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Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 691

“But I...”

Diana was stunned speechless, even before Simon could finish his sentence.

She had only been joking! She didn't expect that it would turn out to be the truth!

In that instant, she felt as if she had been struck by lightning. For a moment, she couldn't believe such a dramatic thing could happen to Julian.

Her lips trembled as she continued off from where Simon stopped. “But... You and Julian don't have the same father.”

Simon didn't even give her time to react. “Yes, you guessed it right.”

No wonder Julian was suddenly so upset!

If Simon and Julian had different fathers, it meant the parents he had always thought were deeply in love had long drifted apart.

Julian must be deeply heartbroken.

He was already the type to keep things to himself, and now, he would surely become even more tormented by keeping this matter to himself.

She turned around immediately, eager to leave. “I want to go home.”

Julian was waiting for her.

She needed to go back and comfort him.

Even if she couldn't do anything, she would hug him. She was certain he would feel her presence and sincerity.

Diana had never felt this flustered in her life; not when she was trapped in a warehouse at a hotel, or dragged to the Pabians' residence, or even when Simon ordered his men to keep an eye on Julian in the past.

Right now, she felt like she had lost her soul.

Simon watched her, chuckling.

“Is it necessary?”

Julian had only learned a fact. Was something so insignificant worth having someone feeling great distress over him?

What about Simon?

His own parents abandoned him and threw him to the Channing family right after his birth. What about his feelings?

Simon took a deep breath and stopped Diana, who was desperately trying to run. “If you go back now, you’ll really hurt him.”

His words were like a curse, instantly pulling Diana back. She didn’t even look back when she desperately tried to run.

“What does that mean?”

“Julian doesn’t know about our relationship yet,” Simon replied, glancing at her. He deliberately twisted his words, saying, “Oliver didn’t tell him about us being brothers. He only mentioned something related to business. After all, Fulcher Inc. has been quite turbulent recently.”

Diana knew about this.

When Fulcher Inc.’s stocks plummeted, the entire A-share market was shaken. She had seen it on the front page of the news.

“So it was just a business...” She immediately relaxed before sighing, flushed slightly from the sudden relief. “Okay. That’s good. He doesn’t know yet, fortunately...”

Still, sooner or later, Julian would come across this fact and realize that his parents weren’t as loving as he had imagined.

He had lost his parents at a young age, and cherished his memories of them. Having a stepbrother making an appearance out of the blue would be a huge blow to him.

Suddenly, she thought of something important and looked up at Simon. “Did Grandma know about this?”

Simon sneered, "You mean my identity?"

Diana nodded. "Yes."

"Of course she knew," Simon hissed through gritted teeth, obviously holding some resentment for the late old lady. "She personally carted me to the Channing family straight from the hospital."

He was less than three hours old at that time.

"Why mention that dead old woman?"

Anyway, she's already dead.

Dead, and six feet under.

With her gone, there was no one left to help the Channing family.

The Channings must fend for themselves and snatch what belonged to them from Fulcher Inc.

The Channing and Fulcher families would inevitably clash sooner or later.

That would be the only time Simon would have the opportunity to break free from the Channings and prepare to seize everything from the Fulcher family, including Diana.

He would take everything his brother had!

Diana was displeased with how Simon mentioned Madam Fulcher, and her face turned stiff.

"That's Grandma. How can you speak about her like that?"

"Then how should I speak? Should I call her Grandma too?" Simon asked deliberately, his tone mocking. "Or should I call my dear brother and ask for his opinion first to see if he agrees with me calling her Grandma?"

"No!" Diana instinctively shouted. When she saw that he didn't actually take out his phone, she slowly breathed a sigh of relief. "Don't tell him..."

She didn't want Julian to find out about his blood relationship with Simon so soon.

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Just then, Simon said, "Your phone's ringing.

Diana pulled her phone out, and saw that Nina was calling her.

"Where are you?!" Nina sounded particularly anxious. "Mr. Fulcher has been looking for you all day, but now we can't reach him! Did you two meet up or not?"

Diana was taken aback by the information. "Julian was looking for me?"

How could he have been looking for her when she hadn't even received a single phone call?

"Yeah," Nina replied, then briefly told Diana about the events of the evening. "When Vans came to see me, he happened to receive a call from Julian. He wanted Vans to ask me what time you'd be coming home. He thought we were together."

After Nina finished speaking, she paused before asking, "He still hasn't contacted you?"

"No," Diana said, and she quickly looked at her phone. There was one missed call, but it was from an hour ago.

Since then, there hadn't been a call or even a text message.

That was the reason she didn't pay attention to her phone and instead had been discussing with Simon about his blood relationship with Julian.

After thinking for a moment, Diana suddenly understood." He probably thought I went home."

Tonight was New Year's Eve.

Once it was past midnight, it would be the new year. There was no reason for her to stay outside for too long. Julian must have assumed she would return home soon.

That's why he didn't call again.

She didn't want to stay outside for too long and worry him. And so, she immediately hung up the phone and said goodbye to Simon.

"I need to go home," she said. "Julian's waiting for me to celebrate the new year."

"Celebrating the new year? What's so great about it?" Simon scoffed. "It's just a bunch of family members sitting together, complimenting each other, and eating and drinking. It's not worth your concern."

"It's not like that," Diana explained. "Julian and I..."

She paused, thinking about the late Madam Fulcher and their two lost babies who had passed away this year.

A painful sensation welled up in her heart, and she said with difficulty, "Julian and I only have each other now."

This New Year was important to them.

They had to be there for each other.

"And New Year isn't just about feasting. It's about being by his side, staying up until midnight, and wishing each other Happy New Year. That's all we need," she said, sounding slightly exhausted.

Julian rarely drank alcohol, either. The two of them couldn't afford to drink much.

Nina still had outstanding debts with Vans, so she wouldn't be going back for New Year's Eve this time.

Diana and Julian didn't need to eat a lot of food, either. Just a few bites of some small dishes would satisfy them.

Thinking of that scene, Diana smiled and said eagerly, "With the arrival of the new year, there will be new wishes and hopes."

Every New Year, one would always have the belief that the current year would be a good one.

How could something so hopeful not be worth caring about?

After she finished speaking, she was about to turn around and leave; but was stopped by Simon.

“If you dare to leave, I guarantee you that Julian will know about the existence of his stepbrother immediately.”

He emphasized the latter part of the sentence, causing her heart to tremble.

“And then? What’s the point of telling him now?”

“No point,” Simon said. “I just can’t stand seeing you all so happy during the New Year.”

“Then what’s the point of me staying?”

“If you stay, his New Year’s Eve will be incomplete. He’ll be sad, and that makes me happy. But if you leave, I’ll be even more willing to make him more miserable and let him know the extent of the despicable things his supposedly loving and respectful parents and Madam Fulcher have done!”

Julian would eventually find out about Simon being his halfbrother.

But... Not now.

Diana thought she needed to find time to tell him slowly about it.

Otherwise, considering Julian’s feelings towards his parents, he would truly be devastated.

What she had to do was to minimize the damage this revelation would cause him.

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“Fine. I won’t go back.

Diana understood Simon’s intention. He had been brought to the Channing family at a young age, and as a result, developed a twisted mindset. He had no good feelings toward Julian, and he simply couldn’t stand to see Julian happy or doing well. It wasn’t necessarily about her staying with the Channing family tonight.

“I’ll go to my best friend’s place.”

At this point, she could only trouble Nina. Maybe she could help shield the latter from Vans's harassment.

"I won't return to celebrate the New Year with Julian."

However, she could still make phone calls and video chat with Julian.

As a single, cold bachelor, Simon obviously lacked experience in love. He couldn't think of various ways for lovers to stay in touch. It was possible to spend the New Year with him through electronic devices as long as Simon didn't reveal this information to Julian.

Diana felt reassured by that.

Simon hesitated for a moment, then said, "No."

He pointed to a guest room in the villa where he lived." You'll stay here."

And spend the New Year with him. He wanted to experience what it was like to have Diana accompany him during the New Year.

Diana didn't expect him to be so overbearing. From this perspective, he did resemble Julian; but what did it matter for her to stay here on such an important holiday?

Simon insisted on lying to Diana, making her believe that Julian still didn't know about their blood relationship.

In a stern tone, he added, "If you refuse, Julian will have one more brother tonight."

In that case, it was better not to refuse.

Diana couldn't imagine the impact this would have on Julian.

Most importantly, Madam Fulcher had been aware of it too. Yet, she had never mentioned it to Julian before her passing.

This aspect troubled Diana to some extent.

In the end, her bond with Madam Fulcher was too deep. Diana didn't think Madam Fulcher had done anything wrong. She believed that Madam Fulcher must have had her own reasons. Moreover, not telling Julian was probably a

way to protect him, to shield him from knowing that his parents had long fallen out of love, and to protect him from getting hurt.

However...

Madam Fulcher didn't mention this matter before her passing. Did Simon deceive her? Their so-called brotherly relationship might not be as outrageous as it seemed.

With this thought in mind, Diana said, "Don't threaten me. I won't fall for your tricks. I need evidence."

She stared directly into his eyes. "Give me evidence that proves your connection to the Fulcher family. That's the only way I'll believe you."

Otherwise, she had no reason to be absent from Julian's side on such an important day based solely on Simon's words.

As if Simon had been prepared, he handed her a document." Take a look for yourself."

It was a DNA test report.

"Oliver helped me obtain Julian's sample."

As a precaution, Simon conducted this test early on.

He didn't expect it to come in handy so soon.

Diana couldn't say anything else with the evidence in front of her. Instead, her mind became even more muddled.

The situation had unfolded too suddenly. If it weren't for this DNA test report, she would've thought that although the situation was absurd, she wouldn't feel so shocked.

It was only after she looked through the document that the sense of reality gradually intensified.

She couldn't help but stare at Simon, becoming more and more astonished.

It turned out that her previous sense of familiarity with him and the feeling he had some resemblance to Julian wasn't just an illusion.

Blood relationship like this, regardless of anyone's unwillingness, was an unchangeable fact.

"Fine." Diana tightened her grip on the DNA test report. "I'll stay."

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Diana needed to give herself and Julian some time. She needed to figure out how to tell Julian that Simon was his biological brother, but she couldn't let him hear it from someone else. That was the only way she could minimize the blow to him.

It was almost midnight, but Diana had yet to return.

The pastries on the table had turned cold, and they looked pitifully flat on the plates. Combined with Julian's gloomy expression, it all looked depressing.

But no one dared to ask how to handle the situation.

In the end, Julian ordered in a low voice, "Dump it all."

The servant was hesitant. "What about the ones that ma'am personally made..."

His emotions were hidden beneath his long, thick lashes. His voice sounded low and restrained as he spoke again, "Don't leave anything out."

Instantly, everything was cleared away, and the food was dumped into the trash.

At the same moment, when the clock struck twelve, Diana hurriedly sent the message in the conversation box that had been kept on her screen. It was a simple message: [Happy New Year, Julian.]

After some thought, she quickly added, [I love you.]

Then, she opened the video call function. She made two attempts, but no one answered.

Just as Diana grew anxious and wondered if something had happened, Julian's call came in.

Before this, she hadn't dared to contact him, fearing that bringing up the fact that she wouldn't be coming home for New Year's Eve would only make him angrier. So she decided to wait until now.

Now, with his sudden call, Diana felt a bit nervous.

She cleared her throat softly, making sure her voice sounded sweeter and more pleasant than ever before, and pressed the answer button. "Hello, Julian..."

Her voice sounded so tender, and it made Julian's heart flutter.

Perhaps no one in this world could say his name with such sweetness.

Yet, this sweetness and joy weren't because of him; they were because she was at the Channing family's residence.

Not coming back to celebrate the New Year with him, staying with Oliver there, or spending the night... Was that something to be excited about?

Julian's eyes seemed to be filled with terrifying darkness, like a pouring sea of black ink; but Diana was completely oblivious to it.

Instead, she pouted and asked, "Can you hear me?"

Before, whenever she used this tone to talk to him, Julian would soften no matter what had happened.

Diana just wanted to coax him. She didn't want him to be angry because she wouldn't come home on New Year's Eve.

"Mmm." Sure enough, he responded quickly. "I'm listening."

Even though they were separated by such a distance and connected only by the flow of radio waves, Diana felt a sweet sensation in her heart.

It felt as if he were standing right in front of her and gazing deeply at her with those affectionate dark, inky eyes.

Just the thought of that scene made her delighted, as if flowers were blooming in the depths of her heart.

She couldn't press down the delight in her voice as she said, "Aren't you angry that I'm not home on New Year's Eve?"

How could he not be angry?!

But he answered curtly, "No. You're worried about Nina. Since Vans is bothering her and she can't come to the villa, you definitely can't come back."

His voice sounded somewhat bitter.

Diana felt a slight tightness in her throat as she listened.

Still, she didn't dwell on it.

After all, the reason Julian gave was much better than what she had imagined.

So, she continued along with his line of thought. "Yes, Nina's in a bad mood right now."

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 695

Before Diana went to the Channing residence, Julian lied to her about recording his conversation with Oliver.

Now, she was lying to him.

They were even.

With this assumption, Diana was able to lessen the guilt in her heart.

"She was crying just now. I was talking and comforting her, so I didn't have a chance to call you," Diana said, racking her brain as she tried to vividly describe the scene, thinking she had woven this lie seamlessly. "As soon as I had a moment, I hurried to contact you, Julian. Please don't be angry."

"I'm not angry," Julian said, almost grinding his teeth.

He didn't know what Diana was feeling or thinking now, as she thought him a fool.

Accompanying Nina?

Comforting her?

Hmph.

Nina had already met with Vans. What else could Diana possibly have to do?

If he hadn't seen her enter the Channing family's residence with his own eyes and never leave since, he might have believed her words!

That unwavering trust he had for her was suddenly uprooted by an invisible hand.

If he could, he really wanted to storm over to her right now and drag her out of the Channing residence.

He wanted to ask her right in her face why she lied to him!

And why was she absent on New Year's Eve and New Years, such important occasions?!

Dazed, he lowered his head and saw Diana's "I love you" message before answering the phone.

Hmph.

She loved him?

Where was the love?

Staying by Oliver's side, but still saying she loved Julian?

Just like his parents, who claimed to love each other and were once the most harmonious and well-matched couple in the Richburgh family; but in reality, it was a joke!

His father had long been having an affair.

And his mother, despite knowing his father was cheating, still wanted to maintain the appearance of a happy family in front of him.

They sure could act.

A hint of malevolence rose in Julian's eyes, an emotion he had never experienced before. It was as if something hard was gradually breaking within his gaze.

"Is Nina doing alright now?"

He was still giving Diana a chance.

A chance for honesty.

A chance not to deceive and delude him as his parents had done to each other.

"She's doing okay," Diana told him, while anxiously sending a message to Nina to corroborate her story.

She thought she had it all under control. After all, she couldn't let him know that she was currently at the Channing family's residence. Knowing Julian's jealous nature, he would surely suspect something about Oliver.

And when that happened, there would be no way to explain, no matter how many words she had.

"She cried herself to sleep."

"Oh," Julian's voice grew colder and colder, like a thick slab of ice in the summertime, hitting one's face with an undeniable chill.

But his voice had always had a low, resonant quality that could sometimes give off such an impression.

Shortly after they got married, Diana once had a late-night phone conversation with him while he was on a business trip.

One night, his voice was just like this.

The first time Diana heard it, she thought he had found someone else during his trip and no longer loved her. The pain in her heart was unbearable, but she had her own pride and decided not to bother him.

She didn't answer his calls or messages for several days straight.

It wasn't until Julian arrived, disheveled and worn out, that she learned some people just had voices like that.

Just like the man himself, who carried an unattainable air of dignity.

Since then, she paid little attention to the changes in his ice during phone calls.

"Did you eat the pastries I made for you?"

The fact she wasn't by his side on such a meaningful night like New Year's Eve filled her heart with deep regret.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 696

Because of that deep regret, Diana had long accumulated a mountain full of words she wanted to say to Julian. She spoke incessantly, "Did you get the ones I made with coins inside?"

There was a saying that one should stuff a pastry with a coin among many pastries, and that whoever ate it would be blessed with good fortune.

She was afraid Julian wouldn't get any coin-stuffed pastries, so she made ten of them all at once to increase the probability of Julian getting one.

However, there was no response from the other end.

She thought he might consider her idea foolish, so she said, "Although it's a silly folk belief, it only happens once a year. What harm is there in believing?"

She was willing to try anything, as long as it could bring him good luck.

"Mm."

"It's good if you did," Diana said, quickly jumping to conclusions. She didn't realize Julian's response was unrelated to her question.

Ignorant, she went on, "As long as you eat it, you'll have abundant fortune in the coming year. Who knows, maybe we can really bring back Aster and Star!"

"Let's talk about that later," Julian replied, finally speaking more than a few words. "It's too early to discuss children now."

He had always been concerned about this matter, so why was he acting so unusual today?

While Julian believed her lie of accompanying Nina, it didn't change the fact that Diana couldn't be by his side at the villa.

Thus, Diana surmised it was normal for him to be a little upset.

Thinking this, she felt relieved and continued to coax him gently. "I'm sorry. I promise I'll be by your side next New Year's Eve, without fail!"

She spoke fervently, but Julian, on the other end, was completely uninterested.

Fake.

It felt too fake.

Right now, he felt that everything was extremely fake.

Including the woman he loved so deeply.

How could she stay with Oliver and still say such sweet words and promises to him?

He had thought of asking what she was doing with Oliver at the Channing family's residence and why for a thousand times.

Was she planning to make their relationship like his parents -loving on the surface, but actually falling apart inside?

Yet, he couldn't bring himself to ask.

Those words were like hooks lodged in his throat. They tugged tightly, as if voicing even a single word he had in mind would make his throat bleed.

He didn't dare to ask.

He was afraid that once he asked, he and Diana would never be able to go back to how they were before.

But even if he didn't ask now, it seemed they couldn't go back to how they were before either.

He keenly felt that he couldn't fully trust her anymore. He didn't even want to consider remarriage or having another baby.

"You..." He paused, recalling Oliver's question when the latter came to the villa.

"Remarried? Hah, are you sure Diana remarried you because she loves you?" Oliver had taunted.

Julian used to be sure.

He didn't even care.

Yet... Ever since he found out about the illegitimate child, he started to care.

If Diana didn't have the feelings he thought she had for him, what was the point of remarrying?

Having a baby...

What meaning did it hold?

It would just be repeating the same mistakes his parents did.

Everything in the world seemed utterly meaningless, as if everyone's ultimate fate was endless deception and hurt.

"That's all for now."

Julian was tired.

He needed a good rest.

And with that, he slept through the day.

By the time he woke up, it was already the first day of the New Year.

As for Diana, she woke up early at six in the morning as she wanted to go back to the villa to see Julian.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 697

Last night, Julian sounded like he was in a terrible state. Even through the phone, it pained Diana deeply.

But Simon insisted on having breakfast together.

Helpless, Diana could only agree.

However, even the luxurious and rich breakfast food before her tasted bland to her. The sandwiches Julian made for her were much more delicious.

After sleeping on it, she had fully accepted that Simon and Julian were brothers. Facing Simon now, she felt their facial features didn't resemble each other.

Rather, only their temperament was similar.

It seemed the men of the Fulcher family carried a touch of coldness to them. However, Julian appeared more noble, while Simon looked more melancholic.

This was likely also due to their respective life experiences.

Diana thought of Simon's attitude towards Madam Fulcher, and her heart couldn't help but ache. She was itching to ask Simon about the specific hidden circumstances behind his abandonment.

She was certain Madam Fulcher wasn't such a heartless person to send Simon to the Channing family just three hours after he was born.

However, Simon didn't tell her.

"What hidden circumstances could there be?"

They just didn't want him. It was that simple.

"Don't think that old hag is a good person just because she was good to you. Someone who can hold such a high position in the Channing family can't be such a straightforward person."

Having said that, Simon seemed to remember something and chuckled.

"Didn't she use her words to manipulate Kayla too?"

If they didn't want her to marry into the Fulcher family, they could have just said so.

Why deceive Kayla into going abroad in such a roundabout way?

As detestable as Kayla was, Madam Fulcher's actions weren't particularly upright.

Diana was stunned to hear his reasoning. Although she didn't like it, she couldn't find the words to refute him. She ended up with a flushed face, red from her trying to hold back her anger.

In the end, she hurriedly took a few bites of her meal. "Can I leave now?"

She really didn't want to stay here for even a minute.

"Sure," Simon replied easily this time, not insisting for her to stay. "Go wherever you want."

Whenever he thought about the person Julian longed for being by his side while the latter was forced to spend the New Year alone...

Wait, Diana said it was staying up late on New Year's Eve or whatever.

Well, either way, it elated him.

Now that Diana had finally obtained her freedom, she quickly made her way home, excited. Worried that Julian would figure out the truth, she went through all the lies she had fabricated last night in her mind. After ensuring that she wouldn't reveal anything about Simon's circumstances, she walked towards the villa's entrance.

"Julian, I'm home!" Diana called eagerly as soon as she entered the villa.

Soon, a servant came out. "Ma'am, the master went to work early in the morning. He's not at home."

Although they were curious about why Diana didn't come back last night, no one dared to ask. Even if the two of them had a disagreement, the servants could guess it in secret.

Diana remained ignorant, as the servant's words coincidentally confirmed what Simon had said about the reason behind Julian's unhappiness.

"It seems the situation at the company is really bad."

Otherwise, why would he be busy working on New Year's Day?

Diana was somewhat frustrated that she couldn't help Julian with his work. She could only think about not causing any trouble for him, and so obediently went back to her room to wait for him to return.

However, before she even reached the living room, she noticed several white lumps next to the trash bin.

Curious, she approached and took a closer look. Weren't those the pastries she had personally made?

Her heart skipped a beat, and she quickly called for a servant. "Didn't Julian eat these pastries last night?"

"No," the servant said, feeling regretful as well. "Since you weren't here, he probably didn't find it pleasant to eat alone. He waited for you until midnight, but when the clock struck twelve...you still hadn't returned."

As the servant spoke, the image of Julian sitting alone in the living room came back to mind.

Such a handsome man.

Yet, so lonely.

Anyone would feel sorry for him. When the servant spoke to Diana again, it was with a hint of reproach. "The master waited for you the entire time, Ma'am. How could you not return on such an important night as New Year's Eve?"

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"I..." Diana opened her mouth, but her thoughts were a tangled mess.

Oh no.

Standing before the pile of unbaked pastries that had already turned into a large clump, she realized that Julian was truly angry.

As for the superstition of eating a pastry with a coin inside, it was completely baseless.

Yet... He was furious.

Not only did he wait for her all night, but he also had the patience to listen to her rambling and finish the phone call with her.

The more Diana thought about it, the more distressed and anxious she felt.

She wished she could ask the servants at home: How do I appease my ex-husband when he's upset? I need to know right now!

She didn't know that Julian wasn't angry.

He was disappointed.

Disappointed in Diana, in love, in his parents, and in his grandmother.

His heart seemed to have withered, incapable of regaining any life.

He couldn't even describe the awful sensation. He didn't want to see anyone, and everything seemed meaningless- even Diana. He didn't want to guess as to why she stayed at the Channing residence and lied to him.

Tired.

So, so tired.

Julian closed his eyes as he lay in his office chair, and was silent for a long time.

Meanwhile, Diana waited for him at the villa for a long time, but he still didn't return.

She didn't want to call him again.

She feared she would be forced to lie again if they got into another discussion. The lie she told last night troubled her all day.

As for how to appease him...

Diana thought for a long time, and decided to take the necessary documents for remarriage and go to Fulcher Inc. to see him.

She wanted to handle the remarriage procedures today.

Didn't Julian mention it before?

He didn't want to do it on his birthday; he wanted to do it in advance.

So, let's do it in advance!

As long as it could please him, there was no harm in getting remarried now.

She would consider it an apology for what happened last night.

The thought of the two of them becoming husband and wife again excited her to no end. She hummed a song all the way, and the driver looked at her as if she were crazy.

She was such a beautiful woman, so why did she act as though she had lost her mind?

Diana understood the look in his eyes, and smiled as she took out the bills from her pocket. "No need for change, mister."

She and Julian were about to remarry today, so she was generous. "It's New Year's Day, and you're out driving. You've worked hard!"

Even their family's chauffeur had the day off and went home.

Working people didn't have it easy. Those who worked their backs off during this time of the year certainly wanted to earn a bit more money.

The driver's eyes lit up. "Thank you, ma'am!"

Generous customers like her were hard to come by.

Now in a good mood, he couldn't help but strike up a conversation. "Why are you headed for Fulcher Inc. today, ma'am?"

Today is New Year's, so everyone should have the day off, right?

"Oh!" Diana's smile widened, feeling even more convinced that bringing the documents to see Julian was the right decision. "I'm here to marry the love of my life!"

The driver was taken aback. "Your beloved works at Fulcher Inc.?"

Not only did he work there, but he also managed the entire Fulcher Inc!

In that instant, Diana suddenly felt a sense of pride and nodded. “Yes, he’s very hardworking and diligent.”

It was why he didn’t miss the opportunity to work even on a day like today, putting in all his effort and diligently working.

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Diana really wanted to see Julian as soon as possible.

The cab stopped, and she couldn’t wait to open the door and get out.

She was almost there.

The driver even made a gesture of encouragement to her.” Young lady, when you have such a hardworking and outstanding man, you must hold on to him tightly!”

The driver thought for a moment and added, “I wish you all the best, and I hope you have a smooth wedding!”

Technically, it was her second marriage.

Still, the first and second marriages were to the same person.

Diana didn’t explain, and simply accepted that she was more proactive in the marriage this time. Little did she know that Julian was even more anxious.

He had been telling her every day to complete the paperwork, and was so eager too.

Could things ever not go smoothly for her today?

But one should always accept others’ well wishes, so Diana smiled and thanked the driver. “Thank you for your kind words!”

With that, she swiftly ran into the lobby of Fulcher Inc. headquarters.

Fulcher Inc. was located in the city center. While Diana’s office was just a tiny space within the vast city center, with larger companies occupying an entire

building floor. Even larger ones might take up multiple floors in an office building.

As for medium-sized companies, they would choose to set up their factories on the outskirts.

Only the financially powerful, such as Fulcher Inc, stood at the top of the food chain. They had purchased an entire building in the prime location of the city center.

The entire building belonged to them.

Therefore, everything was done exceptionally well, whether it was the security system or anything else.

As soon as Diana entered, she was stopped by someone.

The receptionist asked her to present her appointment documents. "Mr. Fulcher is a very busy man. Not everyone can see him just because they want to."

Diana rarely came to the company.

When she had come before, she always followed Julian, with a big hat covering her head. It was difficult for people to see her face clearly.

It wasn't surprising that the receptionist didn't recognize her.

Diana didn't mind at all, and took out her phone. "Then I'll give Julian a call."

Julian.

Julian.

This woman was really delusional! How could she address their boss in such an intimate manner?!

The receptionist rolled her eyes at Diana.

She would wait and see how Diana would make this phone call, and how the latter would handle this situation.

Sure enough...

Diana said awkwardly, "He's not answering... I think he's still mad at me..."

"Seriously? Don't think you can deceive your way through here just because you have looks. Plenty of women want to see Mr. Fulcher every day, and they have all sorts of excuses."

But every single one of them was as insignificant as her, a mere receptionist. She could only stand here every day, admiring his elegance as he came and went from work.

Thinking of Julian, the receptionist's face twisted. "As for delusional people like you who call Mr. Fulcher by pet names and claim he's mad at you, there are plenty of them!"

Diana was speechless after hearing the receptionist's string of words.

Her eyes widened.

She knew Julian was popular, but she didn't expect him to be this popular!

Instantly, a bitter feeling surged up in her heart and made her stomach churn.

"So those women can't get in? They can't see him at all?"

"Of course not!" the receptionist boasted proudly. "Our Mr. Fulcher is not only young and wealthy, but he's also even more handsome than a celebrity. He maintains a clean personal life. Except for his wife, no woman can get close to him."

The receptionist's voice carried a tinge of regret as she continued, "Unfortunately... I heard he recently had some problems with his wife and got divorced. I wonder who'll be lucky enough to marry him in his next marriage."

Of course, it would be none other than Diana!

Diana had never been so happy in her life. She couldn't believe that news of Julian loving her had spread so widely.

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Not only was there a lot of talk in the aristocratic families, but even the receptionist had also heard something!

Diana wasn't the type who liked to show off, but at this moment, she couldn't help herself. The corners of her mouth curved upwards in a mad, confident smile as she said firmly, "I'm his wife, the next person to marry him... It's still me!"

Her skin was as white as snow, and her delicate features seemed to glow. Her overall temperament was dignified and elegant, and she looked like a noble painting.

Just standing there quietly, she made it impossible for people to look away.

Indeed...

She was more convincing than any of the women who had come to see Mr. Fulcher before.

Seeing the dumbfounded look on the receptionist's face, Diana smiled even more widely and said, "Give him a call, and say...his ex-wife is inviting him to get married."

Ex-wife?

Inviting him to get married?

And she was supposed to call Mr. Fulcher?! The receptionist was on the verge of dying of laughter.

"I've told you! Just because you're good-looking, don't casually lie and brag. I've seen many women like you standing here!"

The receptionist definitely wouldn't make this call.

In case someone from above blamed her, she might even lose her job.

Diana sighed helplessly. "Then how about you call Noel?"

Various women who previously claimed to be Julian's women and wanted to see him had never known his assistant's name. The receptionist's interest was piqued all of a sudden.

She had heard of Julian's reputation for doting on his wife. She had heard that he had even knelt down for his wife! If the woman in front of her was really the young mistress of their Fulcher Inc., then she certainly couldn't be negligent!

She instantly changed her mind and attitude as she asked Diana, "Shall I make the call and ask?"

Diana nodded. "Yes!"

Julian was currently in a meeting.

The executives were called to the conference room on the first day of the new year, and their moods weren't very pleasant.

Still, it wasn't like they could do anything about their workaholic boss!

Not just a workaholic, but an extremely meticulous one at that! If he called them over, there must be something important to discuss.

Therefore, no one dared to oppose it.

Sure enough, Julian's meeting this time was mainly directed at the Channing family. Everyone present knew about the recent stock market manipulation by the family against Fulcher Inc. They also knew that the Channings had planted some spies in the company to cause trouble.

They wondered how Julian would retaliate.

They looked at the agenda for the meeting today, all quite eager. Dozens of eyes were fixed on Julian, waiting for the man to speak up and reveal his plans.

But at this moment, Julian's mind was filled with images of Diana going to the Channing residence yesterday, spending New Year's Eve with Oliver, and waiting for the arrival of the new year together with him.

Just the thought of that scene gave Julian the urge to destroy the whole world!

The Channing family was insignificant! What do they matter?!

As he started the meeting, the despondent air around him had now been replaced by a majestic one.

Julian's low and icy voice echoed in the room. "Cancel all projects between Fulcher Inc. and the Channing family!"

The Fulcher and Channing families had always been collaborating. If their projects were suddenly cut off now, not only would the Channing family be affected, but Fulcher Inc. would also be implicated.

Julian knew what everyone thought, and continued, "Fulcher Inc.'s profits won't drop. They will only continue to grow rapidly."

He made a promise, and he would deliver.

No one in the room dared to speak up.

He continued, "Cease all ongoing negotiations immediately!"

He intended to launch a full-scale attack on the Channing family.

Soon, news about Fulcher Inc.'s actions against the Channing family would spread. At that time, not only would Fulcher Inc. revoke their cooperation, but even companies that had friendly relations with Fulcher Inc. or intended to collaborate with the Channings would withdraw one after another.

The Channing family...was about to face a massive upheaval.

The economic losses inflicted upon them would likely amount to billions!

This was the price they had to pay for plotting against Diana and spending New Year's Eve with her!

Recalling Diana's overnight absence last night and her the way she spoke during their phone call...

And the lies she told him...!

Julian once again sank into an uncontrollable rage.