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Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 321

Vans blinked, shocked.

What did Julian say? His wife?

Vans shot Diana a skeptical look, as if asking her why she wasn't protesting the title Julian had called her.

Julian saw Vans looking at Diana; he wrapped his arm around her waist and glared at Vans.

"What are you looking at?"

Vans was now thoroughly confused and disturbed at the same time. He looked as if he wanted to pull Diana away from Julian right away, but also didn't dare move due to Julian's intimidating glare.

After all, Julian was his best friend. But... He was only being a good Samaritan by helping Diana out, wasn't he?

Diana saw the confused look on Vans's face and found it hilarious. Since she had her fill, she wouldn't tease him anymore. Just as she was about to speak, Julian tightened his grip on her waist.

In Vans's point of view, it looked like Diana wanted to step away from Julian. However, Julian was holding her back when his hold tightened.

Diana was pregnant! What if Julian was too forceful?!

Besides, with Julian around, Diana couldn't go to her checkup.

Vans considered his options, then straightened up and said, "Julian, come here. I have something important to tell you."

When Julian saw how Vans racked his brains so desperately, he almost couldn't stop himself from teasing Vans. Upon recalling how his good friend had teamed up with Diana to deceive him, he decided Vans deserved this little show they were putting on.

Giving Vans a lazy glance, Julian asked, "Why? Are you dying?"

Vans nearly burst in frustration at Julian's words, and even Diana couldn't take it anymore. She poked Julian

lightly.

"Julian..."

Julian didn't expect Diana to defend Vans. He lowered his head to look Diana in her eyes and warned, "Don't speak up for him. I'll get jealous."

Diana was speechless. Fine! She would keep quiet.

To Vans, however, it looked like a pregnant woman was being tortured by her unreasonable husband. After all, Julian had a history of trying to abort the children Diana was carrying before.

Vans felt his anxiety climb higher due to those thoughts, and he called out again, "Julian!"

His tone sounded more serious than before, and he even reached out to pull Julian's arm.

"Come on. Walk with me for a bit."

"Why?" Julian replied casually. Even without exerting the slightest effort to resist, Vans was unable to move

his friend at all.

Julian leveled a cold gaze on Van and said flatly, "If you're not dying, I won't go outside with you."

With that, he brushed off Vans's hand and pulled Diana toward the gynecology department.

"I have to accompany her for her examination. You can go about your business."

How could Vans let that happen?!

If Julian went with Diana, he would find out that she was pregnant!

Vans was almost jumping in panic. He was sorely tempted just to close his eyes and knock Julian out. But if he did that, he might really lose his life!

Vans didn't dare take that risk.

Yet if Julian continued this way, it seemed Vans wouldn't have a choice.

Seeing his right hand raised to strike the back of Julian's neck, Diana hastily intervened and stopped Vans in time. "Dr. Stanley! He knows about my pregnancy! Don't do anything rash!"

Diana never thought that Vans would do anything to Julian for her sake; of course, she wouldn't ignore it when he was about to dig a hole for himself!

However, Vans was confused by her exclamation.

"He? Who?"

Diana pointed to the man standing beside her, who was also looking at Vans with a smile.

"Then why don't you run?!" Vans asked, his mind buzzing with all sorts of scenarios of what was unfolding

before him.

"Vans, there's something wrong with your brain, isn't there?" Julian raised his voice, which was laced with a

hint of disbelief.

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Julian's raised voice startled Vans and cleared his mind almost instantly. Vans looked at Julian before asking Diana, "Are you saying... Julian knows about your pregnancy, and he's not going after you for it?"

"Yes," Diana replied with a nod, then looked at him with a gentle smile. "Thank you for helping me hide it

before."

"It's nothing," Vans replied numbly.

He was sincerely happy for them. He was also relieved that he no longer had to hide her pregnancy from Julian, and was even more excited that Julian had really accepted the babies Diana was carrying.

It was proof that he hadn't made the wrong decision in helping Diana to escape the abortion.

Wait... Something was wrong.

Vans's eyes suddenly widened comically when the crux of the matter occurred to him, and he asked, "Julian, you...you don't blame me for keeping this from you, do you?"

Oh, what a fool to have only thought of it now!

Julian sneered, "What do you think?"

When Vans heard Julian's reply, he hightailed it out of there. In just a few moments, the gynecology department was empty.

Diana was surprised at how fast Vans had run off, and she looked at Julian before asking, "Do you want to call him and tell him there's no need to be afraid? Back then in the operation theater, it was thanks to his help...that we still have our babies today."

This was her indirectly speaking up for Vans.

"It's not like I blamed him," Julian said with a happy glint in his eyes. He pushed Diana gently toward the doctor's office and continued, "Go ahead for your checkup."

He would look for Vans and have a smoke with the latter.

"I'll pick you up later," Julian said as he instructed Noel to send someone to guard the stairway. "Don't worry about security."

What could go wrong at the hospital?

Diana looked at him awkwardly. "Go on ahead."

The checkup went well, and the doctor informed her that her babies were developing well.

Diana took the checkup result, intended to show it to Julian when she saw him. She didn't think he would be back yet, but when she left the ultrasound room, she saw him standing in the doorway waiting for her.

"Have you settled things with Vans?"

"Yeah," Julian replied, looking down and reaching for the pregnancy checkup result. He skimmed through the paper with a serious look for a while, before looking up suddenly and saying, "I don't understand anything about this."

Diana couldn't help herself. "I didn't think there was anything in this world you wouldn't understand, Julian.

There were many things in this world he didn't understand. Otherwise, he wouldn't have waited until now to comprehend the feelings he had for her.

After going through this mini-crisis, he was obviously more humble than before.

"Could you explain it to me, Mrs. Fulcher?"

Diana didn't understand the report either, so she said, "Well, it doesn't really matter. It just indicates that our babies are healthy and thriving now."

"That's good," Julian said.

He looked around the environment of the public hospital. "Maybe we should switch to private clinics for your future maternity checks, or maybe I'll have the hospital's dean come over instead."

There were too many people here, and he was afraid it would be inconvenient for Diana to come here once

her stomach swelled.

"I'm not that delicate." Diana pouted and hit his arm. Then, she leaned against him and said, "I just want to experience an ordinary life with you, so it's good for us to line up and wait as normal people do."

There were many pregnant women out there who didn't have their husbands with them for their checkups, but she would have Julian by her side for all her future ones.

Thinking about it, having this kind of mundane bliss was a delight.

When Julian saw the wide smile on her lips, he knew she was pleased.

“Why? Do you want to show off your husband?”

Show off her husband?

Diana couldn't help but laugh when she heard that. “Yes, that's right. I just want to show off my husband. No one's husband is as good-looking as mine. Even if there was, they would definitely not be as rich as you are!”

In short, her husband was the best of the best!

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Diana's eyes shone brightly, and sweet words poured out her lips.

It was delightful and refreshing.

Julian had never felt this way before. It was as if he was being rewarded with candy for doing nothing, and the sweet taste lingered on his lips all the way to the bottom of his heart.

He squeezed the pregnancy checkup result in his hand before looking at Diana. Suddenly, he leaned down and dropped a soft kiss on her eyelids.

Diana shuddered lightly, then snapped out of it and slapped his arm.

“What are you doing?”

Her face was flushed like a tomato. There were people all around them!

Also, this was a hospital. It was awkward to do that in public!

Regardless, Julian was unconcerned.

”

“You were just too tempting,” he said with a straight face. He looked down to see the petite woman giving everyone around who was looking at them a strained, polite smile; he quickly opened his coat and said, “Come here.”

Into his arms.

As long as she covered her face, she wouldn't be able to see other people's gazes and wouldn't overthink things.

Diana ducked in.

To people watching from the outside, Julian and Diana's pose reminded a baby kangaroo moving restlessly about in its mother's pouch. However, it was a tall, handsome man instead of a mother kangaroo.

Many were unable to look away, and the scene attracted more attention from the surrounding people. The look on Julian's face was completely different from when he looked at Diana. It was as cold and hard as an ice sculpture. People subconsciously lowered their heads and averted their eyes when he looked around. The heavy pressure in the air was unmistakable; it was simultaneously oppressive and majestic.

Only after Julian and Diana left did someone react and ask, “Why did we avert our eyes just now? Why didn't we just look him in the eyes?”

“I don't know. When that man looked at me, I...couldn't look up.”

Noel had a knowing smile when he heard the people discussing. The heavy pressure in the air that appeared when Julian was around was no joke to endure, but in front of Diana...

He seemed to lose all of the intimidating factors he had.

Especially after he had reconciled with Diana this time.

Noel thought about it carefully, and felt that Julian did indeed treat Diana with special care. It was his negligence for not seeing through his master's thoughts before this; he would remember to remind his

father to treat Diana well in the future.

Noel looked at the two love-struck fools holding each other and walking in front of him. He suddenly understood that to Julian, Diana was an existence far more important than Kayla.

Unfortunately, he never expected that him forgetting to remind his father of this realization because he was so busy with work would result in an irreversible tragedy.

By then, it would already be too late to say anything.

Mr. Carter was still giving Diana the medicine as Kayla had instructed him. He didn't put too big of a dose, and Diana didn't feel anything when she took it.

She was relaxed and felt nothing unusual in her body, so she went on with her life as usual.

While her life seemed to be going well, Kayla's was not.

It was already the fourth day since Julian had broken off all contact with her and told her to contact Noel if she needed anything. In the past four days, there hadn't been a single phone call between them. In fact, there wasn't even a single response to any of the messages she had sent him.

Kayla hadn't expected Julian to be so heartless to this extent, especially since she was still his "savior".

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Kayla grasped the credit for being Julian's savior like a lifeline, refusing to give it up so easily. She even tried hurting herself again during this period of time, but Julian remained staunchly unmoved.

Finally, she was anxious enough and went looking for James.

"Daddy, can you give me Luke's contact info?"

James was a little suspicious. "Why do you want to contact him? Mr. Fulcher messed up Luke so badly the last time because of you! When I contacted his family to arrange Diana's marriage, I didn't dare tell them that she used to be married to Mr. Fulcher. I don't think it's a good idea for you to look for him. What if he gets agitated and hurts you?"

It would've been better if James hadn't mentioned this at all, because Kayla's thoughts ran wild the moment she processed his words.

At the abandoned factory, she thought Julian had been so ruthless to Luke because of her. Now that she thought about it again, perhaps Julian was already fully inclined toward Diana at that time instead.

In other words, Julian had been merciless toward Luke not because of her, but because of Diana!

But why?!

It was her, Kayla, who had saved Julian back when she was a child!

Everyone thought that was the case for many years. Even though Diana was the one who had actually saved Julian, no one actually knew about it. Wasn't that the same as saying that Diana hadn't saved him at all?

Kayla took the credit for saving Julian belonged to her for granted; naturally, the man himself should also be

hers!

To treat her this way after all that was cruel and heartless of him!

In that case, she shouldn't be blamed for hardening her heart to get back at them.

"You don't have to worry about it," Kayla said after some thought. "I need to ask him for something. Since Julian's with me, he wouldn't do anything to me."

James didn't know that Julian had cut off connections with Kayla, so he immediately relaxed after hearing his daughter's words.

"Well, that's good. Do your best, okay? Get Diana to divorce him as soon as possible. I'm still waiting to boast about how I'm the Fulchers' father-in-law!"

When the time came, James would put out a big announcement to make up for the three years he couldn't do

so when Diana married Julian.

"Okay," Kayla said with a nod, and hung up.

Soon after, James sent Luke's contact information to her. She hesitated for a moment before finally calling

the number.

"I want to give you a wife. Are you interested?"

After Julian dealt with Luke, he was now not only physically disabled, but even all his wealth from the Pabian family had been cut off. He was now locked up in the house all day. Although he was well-fed and taken care of, his heart was full of resentment and dissatisfaction.

He wanted to find a woman to vent his frustrations on, but he couldn't even do that in the state he was in

right now.

Luke was pleased to hear Kayla say that, but when he recalled Julian, he asked coldly, "Are you guys out to get me again?"

"No," Kayla said firmly. "You should understand that I'm not your enemy. In fact... I'm also a thorn in Julian's side right now."

She placed herself in the same position as Luke and heard the other breath sharply in surprise before she continued, "I really want to join forces with you, Luke."

Luke didn't respond.

"Julian hurt you. Are you really willing to let him go and live his life like everything is fine? And that woman that caught your eye before... Don't you want to try her out?"

That woman...

Luke recalled Diana's wonderful features and her bright eyes that were as calm as a lake. Just a brief look of them could hook a person's soul and drag them to drown in her eyes.

She was indeed a rare beauty.

The temptation was too great, and Luke finally replied, "So, you're that woman's fake?"

The word he used was like a knife to her heart, but Kayla maintained her smile. “Yes, that’s me. I was at the abandoned factory and tried to help you by recording the video.”

A smile immediately stretched on Luke’s scarred face.

“Alright. Tell me, what should I do to get her and have my revenge on Julian?”

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Getting Diana would already be enough as revenge on Julian, but Kayla wouldn’t tell Luke that, lest he discover that Diana was important to Julian and grow fearful.

It was best kept as a secret.

Regardless, it seemed Luke had taken the bait.

“That’s easy,” Kayla said with a mysterious smile. “In a week, Julian will have a very important meeting. On that day, you just have to...”

Luke quickly agreed to her plan.

Things were going so well, and Kayla kept cackling after she hung up.

If Julian still showed no signs of coming around after a week, then her plans with Luke would go on. That night, Kayla had a good night’s sleep; something very rare in recent days.

Diana had been feeling restless for the past few days. She was worried that her mood would affect her babies. She even went to get an electrocardiogram, but it showed that she was very healthy.

“I still feel very anxious,” Diana said to Julian as they exited the hospital.

Julian had even asked the hospital’s dean to look at her test results, and he assured Diana that everything

was fine.

If there wasn’t anything physically wrong with her, perhaps it was something psychological in nature

instead?

His brows furrowed deeply. “Have you been having trouble at the company lately?”

The last time he had invited the people from Esteem Creations for a meal, he could clearly tell how Diana’s

situation in the company was.

“Or is Kayla giving you a hard time?”

“Kayla hasn’t been coming into work lately,” Diana said, a small hint of joy hidden in her voice. “It seems you really haven’t been in touch with her lately.”

“Yeah. I cut off all contact between us. I placed Noel to be solely responsible for her.”

However, Noel hadn’t been keeping him informed about Kayla’s movements lately.

“My colleagues haven’t done anything lately. It’s been peaceful,” Diana said as she recalled her days. She suddenly looked up and giggled as she rubbed her abdomen. “Maybe because things have been going so well lately that I’m unused to it...”

She smiled and lowered her head to get into the car. “It’s okay, I guess. The results show that I’m healthy, my work is going well, and I have Mr. Fulcher supporting me. Maybe I’m uneasy because everything’s going too perfectly.”

Julian could understand her feelings.

“I’m

sorry,

,” he apologized sincerely. “The time before this... I shouldn’t have treated you that way.”

Just because she was happy now, didn’t mean she would forget the past.

Diana was somewhat reluctant to talk about the past. She would brush it off each time, and simply said, "It's fine. Didn't we already say that as long as the future is good and that there is one, that's the most important thing?"

This was especially so after she saw his determination in dealing with his relationship with Kayla now.

Her previous fear that Julian would still keep switching her and Kayla hadn't come to realization yet.

The feeling of being loved and favored was gradually coming back. She was even secure enough to ask, " Julian, is it really me that you like and not Kayla?"

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"Yes, I'm sure," Julian said as he closed the window and placed a cushion at Diana's back so that she would be more comfortable; his handsome face was filled with tenderness and care.

"I've gone to great lengths to confirm my feelings, and there's absolutely no room for error, much less... thinking of you as someone's so-called substitute."

Julian knew he had been a real bastard the past month.

"How could a person subconsciously be nice to another person if they didn't like them?"

Nowadays, words came easier to Julian whenever he spoke to Diana. These words seemed to be pent up in his chest for a long time, and he couldn't stop them from pouring out once he started.

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"Okay, enough," Diana interrupted Julian. "I get it. As long as you can separate your feelings for me and Kayla and stop putting the three of us in this awkward relationship again, that's enough for me."

"It won't happen again," Julian assured her.

He was about to add something else, but when he saw Diana looking exhausted, with her eyes closed and looking like she wanted to do nothing more than rest, he stopped.

Diana didn't have bad morning sickness so far in her pregnancy, her energy levels were clearly much lower

than before.

Julian didn't say anything else but silently asked the driver to put on some soft music, then pulled Diana closer to rest her head on his shoulder more comfortably.

Diana leaned on his shoulder. She didn't sleep, and didn't have any intention to.

She simply felt...apprehensive.

She worried about the sincerity of Julian's feelings, and about reconnecting with him because of the babies she was carrying. She was also uneasy about...

Whether he would change his mind again.

Even though he kept assuring her he wouldn't, and though he had done many embarrassing and awkward things in the past because he had confused his feelings, it was undeniable that his actions had hurt her deeply.

Diana once thought that the relationship between her and Julian would gradually repair itself once they got back together regardless of the past, but now, it didn't seem to be that way. Their past was akin to broken glass; once there was a crack, it was difficult to repair it completely.

Not to mention, his actions impacted her a lot and had caused her great despair.

Still, those things weren't important for the time being. Whenever she was sad, she only needed to look at Julian to somehow gain a mysterious power that would push all the bad things that had happened to the back

of her mind.

Even so, she would never forget the look in Julian's eyes when he asked for a divorce, nor his obsession and preference he had for Kayla over her once upon a time.

Although Julian and Kayla were no longer in contact, she still couldn't help but think about what would happen in the future.

Would they really have a beautiful and healthy future together as a family?

He really wouldn't...suddenly say that Kayla was actually the one he loved, right?

The thought was akin to a vine wrapped tightly around her heart. Diana turned pale from the emotions that crashed down on her as she realized something.

She didn't have as much trust in Julian as she had in the past.

There were additional feelings in her love: doubt and uncertainty.

Like poison, it ate away at her sanity bit by bit, making it impossible for her to enjoy the present with Julian.

Thinking about Julian, she subconsciously blurted out, "Will you really love me always and never change your mind?"

Her heart beat wildly in her chest as soon as those words escaped her lips. Tensing up, she held her breath in anticipation of his answer.

Julian initially thought he had misheard, but after pondering over her words for a bit, he realized that he was in truth the source of Diana's uneasiness in the past few days.

Should he be happy that he had such an influence on his wife?

Diana heard him chuckle; his voice was clear and bright like the afternoon sun on a beautiful spring day, making one feel warm.

"Of course," Julian replied firmly.

round as long a

Women were silly. They were willing to stick they heard something good.

Diana's lips gradually lifted into a smile...

Until she felt Julian's hands slowly reaching out to touch her abdomen.

"We even have children together already. What are you worried about?"

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The smile on Diana's lips gradually fell away.

It was precisely because she was pregnant that she was worried.

Worried that his love for her wasn't sincere, and that he was only doing it for the babies and to fulfill Madam Fulcher's wish to have great-grandchildren.

Even if those reasons were only a small part of why he had chosen to reconcile with her and not bring up divorce anymore, she still felt like cold water had poured down on her. Her anticipation vanished instantly.

The actual fact, in the end, was that he had done it all for the babies.

Men were liars through and through.

At this moment, Diana once again experienced the true meaning of that saying, and pushed Julian's heartfelt confession to the back of her mind.

If his feelings weren't completely genuine, then...she didn't need to surrender her whole heart to him either.

They only needed to uphold the status quo for the babies' sake. As long as they were healthy and happy, then as their mother, she felt it was worth it.

When Diana remained silent for a long time, Julian leaned down and kissed her forehead. "What's wrong? Why did you become so quiet?"

"It's nothing," Diana replied, turning her head to rub against his shoulder, effectively wiping away the traces of his kiss. "I'm just feeling rested and comfortable right now."

Julian smiled and continued to rub her abdomen gently. "It'll be even better when they start to move."

He eagerly looked forward to seeing if the babies would take after Diana or not.

“Should we check their gender when they get older?” Diana asked, thinking he was still quite concerned

about this matter.

“No,” Julian replied without hesitation. “There’s no point doing so. I’ll like them no matter their gender.”

After all, they would be his and Diana’s babies.

Madam Fulcher was also looking forward to their birth.

“Anyway, Grandma would break my legs if she found out.”

Diana couldn’t help but laugh at the thought of the kindly old woman doing such a thing. 1

“That’s true. But if they really are girls, are you sure it’ll be fine?”

She was afraid Julian would recall his bad memories, and feel upset and disappointed when the children were born. It would certainly affect their parent–child relationship. If Julian knew their genders earlier, perhaps he’d have had enough time to prepare himself so that his disappointment wouldn’t surface.

“Of course it’s fine,” Julian said, pinching her nose gently. “Do I look that fragile to you?”

“Not really,” Diana said, shaking her head. She added truthfully, “I was only afraid it’d affect the babies.”

Her expression turned serious as she looked at the handsome man before her. “I won’t allow anyone to hurt

them, not even you.”

Diana had never shown him such a tough and determined side of herself. Rather than feeling threatened, Julian looked highly amused.

“You look like a mother hen defending her chicks against all odds.”

As he said that, he reached out to tickle her. When she squealed in surprise at the action, he laughed and said seriously, "Don't worry. I'll love them as much as you do."

They were both looking forward to meeting their children, after all.

When Diana saw the serious, domineering man showing her such goofy actions, the previous bit of unpleasantness in her heart dissipated completely. She laughed along with him.

Their happy laughter was clearly infectious, as even the driver's lips quirked up into a smile as he drove.

It would be great if time could go on like this where they were happy and at peace.

Yet, it wasn't meant to be.

The next day, Diana returned home and did some overtime after work. After sending the monthly dress design she had promised Fanny, she was suddenly hit with a wave of dizziness.

Since it was her first pregnancy, she didn't want to be careless and brush off anything that happened to her.

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Diana hurriedly asked Julian to call Vans over. Vans was a general practitioner with experience in gynecology. He was also a highly educated and experienced doctor.

After an examination, Vans declared that Diana was fine and healthy. Confused, he scratched his head and said, "All the indicators are pretty good. You're in perfect health."

He turned to Julian and asked, "Have you been pressuring her lately?"

That was impossible!

Julian treated Diana like fragile glass now, worried that he would break her by accident. She was even more precious to him than in the previous three years of their marriage, so how could he have pressured her?

Julian looked at Diana's computer, which was still turned on, and knew she must've done extra work after her day job. Unhappy, he said in a hard tone, "You should stop working at Esteem Creations. It's a crappy job."

Diana was unwilling, of course. She had to overcome a lot of difficulties to establish her roots at Esteem Creations. Even those who used to dislike her praised her designs, which was a good outcome for her and the key to her comeback as someone starting over from scratch.

There was no way she would return to being the same person as before and live in the Fulcher family without any career aspirations.

"I'm not giving up my job at Esteem Creations," she declared firmly.

"How much money can you make there?" Julian scoffed. "If you want to earn money and work, Fulcher Inc. has plenty of jobs for you to pick from. I can even make a big office just for you-

"

Before he could finish, Diana interrupted him, "And then what?"

There was a sharp look in her eyes; an emotion he hadn't seen in her before, and it struck him as unfamiliar.

For a moment, he even felt that perhaps he had never really known Diana. Yet, her next words were akin to a sharp knife that cut his heart deeply.

"Are you going to force me to stay on your turf? Lock me in a cage like a bird? And when you want to love someone else, will you tell me to get lost? Will you pester me to return the money you've spent on me and demand it back immediately because you want to sever our ties as soon as possible? Is that it?"

These were all things he had once done to Diana.

Diana had always talked about how the future was more important than the past, so he genuinely thought she didn't care about it anymore.

Until now, Julian finally understood that there were just some things that would never go away.

His face turned several shades red as the thoughts raced through his mind. Just as Diana thought he was going to storm out of the door, he suddenly walked up to her, helped her put away her computer, and said softly, "Get some rest. We'll talk about it tomorrow."

Julian knew she was doing this because she cared about the babies. He was also afraid she wouldn't listen to him and would return to working once he left, so he added, "Just think of it as for the babies' sake."

For the babies' sake.

Diana never realized that children could really change a man. It turned out children could really make the love in a relationship take a backseat and make everything about them.

But wasn't that what she had wanted in the first place?

The more considerate Julian was for the babies, the more assured she was to stay in the Fulcher family. It was much better than her previous panic, when she would often worry if Julian would do something to them.

She had to be content with what she had.

So, Diana smiled and said, "Sorry. I didn't mean to say all those things to you. Don't take it to heart, okay?"

For the sake of the babies, it was necessary to maintain a superficial peace between them.

Diana thought she was doing the exact same thing that Julian had done, which was to suppress his temper. Somehow, Julian found the smile on her face to be an eyesore.

He became inexplicably irritated, and a hint of anger flashed on his face.

"Stop smiling, Diana."

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Diana looked up, discontent and shock finally showing in her eyes.

Those were what she was truly feeling.

At this moment, she was not happy.

Julian wanted to pretend he didn't see her emotions, but he didn't like how she forced herself to smile. It made his throat feel like it was stuffed with rocks, and his heart felt tight.

He placed his hands gently on Diana's head and continued softly, "Diana, I'm your husband. You can be honest with me. Laugh if you're happy, cry if you're sad, and curse if you're upset. You don't have to put up an act with me, and you don't have to pretend to feel what you're not."

His voice was loud and clear, and every word he said pierced Diana's heart deeply.

The things he told her to do were things she could only do if she was sure she was loved and favored by the man standing before her.

But right now, she wasn't confident that he did.

Diana rubbed her baby bump as she lay on the bed. The two didn't speak for a long time, and let time slowly pass in silence.

Julian's eyes burned brightly as if he wouldn't rest until she said something, but what was there to talk about between them if it wasn't about the babies?

In the end, Diana couldn't endure his gaze and averted her eyes. Her voice was soft when she spoke, sounding as if it would scatter in the wind. "If I'm happier and smile more, it'd be good for the babies."

"But what about yourself?" Julian asked, looking at her with deeply troubled eyes. "You're always talking about the babies, doing this and that for them all the time. But do you think the babies want you to do so many things you're actually unwilling to?"

Compared to the babies, Julian was much more concerned about Diana's feelings at this moment.

Diana raised an eyebrow at his words. "Would you still think I was important if I didn't tell you about my pregnancy?"

Julian felt a wave of dizziness hit him, feeling like someone had taken a stick and hit him hard on the head. with it. He looked at her in shock, and exclaimed, "How could you think that?!"

Wanting to get back together with her and not wanting to divorce her, none of those had anything to do with the baby!

Julian had simply understood what his heart truly wanted; he wanted to be with her!

He gradually calmed down, and even hung his head low. "Do you really...not understand my heart?"

"I..." Diana was speechless.

Julian was crying!

He was actually shedding tears in front of her!

Diana was suddenly at a loss for words at how to respond to him. Troubled, she began hesitantly, "I..."

"Stop," Julian said as he approached her. His eyes were misty, and he pulled her into his arms and embraced her tightly.

"I'm sorry."

Julian really, really loved her.

He also hoped she would never feel sadness or grief anymore, and not feel overwhelmed because of him.

Thus, he took the initiative to hold her, assure her, and chase away all her discomfort and frustration.

He rested his head on her shoulder. It was stifling and hot, and Diana could clearly hear his ragged breathing.

She was too frightened to move. "Are you feeling unwell, Julian?"

"No," Julian replied in a voice carrying a hint of uncertainty and helplessness. "I just want...to lean on you."

He tightened his arms around her. "You can never say you don't want me, Diana."

His words echoed repeatedly in Diana's mind. She never imagined she would one day ever hear such vulnerable words from Julian.

At the time, she was also confused. "What's wrong with you, Julian?"

"Nothing," he mumbled motionlessly at her neck. "I was just afraid you wouldn't want me."

Diana snorted. "Don't be S

What right did she have to not want him?

Wasn't he the one holding the reins of their relationship from the very start? He was the one who held power to end it too, wasn't he?

Their marriage, divorce, and not wanting to divorce were all his decisions. Each time, she could only suffer in silence. Everyone who knew them understood full well who loved more between the two.

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After going through so much, Diana didn't want to be as foolish as she was back then. She wasn't going to give all her heart to Julian and rely on him for everything. She assumed he was only staying with her for the sake of the children. Since that was the case, it would be better to lock her feelings away so she wouldn't get

hurt.

Yet now, Julian was telling her that he feared she wouldn't want him anymore.

The sorrow and panic in his words were much too obvious.

Was it really not just for the babies that he had made up with her?

Diana's newly strengthened heart began to waver again at the vulnerability that Julian displayed, especially when she looked into his eyes, which were misted over.

It deeply affected her heart, and she said softly, "I won't leave you."

She placed her hand gently on his back and hugged him back just as tightly.

As long as he wanted her...she would do the same.

In the end, it would still be her loss.

The anger she used to carry with her vanished in that instance.

“But please, in the future, don’t look down on my work. Design is...something I really love.”

Julian lit up and nodded like a child who had been given candy. He also knew how to bargain as he said, Then, you’re not allowed to suppress your true feelings for the babies’ sake. Compared to them, I care more about you.”

Those words confirmed what Diana was thinking—that Julian hadn’t made up with her just for the sake of the babies.

Her heart felt lighter, and her mood lifted. “Really?”

“Of course!” Julian exclaimed. He lifted his head from her neck, traces of redness still around his eyes. It was so unlike the usually calm and ruthless image he displayed. He now looked more like a puppy waiting to be praised by its owner.

But his answer made Diana’s expression gloomy again. “Don’t you like our children?”

Julian was speechless.

Oh my god!

His eyes reddened further.

This was all his fault, wasn’t it? Why did he do all those things to hurt Diana and the babies? All of the things happening to him right now was karma; he was sure of it!

His heart felt tight and stuffy, for he could tell that Diana no longer relied on him wholeheartedly as she used to do in the past.

He couldn’t feel the complete faith and trust she used to have in him, either.

Sorrow washed through him at the thought of how she had matured and grown independent due to the harsh pain and cruel life lessons she was forced to suffer.

And all the pain she had experienced...was all inflicted by him.

Diana wouldn't understand the overwhelming emotions running through him. He was also embarrassed that she actually saw him cry, so he looked skyward and blurted out, "The weather's nice today."

What?

Diana looked outside to see the dark sky, and wondered how the topic had jumped to be about the weather.

Seeing the look in his eyes, however, she panicked and simply played along, "Yeah. There are a lot of stars."

Julian suddenly thought of something and said, "Why don't we name our child Aster?"

Aster, which meant star in Greek.

Diana murmured, "That sounds good."

Besides, it was a unisex name,

However, they had two children.

"Are we going to call the elder child Aster and the younger one Aster Jr?"

"No way," Julian said, rejecting the suggestion instantly. "That sounds so low effort."

He looked down and contemplated for a moment. Diana waited expectantly for him to come up with two

amazing names.

Finally, he said, "Let's call our first child Aster, and our second child Star."

Diana's eyes twitched. "...Get out, Julian!"

Julian was rendered speechless.