

## Read Novel Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 821-830

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 821

And so, Zachary had taken the initiative and visited Julian.

He presented himself with a humble attitude. "Mr. Fulcher."

Julian was busy reviewing documents, but when he heard the old man approach, he set aside his work and greeted the latter. "Grandfather."

Just that one simple form of address stunned Zachary. He froze, rooted to the spot.

Zachary was a cunning and experienced man.

With just a small clue, he could immediately understand. Julian had been supporting the Winnington family not for Kayla, but for Diana!

And yet, Zachary had been completely unaware of it and allowed the Winningtons to abandon Diana.

Now that he finally received the news that Diana had returned to Richburgh, he naturally had to visit and "claim" her. He wanted his precious golden ticket to enter his home.

"Mr. Fulcher has deep feelings for you," Zachary sighed. "Although you don't have a good relationship with the Winningtons, he still wanted to reserve a place for you. A place where you could always return."

'What? Is he talking about the same Julian I met? That domineering, cold-hearted, and temperamental man...?'

Diana bit her lip, and her nails dug painfully into her palm. She hesitated before saying, "He... For me...?"

Zachary interrupted her with a smile. "Mr. Fulcher has no reservations when it comes to you."

Saying that, he gestured for the servant who had accompanied him to enter the room and pack her belongings. "I heard there have been some

misunderstandings between you two. Now, you can return to the Winningtons with me.”

If he continued to hold on tightly to Diana, he would no longer worry about losing connections with Fulcher Inc.

“Rest assured, Mr. Fulcher wouldn’t really have a falling out with you.”

“You’re wrong.” Diana shook her head and said honestly, “He said he would never see me again.”

She remembered Simon telling her that the Winnington family didn’t treat her well. Although Simon didn’t mention this old man, the thought that he allowed James to mistreat her left no favorable impression of him.

After hearing that, Zachary couldn’t maintain his smile anymore, and his murky eyes revealed his cunning nature.” How is that possible?”

Diana felt uncomfortable under his scrutiny. However, the change only strengthened her resolve.

Regardless of whether this old man had told the truth, seeing his malicious intentions was enough. She would

never go with him.

“It’s true,” Diana said. “My children are not his. After receiving the paternity test results this morning, he left angrily.”

Even if they were truly married before, they would never have the chance to be together again. Such a proud man would never allow his woman to be unfaithful.

Zachary was so angry, he snatched back the envelopes he had just given to the children.

“You blithering idiot!” he snarled at Diana. “It’s been three years, and you finally returned. I thought the Winningtons could rise higher with your presence. Who knew you’d bring two b\*stards with you!”

He glared at Sean and Betty, disgusted. “Don’t let me see you again in the future! Otherwise, I’ll sell you!”

“Sir,” a Winnington family servant said, “should we continue packing?”

“No need! No wonder Julian let her live in such a rundown place. It seems he had long decided to abandon this stupid woman!”

He waved his hand ferociously, as if trying to chase away bad luck. He said shrewdly, “Let’s go!”

However, Diana suddenly stood up and blocked his path, her face cold. “You trespassed into my residence, tampered with my personal belongings, and insulted my children.”

She glanced at Betty, who was hiding fearfully behind her, and at Sean, whose face turned red with anger as he understood their conversation.

Fearlessly, Diana demanded, “You owe me and the children an apology!”

Slap! Slap!

Zachary grabbed Diana’s hair forcefully, aimed for her face, and struck her.

Julian’s Stand-In Wife chapter 822

‘Apologize? I’d never apologize to someone who has no value to me!’ Zachary thought angrily.

Diana’s face swelled up from the blows.

Betty was scared, and started crying. She clung desperately to Diana and screamed repeatedly, “Mommy! Mommy!”

Zachary was annoyed by her cries and snarled, “Stop crying! Let me tell you something! Without Mr. Fulcher, you are nothing!”

‘Not only that, she had the gall to bring back two illegitimate children! What a wasted trip! They’re all bad luck!’

Betty’s cries grew louder. She cried in a sharp and piercing voice.

‘Mommy’s getting hit! No!’

The little girl charged at Zachary without much thought, and attempted to bite him.

“Stop hitting Mommy! Stop!” Betty yelled, sinking her teeth into the old man.

A servant immediately intervened and pulled Betty away forcefully.

“No! No!” Betty was held tightly under the arm; no matter how much she kicked, the person refused to let go.

Being held upside down and crying so intensely, her face quickly turned red, and she kept coughing between sobs.

Seeing his sister and mother being treated roughly, Sean trembled in anger.

When Zachary wasn't paying attention, he grabbed a small knife and rushed fiercely toward him. Although it was a toy knife, it still caused indescribable pain when it pierced the body.

Zachary clenched his teeth, and his eyes widened in disbelief. He never expected Diana and her two children to be so bloodthirsty.

He raised his hand, ready to strike Sean. “You little b\*stard! How dare you bite me!”

“Stop! Don't hit him!” Diana stepped forward, disregarding her fractured arm. She snatched Betty from the servant's grasp and held her tightly in her arms.

But at that moment, she missed the opportunity to pick up the nearby chair and throw it at Zachary.

All she could do was watch helplessly as his crutch came down towards Sean.

No! She couldn't let him touch her children!

The pain in her arm was intense, so much that her face turned pale from it. But she endured the pain, not making a sound. She held Betty tightly in her arms and quickly ran towards Sean.

Before Zachary's crutch could hit, she shielded her children.

Bang!

The sound of a heavy blow echoed in everyone's ears.

“Waaah!” Even the usually calm Sean burst into tears.

Betty, already pale with fright, couldn't even make a sound. Her eyes widened as she stared at Diana, whose forehead was dripping with sweat.

It hurt.

Her injuries hadn't fully healed yet, and she couldn't even take her antibiotics. Facing this turmoil, she could feel her body shutting down. Everything hurt.

"Shh, don't cry. It's okay." Holding back her tears, she safely returned the two children to the bedroom.

"Don't be afraid, Betty," Diana said. Then she turned to Sean. "Sean, take care of your sister. No matter what you hear outside, don't come out."

With that, she locked the bedroom door with a click. She stood firmly in front of it and eyed Zachary warily.

Sean had stabbed Zachary with a toy knife, though the old man wasn't seriously injured. However, having lived a pampered life and now hearing Diana say that she had produced two illegitimate children and had offended Julian, his fury soared even higher.

With nothing holding him back, he grew ruthless. He wanted to punish that rude little brat and vent his anger.

The situation had escalated to a point where a peaceful resolution was no longer possible. Nevertheless, Diana stood before the door, refusing to budge an inch.

"Children need to be disciplined!" Zachary sneered. His old age showed on his face, covered in age spots. His benevolence vanished from his eyes, leaving behind only ugliness.

"Give him to me and let me teach him how to respect his elders, and I'll forgive him!"

'Respect his elders? If it weren't because I needed to protect my babies, I would've grabbed something to smash his head with and fought him head-on!'

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 823-

"I don't have such a disgusting grandfather like you!"

Finally, Diana understood. Simon had told her how the Winnington family was heartless and untrustworthy—now, she realized why she should have stayed away from them.

“Even your father doesn’t dare treat me this way! How dare you speak to me like that?” Zachary couldn’t believe it. “Guards! Break down the door for me!”

‘Does she think she can stop me? As if I can’t do something as simple as disciplining a child!’

“You dare?!” Diana was pale; despite that, she leaned against the door and blocked it. She was becoming more and more forceful.

“Why wouldn’t I?” Zachary wasn’t a reasonable person. “I’m your grandfather! Forget about the two b\*stards, I have the right to teach you a lesson!”

‘Grandfather? Hah! If even my own father could abandon me in the countryside, how great could a grandfather who appeared out of the blue be?’

Although Diana couldn’t remember what had happened in the Winnington family, based on how Zachary acted, she knew there was no affection between them.

She took a deep breath to ease the pain in her body, and yelled determinedly at him, “Stop calling them b\*stards!”

They were both her precious children. No matter who their father was, they were precious to her!

They definitely weren’t illegitimate or b\*stards.

She couldn’t let such a filthy word keep reaching their ears.

Zachary’s cane slammed onto the ground. “B\*stards! Illegitimate brats! If they’re not Mr. Fulcher’s children, they’re illegitimate!”

Smack!

This time, Diana raised her hand and slapped Zachary on the face.

“I’ll say it again!” she growled; her eyes were red, and her hand was trembling slightly. “They’re not illegitimate!”

“This is outrageous!” Zachary trembled in fury. He swung his cane without any thought, and struck Diana. “How dare you hit me! How dare you?!”

He had gone mad with anger.

He used all his strength when hitting her.

“You despicable little wench! You should have died out there in the first place! It would’ve been better than you now cheating on Mr. Fulcher and causing uncertainty for the entire Winnington family’s future!”

He had finally enjoyed a few peaceful years, and now that Diana had returned, he thought the Winnington family would rise even higher. Alas, it had become a dangerous tower!

What’s more, the main culprit dared to hit him!

Even James hadn’t dared to lay a finger on him!

Yet, this greenhorn brat dared to attack him!

Bam! Bam! Bam!

He struck Diana’s head mercilessly.

Diana couldn’t fight back against the consecutive hits, but it didn’t matter.

Even if her head spun, she still held the doorknob tightly.

Zachary noticed it, and knew she was trying to protect the two children.

But the more she did that, the more infuriated he became.

He stopped hitting her, and tried to pry her hand away instead.

Diana gritted her teeth and held on, refusing to let go no matter what.

“You.” Diana swallowed harshly to ease the pain and snarled, “What’s your name?”

Zachary seemed to find it amusing. He sneered, “I’m your grandfather, Zachary! What, are you pretending not to recognize me? You were the one

kneeling outside the Winningtons' residence, begging to be recognized as part of the family! Now you're acting like you don't know me?"

He became more upset as he spoke.

"Don't think I don't know. Winnington Fashions wouldn't have suffered such a disastrous fate if it weren't for your meddling!"

'Since you can't rely on Julian Fulcher anymore, I might as well vent my anger on you. I'll show you who truly deserves to be part of the Winningtons!'

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 824-Diana couldn't understand what Zachary was talking about.

'Winnington Fashions? A clothing company? My meddling?'

However she remembered his name and every word he said. She ground her teeth, filled with hatred.

Before, she had never despised someone so much.

She wished he would drop dead right now!

Her eyes were bloodshot. "Zachary, you'll regret treating me like this!"

'Regret? If she hadn't cuckolded Julian, I'd never dare to do such things. But now, why the need for any reservations? Because we're her natal family? Hah! Without Julian, the Winningtons would never be her natal family!'

"Pah!" Zachary spat in Diana's face. "You're just like your father! I can't wait to see how you'll make me regret it!"

As he spoke, he had someone bring a kettle filled with hot water. "If you don't let go soon, I'll pour this on you."

Today, he was determined to teach that little illegitimate brat who had stabbed him with a toy knife a lesson on behaving!

Diana showed no fear. "Go ahead and do it!"

Her eyes were fixed on the kettle. If he dared to pour the hot water on her, she would grab the kettle however she could and pour it right back onto his face, regardless of the consequences.



Even if she were scalded to death, she wouldn't let him enter the children's room!

Zachary was momentarily startled by the fiery anger in her eyes, so much that he went speechless and couldn't give any orders.

At that moment, Nina had returned. She had packed the clothes in a large sack and dragged them on the ground, thinking it would be convenient to leave them here so that Diana wouldn't make such a mess again.

As soon as she entered, she was dumbfounded at the scene that greeted her.

Without hesitation, Nina picked up the table and chairs nearby, and hurled them at Zachary's merry band. "You shameless b\*stards! Damn old fart, how dare you come here and hurt Diana!"

Nina thought of Diana's appearance when she first arrived in Richburgh, of how the Winnington family had hurt her deeply. She never expected that even after so many years, Zachary still wouldn't change his ways. He actually targeted Diana and the children!

"Get out! Out!" Nina swung the things in her hand, not caring about anything, and attacked Zachary's people with the fierceness of an enraged lioness.

The person holding the kettle was hit, and hissed in pain. Upon realizing that Nina was attacking them, he immediately swung the kettle and aimed it at her.

"No!" Diana shouted.

Something in her mind seemed to be triggered, and she suddenly burst into tears. "Nina!"

Upon hearing her name called so familiarly, Nina was momentarily shocked. However, she was quick to react. "Don't worry, Diana!"

She grabbed the large sack of clothes behind her and held it before herself.

The hot water didn't touch her at all.

Diana sighed in relief.

'Thank goodness... Thank goodness an innocent person wasn't hurt!'

However, Zachary and his group didn't stop there.

Nina knew the Winnington family was driven by greed and loved to step on others to elevate themselves. No matter how much she and Diana resisted them, it would be useless. It would only serve to infuriate them even more.

Now, the most important thing was to find someone who could suppress them.

Without much time to consider her actions, she immediately pulled out her phone and called Vans.

"Where's Julian?!" Nina yelled. "Zachary's harassing his wife here! Ask him if he cares!"

Nina swiftly took a photo of Diana.

Taking pictures was her expertise. Although time was tight, she still managed to find the perfect angle to capture Diana's injuries and disheveled appearance.

When Julian saw it, he was momentarily speechless.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 825

Even if Diana wasn't his woman, and even if they had gone their separate ways, Julian couldn't stand by and watch an evil person bully a widow and orphans.

He clenched his fist tightly and roared through the phone," Zachary Winnington!"

He was enraged. 'Didn't I make myself clear to the Winningtons?! How dare he go after Diana!'

Zachary was immediately intimidated by Julian's tone.

Being in advanced age and suffering from Parkinson's disease, his hands and feet trembled uncontrollably when he heard the anger in Julian's voice. He didn't even dare to reply; he quickly gathered up his people and fled, almost scrambling in his haste to leave the place.

Nina breathed a sigh of relief, knowing she and Diana were safe for now.

Vans snatched the phone from Julian. "What happened?"

His voice was grave. "Nina! I'm asking you a question! Didn't you hear me?"

It was the first time Nina had seen Vans so anxious, and she couldn't help but smile. "I thought you didn't care about me anymore."

After all, they hadn't eaten or gone on dates together in the past three years. They only ever communicated through phone calls.

Vans didn't dissolve his engagement, but he also didn't get married. He never held an engagement ceremony, but the engagement was still in place.

However, he and Nina were supposedly broken up.

Yet they still acted like a normal couple, caring for each other, having long phone conversations, and even watching each other snore on video calls.

Even so, moments of intense emotions like today were rare.

Seeing that she seemed nonchalant, Vans sighed irritably and ran his hand through his hair. "Nina! Are you injured or not?"

Considering Diana's condition, he was worried Nina might have suffered the same fate.

"Forget it!" The camera on the other end of the phone shook as Vans stood up and walked. "I'm coming to see you."

For the first time in a long time, Vans said he was coming to find her.

It felt as if they were back to the moment when they first confirmed their relationship.

Back then, Vans had said the exact same words as her.

And then, they were together.

And now, in her most fearful and anxious moment, he said he was coming when she needed him the most.

Nina smiled apologetically. "I'm really fine. Take your time coming here. No need to rush." She glanced at Diana. "What about Julian? Is he coming?"

“Why should I go?” Julian’s voice came through from where he was standing out of the camera’s view. “Nothing there concerns me. There’s no need for me to make a wasted trip.”

Julian’s words echoed deeply in Diana’s mind.

She had anticipated it. She knew this man wouldn’t come back to bother her again. But...

Why did her heart ache involuntarily?

Still, there wasn’t much time to dwell on it. She tidied her hair, washed her face, and put on a bit of makeup to cover up the wounds on her face. Then, she went to Sean’s room.

Both of her precious children were still in the room. She wanted to comfort them in the best possible way.

“Sweeties,” Diana called as pushed open the door. She crouched down immediately, and opened her arms to the two children. “Sean, come here. Mommy wants a hug.”

Sean didn’t move, and even Betty hesitated to approach her.

“What’s wrong?” Diana asked, pushing down her worries forcefully and smiling brightly for them. “Look at Mommy. Mommy’s fine, right?”

She endured the pain as she spoke, and spun around to show them she was healthy. However, the sweat on her face still slid down her cheeks.

At the same time, the tears Sean had been holding back finally fell. His voice was hoarse as he cried, “Mommy... I’m sorry.” His shoulders trembled, and all his usual arrogance and coldness disappeared. “I’m... sorry.”

He cried to the point he couldn’t even open his eyes. “I’m sorry... It’s all my fault!”

‘It’s because of me that Mommy got hurt! It’s because of me that those people hit her! I shouldn’t have stabbed that man with a toy knife. I know I was wrong. I won’t do something like that ever again!’

But Betty, whose mouth remained sealed tightly shut and her eyes wide, continued to stare at Diana blankly.

## Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 826

Betty couldn't talk.

Her initial diagnosis by Vans who hurried over was selective mutism due to shock.

Next up, she had to go to the hospital's pediatric department for further checks.

Diana didn't dare delay things, and carried Betty in her arms as she rushed to the hospital.

Nina's heart broke.

Her grudge against Diana over the past three years vanished without a trace.

She pulled Diana back and said, "Diana, don't panic. Don't you realize that you can't lift your arm up? What's more, you are all black and blue. Aren't you worried about Sean seeing you like this? Do you want the twins to be hurt again?"

No.

Diana didn't want that.

Of course not!

One of her twins was so shocked, it made Diana feel so bad she could tear her hair out.

How could she not care about the other twin?

Yet, she was but one person.

She only had one body.

Who else would rush to bring Betty to the hospital if not her?

This was one of the pains of being a single mother.

What's more, she had double the pain with twins.

Everyone claims that she was blessed to have twins, one boy and one girl, but being a mommy to two children...was truly tough.

Diana had never felt so indignant before.

She felt remorseful, and her heart ached for her children.

Nina's words reminded her of what she buried deep in her heart and didn't want to think about. "I'm at fault here. I shouldn't have been so arrogant as to try to stop Zachary from leaving."

Why couldn't she have tolerated things?

Why must she provoke Zachary and make him apologize?

"I even said that I would make him regret it. What right do I have to say that?" She looked at her arm hanging limply by her side, then at her children who were in their worst states she had ever seen them in. She felt as if someone had slashed her heart multiple times; the pain was so excruciating, it was almost numbing.

She tried to draw air into her lungs-they were so heavy they might as well be filled with stones, suffocating her and weighing her down.

She regretted going to Richburgh.

She should have just stayed in Stirling City-stayed in her place, and be satisfied with living a peaceful and happy life with her twins.

So much has happened during the short period they arrived here.

This time, something had happened to Betty.

She couldn't take it any longer.

Nina stared at Diana, and exploded. "What right do you have? Did you just ask what right do you have? That's your damned right as Julian's woman! Your right as Diana Winnington! You had the ability to conquer Richburgh's high- end market single-handedly with your clothing business!"

Yet, everything ground to a sudden halt when she left three years ago.

“Why can’t you make him regret it? Even if we put aside all the above, even if you’re a nobody, you’re still a mother!

Not allowing others to bully your children and stepping forward to protect them is what you should do!

You’re not wrong!

Why are you blaming yourself now?”

Zachary was the one who should be remorseful and punished severely!

“Diana,” Nina called; she knew that mothers are the ones who feel the worst when something happens to their children.

She had never been a mother herself, so she didn’t understand how Diana felt.

Regardless, she was Diana’s best friend. She could see how terrible Diana was feeling.

She could only do her best to comfort Diana by saying, “After your child gets better, you must make Zachary’s life a living hell! After all, you were able to chase James away. You’ll definitely be able to deal with this old man.”

Diana didn’t know who James was.

“Even if what you said is true, that’s all in the past.”

And right now, Diana had no capacity to think about the past.

“Thank you for today,” she said as she turned to look at Nina and Vans. She held Sean’s hand with her limp arm and reached out to carry Betty with her other arm. “I need to take my children to the hospital, so I won’t send you out.”

Julian’s Stand-In Wife chapter 827

Diana was chasing them out of her house.

Nina was momentarily disappointed when she heard how distant and cold Diana sounded.

Her eyes turned red at once, and she mumbled, “Diana...”

She pulled the corner of Diana's sleeve, refusing to let go. "Do you really not remember anything at all?"

Such a thing was far too cruel to them, who had been thinking of her and worried for her all along.

Unfortunately, Diana intended to return to Stirling City.

She didn't want to be involved with any of these people.

She could only harden her heart. Facing the adorable lady standing before her, she said, "No, I remember everything. I just don't want to have anything to do with my past."

She pushed Nina's hand away. "I'm sorry."

"Julian was right! She was lying when she claimed to have lost all her memories." Vans glared accusingly at Diana. "I really have no idea how you became like this. Julian treats you so well. How can you disappoint him time and time again? And Nina, too. Can't you feel how worried and concerned she is about you?"

Yet, she gave them all up with a mere apology.

With a mere apology, she rejected all of their attempts to draw close to her.

"We're the busybodies." Vans pulled Nina's arm to leave. "What are you doing standing here? She doesn't even want you as a friend. We should just go!"

Nina couldn't resist him, and was dragged into his car.

Diana watched it drive off, feeling even more suffocated.

Sean had calmed down, and he looked up at Diana. "Mommy. Are you...very sad?"

She didn't have time to be sad.

"I'm not." Diana shook her head, feeling all spent with no energy left to discern between truth and falsehood. "I'll take you to the hospital right now."

Betty was in a terrible condition.



She needed to be warded for further observation.

Diana finished the administrative procedures and settled Sean down on another bed.

A nurse dropped by with Betty's medication, and was shocked to see Diana's condition.

"How could you stay like this?" She immediately called for a doctor. "You have to take care of yourself before you're fit to take care of your own children! Quick, let the doctor dress your wounds again!"

Doctors simply couldn't stand seeing patients who couldn't care less about their own health.

After the doctor was done dressing Diana's wounds, he forced her to stay in the hospital and be put on an antiinflammatory drip.

"Your injuries are severe. If you don't rest well, they will get inflamed," he said. "Don't move around unnecessarily!"

Sean stood at her side, and heard everything the doctor said.

"Mommy, lie down and rest." He filled a cup with water and positioned the straw at the corner of Diana's lips. "I'll take good care of you and Betty."

Diana took a sip of water.

Sweetness, sorrow, and guilt filled her heart.

"Sean, do you want to find your daddy?"

If they had a father just like other children, they didn't need to suffer alongside her. Diana would have someone to take care of her and support her, and the twins would be able to hug their father and be thoroughly spoiled.

Perhaps...

With a father around, Zachary wouldn't dare to hurt them.

Sean didn't lie to her and said, "Yes, I do."

After encountering Zachary, Sean thought, 'If Mr. Julian really was our daddy, it doesn't seem so bad.'

"Mommy..." Sean wanted to tell Diana about him switching out the samples, so she would fight for another chance to do another DNA test.

But before he could open his mouth to speak, Diana's stomach growled.

With that, the topic of finding a daddy was interrupted.

Sean glanced at Diana for a while, then hurried to Betty's bedside to adjust her sheets. After that, he touched her forehead to confirm she didn't have a fever. He then said to Diana, "It's time to eat, Mommy. What do you want to eat? I'll get it for you."

Of course, Diana wouldn't allow her little son to get food by himself.

He was still so small. He probably wouldn't be able to reach the window in the canteen.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 828

"I'll order delivery," Diana said. "Come and see what you'd like to eat."

Sean shook his head. "I want something from the canteen."

He had asked the nurses about it.

Although the food in the canteen didn't taste great, it was easy on the stomach and great for Mommy's wound recovery.

He insisted on getting food from the canteen by himself." Don't worry."

He showed Diana the meal card that he got from the nurse and said, "I won't go to the canteen for patients. I'll go to the one for doctors."

There were fewer people there, and therefore safer for a child like him.

The food in that canteen also tasted better.

Diana was shocked. "Who gave you that?"

“One of the nurses.” He smiled. “I didn’t do anything but flash them a smile. After that, they asked me how I would get food.”

Sean received many meal cards after replying to them.

He picked one and thanked them, telling them he would ask Mommy to transfer the money after he bought his meal.

The nurses shrieked in excitement over his docility, reaching out to pinch his cheeks.

Since he was in the hospital and in need of help from others, Sean bore with it despite his reluctance.

Diana was taken aback. “Son...”

“Huh?”

Diana choked on her saliva as she went on, “Why do I find you...rather scheming...?”

The aura he exuded bore some resemblance to that of Julian.

Why did she think of that man...?

Diana drove the ridiculous notion away from her mind, and looked at Sean.

The more she looked at him...

The more she found him resembling Julian.

She was going crazy!

Diana patted her cheeks to sober up.

Even if what Nina said was true-even if she and Julian used to be husband and wife...

The DNA test results were clear. Sean and Betty weren’t his.

Julian and his best friend had behaved as if she had betrayed Julian.

Her so-called betrayal was probably making a cuckold out of him.

It was merciful enough of him that he didn't take her life.

She could finally understand the disappointment and hopelessness on Julian's face the day he saw the DNA test result.

However, she couldn't remember anything at all-why she betrayed him, and for whom she betrayed him.

Whatever it was, he made it clear he would never contact her ever again.

Perhaps that was best for both of them.

She shouldn't be thinking about him, or anything related to him at all.

"Mommy." Sean's calm voice interrupted her thoughts." Shall I go and get our meals?"

Diana nodded. "Be careful on your way, and don't get scalded by the food."

Before she could say any further, a swarm of nurses flooded her room. "Ms. Winnington, please don't worry. We'll take Sean there."

Sean pursed his lips unhappily upon seeing so many women in the ward, but the moment he lifted his head, there was an angelic look on his face. "Sure, thank you so much!"

"Oh, he's such a good boy!"

"Quick! Let me pinch his little cheeks!"

"So smooth! So tender! So soft!"

Diana heard the nurses' shrieks and thought about the fake smile on her son's face. It was both funny and heartbreaking at the same time.

Her cocky and cool son seemed to have grown up overnight. He had learned how to come to a compromise.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 829

However, this wasn't something Diana felt proud of. Conversely, as his mother, it made her rather sad.

She was unable to protect her two darlings and allow them to live without a care in the world.

Sean soon returned with their meals. He glanced at his sister, who was still fast asleep, his heart aching for her. " Mommy, do you think Betty will get better?"

Diana had no idea.

In the following days, she cooperated very well with the doctors.

Initially, she was expected to need one month to get better. However, Diana cared for herself so well that she almost fully recovered in a little over two weeks.

Unfortunately, things didn't look up for Betty.

She often sat in a daze, confused by the words of the people around her. She often struggled with expressing herself. She was worlds apart from her lively and adorable self.

Diana would read bedtime stories to Betty every night before turning in for the night.

But now, Betty wouldn't even respond to her.

In the past, Betty would always hug Diana, kiss her, and wish her a good night after Diana was done reading bedtime stories.

But now, no matter what Diana said, Betty gave her no response.

Betty wouldn't call Diana "Mommy", hug her, or rub her body against hers like a cute little rabbit.

Every night, Diana would ask herself repeatedly why she came to Richburgh in the first place. Why did she force Zachary to apologize to her? Why...was she so incapable of protecting her own children?

No one could give her an answer.

No one could comfort her.

At the last follow-up consultation, the doctor said that it was impossible for Betty to recover in the short-term.

Diana had to provide Betty with a relaxing and tolerant environment that wouldn't put any stress on Betty's psyche.

Diana thought about it, and decided to return to Stirling City earlier than planned.

She wanted to call Simon, and update him about everything that had happened.

Upon recalling Nina and Zachary's words, however, she grew frightened.

She feared that Simon had been lying to her all this while.

Eventually, she didn't call him before leaving.

Yet, when she arrived at the airport, she was told that she didn't pass the ticket check.

She purchased tickets for the high-speed rail and the train, but she was also unable to board them.

This was clearly no coincidence.

She asked the staff members in detail, and found out that she had received a complaint from Channing Inc. The company accused her of owing them money-it was such a huge sum, she was unable to leave Richburgh before the courts came to a ruling decision.

Diana was lost. "Channing Inc.?"

Wasn't that the company belonging to the family Simon claimed to have raised him since young?

When Diana went to the hospital before, someone mentioned an Oliver Channing and claimed that she used to know him very well. Apparently, he was now the CEO of Channing Inc.

Did he have something to do with this?

Just as she was thinking about whether to call Simon or not, a manager of the high-speed rail walked toward her. "Ms. Winnington, we finally found you."

Diana asked, "Were you waiting for me?"

The manager said, "Yes, this was arranged by Mr. Channing and Ms. Smith. Please wait in our VIP room. They will both be here soon."

Eventually, only Oliver made it.

He was warm and sophisticated.

Diana had a good impression of him at first glance.

Yet, in the depths of her heart, she could feel a small hint of resistance toward him.

Perhaps it was because he interrupted her travel plans and stopped her from leaving Richburgh.

She wondered if this man might be a wolf in sheep's skin, just like Julian.

"Fanny is busy," Oliver explained, "so I've come alone."

The unfamiliar names spoken in such a familiar tone convinced Diana that Simon had lied to her.

Her mood soured, and she cut to the chase. "Pardon me, but I've lost my memories and don't remember anything at all. If there were any grudges between us in the past, please be kind and show me some mercy."

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Diana's priority right now was to return to Stirling City and provide Betty with the best environment that was conducive to her recuperation.

"You've lost your memories?" Oliver asked, looking not particularly sad or joyful.

Or perhaps, there was more joy than sorrow in the depths of his heart.

However, he didn't let it show. "What do you remember, then?"

Diana repeated, "Nothing at all."

Oliver didn't care whether Diana really lost her memories.

It was enough for him that Diana had finally appeared before him after vanishing for three whole years.

He sighed in relief and said, "No wonder you're so angry at me for taking you to court. You don't remember owing Fanny money."

The dazed look on Diana's face urged Oliver to explain to her how Fanny had invested in her business. Diana's jaw soon dropped at his words. "I actually owned a large and influential studio?"

Nina did mention to her that she did very well in the fashion industry.

In fact, she did so well that she had the power to seek revenge on Zachary.

Nina's previous words seem to corroborate Oliver's claims.

"Diana?" Oliver asked when he saw her space out and asked. "Are you listening to me? The debt is no small amount, but your studio suddenly halted its operations for no reason. According to contractual terms, you need to compensate Fanny three times the investment amount."

The sum was too huge.

It was a sufficient reason for the Channing family to take her to court.

"What do you want me to do now, then?" Diana looked straight at Oliver. A strong feeling was brewing in her heart, telling her that this man wasn't as warm and gentle as he appeared on the surface.

"Stay at Richburgh," Oliver said. "Restart your studio. That way, the debt from breaching contractual terms will naturally cease to exist."

With that, she could go anywhere she wanted and not be restricted due to her debt.

If things were to go on like this, even if Diana drove out of Richburgh to Stirling City, she would be regarded as a fraud subject to law enforcement.

If that happened, the twins' future schooling might be affected.



Diana had no choice except to stay.

Perhaps that might be for the better.

She narrowed her eyes as she recalled Zachary's old, wrinkled face. She wished she could march up to him right now and make him pay for everything he did to them!

If she wanted to take revenge, she couldn't stay at Stirling City and continue operating her little fashion business, and be satisfied with what little profits she would make.

Right now, she had to buck up and make her studio topnotch in Richburgh!

At the same time...

She would find the twins' biological father.

She remembered Sean's words at the hospital that day clearly.

Since the twins cared so much about their biological father and desperately wanted to find him, she wouldn't run away from it any longer.

Perhaps it was really time for her to try hard to find her memories back.

Still, these things were easier said than done. Diana racked her brain, wondering where to begin, but there seemed to be a huge black cloth wrapped around it. Each time she tried to remember something, it would hurt terribly.

Oliver saw her breaking out in cold sweat and couldn't help but feel anxious. "What's the matter?"

Was he going overboard and forcing her to a corner?

Yet, he really didn't know that Diana had lost her memories.

Julian had always covered up news about Diana well, and that habit of his had never changed.

The only thing Oliver was clear about was that Julian had begun coming in contact with other women. That gave him the chance to put a spoke in Diana's wheel and approach her once again.

“Nothing, except for the fact that I can’t remember a single thing about my studio,” Diana said, disappointed. “I need your and Ms. Smith’s help in many things.”

“No problem at all,” Oliver replied readily. He was willing to do anything as long as she stayed in Richburgh.

After they left the VIP room, he personally sent her to a hotel.