

Read Novel Love Change Of Heart Chapter 211-220

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 211-The next day, at Pearson Group.

After stepping into the lobby, Leanna proceeded at a snail's pace. She hung back as much as she could as her entire soul resisted the idea of being here.

An indeterminate amount of time passed before her phone started ringing.

It was Jonathan.

She answered the call, but she heard Aidan's voice instead.

"Are you planning on polishing all the tiles in the lobby before coming up?" he asked coolly.

Leanna was dumbstruck.

She looked up around here. Are there security cameras here?!

"Hurry up. I have a meeting coming up," he said.

"Oh."

She looked back down and stepped into an elevator.

In the office, Aidan tossed Jonathan's phone back to him. "Wait for her at the elevator. Don't let her escape."

Jonathan was speechless.

He couldn't help but think, Why did it sound like a trial is about to start?

Five minutes later, Leanna arrived at the office.

Aidan was leaning against the back of the couch with his legs crossed. His expression was somewhat aloof as his fingers tapped against his knees.

She stood in front of him and greeted, "President Pearson."

"Take a seat."

She opened her mouth to say something, but in the end, she pursed her lips and sat down opposite him.

Jonathan delivered two cups of coffee before exiting quietly.

Leanna glanced at the coffee table before stating matter-of-factly, "President Pearson, I will take responsibility for the negative impact caused by the rumors involving Daphne."

Aidan took a sip of coffee and asked coolly, "How do you plan on taking responsibility for it?"

"I will do my best to cooperate with the plan of action the company draws up."

"Leanna, do you know why you always get involved in all sorts of trouble?"

She didn't respond.

"It's because you always like to shoulder the responsibility for things that do not concern you. You take it all upon yourself," he stated plainly.

Her expression was neutral as she looked at him. "Louis isn't a stranger. He's my brother. His matters as well. That said, I don't expect you to understand, President Pearson. After all, only humans have feelings."

Aidan looked at her. "Remember what you said. If you're going to take responsibility for it, then you better see it to the end."

"I won't take it back, provided that it's within the realm of reason."

He set his cup down and smirked. "Great."

For some reason, Leanna felt like she had fallen into a trap.

She stood up and said, "I'll be leaving now, then. If there's anything, you can ask Mr. Stoll to get in touch with me —"

"There's something right now," Aidan said.

Leanna paused. "Go ahead, President Pearson."

He glanced at his watch. "I have a meeting, so wait for me here. You're not allowed to leave before my return."

“But—”

“Feel free to leave if you wish. I don’t force people into doing things they don’t want to.”

What was that?

She couldn’t believe how he could say that with a straight face.

He looked at her and spelled it out clearly, “The person who caused this should take responsibility for it.”

Leanna closed her eyes and sat down on the couch. “I’ll wait for you to come back, President Pearson.”

“Why do I sense reluctance on your part?” Aidan quizzed nonchalantly.

She forced herself to put on a plastic smile and responded through gritted teeth, “You’re wrong, President Pearson.”

“I hope so. Otherwise, someone will say that I’m the clingy one who refuses to stop pestering her again.”

She was speechless.

Hurry up and leave, you b*stard!

As Aidan stepped out of his office, he turned back to glance at her. She immediately withdrew her gaze and straightened up as her gaze was fixed at something in front of her.

“There’s a lounge inside. You can take a nap if you’re tired.”

Leanna ignored him as if she hadn’t heard what he said.

Once the door closed, she exhaled and leaned back into the couch.

She felt defeated.

Soon, she got a call from Daphne.

“I was a little busy yesterday. I only saw your missed call today,” Daphne said.

“Have you settled everything on your end?”

“Settling things... is going to be a bit difficult. Although the news isn't trending anymore, it's still affecting my upcoming work.”

“Will it cause a great loss to Pearson Group?”

“I'm not sure about that, but all my work has stopped, and President Pearson has asked me to go abroad on hol —to avoid the media. I'm sure there are losses during the break.”

Leanna nodded. “I got it. Thanks for helping Louis.”

“There's no need to thank me. Your brother's my brother too. I can't stand by and not lend a hand.”

“Enjoy your break abroad. I'll handle things from here.”

“Did you meet President Pearson?” Daphne asked tentatively.

“I'm in his office right now.”

Daphne coughed and came up with an excuse. “Oh, alright. I'm about to board the plane now, so let's talk later.”

“Okay.”

Leanna sat in the office the entire afternoon. One of Aidan's assistants brought lunch for her, but she didn't take a single bite.

Her attitude toward this was clear. She was merely here to resolve the matter. She wasn't going to get involved with that b*stard in any way.

At 5.00PM, Aidan came back and saw her sitting in the same position as when he left her. It looked like she barely moved.

He walked over to her. “Have you eaten?”

“Have you thought about how you wish to resolve this, President Pearson?” she asked coolly.

Aidan rubbed his forehead. “If you haven't eaten, then have dinner with me.”

“If you haven’t decided yet, President Pearson, I can come again tomorrow.”

“What do you want to eat?”

Ugh.

It was as if they were holding two separate conversations.

Aidan retrieved his suit jacket. “We’ll have dinner outside.”

Leanna remained quiet for a moment, but she couldn’t resist asking, “Do you need to get your ears checked, President Pearson?”

“Sure. You can come along and get your heart checked to see if you have a conscience.”

She couldn’t be bothered to argue with him. She followed him out of the building before coming to a halt. “President Pearson, I —”

He glanced at her before turning away. “Talk about it in the car.”

She took a deep breath. She had no choice but to climb in.

He was silent for most of the ride. Just when she was about to assume that he was only toying with her, he passed a folder to her. “Daphne’s reputation reflects Pearson Group to a certain extent. Therefore, it isn’t just her career that’s affected this time. It’s also bad publicity for the company.”

Leanna took the folder and asked quietly, “Is it any worse than the bad publicity the company received when you broke off the engagement?”

Aidan eyed her coolly. “I’m not joking.”

She sobered up right away. “Sorry.”

He continued, “There’s only one way to make up for the damage caused to the company.”

She flipped through the documents and listened carefully. He didn’t lie to her. According to the documents, apart from Daphne’s work coming to a halt, several of the company’s projects were also beset with problems.

Leanna looked up and asked, “What should I do, President Pearson?”

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 212-Aidan used his businesslike tone and said, "There's a poker game happening tonight. Come with me."

Leanna was startled for a moment, but she nodded. "Alright."

"So, we can get dinner now, right?"

Leanna laughed dryly and passed the folder back to him. "Do whatever you want, President Pearson."

He leaned back into the seat and closed his eyes.

Less than two minutes later, Leanna's phone started ringing.

It was a call from Elijah.

She cast a glance at the man beside her. She didn't know if he was actually asleep or just faking it, but after a moment of hesitation, she decided to answer the call.

"Leanna, I heard about everything from Zoe. Do you need my help?" Elijah asked.

Her instinctive response was to say no. The word was on the tip of her tongue when she suddenly changed her mind. "Yes, please. Thank you."

Beside her, Aidan slowly opened his eyes.

After hanging up, she turned around and looked straight into his deep, brooding eyes.

He looked away and stated plainly, "We're here. Get off."

Leanna wanted to stick to her resolve and skip dinner, but it was torture for someone who had skipped lunch to sit and watch someone else eat.

She took a deep breath before heading out of the restaurant to buy something for herself.

Aidan stared at her as she walked off. There was no expression on his face as he asked, "What goes on in that head of hers?"

Jonathan, who was standing beside him, didn't know what to say.

Her intentions were obvious. She was keeping a distance between them.

No matter what Aidan did to create opportunities between them, chances were they weren't going to amount to much.

Leanna's thoughts were rather simple. Since she couldn't avoid seeing that b*stard, she decided to just deal with the situation head-on.

Aidan stood up and followed her out the door.

She had just sat down at a table in front of the convenience store to dig into her to-go meal when the box was snatched out of her hands. Her cutlery disappeared as well.

She was perplexed and a little disgruntled. "Weren't you having dinner, President Pearson?"

"The food was lousy."

"How can the food at such an expensive restaurant be lousy?"

"Why didn't you eat it then?" he retorted coolly.

She wanted to roll her eyes, but she held back the urge and stayed silent.

He, too, didn't say anything further. Then, he took the cutlery and began eating the food he had stolen from her.

Leanna was so mad that she felt as if she was just one step away from dying of a heart attack.

She pursed her lips and went back into the convenience store to get more food. When she came back out, she chose to sit down at a different table.

Aidan set the cutlery down. He pressed his tongue against his inner cheek, thinking.

After finishing the food, Leanna's throat felt a little dry. She was about to head back inside the convenience store to buy a bottle of water when a cup of warm water set down in front of her.

She looked up at the man standing beside her.

Before she could come up with a reason to decline, Aidan said, "Consider it the payment for the meal. You can toss it if you don't want to drink it."

He strode off to the Rolls-Royce parked beside the road right after saying that.

She eyed him before looking down at the cup of warm water on the table.

The b*stard had a point. He did owe me for the meal.

I needn't make a fuss since the money is from my pocket.

With that in mind, she took the cup and started drinking.

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They arrived at Patheon Club.

Leanna never dreamed that she would be here with Aidan again.

It was odd. In the past, whenever she came here, she would relive the humiliation and despair that had gripped her soul back then.

However, this time, she felt nothing at all.

Perhaps Jethro's death was the catalyst for her to let go of her harrowing past.

After snapping out of her thoughts, Leanna noticed that Aidan was staring coolly at a nearby area. She didn't know what he was thinking about as she couldn't read his emotions.

Two minutes had passed when she finally couldn't stop herself from asking, "Aren't you heading in, President Pearson?"

"I was just thinking about something," he stated matter-of-factly.

"What —"

She regretted ever saying anything as soon as she uttered the first word, but it was too late to take it back.

He explained ever so coolly, "Once upon a time, in that spot over there, someone held my hand and begged for help."

Of course.

She knew this was coming.

Sure enough, it was never a good idea to keep the conversation going with him.

He continued, "I'll be the first to admit that I'm not a good man, but sometimes, I like to do a good deed for the day."

Probably because his conscience would eat him up otherwise.

"However, in the end, that person bit the helping hand."

Again, she wanted to roll her eyes.

"Leanna, have you ever heard of the fable about the farmer and the snake?"

Enough is enough.

Leanna gritted her teeth. "President Pearson, can you just... shut up?!"

He glanced at her and commented off-handedly, "I'm talking about Jonathan. Why are you getting so worked up?"

Both Leanna and Jonathan were dumbstruck.

However, being an assistant with a downright remarkable work ethic, Jonathan begrudgingly took a step forward and said, "President Pearson's right, Miss McKinney. At the time, I happened to be here, and President Pearson showed up by coincidence..."

Leanna stared at him with a straight face as she waited to see what he came up with this time.

He continued, "As for why I was here, well, it's a long story. It starts with my mother's illness..."

"Shut up," Aidan commanded.

"Yes, President Pearson," Jonathan responded right away.

"Don't bother explaining all that to her."

Aidan then headed upstairs without turning back.

Jonathan cleared his throat. "This way, Miss McKinney."

"Can I ask you something, Mr. Stoll?" she asked.

"W -What is it?"

Please don't let it be about what we were just talking about earlier!

He couldn't think of a plausible story to tell.

"Did President Pearson make a trip back to Pearson Family Estate several days ago?"

"Miss McKinney, you're referring to..."

"The day he came to look for me."

Jonathan nodded. He didn't expect her to ask about this.

"Did someone say something to him?" She continued asking.

"After the Zielinskis came and took Miss Anna away, Mr. Justin asked President Pearson to take him back into the house, but I'm not sure what they talked about."

Leanna nodded after hearing that. "Alright. I got it. Thanks."

Ever since that day, Aidan's attitude had been rather strange.

Although talking to him was just as frustrating as ever, and he was constantly picking on her on purpose, she still felt as if he was keeping his distance from her.

It was entirely different from what she sensed from him in the past.

She was beginning to think that he was developing a split personality disorder.

Justin Pearson, huh?

Is all this due to something he said to Aidan?

If that were the case, she was going to buy some balloons and throw a party to celebrate.

Jonathan hesitated for a moment, but seeing that Leanna was the one who started the conversation, he decided to say something. “Miss McKinney, there’s something that President Pearson probably wouldn’t tell you, but I thought it’d be best if you knew.”

“What is it?”

“It’s about how you lost your first child when Miss Anna pushed you down the stairs. President Pearson only found out about it recently. I encountered a lot of obstacles when I tried to look into it. Mrs. Pearson must’ve gotten involved to keep it under wraps, so that’s why President Pearson misunderstood...”

Leanna nearly laughed out loud. That explained why Aidan’s actions were so unlike him recently.

So, it’s all because of this.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 213-In the private room.

The moment Aidan stepped into the room, the temperature seemed to drop several degrees lower.

The air was tense and rather uncomfortable.

One of the men seated around the poker table muttered, “What’s with President Pearson?”

Oscar glanced at the man knocking back glasses of alcohol on the couch. “My guess is he got bitten.”

What?

“That wild, huh? I didn’t hear about President Pearson getting close to any woman recently, though,” one of the other men commented.

Oscar smiled knowingly without saying anything.

Just then, the door opened again, and the perpetrator who did the biting came in.

He looked toward the door and was taken aback when he saw Leanna walk in. He didn't think that Aidan would've been able to bring her here.

Aren't they at loggerheads right now?

After catching Oscar's eye, Leanna nodded lightly in greeting.

Then, she walked over to Aidan and sat down beside him.

Oscar quirked his eyebrows and looked away.

"Who's that? She's quite pretty. Is she a new model or celebrity that President Pearson's investing in?" someone asked.

Oscar shuffled the cards and answered off-handedly, "President Pearson's ex-wife."

Everyone was dumbstruck.

Didn't Aidan hate his ex-wife? He finally managed to get a divorce, so why were they hanging out together again?

All this while, Aidan sat in his corner without talking.

Leanna sat there in silence as well.

In any case, he only said that she needed to accompany him to the poker game. He didn't say she had to do anything.

She glanced at the people around Oscar. They were all young and wealthy playboys, and she couldn't help but feel curious as to why Aidan joined them today. Was his appearance here really going to be useful in aiding the company projects that had been affected?

Just as she began to sense the strangeness of it all, Aidan's voice called out to her. "Want a drink?"

She withdrew her gaze and looked at him. Half of his face was in the shadow. She couldn't tell what he was thinking or feeling. All she could see was his taut lower jaw.

She was startled for a moment, but she quickly came to. "I'm not drinking tonight."

Aidan seemed to chuckle in the darkness as he downed his glass with a visible gulp.

After setting the glass down, he walked over to the poker table.

As soon as he approached, one of them got up. "Take my seat, President Pearson. I'm about to head off anyway."

Once Aidan took the seat, Oscar said, "That seat of his has rotten luck. He's been losing all night. You better be careful, President Pearson."

"Can it be any worse than yours?"

Oscar wanted to roll his eyes.

Did he ingest a stick of dynamite or something?

Why is he exploding as soon as he speaks?

Right then, everyone around the poker table came to a mutual understanding.

Aidan was in a foul mood right now. They had better not cross him.

True to Oscar's words, after a few rounds, Aidan suffered heavy losses.

He flicked the cards and turned to Leanna. "Come here."

She walked over to the table, and after hesitating for a moment, she said, "I don't know how to play."

"I don't have any money either," she added solemnly after a slight pause.

She was not going to lose her hard-earned money to these evil capitalists.

Even Aidan couldn't say anything to that.

Oscar chuckled and assured her, "It's fine. President Pearson likes doing charity. Just recently, he started tree-planting projects all over the city under the guise of protecting the environ—"

He faltered right before getting to the last syllable when he felt an icy pair of eyes sweeping across him.

Leanna sat down in Aidan's old spot. "I really don't know how to play."

"Aren't you supposed to be great at everything? I'm surprised there's something you don't know," Aidan remarked coolly.

Oscar cleared his throat to warn him to stop before going too far.

When Aidan gets out of control, he goes around baring his teeth at everyone in sight.

And once he finally snaps out of it, it'd be too late for regrets.

In the past, Leanna would've shot back at him right away, but this time, she kept reminding herself that she was here to resolve an issue, and not to get into a fight with the b*stard.

Before she could respond, however, the b*stard finally said something decent. "I'll teach you."

"Fine," she said in response.

Perhaps it was thanks to being around a gambling addict shown any interest in poker games. She didn't know what was fun about it.

Throughout the whole game, she was like a mindless robot that carried out Aidan's instructions to the letter, doing whatever he told her to.

However, ever since she sat down in the chair, the tides seemed to turn in her favor.

She won several rounds in a row, and the atmosphere around the table became even more exciting, but she was getting drowsy.

"Use that card."

It was unclear whether it was Aidan who failed to point at the right card, or if it was Leanna who misunderstood him, but when she took out the card that she thought Aidan meant and attempted to place it down on the table, someone caught her hand midway.

His palm was warm and dry. The moment it wrapped around her hand, she felt as if she had been burnt. Her drowsiness vanished, and she immediately wanted to pull away from him.

Before she could, however, Aidan had already released her. “Not that one. The one beside it.”

Leanna withdrew her hand and switched cards.

When the round ended, she got up. “I want to use the washroom. You should play instead, President Pearson.”

She left swiftly without even waiting for his assent.

Once she was gone, the others around the table quickly came up with excuses to leave.

It was not a good day for poker. One false move and they would get themselves killed for stepping on a landmine, which was Aidan.

After watching the others scamper off, Oscar tutted and pushed his cards aside. “Are you here to play cards, or are you here to ruin the game?”

Aidan sat down on the couch and poured himself a glass. “I’m not the one who chased them off.”

“You might not have said those words, but your actions spoke louder.” Oscar sat down beside him. “Who ruffled your feathers today? Didn’t I tell you that you should watch that mouth of yours? The less you say, the better.”

Aidan picked up his glass and swirled it about. His expression was neutral as he said, “She’s heartless, not deaf.”

Oscar was exasperated. “What’s with you? Just not too long ago, you were still doggedly determined. Why are you acting like this now? Have you recognized the error in your ways?”

Aidan downed the glass without responding to him.

Oscar continued, “Aidan, you need to have patience when you’re trying to win a woman over. Look at where you stand with her right now. Not to mention the fact that you did misunderstand her a fair bit last time. Being hasty doesn’t get you anywhere.”

“If I don’t hurry up, you might be attending her wedding in two months.”

Oscar couldn’t say anything.

He did hear from Jonathan that Leanna was hanging out with Constellation Tech's Elijah Parker lately.

He didn't think things would escalate so quickly.

Oscar was confused. "Why are you still behaving like this, then?"

"Did anything I do in the past work?"

Oscar paused for a bit before he said, "I guess not."

If they did, he wouldn't be sitting here drowning himself in alcohol.

Aidan's dark eyes were fixed on the glass in his hand. He smirked and said, "This time, I'll go with a long-term plan."

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 214-Maybe it was Aidan's unrelenting pressure that pushed Leanna toward Elijah.

Thus, he had to change his game plan.

Oscar snickered. "Then... good luck."

Aidan glanced at him in displeasure. "Is that how you look like when you're wishing someone good luck?"

Oscar wanted to roll his eyes.

"I think your new method doesn't work either, Aidan. And it boils down to you not knowing how a woman thinks."

"But I know what Leanna is thinking," Aidan replied.

Well, he does have a point, Oscar thought.

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Leanna came out of the stall and got some tissues to wipe her hand. She was just about to leave the washroom when someone brushed past her.

Then, she heard a woman's voice calling out behind her, "Leanna McKinney?"

She stopped in her track and turned around.

Maya was startled at first, but she soon crossed her arms and eyed Leanna imperiously. “What are you doing here? Did you come with Elijah Parker?”

“No.”

“How odd then. This is an expensive place. Don’t tell me you’re here with friends.”

Maya’s derisive tone made it clear that she turned her nose up at Leanna.

“It has nothing to do with you,” Leanna responded calmly.

Maya didn’t expect her to respond like that. Her expression shifted, and she scoffed, “I was just reminding you out of the kindness of my heart. Perhaps you didn’t know, but the alcohol here starts at four figures. I’m worried that all your hard-earned money would be wasted in one night. After all, people in the service industry like you have a hard time making money.”

“So, after saying all that, what you mean is you’ll treat me to a drink tonight?”

Maya gulped. She couldn’t think of anything to say in response.

Her husband had a gathering with his friends here tonight. She had to plead with him for ages before he relented and allowed her to come along with him.

She had barely squeezed her way into this place, so she was in no position to buy a drink for Leanna.

Leanna noticed her reaction and chuckled. “Just focus on yourself. Don’t butt your nose into other people’s business.”

She was about to leave when Maya spoke up again. “Leanna, you’re a divorcee, right? One of my husband’s colleagues got a divorce too. I think you two would make a good match. Why don’t I introduce you to him?”

Before Leanna could respond, Maya continued, “People should learn to move on in life. You didn’t meet someone good. That’s why your marriage failed. I looked into the guy for you this time. Although

he has two kids, he’s a decent and honest man. Most importantly, he dotes on his wife a lot, and his salary’s not too shabby either. Once you get together with him, you’ll just need to stay home and look after the kids. Doesn’t he sound great? I wouldn’t introduce him to just anyone, you know.”

“Since he’s so great, you can have him.”

“Why, you—”

Leanna didn’t bother to stick around for her. She threw the tissue in the trash can and left.

Maya stomped her feet in fury.

She saw no reason for a divorcee to still strut about so arrogantly. Does she still think she’s the star of the school that everyone looked up to back then?

When Leanna returned to the room, she noticed that everyone else had left. Aidan was sitting alone on the couch, drinking his alcohol.

It looked like he had drunk quite a lot by now.

“Is it over, President Pearson?” she asked.

He looked up at her. “Why don’t you just come back tomorrow instead?”

She pressed her lips together and retrieved her purse. “Since it’s over, I’ll take my leave then.”

“Come here.”

She didn’t move. “Did you still need something, President Pearson?”

“Sit down,” he stated plainly.

After a pause, Leanna sat down three feet away from him.

Aidan shoved a glass toward her. “Try this.”

“No thanks. I’m not drinking any alcohol,” she said.

“It’s sweet, and it has a low percentage of alcohol content.”

She looked at him warily—she didn’t trust him very much.

“If I wanted to do something to you, would I need to come up with an excuse?” Aidan asked.

B*stard.

Though, he did have a point.

The b*stard was pretty cold to her today. Maybe it was just as he said. His patience ran out.

Leanna picked up the glass and took a sip. She licked her lips after. It was quite sweet.

And then, she finished the whole glass.

However, as soon as she set it down, Aidan pushed another one over.

She was less inclined to cooperate this time.

Isn't he pushing it a bit?

"As I said, if you have something to ask of someone else, you should act like it. To prevent you from turning around and lashing out at me in the future, and to prevent you from owing me another favor, let's settle things now," he stated coolly.

Leanna took a deep breath. Fine.

She downed several more glasses in a row and felt like she needed to use the washroom again.

However, she didn't expect the room to start spinning as soon as she tried to stand.

Her head was heavy. She felt dizzy and sank back down onto the couch. Her pretty eyes flickered as she stared blankly in front of her.

Aidan rested his hand against the table and propped his head up to stare at her. It was as if he had been waiting for this to happen.

His eyebrows quirked up, and he called out softly, "Leanna."

She turned toward him with a clueless expression.

"Do you still remember who I am?" he asked calmly.

Leanna paused a bit before answering, "I'm drunk, not daft."

"Is that so?"

She took her purse and tried to stand again, but she couldn't move at all.

Just as she finally managed to stand up with the help of the table, someone grabbed her wrist, and with a slight pull, she crashed right back down.

This time, she didn't fall onto the couch. Instead, she fell into his lap.

She tried to shove him away, but her body was limp, and it looked like she was just being coy instead.

Aidan placed his hands on her waist. It was a piece of cake for him to stop her from moving about.

"Leanna, I'm going to ask you one more time. Who am I?"

She stared at the hateful face in front of her. As her thoughts grew hazy, she acted on instinct. She smacked him in the face and sniffled aggrievedly. "The b*stard!"

Aidan didn't expect that.

He took her hand down and held it tight. "Take a closer look. I'm your husband."

"You're not. I'm divorced."

"No. You've got it wrong."

Leanna looked even more confused after hearing that.

Not divorced? How's that possible?

She clearly remembered that she had gotten one.

Aidan continued, "It's our first anniversary today. You were so happy that you ended up drinking too much."

He sounded certain, and her head was spinning, so she ended up caught in his web of lies.

“Leanna, it’s our wedding anniversary today. Don’t you have a gift for me?”

“Oh...” She looked around and felt her pockets before lowering her head. “I’m sorry. I forgot.”

“A word of apology isn’t sincere enough,” he said.

She looked up at him and hesitated for a moment. When she was sure that he didn’t look repulsed by her, she gave him a tentative peck on the lips. “How about this?”

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 215-Aidan’s eyes darkened. His Adam’s apple bobbed a little. “That’s not enough.”

Leanna cocked her head to the side as if she was trying to think what would convey enough sincerity.

At the very next second, she wrapped her arms around his neck and kissed him. This time, she carefully stuck her tongue out to lick his lips.

All at once, Aidan’s hands tightened around her waist. He reached up one hand to cup her head before deepening the kiss.

She was a little uncomfortable at first. Her lips stung in pain, but since it was their wedding anniversary and she hadn’t prepared a gift, she figured that he was upset.

Slowly, she began to respond to his kiss.

She sensed that Aidan was a little different today. He was a lot gentler than usual.

It was the kind of gentleness that intoxicated her.

Just then, someone opened the door to the private room.

Elijah was stunned to see the sight in front of him. His fists clenched.

After a pause, he turned around and left at once.

When Leanna heard the door closing, she immediately pushed Aidan away. Her face was bright red as she stammered, “T-There’s someone...”

“Ignore them.”

He pulled her head near and kissed her once more.

It was much, much later when he finally released her.

Leanna was nestled in his arms and gasped a little. Her fingers gripped his shirt as she asked dazedly, “Aren’t we going home?”

Aidan stared at her glistening eyes and asked hoarsely, “What do you want to do when we get home, hm?”

His stare made her feel a little embarrassed. She looked away. Her heart was about to leap out of her chest.

He smirked and caressed her head. “We can’t today.”

This was enough. If he took advantage of her now, once she sobered up, anger would be a gross understatement of what her reaction would be.

He carried her in his arms and murmured, “I’ll take you home.”

Leanna hummed in acknowledgment and grabbed his shirt tightly.

She was dozing off by the time they came out of Patheon Club.

Aidan placed her inside the car carefully before instructing, “Turn the temperature up.”

“Got it,” Jonathan said. “President Pearson, President Parker has left.”

Aidan acknowledged it with an unconcerned hum. He put his jacket around Leanna and pulled her back into his arms.

Jonathan cleared his throat. “President Pearson, what would happen if Mrs. Pearson finds out about this?”

“She won’t remember anything,” Aidan said. “Elijah Parker won’t ask her about it either.”

President Pearson’s a cunning man indeed. What an underhanded way to deal a blow to his love rival.

“Where are we going now, President Pearson?” Jonathan asked.

Aidan glanced at the woman in his arms. “Send her home.”

“Alright.”

“There’ll be some changes happening to the Pearson Family soon. Instruct more people to keep an eye on them.”

“What... sort of changes?”

“Georgina Crossley might be getting engaged to Justin,” Aidan stated off-handedly.

Jonathan was taken aback. “Has Mr. Justin agreed to it?”

“It has nothing to do with his wishes. The marriage alliance is merely a way to solidify the relationship between the Pearson Family and the Crossley Family.”

Furthermore, it was Lloyd Crossley himself who suggested the match.

“I will make sure our men keep an eye on them. I’ll continue to look into the Crossleys as well,” Jonathan said.

Aidan didn’t say anything else. He had his arm around Leanna’s shoulder as he remained quiet in thought.

...

Zoe was in the middle of her skincare routine when she heard the doorbell ringing. She ran to get it. “Leanna, why are you home so late? Did that b*s...” Well, if she had her way, she would’ve continued with, “...tard make things difficult for you again?”

However, Aidan was standing at the doorstep with Leanna in his arms and staring at her with a straight face.

Zoe was mortified.

She wanted to dig a hole and die.

“Where’s her room?” he asked.

Zoe retreated robotically and pointed the way.

He strode into the house.

Once the room door closed, Zoe gasped and took a deep breath. It felt as if she just had a near-death experience.

In the room.

Aidan laid Leanna on the bed and stared at her for a while. Just as he was about to leave, she reached out and circled her arms around his neck. Her eyes opened, and she stared at him hazily. "Did I make you mad again?"

"Hm?"

Leanna's nose was red. "Why are you leaving?" she asked aggrievedly.

"I won't leave if you answer a question of mine," he replied.

She nodded.

"Do I treat you well?"

She was not expecting that.

Leanna averted her eyes in avoidance.

However, he held her by the chin and forced her to have eye contact with him.

"Answer me," he said.

"You treat me well sometimes... and poorly other times..."

"Do I treat you well or poorly most of the time?"

Again, she didn't want to answer that.

Doesn't the b*stard know the answer already? Why does he keep asking all these?

"What do I need to do for you to forgive me?" he asked.

Leanna's voice was very soft. "Just a little coaxing will do."

“Really?”

“Mm-hmm...” She lowered her eyes. “But you won’t coax me. You’ll never do that. All you do is scold me and look at me with disdain. I didn’t lie to you. I didn’t try to use the child to force you into anything. If you didn’t want the child, I would’ve just gotten an abortion. I didn’t know they would do that...”

Her eyes were teary. Droplets of tears clung to her lashes.

Aidan’s tone was soft as he attempted to soothe her. “Alright, I’ve got it. I’m sorry. It’s all my fault.”

Once Leanna was sound asleep, he kissed her forehead and got up to leave.

As soon as he exited the bedroom, Zoe, who had been standing in wait for quite some time now, gave him a 90-degree bow and said loudly, “I’m sorry, President Pearson!”

Huh?

He tugged at his sleeve and responded coolly, “There’s no need for you to bow.”

Zoe quickly straightened up and asked carefully, “Did Leanna have too much to drink?”

“Yes.”

His answer only made her even more puzzled. “That’s weird. She rarely drinks and would always limit her alcohol intake as well. She has never gotten drunk—”

Before she could finish, a pair of eyes fell upon her.

She immediately changed the subject. “Don’t worry, President Pearson. I’ll take good care of her.”

Aidan took a few steps forward before turning around to look at her, but he didn’t say anything.

Zoe felt as if she was walking on a tightrope. “I-Is there anything else, President Pearson?”

“Don’t tell her I’m the one who brought her home.”

She nodded without the slightest bit of hesitation. “What should I tell her then?”

“You went to Patheon Club to pick her up. She was alone in the room when you arrived.”

“Noted! Will do!”

“Are you sure?” he asked.

Those three words sent chills down her spine.

It was not a question! It was a threat!

“Absolutely sure! Don’t worry, President Pearson. I won’t spill the beans by accident,” she said with a gulp.

Aidan withdrew his gaze and left.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 216-When Leanna woke up the next day, her body was weak and she could not prop herself up at all. As she opened her eyes and struggled to sit up, it felt like her whole world was spinning for a moment.

Shaking her head vigorously, she ran to the bathroom as she held back her vomit.

After a long time, she finally walked out of the bedroom while rubbing her stomach. She had an ashen look on her face that was coupled with clear discomfort.

Zoe heard the noise from outside and poked her head out of the kitchen. “Nana, you’re awake! I’m making you some hangover juice. It’ll be ready in a bit. Give me a minute.”

Leanna pulled out a chair at the dining table and sat down before resting her head weakly on the table. “Okay...”

After a few minutes, Zoe came out with a glass of hangover juice. “Nana, quickly drink up.”

As soon as Leanna picked up the glass, a nauseous feeling surged within her again. She retched several times, but nothing came out. Moments later, she managed to drink the hangover cure albeit with difficulty.

Gosh, I've never felt this uncomfortable in a while. This is worse than when I had morning sickness.

Once she finished her juice, she plopped herself onto the table again as if she was going back to sleep.

Zoe sat across her with her hands on the table. Then, she tentatively pried, "Nana, do you remember how you got drunk last night?"

As her eyes slowly widened, Leanna tried to recall last night's event. "That b*stard told me to accompany him to a card game and told me to help with his deck of cards..."

"Then?" Zoe immediately asked.

"Then..." Leanna trailed off.

The memories from last night gradually began to resurface in her mind. She recalled that she met Maya in the bathroom; when she returned, everyone else had left with only Aidan left.

Initially, she wanted to leave, but he pressured her to drink by saying that she should at least show some 'sincerity'.

Leanna had no recollection of how many glasses she had and her mind went blank after that.

When she thought of this, she suddenly raised her head and asked, "Oh. How did I come home last night?"

Zoe let out a cough and replied accordingly to what Aidan told her to say, "I picked you up."

This made Leanna wonder. "Did I call you?"

"No, the waiter did. He said that you were drunk and passed out in the private room. Then, he told me to come and pick you up."

Leanna rested her chin on her hand with a stunned look on her face as she stared ahead blankly.

After a long while, she finally said, "Oh."

Then, Zoe slammed her hand onto the table angrily to sell the story further. "That b*stard is really something else! How could he leave you lying there alone in unconsciousness?! He has no conscience!"

However, Leanna shook her head and let out a sigh of relief. "It's better that way."

It seemed like Aidan's reputation was really down the drain now.

"Nana, are you not upset that that b*stard is treating you like this?" Zoe asked softly.

Hearing this, Leanna smiled faintly. "It's better for me to accept this than to drag things on until it gets worse."

Frankly speaking, what happened last night was nothing in comparison to their history.

If they continued to be entangled like this, she could not guarantee what would happen in the future. Therefore, she was fairly satisfied with the outcome today.

Then, she stood up from the table. "Give me a minute. I'll get changed and we can head to the studio."

"You can rest at home today and I'll handle the studio alone. You probably won't be able to work either, seeing how you are now," Zoe offered.

As soon as Leanna stood up, she felt her head spin again. This time, she did not try to put up a strong front as she nodded and said, "Okay. I'll return to sleep, then."

"All right. There's food in the fridge. You can heat it up when you're awake later."

After Zoe left, Leanna slept until 4.00PM.

When she sat up and rubbed her temples, she did not feel as dizzy as she was before.

Once she took a hot shower, she felt a lot better.

She stretched her neck as she walked out of the bedroom to the kitchen. After finishing her meal, she looked at her phone before finally deciding to drop by Louis' school.

He did not explain much about what happened when he met Daphne over their phone conversation, which made Leanna feel a little uneasy.

Today was the last day of their final exam. Many students who were done with their papers left the schools in groups, dragging their suitcases behind them.

Leanna approached one of them and learned that those from Louis' major had finished their papers in the morning. The student also mentioned that he was at the cafe where he usually worked part-time.

When she arrived there, the cafe owner informed her, "He went to the police station."

"Police station?" Leanna was surprised to hear this.

"Yeah. Just the day before yesterday, there was a high schooler that deliberately set up a trap. Fortunately, he was caught on the spot. Didn't Louis tell you?"

This made her frown as she shook her head and asked, "Which station?"

After the cafe owner told her, she thanked him and quickly turned to leave.

Although she knew that things would not be as simple and easy as Louis told her on the phone, she did not expect it to be so severe.

When Leanna arrived at the hospital, Louis was just watching the surveillance clip with the police from that night.

As soon as Louis saw her, he could not help but frown. "What are you doing here?"

"You didn't tell me that such a major thing happened, yet you dare to question why I'm here?" she retorted angrily.

After saying that, she turned to the police and said, "I'm his sister and legal guardian."

Hearing this, the policeman nodded. "Then, let's watch it together."

Subsequently, Leanna fixed her eyes on the screen in front of her. After watching the footage for a while, her brows knitted together. "Can you go back a little?"

Once the tape was rewound, she requested again, "Can you zoom in a little?"

Although the surrounding was dim and blurry, she could recognise the girl in the surveillance footage.

"Do you know this person?" the cop asked.

Louis also turned over to look at her when he heard the question.

Leanna pursed her lips and answered slowly, "A few days ago, her mother kept coming by my place to cause a scene."

"Do you know anything about their identity?" the cop asked again.

"I called the cops. There should be a record of it."

After the cop checked with her regarding the police station she went to, they told the two siblings to stay put for a moment while they contacted the other police station for information.

Once the cop left, Louis immediately asked, "When did this happen? Why didn't you tell me?"

"You were having exams. It wasn't a big deal," Leanna answered.

She never expected that he would be dragged into this mess as well.

She then made a wild guess that the other party must have pre-planned this. However, since the middle-aged woman never showed up again, she brushed it off as her overthinking the matter up until now.

Judging from this situation, it seemed like those people not only knew about her relationship with Louis, but they were also coming at them for some reason.

No. To be precise, they were coming for her.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 217-The station needed time to investigate and collect evidence, so they sent Leanna and Louis home, promising to notify them immediately upon any news.

It was already dark out when they left the police station.

“Louis, do you still plan to stay at the school after the holidays?” Leanna asked.

Louis did not answer immediately. After some thought, he responded, “I’ll crash at your studio from tomorrow onward.”

“Huh?” She was taken aback by his answer for a moment before returning to her senses. He must be worried about me because of what has happened recently. “It’s fine. No one comes to look for trouble anymore. I’m worried for you. How about I rent you a place outside during the holidays?”

“There’s no need. I can rent it myself.”

Hearing this, she laughed and said, “Isn’t it the same thing?”

Louis stretched his neck as he replied, “I can make my own money now.”

Smiling, she did not pester him about the topic any further. Instead, she merely asked, “Where are you going to rent? I’ll come with you to check out the place tomorrow morning.”

“It’s okay. I’ve seen it already.”

Two hours later, Daniel opened the door and looked at the two people standing outside with surprise. “What are you doing here?”

Leanna rubbed her nose and replied, “Sorry for bothering you, but my brother here is on winter vacation and is currently looking for a place to rent. I just wanna ask if you have a spare room here.”

“About that...”

“I’ll pay the rent,” Louis immediately piped up.

“That’s not the case, kid. It’s not about the rent.” Daniel thought for a long time to cook up an excuse. “I grew up abroad, and some of my personal habits and tastes may differ from yours. I’m afraid it’ll make you feel uncomfortable, so it’s best if—”

“It’s fine. I like canned food too.”

Daniel was at a loss for words.

That was the worst excuse he had ever made in his life.

When Leanna saw Louis pulling his suitcase in, she closed the door and apologized, “Daniel, I’m so sorry, but something happened to me recently and my brother is worried. That’s why he’s here to live with you. Don’t worry. I’ll convince him to move elsewhere as soon as possible.”

Hearing this, Daniel immediately pulled back his thoughts and asked, “What happened, Miss McKinney? Do you need my help?”

“It’s not a big deal and it’s almost resolved anyway. Again, I’m really sorry about this.”

“Since that’s the case, your lil’ brother can live here in peace. You don’t have to pay rent. We should help each other as neighbors.”

“I’m sorry for troubling you again. If you don’t mind, you can come over to our place to eat at any time in the future,” Leanna suggested.

“If that’s the case, I’ll definitely take advantage of that.” Then, Daniel looked back. “Miss McKinney, I’ll take your brother to the guest room first. We’ll talk more next time.”

“All right. Thank you.”

After closing the door behind him, he walked to the living room and pointed at the two rooms to Louis. “You can choose any of those two rooms.”

Louis nodded. “Thank you.”

Then, he quickly added, “I won’t use anything in your house, nor will I evade your privacy. I’ll live here for, at most, a month. As an apology, you can get me to do anything for you.”

Daniel sat on the couch with his hands in his pockets and said with a smile, "You can skip the courtesies. Since we're living here together, treat this as your own place. Quickly unpack your stuff."

Hearing this, Louis nodded again with appreciation. "Thank you."

Ten minutes later, he came out of the guest bedroom.

Daniel took a can of beer from the fridge and threw it to Louis. "Are you on a break now? How was your exam?"

"It was all right."

"The last time I heard, you did well in your studies. It seems like you're just being modest now."

Louis chewed on his bottom lips and said nothing.

Daniel sat across from him and opened his own can of beer. "May I ask if your sister has been in any trouble recently?"

"Someone deliberately went to her studio to make a scene."

"Do you think that they'll do it again?"

"Possibly." Louis' thin lips pursed slightly. "They even found me. Although their plan failed this time, they'll definitely make another move."

Surprised by the bridge of events, Daniel paused before asking, "In your family... Is there anyone else besides you and your sister? I don't recall her bringing it up."

"No." Louis looked indifferent.

Catching the hint that Louis did not want to dive further into the topic, Daniel rose up and changed the topic. "I'm going out. You can use whatever you want in this house."

Before he left, he informed Louis the lock code.

...

At Constellation Tech, Daniel stretched out his hand and shook it in front of Elijah's face. "I'm talking to you. Are you listening?"

Elijah was still a little dazed as he pinched the bridge of his nose. "What did you say?"

"I said, what's happening to Leanna is very weird. Have you gone to find out what's going on?"

"I did, but I didn't find much."

"Things aren't as simple as they seem. Leanna is just a girl; she couldn't have offended anyone," Daniel uttered slowly.

Once Elijah got over his initial shock, he finally understood what Daniel meant. "Are you saying that the person these people are trying to threaten is actually Aidan?"

"It's just one of my guesses." Daniel tapped his fingers on the armrest of the couch and squinted his eyes. "The fact that Aidan canceled the marriage must have disgraced the Crossley Family to a certain extent. It's not impossible for them to try and use Leanna as their punching bag now."

"Do you think it's possible that Lloyd did this?"

"The possibility of that is high. I'll test Georgina again in the next few days. We'll see what she has to say."

After hearing that, Elijah kept quiet and lowered his head while lost in his thoughts.

When Daniel noticed his strange expression, he could not help but ask, "What's wrong with you today?"

Elijah shook his head. "Nothing. Maybe I just didn't get a good sleep last night."

"I also heard that Georgina may be engaged to Justin."

"Justin, as in... Aidan's brother?"

Daniel hummed. "But it's not confirmed yet. I still can't figure out why Lloyd would put forward such a request at this time. Theoretically, we have not done anything. Isn't he reacting a little too hastily?"

Elijah glanced at him and teased, "Perhaps he thinks you're unreliable."

Speechless, Daniel rebuked in an affirmed tone, "I don't think the problem lies with me."

Elijah remained silent.

"Something must have happened that scared him, or maybe he had a sense of urgency. That's why he proposed such a thing to the Pearson Family in order to stabilize the current situation."

As soon as Daniel finished talking, his phone rang.

It was a call from Georgina.

Then, he shook the phone before Elijah. "See? I'm not the problem."

"You should think about how to stop Georgina from marrying into the Pearson Family. Although Aidan holds all the power in the Pearson Family now, once they get married, it might not be as easy for us to follow our plan," Elijah stated.

However, Daniel seemed carefree as he laughed. "Don't worry, Georgina prides herself very highly. There is no way that she'd marry Justin."

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 218-In the evening, Leanna received a call from Elijah.

"Leanna, I heard from Daniel that Louis is living with him now. What's going on on your side? My friend told me yesterday that Daphne's PR team is already dealing with it, and the impact has been minimized."

"Thank you for calling. It's all well on my end. Louis moved here because he was worried about me."

Today, Jonathan did not call her for any follow-up questions. It was probably because she was no longer needed.

After a while, Elijah slowly said, " Leanna, are you free this weekend? Our company is having our annual general meeting at a resort not far from Highside. I want to invite you to join us for the two-day, one-night trip."

Leanna pondered for a moment before nodding. "Sure."

He breathed a sigh of relief after hearing that she agreed, and his mood seemed elevated. "All right. Then, I'll pick you up on Saturday morning."

As soon as she hung up, Zoe immediately came over and asked excitedly, "How is it? How is it? Is Elijah asking you out on a date?"

Hearing this, Louis, who was next to her, also turned to look over.

Leanna was speechless. Do they need to have such a big reaction?

"It's not a date," she answered. "It's his company's annual general meeting, and he invited me to attend it."

"What else can it be if it's not a date?" Zoe retaliated as she chomped away on her chips. "You must be going to this event as his girlfriend. Even if you're not his girlfriend yet, everyone will suspect that there is something going on and he's just waiting for the right time to take things to the next level."

Hearing this, Leanna pursed her lips and said nothing.

As for Louis, he retracted his gaze and continued to flip through the book in his hand. "I have no comment on this."

Zoe immediately followed suit and raised her hands in agreement. "I have no comment as well."

Leanna really didn't know what to do with these two. "I'm still a little dizzy. I'm going to go to bed."

Once she returned to her bedroom, she laid her head on the table as she fiddled with the ornaments in front of her with her fingers.

As a matter of fact, she had already thought about the question that Zoe asked before she even agreed to Elijah.

Leanna was planning to start over, and she wanted to give him a chance.

Therefore, she knew what would be implied when she agreed to him. It was too late to pull back anyway.

Although it might be a difficult step to take, she had to do so if she wanted to start afresh.

She let out a sigh before reaching out to her scribbling pad. She stared at a particular page for a long time before slowly tearing it off, folding it in half, and shredding it before she threw it into the trash can.

This is the end.

The next day, Leanna received a call from the police station.

Through the phone, she found out that both Karen and her daughter had been found. However, Karen was found in an unconscious state in the hospital from a car accident, and her daughter was just following her mother's instructions. She didn't know anything more than what she was told to do.

Karen's daughter was still in high school and was forced to do those things. Therefore, Leanna and Louis did not pursue her further.

After hearing the result of the police's investigation, Zoe speculated, "Something feels off to me. It is way too coincidental for Karen to be in a car accident. I really don't believe her when she says there is no one else behind all these."

"The car that ran into her has been looked into, and there is nothing suspicious about it. The accident happened when she was crossing the road," Leanna replied lightly.

"Now that you said that, it is possible that it's just an accident. Anyways, she is a hoodlum with no regard for the law. It wouldn't be a surprise to me if she jaywalked. Maybe it's karma."

"I feel like this isn't the end yet. We still need to be careful in the future," Louis chimed in.

Once this topic had passed, Zoe asked again, "Nana, it's Saturday tomorrow. Have you thought of what to wear?"

This confused Leanna. "Do I have to plan out what to wear?"

“Of course!” Zoe slapped her thigh. “Annual meetings like these are the time when women would try to parade around to seduce the men. What’s more, Elijah is so young and elegant, handsome and

wealthy. He’s basically like a honeypot to the bees. Although you are very beautiful without dressing up, at times like these, you need to step up your game and guard your man!”

With that, Zoe pushed Leanna into her room and began choosing some clothes.

In the end, Zoe was still somewhat dissatisfied with her choices. “These aren’t sexy enough. Let’s go out and buy some more.”

Leanna hastened to hold Zoe back. “Enough, enough. I think these are good enough. Besides, it’s too late now. The mall is already closed.”

Hearing this, Zoe sighed. “Oh well, we have no other choices then. Thank God that you have a good body; you’ll even look good in a sack.”

Leanna scratched her head. “I might not be back until the night after tomorrow. If you’re bored at home on the weekends, why don’t you come with me?”

After thinking about it for the past two days, she was starting to feel a little embarrassed to go alone.

However, she had already promised Elijah, and it wasn’t easy to go back on it.

“Are you kidding me? I’m not going to be a third wheel. I’m going to a bar this weekend to see if there are any handsome guys. Don’t look down on me. I might not be back tomorrow night as well.”

Leanna really didn’t know what to do with her best friend at this point.

Then, Zoe yawned. “I’m going back to my room. You should get your beauty sleep soon. That way, you can blow Elijah’s mind tomorrow.”

“I’m not a bomb.” Leanna smiled.

“You’re more mind-blowing than a bomb.”

“All right now, enough. You’ve gone too far.”

After Zoe left for bed, Leanna went out of her bedroom.

In the living room, Louis was packing his things.

Leanna poured a glass of water and walked over. “Louis, are you leaving already?”

Louis nodded. “It’s getting late.”

“All right. Go to sleep.”

After Louis walked to the door, he turned back and stood in front of Leanna. He seemed hesitant before he asked, “Have you made up your mind?”

She didn’t understand what he meant as she put down her glass and questioned, “Made up my mind for what?”

“To be with Elijah.”

After a few seconds, she answered with a faint smile, “I’m not deciding to be with him. I just want to see how we get along with each other. If we’re a suitable match, maybe we will get together. Otherwise, we can move on—”

“Do you like him?” Louis interjected with a slight frown.

Her mouth opened, but no words came out.

After a while, she finally said, “Louis, relationships aren’t that easy. Just because you like someone, it doesn’t mean you can be together. If the two of you are fitting for each other, feelings will gradually develop.”

“That can’t be love, can it?”

Hearing this, she immediately lowered her head. She picked up her glass and gripped it quietly.

Then, he added, “Although I hope you meet someone who treats you kindly, I still hope that you’d be with someone you like and not necessarily Elijah.”

“Louis...”

“Do you still like Aidan?” He interrupted her again.

“It’s late. Go home and sleep,” she answered slowly.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 219-Leanna was dragged out of bed by Zoe first thing in the morning on Saturday before Zoe forced her to dress up.

Leanna sat in front of the window as she squinted from the strong sunlight.

Zoe let out a sigh. “What a beautiful day! It’s a good day to go on a date. I’d have to pack and leave soon.”

Hearing this, Leanna let out a yawn. “Where are you off to at such an hour in the morning?”

“Isn’t it winter holidays now? I’m going to a nearby university to see if any innocent young men might need help with their luggage. It’d be my lucky day if I met any. It’s a rare opportunity for me.”

Leanna really did not know what to do with Zoe.

Once Leanna was done packing up, Elijah’s call came through.

After sending Leanna down, Zoe headed back upstairs and was about to make up for her lack of sleep when she bumped into Daniel returning from his morning run while she waited for the elevator.

The two simply greeted each other and fell silent.

As the elevator slowly ascended, the increasingly awkward atmosphere made things worse in the small space.

Suddenly, Daniel let out a cough and thought of a topic to start a conversation. “I heard from Elijah that Miss McKinney is going to Constellation Tech’s annual meeting?”

Zoe merely nodded when she heard this. “I just sent her off downstairs.”

Then, in the next moment, the two ran out of things to talk about.

Once the elevator door opened on Zoe’s floor, she quickly stepped out. Just as she was about to open the door to her house, Daniel’s voice was heard from behind. “I’m sorry about last time. If you’re free, can I invite you to dinner tonight?”

After a few seconds of silence, she raised the corner of her mouth and turned her head as she put on a calm front. "It's not quite... right if it's just the two of us."

"Miss McKinney's brother will join us as well."

This sentence immediately made her choke on her saliva. "If that's the case, I'll see you tonight then."

"I'll see you tonight." He nodded slightly before the two parted ways.

...

In the car, Elijah noticed that Leanna was staring out the window in a daze with a blank look. It was as if she hadn't woken up.

He smiled and said, "You can take a nap. We're still two hours away. I'll wake you up when we're there."

His voice interrupted her train of thought as she patted her face to try and wake herself up a little. "It's okay. I'm not very sleepy. I'll just sit."

She and Elijah were the only two in the car. She would be embarrassed if she was the only one sleeping while he had to drive so far.

"Then, let us chat. How about that?" he suggested.

Leanna let out a yawn and answered, "Okay."

After thinking for a while, he started the conversation. "Leanna, I've never heard you mention your family. Are you okay talking about them?"

This was the last thing that she had expected him to bring up. So, she paused for a moment before saying, "There's nothing to not be okay about. It's just me and my brother in my family. And you also met my brother the other day."

"Actually, I met him quite a while ago."

"Really? When?"

Elijah responded, "Back then, he would occasionally come to school to look for you. I saw him from a distance. That time, you were always accompanied by another person."

Leanna smiled lightly when she heard this and glanced out the window again. "I see. In a blink of an eye, so many years have passed."

Two hours later, the car finally stopped at the resort.

The employees of Constellation Tech all took the same bus, so they had yet to arrive.

After Elijah parked the car, he asked, "Leanna, do you want to go back to the hotel to rest or take a walk around?"

"Let's go take a walk. The air here is clean," Leanna answered.

The air on the outskirts was indeed much better than in the city. There were no sounds of cars, only the rustles of leaves from the gentle wind.

There was also an artificial lake nearby.

Under the sunlight were ripples of little waves on the water.

With scenery like this, anyone here would easily feel at peace.

Yet, for some reason, Leanna was a little taken aback, especially when she saw the boat docked on the shore. Her mind was suddenly pulled back to that time in Underwood Lane.

It was also sunny and breezy as the boat swayed on the water. She leaned on the man's shoulder, a little sleepy. The world seemed to be at peace. Only the murmur of water could be heard.

On top of that, the sound of her increasing heartbeat was heard.

Elijah followed her line of sight and asked, "Do you want to go there?"

Immediately, Leanna regained her composure. "No, let's go see somewhere else."

As soon as they turned around, they noticed a group of people on the bridge not far away, walking in their direction.

When she noticed the man in front of the ground, she was stunned. Then, she subconsciously turned her head to look back at the boat parked by the shore. She thought that it was just an illusion.

What a d*mn coincidence!

Soon, the group of people got closer to them.

However, she wasn't sure if Aidan did not see them or whether he was deliberately he strode past with the group of people without even casting them a glance.

Leanna was still stunned long after he left.

She would never have thought that the man who was still on her mind a second ago would just abruptly appear in front of her.

Suddenly, she felt an inexplicable sense of guilt.

"Leanna," Elijah called out softly.

This quickly brought Leanna back to reality. "I'm sorry. I—"

"It's okay. Let's go back."

She nodded lightly. "Okay."

When they returned to the hotel, the employees of Constellation Tech had already arrived, and they were gathered together in a conversation.

After they noticed Elijah bringing Leanna over, everyone immediately stopped talking and watched them from a distance.

Once the assistant reported the itinerary to Elijah, he looked down at his watch before saying, "Everyone, you can place your things in the room first and gather here in half an hour for lunch."

"Okay," the group of people echoed.

After Elijah took the room card from the assistant, he went to the car and took out Leanna's things.

Once the two left, the employees who had been stealing glances at each other finally couldn't hold back and began to discuss.

"Is that President Parker's girlfriend? She's so beautiful!"

“I’ve never heard about his girlfriend before. Let’s not speculate. It might be his sister. I’m still waiting for my chance to dance with President Parker tonight.”

“Forget it. That looks like his girlfriend. Who would bring their own sister to an occasion like this? Stop lying to yourself.”

“Hey, don’t you think that President Parker’s girlfriend looks kind of familiar? I feel like I’ve seen her somewhere before.”

“She does look a little familiar. Is she a celebrity?”

“Enough with your guesses. I know who she is.”

In an instant, the group of people who had gathered around to discuss turned to look at the person who spoke.

“She’s a designer for Lux Jewelry. She’s the one that won first place in the design competition back then. What is her name again?”

Someone in the crowd asked, “Something along the lines of McKinney?”

“Oh, right! It is her!”

“But...Wasn’t there a rumor some time ago about how she is a mistress?”

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 220-When Elijah walked Leanna to the entrance of the door and passed her the room key, he commented, “Leanna, I’m in the room opposite yours. We’ll head downstairs in a short while. I’ll come over to call you.”

A smiling Leanna nodded. “Sure.”

The moment she entered the room and set aside the items, she went to the bathroom to wash her face before she headed to the balcony. Then, she leaned against the railing to breathe some fresh air.

Her room was facing the man-made lake. From a distance, it was obvious that the lake was more beautiful than before, as if it was sprinkled with countless diamonds that shone brightly.

She shook her head to cast aside the messy thoughts in her mind.

She stretched comfortably under the sun, but when she turned around, she realized that someone was already standing on the neighboring balcony.

Such a sight left Leanna speechless.

She stopped stretching in mid-air, which caused her whole body to stiffen.

However, Aidan looked like he never realized her presence and merely looked into the horizon with his emotionless cold face.

Leanna slowly withdrew her hand as her lips moved, as if she was hesitating whether to speak or not.

This one in a million occurrence could not even be considered as coincidence.

It was intentional.

What does this idiot want again? This is really never ending.

Leanna took a step forward. "Ai—"

"President Pearson, this is the annual financial statement for the resort as well as a plan to develop the area next year. We're going to build another theme park next to the artificial lake and include more recreational activities for the theme park.

She stared at the scene before her and was immediately stunned.

It was only at this time that Aidan seemed to have realized her presence. Then, he turned his head to politely answer, "Madam, I'm the hotel manager. Can I assist you with anything?"

"S-Sorry."

An embarrassed Leanna hurried off to her room.

She was only relieved that she had not said anything.

Otherwise, the idiot would mock her in ways that she would least expect.

On the balcony, Aidan perused the financial statements that were in front of him before he handed it over to the hotel manager.

The hotel manager asked again, "What do you think about the theme park project?"

"Produce a detailed proposal for me." As Aidan instructed, he glanced sideways at the vacant balcony next door before he turned his gaze to the lake in the distance and added with a calm tone, "Also, add an area for children's activities."

As the hotel manager had not expected to hear such words from Aidan, he quickly regained his composure and replied after a momentary shock, "Alright, I'll ask them to draft the proposal as soon as

possible."

Aidan adjusted his cuffs and turned back to return to his room.

It wasn't long before the hotel manager left that Jonathan knocked on the door and entered. "President Pearson, we've investigated the arrangement for Constellation Tech's annual meeting."

Aidan sat on the couch and lightly tapped his knees with his long fingers. "Speak."

"They will be heading to a lakeside restaurant for a meal at noon whereas there will be rafting and other activities later in the afternoon. You can choose to participate in the activities. The annual meeting itself will start on time at 7.00PM tonight at the banquet hall. Then, there will be a mountain climbing session tomorrow morning. We'll return to Highside after lunch."

Aidan asked, "Has it all been arranged?"

Jonathan nodded. "Don't worry, President Pearson. Everything has been settled in advance."

Aidan raised his eyebrow as he turned his head toward the window. No one could decipher what he was thinking.

...

Leanna washed her face with cold water for a good two minutes before the embarrassment that developed her finally disappeared. She had no idea

whether it was because of her own self or because of the room's environment that left her feeling suffocated.

She dressed herself again and prepared to head downstairs to get some fresh air.

However, she ran into the same hotel manager from earlier in the elevator as he had just finished reporting to Aidan.

The hotel manager had also recognized her and gave her a slight nod.

She pursed her lips and smiled, after which she leaned against the elevator cabin while watching the display panel indicating the slow descent.

After a while, she suddenly asked, "Is your hotel owned by the Pearsons?"

When the hotel manager heard this, he answered, "Yes."

At that, he suddenly remembered the earlier encounter and asked in hesitation, "Madam, are you acquainted with President Pearson?"

Leanna smiled dryly. "We've met before."

The hotel manager thought that she was here to attend the annual meeting for Constellation Tech, so it was not strange for her to be acquainted with President Pearson. As such, he didn't probe any further and made small talk instead. "The entire resort is owned by the Pearsons, save for the hotel. President Pearson has made a visit this time to conduct a routine inspection at the end of the year."

She nodded before she hesitated and inquired, "Then... W-When did he arrive?"

"Last night."

However, what the hotel manager didn't mention was that President Pearson never made a personal visit for the inspection last year.

When President Pearson arrived last night, it frightened all of the resort employees because they thought that something grave had happened.

Judging from this morning's situation, everything was normal and President Pearson had merely asked them to provide their reports.

When Leanna heard that Aidan had arrived last night, the last bit of her doubt was finally alleviated.

This one in a million occurrence for her to run into Aidan was probably a result of her bad luck.

The hotel manager then introduced her to the nearby scenery and some places to visit.

When the elevator arrived on the ground floor, she bid her thanks and left the hotel lobby.

She never visited the places that the hotel manager introduced, though. Instead, she aimlessly walked around.

Before she was even aware of it, she had returned to the artificial lake once again.

As she stood on the bridge and enjoyed the quiet breeze, she felt that her mind was free of worries.

Perhaps it was because of her environment because she found herself reflecting on the time she lived in Underwood Lane ever since she arrived.

She wanted to know if Underwood Lane had changed and whether all the residents had moved out.

Especially Ms. Shaffer and Ms. Fletcher...

Are they doing well in life?

Leanna felt that it would be arduous for her to have such peace in her life again and there was also a chance that she would never be able to enjoy such a leisurely and comfortable period.

Her phone suddenly rang after what seemed like an eternity.

It was from Elijah.

“Leanna, aren’t you in your room?”

“I’m sorry. I’m actually outside the hotel and forgot to inform you. I’ll be right back.”

Elijah responded, "It's alright. I'll wait for you at the hotel lobby then."

After he hung up the phone, he left from his spot in front of Leanna's room and pressed the elevator button.

At this moment, Aidan's figure appeared from nowhere and stood beside Elijah.

Elijah broke the silence. "It shouldn't be a coincidence that you'll be here, President Pearson. I really never expected that you'd make such a big deal for a chance meeting with Leanna."

Aidan coolly retorted, "I also never expected that you'd lack self-esteem, President Parker. Say, was the scene that you saw that night not clear enough?"

Such words left Elijah clenching his fists as he turned to face Aidan, whose face was full of silent endurance.

When Aidan met Elijah's gaze, the corners of his lips curled upward to reveal a sneer.