

Read Novel Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1271-1280

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1271

The agitation in Julian's eyes faded as he looked at Diana. The coldness in them from when he was at Collina Villa had vanished without a trace as well.

If he could be described as the moon just now, then at the moment, he was the sun-able to warm and even burn everything up in his presence.

At the same time, he was like a peacock with its feathers open.

Diana looked at Julian's soft hair. Up close, she could tell that he had taken the effort to style his hair. He even had a sapphire blue lapel pin on his sleeve.

She looked at Julian, confused. She was about to ask him if today was a special occasion, when he shot a strained smile at Jim.

"Professor Hughes, do you need a lift?"

In clear contrast with the smile on his face, his eyes blazed coldly.

"Oh, I'm so sorry. I forgot that I drove a sports car today. It can only seat two people."

He was making it clear that he didn't want to leave the zoo with Jim.

Julian thought Jim would get the hint and leave. That was what Jim did the previous two times, after all. What's more, he didn't seem to have any ulterior motives toward Diana.

Even now, as Julian looked at Jim, he doubted whether Jim was really the man Layla claimed to have given Diana a house.

If it weren't Jim, Julian truly couldn't fathom which man would give Diana a house.

Julian tightened his hold over Diana's hand, wishing he could get to the bottom of this right away.

"It's fine," Jim said, "I drove here."

He paused for a moment, maintaining Julian's momentum that he spoke in earlier.

"I can follow right behind your car."

Julian arched his brow. "Professor Hughes, do you mean to say that you'll follow us home?"

"Yes," Jim said casually. His tone bore certainty and confidence.

That simple word sounded like a challenge in Julian's ears.

"To be accurate, I'm following Mrs. Fulcher," Jim said frankly. "Mrs. Fulcher called me out today. Our date hasn't come to an end yet."

He wanted to spend more time with the babies in Diana's stomach. Most importantly, he was worried Diana would fight with Julian over her family background.

If she got agitated, something bad might happen. If there was no one reliable or knowledgeable about medicine, the fetuses might be harmed.

Julian was clearly upset over Jim's choice of words.

"The date he's talking about isn't the kind of date you're thinking of," Diana said.

She rubbed her palm against Julian's palm, making him itch.

He calmed down in an instant. Yet, it didn't the doubt arising in his chest.

"So, what kind of date is it?" What kind of date could it be, involving a man and a woman together?

Julian was furious.

Diana didn't expect him to be so distrusting toward her.

That in turn eroded her trust in him.

"Julian," Diana said, looking straight at him. Instead of telling Julian about her calling Jim out for the sake of Nina, she suddenly asked, "What's with my family background?"

Shock flashed past Julian's face. Seeing that, realization dawned upon Diana.

"So you really knew about it since a long time ago."

What was going on?! How did Diana know that something was wrong with her family background?

Julian had wanted to avoid all possibility of a mishap, and ensure she had a relaxed and happy pregnancy this time.

She was already upset enough over Sean recently. He didn't want her to continue being sad because of some unimportant people.

Julian had wanted to tell her about her family background after she safely gave birth. He never expected her to bring up this issue herself.

His face turned cold. "Who told you about it?"

Diana, who had gotten used to his tenderness, felt her heart sink. Indignation made her blood stop flowing. Even her hands felt weak.

When she looked at Julian, her eyes were filled with sorrow.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1272

In a voice so soft and unwittingly pitiful, she asked, "Julian, why are you being so fierce to me?"

Julian's heart melted at once. The troubled and cold look in his eyes faded.

"I'm not being fierce," Julian said as he grabbed her hand, leading her to the front passenger seat. He ignored Jim completely as he started the car, fully intending to bring Diana home. "Don't cry. I have a surprise for you at home."

With that, he glanced at the rearview mirror and saw that Jim was really following behind them.

Julian ignored him.

Instead, he focused his attention on Diana seated next to him, asking her in a low voice that was starkly different from how he spoke just now, "Who told you about your family background?"

As he had expected, Diana said, "Professor Hughes."

Julian's heart fell with a thud.

Jim had appeared in their lives in a very strange manner. He was also inexplicably linked with Enzo. Now...he even revealed to Diana about her birth circumstances.

Julian began feeling upset, but he didn't show it on his face for fear that Diana would worry.

Diana sensed his thoughtfulness and lamented how far they've come, and how emotionally stable things were between them now that they had grown older.

If it were in the past, they would have started fighting with each other over this.

But this time, Julian patiently coaxed her. The worry in his eyes was clear to see.

It soothed Diana's frazzled nerves. If he had a good reason for hiding her birth circumstances from her, she should give him a chance to explain himself.

"This is the document Jim gave me," Diana said, pulling out the two pieces of paper from the folder that she brought along with her and handing them to Julian.

He was driving, so he couldn't look through the documents. Diana decided to just read out the contents for him.

"Jim said that because Enzo offended you and Sean, this document is his way of compensating me."

She looked behind them as she explained how the document came about. Jim's car was right behind their sportscar.

Jim sped up each time Julian did. He also slowed down whenever Julian did.

His car was in close pursuit, maintaining a close distance between both cars.

This man...

He sometimes felt very courteous and considerate, but at other times...

Like how it was just now at the zoo.

The way he was staring at her stomach when he was talking about the swans made her very uncomfortable.

She felt the same way now, with Jim following right behind their car. It gave her a very strong sense of being invaded and closed in.

Although Jim had claimed to be staring at the child behind her, Diana still felt uneasy when she recalled how his eyes looked like.

She wondered if her pregnancy had made her overly-sensitive. In the end, she didn't find it that important and said nothing about it to Julian.

Instead, she continued telling him about the document.

"What he knows is similar to what I know," Julian said.

He didn't expect Diana to be so calm about the revelation about her birth circumstances. It assuaged his previous worry for her.

"It's true James isn't your biological father."

Diana clenched the papers in her hand. She wasn't sure if she felt happy, or troubled and puzzled. It all felt so complicated.

"I had my doubts because you kept getting pregnant with twins. The doctor also said that this is likely hereditary," Julian went on.

However, the Fulcher family had a history of facing difficulties having children.

Before Diana came along, they had never given birth to twins.

That was the case for the Winnington family as well.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1273

Diana was the only one who carried twins in all three of her pregnancies.

The only explanation was that her birth circumstances were different from what they knew.

“I instructed Noel to look into the matter, and he came back with something.

You’re not James Winnington’s biological daughter, and James himself isn’t a biological son of the Winnington family.”

Diana was able to accept her birth circumstances when she thought of how James and Kate treated her over the years. It was why she didn’t feel so shocked by the revelation.

However, she was rendered speechless upon hearing about James possibly not being the biological son of the Winnington family.

“Then my father... No, James Winnington. Whose child is he?”

“As of now, I have no clue,” Julian said. He had recently been bogged down with dealing with Professor Lemmington and Sean’s affairs, and had no time to continue his investigations.

What’s more...

He looked darkly at the rearview mirror.

Jim’s car was still right behind his.

Julian wondered how Noel’s investigation was going. Did he manage to find something regarding Jim from the Jarvis family?

Jim Hughes... Was he a friend or a foe?

He presented Diana’s birth circumstances so frankly to her, and even called it a ‘gift’. That was something worth pondering.

The car sped along the road and revved loudly. Diana and Julian were both lost in their own thoughts, and didn’t talk with each other the entire way.

It was only until they both stepped out of the car that Julian managed a smile.

He helped Diana open the door to the front passenger seat.

“Come with me.”

He held her hand tight.

Diana wanted to turn around and greet Jim, but Julian pulled her along so hard toward the living room she had no chance to do so.

He clearly didn't want her speaking with Julian. It seemed age did nothing to temper his jealousy.

Diana bit back a smile as she followed behind Julian.

In the living room, right before the couch on the coffee table, was a pile of red certificates.

Diana asked with furrowed brows, "What's that?"

"Property deeds," Julian said casually. "They're all yours."

Why was he giving her so many property deeds out of the blue?

Diana was puzzled. "I have my own apartment. I don't need yours."

Julian looked displeased, and his voice turned dark. "Then why did you take Jim's house?"

Diana was flabbergasted. "Since when did I take his house?" That was when realization struck Julian. "The folder! The one Jim gave you didn't contain a property deed, but the documents detailing your birth circumstances?"

Diana nodded. "Yes..."

Julian laughed, embarrassed.

Layla, who was standing at the side looking pleased with herself for playing a part in improving the husband and wife's relationship with each other, looked even more awkward right now.

She had made such a huge mistake!

Worse, this was the second time she had misunderstood what had happened!

Forget helping, she made things worse time and time again!

Julian didn't flare up at Layla as she thought he would. Instead, he chuckled and said, "It's fine, even if he didn't give you a house. Sooner or later, all the houses I have will belong to you anyway."

He had wanted to do this ever since Diana took a loan to purchase her apartment.

Whether a woman wanted something was one thing. But whether a man wanted to give it to her was another matter.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1274

The corner of Julian's eyes lifted, making him look suave yet affectionate.

"Be it Collina Villa, Fulcher Manor, or all the other houses I own, everything has been transferred to you."

Julian pushed the pile of property deeds aside, and pointed at another document.

"This is for you, too."

Diana looked down; shocked, she realized that it was a letter of transfer of shares.

The letter stated that all the shares Julian held in Fulcher Inc. were hereby transferred to his wife, Diana Winnington, in full.

That was equivalent to handing her an entire mountain of gold!

Even Jim's face changed when he overheard what Julian said as he stepped into the living room uninvited.

Julian...

Treated Diana so well.

A sincere smile of admiration emerged on his face.

It was so sincere, even someone as guarded as Julian couldn't find anything wrong with it.

When he turned to look at Diana, the smile on Jim's face grew wider.

He admired this husband-and-wife pair from the bottom of his heart.

His choice had been right all along.

Such a harmonious family and a financially-equipped environment were the most ideal situation for the babies to grow in Diana's stomach.

Jim was becoming more and more excited over the prospect of pulling the babies out of Diana's womb.

Which baby should he pick?

Layla saw the wide, sincere smile on Jim's face as he looked on at Diana and Julian. His expression mirrored hers. She thought he was a special guest of Julian's. Thus, she immediately poured a cup of tea for him.

Jim sat down.

Diana refused to accept the shares.

"This is too much," Diana said with resistance. "Grandma already gave me a huge sum of shares. I can't..."

She looked up, and the shock in Julian's eyes was overwhelming. Diana belatedly realized that she had said something wrong.

"Julian..." Julian wasn't aware of Grandma giving her shares. Diana didn't tell him about it, either.

He might get angry with her sudden revelation. She and Grandma had hidden it from him, after all. Grandma had quite a significant sum of shares, too.

Ever since Diana recovered her memories and recalled this fact, she didn't just feel warmth flowing in her heart, but also pressure.

However, Julian smiled. He smiled as brightly as the sun in the midday sky.

"That's my Grandma," Julian said happily. "She had the same thoughts as I did.

Since you accepted Grandma's shares, why can't you accept shares from your husband?"

Diana was flabbergasted.

This wasn't a matter of whether she could accept it or not. It was a matter of her owning too many shares in the company!

If she sold the shares, the money she earned would probably last her ten lifetimes.

No...

She couldn't even spend so much money over ten lifetimes.

Julian was too skilled in managing his company. Fulcher Inc thrived under his lead, and its CAGR had never fallen below 10% over the years!

The mere thought of that made Diana look upon Julian with great respect and awe.

The admiration in her eyes pleased Julian greatly. It made him so excited, he stuffed a pen in Diana's hand and pointed at the signature field in the letter of transfer of shares.

"Quick, sign your name."

As long as Diana signed her name on the document, coupled with the shares that Grandma gave her, the entire Fulcher Inc. and all his property would be in her hands.

Diana felt immense pressure owning so much wealth. She was naturally reluctant to sign it.

However, the excitement on Julian's face showed how much he sincerely wanted to treat her well.

She didn't want to reject that.

The only thing she could do was to open up the property deed and ponder over her words. She didn't want to say something wrong, and end up hurting Julian.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1275

It took hard work to maintain a marriage.

Diana subconsciously rubbed her stomach as her fingers clasped tightly over it.

Julian didn't notice her subtle movement, but Jim did.

He charged toward Diana like an arrow shot from a bowstring, his face pale with anxiety as he stared at Diana and asked in panic, "Does your stomach hurt?"

He immediately reached out to feel her pulse.

Her wrist was tender and fair.

Julian's eyes turned red as he grabbed Jim's hand. "What are you doing?"

Julian had to admit that his feelings toward Jim were complicated. He did feel that Jim wasn't interested in Diana in that way, not in the romantic sense.

The look Jim gave Diana and the way he spoke to her was straightforward and natural. He never attempted to hide anything.

But just now, for some reason, Jim displayed extraordinary care and concern toward her.

"She rubbed her stomach too hard just now," Jim explained kindly. "I was just worried that she felt discomfort in her stomach."

Julian looked at Diana.

Diana nodded at Julian, and turned to shake her head at Jim. "Professor Hughes, thank you for your kind intentions. I don't feel any discomfort. I'm just slightly taken aback by all these property deeds."

Even Fulcher Manor alone was worth at least 15 million dollars, not to mention Collina Villa. They were property that many wealthy families in Richburgh coveted.

Yet, Julian gave them all to her.

Even the name of the owner of these properties had changed to her name.

Julian's speed...

Diana was shocked beyond words.

"Didn't I tell you about it just now?" Julian saw the dazed look on Diana's face, and he teased her for being slow on the uptake. "I've already done the transfer procedures."

He had wanted to give her these property deeds a long time ago. It was just that he couldn't find a good time to do so.

Today, having heard from Layla that another man wanted to give Diana a house, he decided to give up looking for a good time and simply retrieve all these property deeds.

Not just these property deeds, but all his assets!

He wanted to give them all to Diana.

No matter what Jim wanted to give Diana, Julian would give Diana his property and money.

"I want to make you very rich and dote on you so much, no man can stand your temper or even be as rich as you are."

That way, Diana would be stuck with him forever.

She wouldn't fancy any other man!

Julian smiled sneakily as he said so, his face a cheeky expression Diana had never seen before. The smart and wise president of a huge conglomerate seemed to have suddenly lost his mind, his eyes fully occupied by the plump pregnant lady she was.

Seriously.

What in the world did she do to deserve this?

Diana's eyes welled up with tears, and she gave Julian her a tight hug.

"Julian, I truly appreciate your thoughts, but I really don't want all these."

It was all too much, and too valuable. She couldn't bear it all.

"It's like this even with other husbands and wives," Julian said, puzzled.

"Husbands hand their pay over to their families, and wives are responsible for being beautiful and poised. Why don't you want that for us?"

Diana broke out in a cold sweat.

How could his pay be compared to an ordinary worker's salary?

She refused to sign the document, no matter what he said.

"Fine," Julian sounded as if he was ready to come to a compromise.

Yet, just when Diana was about to sit on the couch, Julian immediately grabbed her hand, and pressed her thumb onto the ink pad and then onto the letter of transfer of shares.

A bright red thumbprint appeared just like on the document. Billions of dollars were transferred in a snap of a finger.

Yet Julian, the one who did the transfer, was over the moon. "It's done."

He looked at the bright red thumbprint, and said, "A thumbprint is legally enforceable as a signature. Mrs.

Fulcher, I'm penniless right now. Are you willing to take care of me for the rest of my life?"

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1276

Diana was stunned into silence.

"Why aren't you responding?" Julian ignored the shock in her eyes and probed further. "Are you unwilling?"

Worry began filling his dark eyes.

It was as if he had really become a pauper who had to rely on Diana for food and shelter from now on.

Her thumbprint was already inked on the document. Even if she refused to sign on the document, Julian had his way to make the letter of transfer of shares come into effect.

Diana knew Julian had set his mind on it, and she wouldn't be able to turn down being the largest shareholder of Fulcher Inc.

In that instant, a cheeky smile appeared on her face. "I won't take care of you." Julian thought he must have heard Diana wrongly. "What did you say?"

He had given her all that he had, but she was now unwilling to take care of him?!

“Not that just, but I’ll even throw you out of the house,” Diana said heartlessly.

The smile on her face faded as her features hardened like stone. “From now on, you’ll have nothing to do with the Fulcher family.”

Even Layla, not to mention Julian, was shocked by Diana’s behavior.

Was this the Mrs. Fulcher she knew and adored?

How did she...

Turn her back on Mr. Fulcher the moment she had her hands on his money?

That letter of transfer of shares was still in Julian’s hands.

The empty signature field was enough for Julian to turn the tables.

In other words, he still had the chance right now to take back the shares he was offering to Diana.

His eyes turned dark, as if pondering over something.

Diana looked at him, waiting for his next move. She tried to spot signs of displeasure in his eyes.

However, she saw none.

Julian turned around, and had someone keep the letter. He then said, “It’s alright. If you won’t take care of me, I’ll create another Fulcher Inc. That’s the only way I can make myself worthy of my wife.”

Layla was stunned. Goosebumps broke out over her skin.

Was this love struck and dedicated man the same Mr. Fulcher whose eyes turned icy-cold just this morning?!

The stark contrast sent chills running down her spine.

Meanwhile, Diana burst out laughing over Julian’s declaration. The cold facade she put up collapsed in an instant, and she nestled in his arms.

She wrapped her arms around his neck and leaned against his chest, clinging onto him like a koala bear.

‘You’re already a mother of four,’ Julian chuckled tenderly. ” Still acting like a young girl.”

Diana continued hugging him in silence. She wanted to enjoy this moment of peace and calmness.

It had nothing to do with the ‘gift’ that Julian presented to her, but everything to do with how this man dared to give everything he owned to her.

He also dared to continue loving her with every ounce of his being, despite having nothing to his name.

What else could she want for with such a husband?

She was utterly content, just like a kitty walking in the warm sunshine after having a full meal.

Jim witnessed the scene unfolding before him, and was so moved he took out his phone and snapped a picture.

Julian finally stepped away from Diana after a long while. Their eyes, however, remained stuck on each other.

Jim chuckled.

He initially thought they would fight over Julian hiding the truth of Diana’s birth circumstances from her.

It seemed he had been overthinking things.

Julian’s Stand-In Wife chapter 1277

“Diana’s very happy with you,” Jim said with happiness from the bottom of his heart. He showed Julian the photo he took just now. “See?”

In the photo, the two of them were like a golden couple.

Even the flowers surrounding them bloomed as they embraced each other tightly, making for a beautiful and heartwarming scene.

Of course, it was obvious that the one who took the photo was giving the couple his sincerest blessings.

The inappropriateness of Jim pursuing Diana all the way here from the zoo was washed away by the message that this photo conveyed.

Diana had something else she wanted to discuss with Jim. She exchanged glances with Julian, and he said, "Professor Hughes, stay for lunch?"

"No thanks." Jim rejected them this time. "I have something else to attend to, and need to urgently rush back to Jacroaof. Please excuse me."

With that, he glanced at Diana.

His warm yet unexplainable gaze swept across Diana's face and stomach. "Mrs.

Fulcher, I'll see you again."

He said it in a solemn tone, as if he would really be seeing her again.

But Diana didn't know when she would next meet Professor Hughes, whom she hardly had any contact with to begin with.

Time was running out.

Jim was about to leave Collina Villa.

Between asking Jim about him knowing her for a long time and asking him to help Nina, Diana chose the latter.

Diana caught up with him. "Professor Hughes, it'll be hard for me to see you again next time."

No one saw the fear that flashed past Jim's eyes. Neither did anyone see the excitement that emerged right after the fear.

How would it be hard?

He would certainly see her again.

The day she went into labor would be the day they would meet each other again.

Instead of saying that, he looked solemnly at her and asked, "What's the matter? Do you have something to say?"

Diana felt slightly embarrassed that he had seen through her thoughts, but it concerned Nina. She decided to just say it without hesitation.

"It's about Lina Jennings."

She gave him a brief explanation about the Jenningses and the Stanleys.

Jim understood where she was coming from. "You want the Jenningses to give up on their marriage with the Stanleys so your friend Vans Stanley can reunite with Nina Ashlee."

Diana nodded. "That's the idea."

Jim's eyes turned cold.

He thought it would have something to do with Diana herself. Even if it were, he had to consider if it had anything to do with her fetuses.

Yet, it turned out to be about someone else altogether. He didn't even know Nina and Vans, and had no reason to help them.

To Diana, he was overly kind.

But "kind" wasn't a word used to describe Jim Hughes.

His mother was right. One had to learn how to put up a front to survive in society. Otherwise, one might frighten others.

He smiled warmly at her. "Sure, I'll help her."

Diana was shocked. She didn't expect Jim to be so accommodating.

Excitement grew in her heart and she had the urge to invite him to stay for lunch, but Jim had already stepped out of the villa.

"What a nice man," Diana lamented as she leaned into Julian's embrace after Jim disappeared in the distance.

Julian sneered as he forced Diana to turn her gaze back to him. Displeased, he pinched her nose. "I get jealous when you praise another man like that."

'Then tell me,' Diana said as she smiled cheekily, "is Professor Hughes a good man?"

Was Jim Hughes a good man?

Julian wasn't able to arrive at an answer just yet, because he hadn't received any news from Noel.

He still had a pathetic amount of information regarding Jim Hughes.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1278

Was that man truly so clean?

Was he just an ordinary and promising pharmacy professor at a university, or had he reached a level where not even Julian could uncover any information about him?

Putting those thoughts aside... Based on their few interactions, Julian decided, "In any case, he's not a bad person."

Diana smiled, as if she had seen through his tough exterior. She simply wrapped her hand around his neck, and the two of them walked towards the room. She maintained her warm smile, and let up on teasing him.

"You clearly already think Jim is a good person, but won't admit it due to your appreciation for him. Julian, why are you so cute and like to get jealous?"

Even though she was in her mid-twenties, she seemed to become more youthful as she aged. The way she spoke was almost as cute as Betty. In an instant, Julian's heart softened.

A tough man with a tender heart.

That was who Julian was at this moment. Facing his wife's gaze, he nodded, effectively agreeing with Diana's assessment of Jim. However, he didn't say it out loud, and instead decided to tease her.

"I don't like to just get jealous. I like something else, too." "Mango? Durian? Or is it my specialty soup?" Diana asked. The little scatterbrain had developed a stronger craving for food since her pregnancy. Mango and durian had clearly become her favorites.

Now, she was attributing this craving to him.

Julian smiled. With a simple turn of his head, he signaled Layla to prepare the two fruits as dessert after dinner.

Then, he continued to look at Diana. "It's not the soup."

"Not my soup..."

What could it be?

Diana was momentarily at a loss.

"You really don't know me at all."

Way to hit it where it hurt, huh? Seeing how Diana was unable to say anything, Julian wore a wounded expression.

"You can't even figure out what I like?"

"Royal blue cuffs? The black shirt you're wearing?" Diana asked. She began to think more broadly.

Julian's hand gradually tightened around her waist.

"You."

His breath grew warmer. When it was directed at her ear, it made her earlobes tingle.

Diana instantly understood what was happening. Julian had been abstaining for a long time, and was starting to miss the action.

However...

She glanced around the room, and felt timid. Clearing her throat, she said shyly, "I haven't reached the third month of my pregnancy. There's still two more weeks to go. Once I reach three months, my pregnancy will be stable. So..."

After all, it was daytime, and there were servants bustling around in the villa.

Diana felt a bit embarrassed to continue.

Looking up, she saw Julian encouraging her with his gaze. She swallowed, then leaned on him. Reaching up to him on her tiptoes, she smiled and whispered in his ears, "In two weeks, you can do whatever you want."

But Julian shook his head repeatedly, and refused. "No."

Diana paused, feeling a bit embarrassed. She had already said it like this, but she still faced rejection.

What was the difference between this, and taking off her clothes yet the other party wouldn't even look at her?

She felt like she had humiliated herself.

Instantly, she was unhappy. She flicked her hand, and turned away from him.

She decided not to snuggle up to him any longer and headed to the dining room alone, huffing in frustration.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1279

Layla was busy setting the table. The Fulcher family had many traditions; they had different tablecloths for every meal, a rule established by the late Madam Fulcher. She believed that anyone who enjoyed their meals was someone who loved life. As an elderly lady, she wanted to be one who loved life.

Now, she was gone, but her habits and spirit remained forever.

Diana watched Layla bustling around, and suddenly felt her eyes welling up with tears.

Julian had followed behind her. Upon seeing her standing still, he understood her emotions instantly. He held her hand again.

"Let's not argue anymore, okay? If Grandma finds out, she might want to take me away in her dreams tonight."

"...What nonsense are you spouting?"

Madam Fulcher wouldn't want to take her beloved eldest grandson away so early.

"Are you not angry anymore?"

Seeing Diana talking to him again, a smug smile graced Julian's lips. Before Diana could react, he swiftly planted a kiss on her cheek.

Their affectionate relationship was well known within the Fulcher family, but such intimacy was rarely displayed so openly in front of others. Today, everyone around them was getting a taste of it. They also witnessed the look in Julian's eyes—one that showed that Diana was the only person in his world.

"Don't worry," Julian said. He embraced her, and they returned to their affectionate state, walking toward the chairs at the dining table. "In two weeks, I'll definitely satisfy you."

He said it as if they were discussing their dinner plans. With so many people around, Diana couldn't refute him. All she could do was blush and pinch his hand lightly.

Layla saw this, and sighed in relief.

She thought she had once again misspoken and given the wrong impression, potentially causing discord between the couple. She had felt guilty—to her surprise, Julian and Diana seemed to be getting along better than ever.

It looked like the couple wasn't affected at all.

"I won't blabber anymore," she vowed, smacking her own mouth twice as a self-inflicted punishment.

In the past, Julian would've certainly made Layla return to the Fulcher Manor on her own for a while, to cool off and see if she'd still be so talkative next time.

However, this time, he didn't. Since remarrying Diana, he had indeed become much more composed, especially when around her.

"It's alright," Julian said. "If it weren't for you, I wouldn't have had the opportunity to give away the shares and the houses so quickly."

Diana became a bit nervous as Julian mentioned this.

Julian had a more relaxed attitude about the houses since the transfer had already been completed, but Diana still had some reservations. The houses

were incredibly expensive, and transferring them back would incur significant expenses.

Diana had a thrifty lifestyle, and considered this expenditure unnecessary.

She explained, "I can accept keeping the houses, but the shares... They're too important. I can't imagine participating in high-level company or shareholder meetings to vote on important decisions. I have no knowledge about Fulcher Inc.'s business, and I'm not capable of handling such important matters."

Julian replied confidently, "What's wrong with you participating? When the time comes, you can sit on my lap. We'll see who dares to pull you down."

Diana blinked. "...You really want me to sit on your lap during important meetings?"

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1280

"Why not?" Julian countered. "If you don't sit on your husband's lap, whose lap would you sit on?"

Diana didn't want to sit on anyone's lap or participate in shareholder meetings; she simply wanted to return the shares.

"You have the shares and what Grandma gave you," Julian said sincerely. "With them, you can do whatever you want in Richburgh. Hell, you can even walk into everyone on the streets, and they wouldn't say a thing."

He'd be an influential figure among the men, and she'd be one among the women.

Diana somehow recalled this line from a TV drama, and couldn't help but laugh.

"Why would I do that?" she scolded him playfully, her actions making Julian's throat dry.

Diana felt that her current body was slightly plumper than before. She was worried about regaining the postpartum weight, which had led to restrictive eating habits.

“That sounds like such an inconvenient thing to do. It’s better to be a decent person.”

Julian nodded in agreement. “In any case, the shares are in your name.

Grandma’s watching over us from heaven, and she’d certainly be pleased with my choice. Given your personality, you wouldn’t leave us even if someone tried to seduce you, especially now that you’re carrying all the Fulcher family wealth on your shoulders.”

Julian spoke with confidence.

“You’ll be my wife for the rest of your life.”

Diana chuckled. “I didn’t know you had this plan in mind.”

“What else could it be?” Julian smiled. “Who else but me would find your sense of responsibility so attractive?”

“But I’m a mother of four now. Who would try to seduce me?”

Julian was the only one who treated her like a precious gem all the time.

By now, all the food had been served and Julian had brought Betty downstairs.

Betty had woken up early in the morning and, like Julian, took a nap afterward.

However, her nap had been much longer than Julian’s. She was still somewhat groggy as she sat on the chair.

“Mommy,” she mumbled sleepily from her seat.

Diana’s eyes softened. “Sweetie, what would you like to eat? I’ll put them on your plate, okay?”

At the moment, Betty didn’t have much of an appetite. Even though it was time to eat, she appeared listless. Diana was worried about her growth and nutritional intake.

Her face darkened slightly. “Betty, didn’t you hear Mommy talking to you?”

A storm was brewing, and Julian glanced at her. He swiftly defused Diana's temper, bringing a small spoon over.

"Here, you go ahead and eat first."

At this moment, the formerly cold and unfeeling CEO found himself, quite invisibly, changing roles with his warm and tender wife.

Their roles had been completely reversed.

However, Layla wasn't surprised by this scene. It played out nearly every day in the Fulcher household. Julian had truly become a husband who doted on his darling wife.

He signaled to Diana to let it go, and as usual, he took care of Betty during meal times. He scooped a spoonful of egg custard, and offered it to Betty.

"Try this."

Betty glanced at it, opened her mouth, and took a bite. She finished it all without a word. She ate silently, but as she savored her meal, her eyes gradually brightened. It appeared eating had improved her mood, her energy, and her alertness.

"You certainly know how to handle her," Diana said. With Julian's care, she couldn't help but feel that she fell short in taking care of the children.

Not just getting Betty to eat her meal, but also...