on the chair. "My reasons are none of your concern. You should be worried about how to explain yourself," he remarked.

"I have nothing to explain. I did nothing wrong. Bring your witness."

This was the moment Xavia had been waiting for, and she exchanged a knowing glance with Megan. Without delay, Megan descended the stairs to bring the witness up.

As soon as she left, Noah rubbed his nose and sneezed. Then, he made a call in front of everyone. "Can you bring me the nasal spray for rhinitis from the car please?" he asked his assistant.

Megan and his assistant entered the room together. When Xavia caught sight of Noah's assistant, her mind froze momentarily and an icy chill ran through her veins. Her face turned

ashen pale.

Eustace cast an indifferent gaze upon her, his eyes clearly filled with affection as they landed on her belly. Xavia instinctively covered her stomach with her hand as if guarding her child from being snatched away.

Unaware of Eustace's identity, Megan failed to notice anything unusual. She smirked at Xavia and said, "What are you waiting for? Hurry up and let the witness testify."

Xavia trembled uncontrollably, overcome by intense fear that left her speechless.

Eustace looked concerned and asked, "You seem to be feeling unwell. Are you all right?"

She dared not look at Eustace and instead glared fiercely at Noah. Her words refused to exit her

throat.

Joseph's gaze shifted among the group, eventually settling on Eustace. "Is he your new assistant, Mr. Noah?"

This question caused Xavia's heart to leap into her throat.

"No, he joined a few months ago," Noah replied. He pondered for a moment, then a hint of mockery appeared in his eyes. "Should be about six months ago."

Joseph furrowed slightly as he sensed the implications behind Noah's words.

"Joe!" Xavia suddenly exclaimed, her face turning pale and her voice filled with urgency. "The person who hit me yesterday wasn't Noah. I mistook him for someone else."

Chloe could not bear to watch any longer and chimed in, "Noah has been standing here the whole time, and now you claim to have made a mistake? Who would believe such absurdity?"

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Chapter 584 He'll Protect Her Forever and Ever

Joseph's lips pressed together tightly in silent agreement with Chloe.

Megan was speechless. “Xavia, you were the one injured, so why are you scared?”

Before they came here, they had agreed that one of them would play the good cop while another would play the bad cop. But now, Xavia had sabotaged their plan at the critical moment. If it were not for her desire to seek revenge on Noah for not choosing her as the ambassador, she would not have come here with Xavia.

Xavia ignored Megan. She deeply bowed to Noah, her voice filled with remorse as she said, ‘ I’m sorry. I mistook you for someone else and caused trouble for you and Joe.’

Noah graciously accepted her apology. “It’s fine. Do you need anything else?”

“No.” Xavia shook her head anxiously, her distress palpable.

A faint smile played on Noah’s lips as he glanced at Joseph. “It’s a shame, Mr. Joseph. It seems you won’t be able to seek justice for Ms. Xavia this time.”

“Are you sure you mistook him for someone else?” Joseph squinted, his tone tinged with suspicion.

“I’m sure. I’m really sorry. This is all on me. I shouldn’t have jumped the gun,” Xavia said as tears began to well up in her eyes.

Joseph pointed at Eustace, his gaze deep and inscrutable. “Then what about him? Don’t you

know him?”

The sudden shift in the conversation left Xavia breathless and caused her scalp to tingle with anxiety. Noah raised an eyebrow playfully.

‘Oh ho, did he finally realize something after my hint?’

Although Chloe was unaware of what had transpired, she could sense that something was

amiss.

In an instant, all eyes turned to Eustace. With a height of approximately 1.78 meters and distinguished features, he was considered above average among a crowd.

Xavia could sense the intensity of Joseph's gaze upon her, causing her to struggle for breath. Her nails dug into her flesh as she forced herself to stay calm. "I don't."

Joseph remained silent. He turned his gaze to Eustace and asked, "And what about you? Do you know Xavia?"

Joseph's question caught Eustace off guard. He did not know how to respond and instinctively looked toward Noah.

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With an innocent smile on his face, Noah replied, "How could you not know her? You do, don't you?"

A flicker of astonishment crossed Eustace's eyes, but he soon came around to his senses and said, "Yes, I know her."

Xavia's pupils dilated, and her heart sank. She anticipated what was going to happen next and desperately tried to explain, "Joe, listen to me. I..."

However, the moment the words left her mouth, her nervousness got the better of her. She suddenly blacked out and collapsed in front of everyone.

Megan hurriedly went to support her, but she was at a loss for what to do. "What happened to

her?"

Joseph frowned and ordered Lucas, "Call an ambulance."

"So you two know each other?" Chloe stared at Eustace.

"Yeah, he knows her," Noah answered on Eustace's behalf before continuing calmly, "She's a renowned violinist. Who wouldn't know her?"

Chloe's eyelashes trembled, sensing that he might be lying.

The ambulance arrived and took Xavia away. Lucas volunteered to accompany her to the hospital for further examination. Joseph had a challenging day ahead of him tomorrow, so he needed to conserve his energy.

Joseph nodded. "I'll double your bonus for this month."

Lucas beamed. "Thank you, sir."

Noah thought of something and asked, "Tomorrow is the launch of the Whitman Group's new project, correct?"

"Yes," Joseph replied indifferently.

"Well, congratulations."

Since his job was done here, Noah prepared to leave. Before he stepped out of the office, he

glanced at Chloe deeply.

'Just a little longer, Coco...'

In a few more months, he would be able to bring her back to the Sullivans. She did not have to stay by Joseph's side and suffer. Once she was back with the Sullivans, she would be loved by everyone, and he would protect her forever and ever.

After Noah left, Joseph called someone and instructed, "Help me to look into Noah's assistant."

"Sure, Mr. Joseph."

As soon as he hung up the phone, Chloe went up to him. "Do you think that Xavia was acting weirdly too?"

"Yes," Joseph replied.

Xavia was a person who was very capable of controlling her emotions, but as soon as Eustace came in today, she appeared very flustered.

A surge of relief washed over Chloe when she found out that Joseph felt the same way.

“Would you like to go to the Whitman Group’s auction tomorrow?” Joseph asked gently as he held her in his arms.

“Sure, I’ll go with you.”

“But Otto and Cyrus might be there too.”

“Cyrus is the one who imprisoned your mother?”

Joseph’s jaw tightened. “Yes.”

“Then that’s all the more reason for me to go then. I want to see with my own eyes what kind of man he is to be so heartless.”

The next day, the Whitman Group’s auction was held at the convention and exhibition hall in the center of Docwood, and all the dignitaries in the business world were in attendance.

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Score 9.5

Chapter 585 They’re Deeply Disappointed in Joseph

It was a public event and there were a lot of people.

Otto arrived wearing a coffee-colored windcoat. His distinctive appearance and slender figure made him stand out in the crowd. When Chloe noticed him seated next to the collaborating party for the project, she squeezed Joseph’s hand and said, “Will he say something inappropriate?”

“That’s exactly what I want,” Joseph replied as he smirked, giving her hand a reassuring pat. Don’t worry, today’s our opportunity to strike back.”

Chloe nodded firmly, her eyes gleaming. “I believe in you.”

After Joseph took the stage, Icarus entered through the main entrance and settled in a seat. behind Chloe. She noticed him after about five minutes but she was not too surprised. “I thought you had gone back abroad.”

Although Icarus was not as renowned in the financial industry as Joseph, he was considered a promising talent. It was appropriate for him to attend such a large-scale press conference.

“No, I’ll be staying in Aesper for a while,” he replied with a refined smile.

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“Gentlemen, it’s been a while.”

The three business partners-Winston, Murphy, and Silas-turned to look at Otto and playfully remarked, “We heard that Brairlake has been flourishing and is developing plots of land one after another. You make us proud.”

“Us? This is all clearly because of Mr. Joseph.”

“Ah, you’re right. I’m such an idiot.”

“We’re merely investors. Mr. Joseph is the one in charge of the technology.”

Otto waved his hand dismissively. “We’re just lucky. It’s nothing worth mentioning. But I have heard some rumors regarding this project. I’m unsure if it’s appropriate to discuss them.”

“What is it? Just speak your mind.”

“Did you

know that Preston is in prison?”

Winston was taken aback. “I thought he was just removed from the board of directors. How did he end up in prison?”

Otto’s expression turned mysterious as he lowered his voice. “It’s true that he was removed from the board, but do you know why?”

“We don’t.” They shook their heads.

“It’s because Preston discovered that Joseph had plagiarized the project concept from a foreign company. He wanted to expose it but was instead framed and fell into Joseph’s trap, which then led to his imprisonment.”

“Mr. Otto, such words should not be spoken lightly,” Silas said solemnly.

The Whitman Group had an immense influence on society. Any allegations of copyright infringement or plagiarism would lead to a severe backlash in the business community. Even the three of them would be affected. If that

happened, nobody would believe in them anymore and they would experience heavy financial loss.

“Here are the documents from a foreign company that developed a similar project last week. Take a look.” Otto handed the files to the three of them. “I feel that it bears striking similarities to the project Mr. Joseph will be unveiling today.”

When they had finished reading, they gasped in disbelief. It was not just similar-it was an exact replica.

They were disappointed in Joseph.

When the press conference began, Joseph stood on the stage in a crisp suit. He was maneuvering the mouse to showcase the developed software on the large screen while speaking confidently. The expressions of the audience below were filled with admiration, thoroughly pleased with the progress of the unveiling.

Winston was the first to stand up and interrupt, “Stop! Do not go any further!”

In unison, Murphy and Silas joined him, their voices filled with anger.

Sitting in the front row, Chloe furrowed her brows, but then she had a realization and relaxed her expression. She remembered what Joseph had said that no matter what happened, she should trust that he could handle it.

“Mr. Winston? Do you have a question?” Joseph asked calmly.

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Score 9.5

Chapter 586 The Whitmans Hold the Patent, They’re the Creators

“Come down, then we’ll talk,” Winston said, his expression turning sour. He did not wish to escalate the situation.

“You can just go ahead and tell me about it now.”

“Joseph, come down from the stage now! We know you plagiarized this project!” Silas, no longer able to bear, piped up. He wanted to play the victim card and exposed Joseph to protect

himself.

As soon as those words were spoken, a commotion erupted throughout the audience. After reading the documents, a range of expressions surfaced—disdain, shock, doubt, disbelief—all fixated on the man standing on the stage.

With a sneer, Joseph asked, “Where did these documents come from?”

“Mr. Otto was the one who gave them to us,” Winston said, expressing gratitude toward Otto.

“Yes, I’m the one who gave these documents to them,” Otto openly admitted, his tone tinged with provocation. “I happened to stumble upon it. Mr. Joseph, I hope you won’t hold it against me.”

“No, I won’t.” Joseph remained calm as he looked toward Lucas. “Show everyone the software. patent we applied for a year ago.”

When Otto received the patent report, his face turned pale.

‘How could Preston not have known about these basic details? What a useless idiot!!

“So... Who copied whom?”

‘Are you stupid? The Whitman Group holds the patent, so of course, they’re the owner of the

software.”

“No wonder this other company only dares to operate overseas.’

With a strong and commanding presence, Joseph fixed his piercing gaze upon Otto seated

the crowd. His voice carried a tone of accusation as he revealed the truth.

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“The Whitman Group’s confidential files were leaked because Preston stole them and sold them. Nobody, not even the police, knows to whom it was sold or at what price. So, how did you manage to obtain such information, Mr. Otto?”

Even though Joseph did not explicitly say it, everyone present was smart enough to read

between the lines.

Otto sensed the peculiar gazes directed at him. Filled with embarrassment and anger, he pushed aside the people blocking his path and stormed off. However, he did not get far before being intercepted by Tyson in his police uniform.

A glimmer of anger flickered in Otto's eyes. Having endured humiliation from Joseph, he retaliated fiercely by delivering a powerful kick to Tyson's chest.

Inside the exhibition hall, the farce had come to an end.

Joseph remained on stage while Chloe shifted in her seat, feeling the urgent call of mother nature. Little did she know that Icarus too stood up from his seat as soon as she left.

Upon exiting the restroom, Chloe was confronted by two men sporting red-dyed hair, their gaze filled with lewd intent. The restroom was situated approximately a hundred meters away from the exhibition hall, so she might not be able to get help in time if any danger were to befall her.

She furrowed her brows slightly but forced herself to calm down. Pretending not to notice them, she walked as close to the wall as possible.

"Hey missy, you're pregnant, aren't you? How many months along are you? I just love married women." One of the men sneered.

"Get lost!" Chloe retorted in disgust and anger.

"Oh, you've got quite the temper. I like it," the man with red hair replied with a lascivious grin. Without warning, he forcibly pulled her back into the restroom.

Chloe stumbled and she struggled to regain her balance. Before she could gather her thoughts, the two men lunged at her, tearing away her clothing and kissing her. A nauseating, humid breath entered her ear, accompanied by the unsettling touch of wandering hands that made her feel disgusted and queasy.

“You bastards! Get the hell away from me!” Chloe shouted, fighting back as hard as she could.

But it was useless. The situation unfolded, and with the two men overpowering her and holding her down, all her attempts to break free proved futile.

Suddenly, both of them released her.

Thud! Thud!

The two sounds echoed as the two men with red-dyed hair collapsed to the ground in agonized cries. Opening her eyes, Chloe saw Icarus delivering punches to them. A shiver ran down her spine as she felt the chill in the air. It was at that moment she became aware that her clothes were torn in multiple places and her chest was exposed.

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You Want to Kill Our Child?!

“We managed to save the baby. There was minimal bleeding, but the patient’s body is particularly weak, which increases the risk of premature birth or miscarriage in the later stages. Mr. Joseph, you have to take good care of the patient from now on,” the doctor reported.

“The child is safe?” Joseph raised an eyebrow, his eyes filled with piercing coldness. “Arrange for an abortion immediately.”

He would not allow her to birth the product of a union between her and another man.

The doctor was taken aback. “Well... The patient is too weak at the moment, so we can’t perform the surgery immediately.”

“When’s the earliest possible time?” Joseph inquired.

“It’s hard to say. Perhaps in about a week.”

Joseph closed his eyes and remained silent.

The doctor left the room. The truth was, the abortion could be arranged as early as tomorrow, but Chloe had pleaded with the doctor in the emergency room, telling him that this was the first child she conceived with the person she loved dearly. She begged him to save the baby, as she could not bear the thought of losing it.

Aside from Joseph, the child was Chloe's only family in this world. So when Joseph asked for an abortion, the doctor decided to lie to him. He hoped that within a week, Chloe and Joseph would resolve their conflicts and decide to keep the child.

Chloe woke up, and her eyes landed on the man in her ward.

The first thing she did was nervously touch her belly. Thankfully, the baby was still there. She struggled to sit up and cautiously held onto the man's hand. "Nothing happened between Icarus and me. The baby in my belly has nothing to do with him. I swear."

"Is that so?" Joseph pressed his throbbing temple, his eyes burning crimson as he stared at her intently. "Icarus has confessed everything. Are you still going to deny it?"

Chloe licked her parched lips.

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"Confess? Confess what?" she asked in confusion.

Veins pulsed on the back of Joseph's hand as he struggled to control his emotions. "He admitted to everything, every sordid detail of your affair. Continuing to deceive me is meaningless. It only disgusts me."

Just half an hour before Chloe woke up, a call came in. Icarus had confessed everything from

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beginning to end. He even admitted that the child in Chloe's belly was indeed his own.

Upon receiving this news, Joseph was filled with doubts. He desperately wanted to believe Chloe, but unusual circumstances between her and Icarus had occurred more than once. Despite everything, his love for her remained strong. He had envisioned a lifetime together, offering his heartfelt love, only to be met with betrayal.

How could she do this to him?

Chloe froze as tears fell relentlessly. "It's impossible... How could Icarus say such things?" she mumbled, unable to believe it. "We never did any of those things. Why would he make such false accusations about me? Why?"

Anger, resentment, and unwillingness swirled in her heart, leaving Chloe overwhelmed. She murmured to herself, her face devoid of color. Beside her, Joseph looked on coldly, his eyes void of any emotion. He did not want to believe in her anymore.

Meeting his mocking and disdainful gaze, Chloe could not hold back any longer. She shouted in anger, "Bring Icarus here! I want to confront him face-to-face!"

"That's not necessary."

"What do you mean?"

"He's probably already dead by now. If he's lucky, he might have one last breath left."

Chloe shuddered and yanked out the IV needle, stumbling as she tried to make her way out. She wanted to see Icarus and clarify everything.

Seeing her do this, Joseph thought Chloe was worried about Icarus' well-being. Filled with rage, he forcefully dragged her back to the bed and grabbed a piece of paper from the table. "Sign it."

Chloe looked at the words "Abortion Consent Form" on the paper and raised her head, glaring at him. "You want to kill our child?!"

How Can You Be So Heartless, Joseph?!

“How could you, Joseph?! How can you be so cruel and heartless?! If you force me to sign this paper, I’ll hate you for the rest of my life!” Chloe shouted at the top of her lungs, expressing her grievance.

Joseph remained unperturbed. He pulled her hand and tightened it around the pen as her name. was written crookedly and reluctantly in the designated space. At the final moment, Chloe exerted all her strength to break free from his control and stabbed him in the palm with the pen. However, he seemed completely unaware and continued to complete the final stroke of her signature.

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In a state of despair, Chloe lowered her weary arm and let out a desolate smile. “I’ll ask you one last time, Joseph. Do you truly refuse to believe me?”

They had already reconciled and gotten rid of Xavia-the only obstacle in their relationship- so how did things suddenly turn out this way?

With a sudden pang of inexplicable emotion, Joseph’s heart softened for a moment when he heard her choked-up voice. However, he simply uttered one sentence before resolutely turning away.

“Icarus has already confessed. Your words mean nothing.”

Chloe helplessly watched his retreating figure, feeling as though a gaping hole had been torn open in her chest, making every breath painful. After stubbornly waiting for an hour, she believed that Joseph had truly abandoned her.

She covered her face and wept in despair, her frail shoulders drooping in profound misery.

Feeling weak and helpless, Chloe cried herself to sleep. When she woke up the next morning, Abigail approached her and said, “Ms. Chloe, Mr. Joseph asked me to take care of you. If you feel unwell, please let me know.”

Upon hearing this, Chloe’s eyelashes trembled. “Do you know where Icarus is?”

“He’s currently at Mr. Joseph’s home.”

Abigail had overheard this when the team members were discussing their plans yesterday.

Chloe threw back the covers and got out of bed. She had to confront Icarus directly. She could not allow herself to be unjustly accused.

“Ms. Chloe, you can’t go.”

Chloe raised her head to meet Abigail’s gaze. “Why?”

“Mr. Joseph said you can’t leave the hospital, and he told me to take care of you.’

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Stunned, it took Chloe a while before understanding struck her. “Take care of me? He plans to keep me here, doesn’t he?”

Abigail averted her gaze. Though she did not say a word, Chloe understood it.

“Hahaha! He’s going to keep me here until I can undergo an abortion next week, isn’t he?” Chloe muttered. Her laughter mixed with her tears as her eyes turned red, creating a stark contrast against her pallid face.

Though Abigail had never experienced romantic love, she could sense Chloe’s pain. This was precisely why she had avoided any involvement with men. When things were good, it was like honey in a jar, but when things turned sour, it became like shards of broken glass that pierced the heart. It was excruciatingly painful.

Chloe’s laughter subsided, and she took a deep breath. “I want to see Joseph. Tell him to come here.”

Abigail remained silent for a moment and then responded, “I’ll go relay your message.” She exited the ward with her phone in hand. She returned after about three minutes. “I’m sorry, Ms. Chloe. Mr. Joseph is busy-

“He isn’t. He just refuses to come, right?” Chloe interjected.

Abigail pressed her lips together in a tight line and said, “Maybe he’ll come by when he’s less busy.”

Chloe let out a bitter laugh and turned her gaze away, blankly staring out the window. She no longer wanted to speak.

In the afternoon, a doctor came to examine her. “Rest and take care of your well-being. Your emotional state is of utmost importance,” he advised.

Chloe did not have the energy to respond and lay silently on the bed. The doctor paused upon observing her. “I saw the abortion request form you submitted. Have you thought it through?”

“the doctor asked.

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Score 9.5

Chapter 590 Mr. Harold Has Passed Away

Her face turned pale, and she uttered desolately, “Even if I haven’t, do you think I can say no in my current state?”

“In theory, we should respect the patient’s decision,” the doctor responded.

A glimmer of hope flickered in Chloe’s eyes as she glanced at Abigail, who stood outside the door. She lowered her voice and pleaded, “I’m being forced into this. Can you please let me go?”

Feeling her helplessness, the doctor reminded her, “The hospital doesn’t restrict its patients’ freedom. If you have no other option, you can seek help from a friend.”

Chloe shook her head, knowing it would be futile. Emily was no match for Joseph. Moreover, Joseph had forbidden her from meeting Noah. However, a thought suddenly crossed her mind. Even if Emily could not meet Joseph, she could ask Emily to pass a message to Noah. The only question was whether Noah would be willing to help her. If he did so, it would mark the beginning of a real confrontation between him and Joseph.

As soon as the doctor left, Abigail entered the room.

“I want to see my friend. It’s really boring being here alone,” Chloe said to Abigail. “Her name is Emily Patel. Can you help me get in touch with her?”

Joseph had confiscated her phone, so she had no means of contacting the outside world.

Without hesitation, Abigail refused, “Mr. Joseph isn’t allowing any of your friends to see you.”

“What is he trying to do?! Push me into my grave?!” Chloe exploded in a fit of anger. Fueled by her mounting frustration, she seized any and all nearby objects and furiously hurled them

all over the room.

Soon, the ward was in disarray. Witnessing Chloe’s emotional outburst, Abigail hurriedly tried to console her. “Okay, just hang on. I’ll consult with Mr. Joseph.”

This time, it was highly likely that Joseph was genuinely occupied as it was Lucas who answered the phone. After hearing Chloe’s request, he hesitated for a while but eventually

agreed.

After such a major upheaval, it was indeed necessary for Chloe to talk to a friend and vent her emotions. Emily could not rest easy after Lucas had escorted her away the previous night and had been staying at a hotel near the hospital.

When Chloe and Emily met, Chloe recounted the whole situation and told Emily about how Joseph was pressuring her to have an abortion.

Emily’s face flushed with anger. “He actually wants you to have an abortion?! What an idiot!”

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Chloe smiled bitterly. “Unless something unexpected happens, I’ll be on the operating table in a week.”

“Coco, do you want to terminate your pregnancy?” Emily asked after pausing for a moment. If you do, you could leave Joseph and start over.”

”

“It’s not that simple,” Chloe replied, “Even if I agree to the abortion, Joseph won’t let me go that easily.”

She knew him all too well. He was someone who would seek revenge for the slightest offense.

“In that case, ask for an amniocentesis. Show him the results and prove your innocence. Wait for him to kneel and beg you,” Emily suggested.

“Amniocentesis huh...” Chloe felt conflicted. “If I have to prove my innocence through amniocentesis, then what’s the difference between me and Xavia? Am I just a vessel for the Whitmans to bring forth children too?”

If she did that, she would lose all her self-esteem and dignity, so she instinctively rejected the idea.

“But this is the only way to prove your innocence,” Emily insisted.

“Since we’ve reached a point where we distrust each other so much, it’s better for us to go our separate ways. Just remember, even if I prove that the child is Joseph’s, he won’t let me go,” Chloe responded.

She refused to continue her relationship with Joseph.

Emily’s face filled with worry as she said, “You’re right. Given his temperament, he’ll

definitely hold on to you and the child. But Coco... There’s one more thing...”

“What is it?”

“It was reported in today’s news that Mr. Harold has passed away...”

Jojo and Coco’s Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

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