

Read Novel Love Change Of Heart Chapter 431-440

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 431-They were set to meet in a private club the next day. Since Leanna had brought it up with Mr. Jackson, he agreed to be the witness when she proposed it again.

Lloyd and Georgina weren't around when Leanna left, so she wrote the address down and asked a servant to give it to them once they showed up. Lloyd agreed to the arrangement. He won't go back on his word. She went straight to Lloyd's campus after leaving the residence.

Louis got her call, and he came to the school gates. "What brings you here?"

Leanna said, "You don't have any classes today, do you? I'm taking you somewhere."

"Yeah, it's the weekend. No classes."

"Alright. Get in."

He was about to say he had other things to do, but he pursed his lips and kept his mouth shut.

Along the way, she asked, "So, how's it going between you and Daphne?"

"What?" asked Louis.

"I thought you went to her place last week. No progress?"

Louis stayed silent for a while. In the end, he muttered, "Of course not." He never thought about making any progress with her.

Nobody knew Louis better than Leanna. She noticed his dejection and said, "Don't give up. She never said she wouldn't date a younger guy. Want me to see if she has any feelings for you?"

"It's alright." Louis looked outside the window. "I'm not looking for a girlfriend at the moment."

"So, you're just going to focus on your studies?" What am I saying? Of course, he's going to focus on his studies. Why am I goading him into a relationship?

“No. I have something else to do.”

“So? Your studies and a relationship aren’t mutually exclusive. And you like her, don’t you? Just give it a try.”

Louis finally looked at his sister. “How did you know?”

Leanna pointed at her eyes. “I’m your sister. Even Aidan knows you like her. You think I don’t?”

“You didn’t tell her, did you?”

“Obviously. Why else do you think I’m bringing this up with you?”

The last few encounters didn’t end well. A while later, he said, “Maybe next time, sis.”

Leanna cocked her eyebrow. “Sure.”

They were set to meet in a private club the next day. Since Leonno had brought it up with Mr. Jackson, he agreed to be the witness when she proposed it again.

Lloyd and Georgino weren’t around when Leonno left, so she wrote the address down and asked a servant to give it to them once they showed up. Lloyd agreed to the arrangement. He won’t go back on his word. She went straight to Lloyd’s campus after leaving the residence.

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Leonno cocked her eyebrow. "Sure."

Louis looked outside the window and asked, "So, where are we going?"

"To see Lloyd and Georgina."

A frown creased her forehead at that. "Why?"

Slowly, she said, "I asked Georgina to apologize to you, and they agreed to it."

Louis pursed his lips. "You didn't have to do that." As long as you're fine, I'm fine.

"Of course, I have to do this. I'm not about to take this lying down. We don't want them thinking we're pushovers."

...

Mr. Jackson was already waiting for them when they arrived at the club. He was having some tea by himself.

Leanna entered the room. "Thanks for waiting, Mr. Jackson."

He grinned. "It's alright. I just arrived." He then looked at the guy behind Leanna closely. "This must be your brother."

She nodded. "Louis, this is Mr. Jackson."

Louis nodded. "Mr. Jackson."

Mr. Jackson turned his attention to the table and placed two teacups across from him, then he poured some tea into them. "Come. Sit." Once the McKinney siblings sat down, Mr. Jackson looked at Louis. "How old are you?"

"Nineteen."

"Still in school? Freshman year?"

"Yes."

Mr. Jackson picked his teacup up and nodded. "Heard you were the top student in your province last year."

He remembered a little episode regarding this. Someone had bought an admission letter, but they got the one belonging to the province's top student. In the end, that letter was given back to its rightful owner. That was a few months ago. Mr. Jackson usually wasn't interested in things like this, but then he found out the top student was this boy. He looks like Sandra.

Girls resemble their fathers, and sons take after their mothers. Leanna looks like her father, but not the boy. Mr. Jackson sighed silently.

A few moments later, Leanna realized Mr. Jackson was staring at Louis. Must be because of Mom. She said, "I'll tell them to make us more tea."

She was about to get up, but someone opened the door. However, the one who entered wasn't Georgina, but one of the Crossley servants.

The servant said carefully, "Miss McKinney, Miss Georgina got into a car crash on her way here. She's been taken to the hospital."

"Oh." Leanna asked coolly, "Where was she hurt?"

"We don't know, but she bled a lot. It's serious."

"I see. I'll go to the hospital then," Leanna said.

The servant quickly declined, "I-It's alright."

Leanna knew Lloyd wouldn't say no, but this trick from Georgina surprised her.

The servant presented her with a box. "Miss McKinney, Miss Georgina would like you to have this."

Leanna took it and opened the box. Inside it lay a pendant watch she designed for the charity dinner. She thought Queenie had taken it. So, it was Georgina all along.

Why isn't she saying anything? The servant stammered, "S-She said she found this next to the trash can a few months ago. She was cleaning her room last night and saw this watch. That was when she noticed the logo of your name on it. She thought it belonged to you, so..."

Leanna closed the box. "Not everyone has the good fortune to come across this." She's using this to get out of apologizing. Naturally. That arrogant woman would never admit she's wrong.

Mr. Jackson waved the servant away. Once she was gone, he said, "You don't have to get angry over them. They'll be served their just desserts soon."

Leanna put the box down and nodded with a smile.

He told Louis, "You too. Just wait."

Louis didn't have much to say. "Of course."

They had more tea, and then Mr. Jackson stood up. "Well, you must have work to do. I'll be leaving now."

"I'll send you off," Leanna said.

"Just take me to the first floor. My driver's waiting outside."

They sent Mr. Jackson off. Once his car was out of sight, Leanna looked away. "I'll take you back to school."

Louis shook his head. "It's alright. I have something else to do."

"Sure. I'll take you wherever you want to go."

A moment of silence later, Louis said, "I've been keeping a secret from you."

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 432-Oh, he sounds serious. Leanna perked up as well. "I'm listening."

"I signed with a film company."

That was a surprise for Leanna. She was stunned for a moment. "When?"

"Quite a while now. I was going to spill it eventually, but..."

"You're worried I might object." Leanna looked at him.

Louis stayed silent, though that was an answer in and of itself.

Leanna smiled and patted his shoulder. "I won't object to this. Whatever you want to do, you have my full support." Then she said, "Zoe even told me she's going to be your fan club's president if you ever debut." She was then reminded of something else. "Oh, Daphne did say something about this, but she wanted you to tell me yourself. Is that it?"

Louis nodded. "I think so."

"Sure, but I have one condition." Leanna said seriously, "You can get into a relationship or even shoot a movie, but don't let that get in the way of your studies."

“I know. I won’t.”

Leanna knew he wouldn’t. Louis had been a top student ever since he was a kid. She did not need to worry about him.

After Louis was gone, Leanna got in her car and called Jonathan. She wanted him to find out where Georgina was. Once she got the address, Leanna went straight to the hospital.

Meanwhile, the doctor had just finished bandaging Georgina, and said, “Don’t expose your wound to water. Come back in two days to get your dressing changed.”

A frown creased Georgina’s brows, and she shot up impatiently. “I got it.” She raised her wrist and exited the consultation room. A moment later, she saw Leanna waiting for her nearby.

Georgina sneered. “Here to see if I’m wounded?”

Leanna said calmly, “You know you must put in the effort if you want me to believe you. And that’s why you’re here.”

“This is all thanks to you. Don’t laugh at me. It’s annoying.”

Leanna said, “I shouldn’t laugh at you.” Georgina was about to say something, but Leanna continued, “I should hold a party to celebrate.”

Oh, he sounds serious. Leonno perked up as well. “I’m listening.”

“I signed with a film company.”

That was a surprise for Leonno. She was stunned for a moment. “When?”

“Quite a while now. I was going to spill it eventually, but...”

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Georgina gnashed her teeth. "You think you've won? Honestly, sometimes you astonish me. Aidan used to hate your guts. He even wanted to kill your baby, but now you're back with him. Doesn't the

sight of him disgust you?"

Leanna remained unfazed. “Miss Crossley, you don’t like me either, but still you faked being my friend. Doesn’t the sight of me disgust you?” She didn’t give Georgina a chance to answer and continued, “You keep saying you’d have been the one to marry Aidan if it weren’t for me. That’s why you hate me, but if I’m right, you don’t think highly of Aidan either. You think an illegitimate child like him is unworthy of a pureblood like you.”

The look on Georgina’s face changed, but she remained silent.

“You think you’re worthy of everything you have. You think you’re a legitimate heir, but I doubt that.”

“What’s that supposed to mean?”

Leanna smiled. “Nothing. I have to go now. Rest well, Miss Crossley.”

Georgina looked at her coldly.

Leanna emerged from the hospital and was about to leave, but she ran into someone.

Justin smiled at her. “It’s been a while, Leanna.”

“Mr. Pearson,” she said.

“What brings you here? Are you unwell?”

“No. I have business to do.” She paused for a moment. “Are you sick?”

Justin placed his hands on his knees and stared at them. “It’s nothing. A condition of mind. I can’t stand up, but my legs hurt a few times every year.” He looked at her. “Let’s sit down and chat if you don’t mind.”

Leanna nodded. “Sure.”

They came to a coffee shop, and he asked, “Have you been well?”

A small smile tugged at Leanna’s lips. “I’m fine, as usual.”

Justin took a sip of coffee. “I heard that you got back with Aidan.”

“Yes.”

He smiled. "That's good. I know Aidan. He's a softie. He fell for you a long time ago."

Leanna remained smiling, but she had no idea what to say. After his apology after the car crash last time, it had been a while since they met. She didn't know how to treat Justin. On the one hand, he was one of the few who were nice to her, but on the other hand, his mother was the one who set her up and killed her child.

A moment later, Justin said, "I've also heard of your feud with the Crossleys. What's your plan? Do you need any help?"

Leanna shook her head. "No. I'm moving out."

Surprised, Justin asked, "Why?"

"Maybe because they don't like me. I don't have any reason to stay with them. I stayed with them for money, and now that I've gotten what I wanted, it's time to leave."

"You're not that kind of woman, Leanna."

Leanna smiled. "Perhaps I've masked myself too well. I didn't want much when I was poor, but now I know there's nothing money can't settle." A moment later, her phone rang. It was from Aidan. She

looked at it and said, "I have something to settle. See you."

Justin nodded. "See you."

Leanna smiled and left the coffee shop. Her phone stopped ringing right there and then. She called Aidan back as she approached her car.

Once the call made it through, Aidan asked, "Still at the hospital?"

"I just left and am about to head to the studio. What's up?"

Aidan slowly asked, "Done with your business?"

"Well, I suppose. There's not much I can do now," Leanna answered.

"Want me to pick you up?"

That explains why he called me. She got in her car. "Tomorrow morning, maybe. I need to pack tonight."

"No problem," Aidan answered without hesitation.

Leanna pursed her lips and stayed silent for a while. In the end, she said, "I ran into your brother."

"Justin?"

"Yeah. He's probably here to get his legs checked."

Aidan frowned. "Did he say anything to you?"

A sigh escaped Leanna's lips. "Nothing. Just made small talk."

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 433-When Leanna got back to Crossley Residence that night, Lloyd was in his study.

She knocked on the door. "Come in," Lloyd called out.

When he saw Leanna walk in, he asked, "What's the matter? Are you not satisfied with the apology today?"

"Miss Crossley wasn't present, so I can't comment on whether or not I was satisfied," she replied.

He narrowed his eyes. It was evident that he knew what had happened earlier today.

"However, you needn't worry, Mr. Crossley. I'm not here about that," she added.

"What are you here for then?"

"I plan on moving out of Crossley Residence."

Lloyd didn't see this coming. He frowned in thought.

Leanna continued in a steady voice, "I've spent some time on this now, and I've thought things through. Crossley Residence is still an unfamiliar place to me. Since I can't recall anything from my childhood, there's no reason for me to stay here any longer."

After a pause, he answered, "If you're determined to leave, I won't stop you, but it will be Crossley Group's anniversary ceremony in a few days, so just stay a little longer. You can leave once that's over."

Her brows twitched a little as she pressed her lips together.

Lloyd is planning to do something during the anniversary ceremony.

Her silence prompted him to remark, "What's the matter? You've been here for so long now. Don't you think you can stay for just a few more days? Don't tell me you think that I'll do something to you."

She smiled faintly. "You're reading too much into this, Mr. Crossley. I didn't think you'd invite me to Crossley Group's anniversary ceremony."

"You say you're Sandra's daughter, so it stands to reason that you should attend Crossley Group's anniversary ceremony," he replied coolly.

"In that case, I won't object to it either."

Once Leanna returned to her bedroom, she started massaging her sore facial muscles. It was exhausting to fake a smile all day long.

She stretched her neck a little before heading into the bathroom for a shower.

When she came back out, she saw her phone screen light up.

She plopped herself down on the bed and answered the call. "Hello?"

"Are you done packing your things?" Aidan asked.

"No..." She licked her lips. "Why don't we wait a couple more days?"

"Didn't we discuss this already?"

Leanna flipped over. "Lloyd's not letting me leave. He wants me to wait until Crossley Group's anniversary ceremony is over first."

"Did you agree to that?" His tone became a lot colder.

"I didn't have a chance to say no."

"Pack your things. I'll come and pick you up tomorrow."

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"Did you agree to that?" His tone became a lot colder.

"I didn't have a chance to say no."

"Pack your things. I'll come and pick you up tomorrow."

He sounded adamant, but she said, "You don't need to. It's just a few more days."

"Leanna," he called out grimly. "What reason do you think he keeps you there for?"

"I know he's up to no good," she replied softly. "That's why I need to stay here."

They didn't know what Lloyd was planning yet, but she could keep an eye out for what he was up to if she stayed in the house.

Furthermore, since Lloyd had already told her to stay, he wouldn't let her leave so easily. If Aidan took her away anyway, both sides would be bound to

drop all pretense of friendship between them. Lloyd was a wolf in sheep's clothing; there was no telling what he would do if he was backed into a corner.

"I'll be fine. I know how to take care of myself. Weren't you the one who said that with you around, Lloyd won't have the guts to do anything to me?" Leanna tried to assure him.

"Did you believe that?"

She went silent at his question—she had no answer for that.

"That was true in the past, but don't you know what the situation's like now?" Aidan pressed.

"Oh, alright. I got it." She knew his fears weren't unfounded, so she didn't continue debating this with him. "I'll just bring along all of my most important things tomorrow. I can leave the clothes and stuff here since they're not important. Are you satisfied now?"

"That's more like it."

Just then, she yawned as she was feeling a little drowsy. "I'll go to bed now. Good night." With that, she ended the call.

A thunderstorm began later that night.

Leanna's nightmare woke her up. When she opened her eyes, she saw that her window had blown open and the rain was coming in.

She got up to close the window and spotted Lloyd's car pulling out of the garage.

Where's he going in the middle of the night during a thunderstorm?

She frowned. The car lights flashed into her window, and she quickly dodged behind the curtain.

Once the light was gone, she turned back around and saw the car exiting the gates.

She sat back down on her bed and checked the time—it was 3.30AM.

After mulling it over, she pulled on a jacket and grabbed her phone.

Leanna figured that Georgina wouldn't have known about Lloyd leaving the house in the middle of the night, so she wouldn't be keeping her guard up against Leanna.

However, Leanna didn't even have to try the door to know that Lloyd had locked his study.

Thus, she walked over to his room and gently eased the door open.

After making sure that there weren't any security cameras inside the room, she switched on the flashlight on her phone and started rummaging through the room.

Lloyd was an extremely cautious man. She couldn't find anything at his desk inside his bedroom, save for a few books.

Despite searching as thoroughly as she could, she found nothing.

Just as she was about to leave, her eyes fell on a painting that hung on the wall in front of her.

All at once, a few scattered images from her memory flashed across her mind, but she couldn't get ahold of any details.

Leanna walked over to the painting and placed her hand on the frame before closing her eyes.

A few seconds later, she opened her eyes, pocketed her phone, and took the painting down with both hands.

There was a secret compartment behind the painting, but it required a password.

She studied the painting once more. A series of numbers whizzed through her mind. After thinking for a few more seconds, she decided to key in the numbers.

It was the right password.

She took out a box from the secret compartment.

Inside the box was a watch that was half-destroyed by a fire.

She quickly took out her phone and took a photo of it.

She was just about to look through the other contents in the box when car lights shone in through the window again—Lloyd was back.

Leanna swiftly returned the box to its original place and hung the painting back up before running back to her room and locking the door.

As soon as she did so, she heard footsteps coming down the corridor.

She breathed out slowly. When she sat back on the bed, she realized her back was soaking wet by then.

Nothing happened after Lloyd returned to his room. He didn't leave again.

He only left for twenty minutes tops. Did something unexpected happen that made him change his plans? Or was his destination someplace not too far away from here?

She lay in bed and started looking at the picture she had taken with her phone.

Thankfully, the night mode function on her phone camera did a pretty good job with the picture as it was still fairly clear.

Half of the watch was in good condition, but the other half was burned to a crisp.

Leanna recalled that her father had bought two watches, according to the sales record that was found at the warehouse back then.

One was with her, and the other...

It was most likely the one that was in Lloyd's possession.

She set her phone down and closed her eyes, but her mind kept swirling with flashes of memories.

The storm lasted all night, and she stayed awake the whole time.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 434-Leanna got out of bed at 7.00AM.

She didn't keep much here at Crossley Residence. All her important documents were kept at her studio. Thus, when she left that morning, her bag wasn't any much bigger than it usually was.

The rain was still pouring outside the window. The weather had only started getting warmer, but it seemed to be cooling down again, thanks to the rain.

As the car pulled out of Crossley Residence, she turned back to look at the house.

This was supposed to be her home, but it was now the home of her enemies.

Just a little longer. I'll come back again once everything is over.

She was going to come back once she exposed the truth, and hopefully, her parents would be able to rest in peace.

Soon, she got a call from Aidan.

"I already left Crossley Residence," Leanna reported as soon as she answered.

Aidan's mood seemed to improve upon hearing that. "I'll pick you up tonight."

"I got it."

What a clingy b*stard.

She put her phone down with a smile tugging on her lips. All of a sudden, someone shot out onto the road in front of her, and she immediately slammed on the brakes.

Once the car stopped, she wanted to go down and take a look, but the door to the passenger seat opened and a low voice instructed her, "Drive, now."

She turned around to look at the person. Although the man had a cap on and was using his jacket to cover most of his face, she still recognized him at once.

She pursed her lips and sped off.

Less than a minute later, a few men rushed over to the same spot but couldn't find anything.

"I'll head back to report this to Mr. Crossley. The rest of you will carry on with the search," one of the men said.

Ten minutes later, Lloyd stormed into his study with a baleful expression. "Say that again."

His subordinate hung his head low and repeated, "Not too long ago, we found out that the man who ran off a while back had been following us the past few days. We were careless, and he managed to discover where Jethro McKinney was being kept. Also..."

"What else?!" Lloyd barked.

"When we were chasing after him, w-we found that he might've gotten into Miss McKinney's car."

He frowned. "Leanna McKinney? Are you sure?"

"I checked the security footage before I came here. At the time, the only car that left the area belonged to Miss McKinney. We searched the whole area. That man seemed to have disappeared into thin air, so I suspect that he had left in Miss McKinney's car," his subordinate explained.

Leonno got out of bed at 7.00AM.

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Lloyd paused in thought for a moment before instructing grimly, "Get our men to keep an eye on Leanna. See if she does anything out of the ordinary today."

"So... Do we need to move Jethro McKinney elsewhere?"

"How are we supposed to do that? Aidan's men are keeping a close watch on us, and other than him, there's also..." He narrowed his eyes and didn't complete his sentence. "Keep an eye on Leanna for now. We'll hold off on the rest for now."

His subordinate acknowledged the command and left.

...

Once Leanna had driven off for quite some distance, she pulled up by the side of the road and glanced at Ron's bleeding abdomen. "What—"

"I found out where Jethro is," Ron interrupted.

She froze for a few seconds before she said, "I spoke to Queenie. She said she met you a while back."

He nodded. "They've been after me all this while, so I didn't look for you. Once I escaped, they moved to a different place. I tailed them for some time before I managed to find where they're hiding him now."

Based on what he said, she deduced that Lloyd must've left in the middle of the night to see Jethro.

Still, there was no way of finding out what they discussed.

Leanna snapped out of her thoughts and glanced at Ron's wound again. "Alright. I'll take you to the hospital first."

He was a little taken aback. "Are you not going to look for Jethro?"

“That can wait. It’ll be too sudden if I do that now. They found out about you, so Lloyd would be on his guard right now. He won’t be handing Jethro over so easily.”

She started the car up again, but Ron said, “I can’t go to the hospital.”

He didn’t have to elaborate further as she knew the reason as well.

Before she could say anything, he handed her a phone. “I’ll get down here. Once you’ve decided when you want to find Jethro, call me up using the number here.”

Just as he was about to get out of the car, Leanna asked, “Have you looked for Queenie lately?”

“No. I won’t be looking for her anymore,” he replied.

After a pause, he added, “Thank you for helping me handle Mr. Wojzicki’s burial.”

She smiled. “You’re helping me too, aren’t you?”

Ron didn’t respond. He adjusted his cap and got out of the car. Soon, he disappeared into the crowd.

Leanna withdrew her gaze and drove off.

It was still early when she arrived at the studio. The piano academy beside her studio wasn’t open yet, but she noticed that a black car was already parked on the opposite side of the road. It had been there for quite some time now, as the occupants kept an eye on Daniel.

If she recalled correctly, in the past, the car would only stop outside once Daniel got to the piano academy.

Are they keeping an eye on me now?

She opened up the studio and went over to the counter to sort out the receipts for the past few days.

Soon, Zoe and the other young ladies all started arriving at the studio. “Good morning, Miss McKinney,” the young ladies greeted her.

Leanna looked up and smiled. “Good morning.”

Zoe yawned as she came over. “Why are you so early today, Nana?”

“I couldn’t fall asleep,” Leanna replied. “Did Daniel not give you a ride to work today?”

“Yeah, but I don’t know why. He called me up this morning to say that he had something to do, so I came over by myself.”

“He didn’t say what it was?”

“Nope.” Zoe shook her head.

At the same time, Leanna saw the staff at the piano academy arriving, which meant that the academy was operating as usual today.

“I’ll be in my office, Zoe,” she informed. “If Daniel comes later, tell him to come over. There’s something I want to ask him.”

“Sure.”

Leanna went into her office and closed the door. She took out her watch from the bottom drawer and compared it to the picture she had taken last night. It was indeed the same model.

After staring at it for a while, she took out the necklace that Georgina had returned to her last night and put it together with the watch. It was hard to tell what was going through her mind.

At noon, Zoe rushed into Leanna’s office. “Oh, my goodness! Did you see the news, Nana?”

Leanna looked up from her design draft. “Nope. Is there an update on Violet’s scandal over the bribing of the judges?”

“No, not that.” Zoe shoved her phone under Leanna’s nose. “Look! The police hauled up a man’s body from the river this morning, and it seems to be Elliot Watts!”

Leanna’s eyes widened. She grabbed the phone and checked for herself.

The news article didn't come with photos attached. It merely described the process of how the body was found.

Elliot was somewhat known to the public. Thus, once the report came out, people soon managed to uncover the man's identity.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 435-According to the police report, Elliot died the day before yesterday, and the body was thrown into the river. It would not have been discovered so soon if the body hadn't floated to the surface due to the storm last night.

He suffered a blow to the back of his head, and there were multiple stab wounds all over his body. So, from the looks of it, the police's preliminary assumption was that it might have been a case of revenge homicide.

However, they were awaiting autopsy results to determine the cause of death.

While Leanna read through the report, Zoe remarked somberly, "It goes to show that what goes around comes around. Fate punishes the wicked and immoral. Still, it's a little frightening, don't you think? The guy I just spoke to on the phone a few days ago is now nothing more than a corpse."

Leanna put the phone down. She didn't know what to say either.

After a while, she asked abruptly, "What about Queenie?"

"I don't know." Zoe had a thought and asked, "You can't be wondering whether she killed him, right? That's impossible. Elliot was a huge guy. Queenie wouldn't have been able to overpower him, let alone toss his body into the river. It would've taken a fair amount of strength to do that. The killer's probably a man who's about the same height and size as Elliot."

Leanna shared the same opinion. If it hadn't been for her encounter with Ron this morning and his professing to not have seen Queenie lately, she might've considered Queenie the biggest suspect when she saw the news.

However, as it was, Queenie didn't have Ron to help her, so she couldn't have killed Elliot and dumped the body herself.

Zoe started speaking again, "Now that Elliot's dead, why isn't there any update on the bribery case with those two judges? They sure know how to keep their cool. If I were in their shoes, I would've turned on Violet by now."

“Just wait a little longer,” Leanna said.

The two judges were closely linked to the Kramer Group, so they couldn't act rashly. Even if they wanted to get back at Violet, they wouldn't do anything that would harm their profits.

In any case, Violet's life was hell right now. Ever since her birth mother's appearance, her father insisted on letting that woman move in with the family and even showed signs of wanting to marry her, despite all of Violet's temper tantrums.

Her birthday celebration had been a grand affair with tons of reporters in attendance, so all of Highside had heard about what happened by now, and she was far too humiliated to leave the house. She spent her days flying into a rage over that woman or throwing things around in protest.

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The Kramers didn't have a single day of peace.

At last, Daniel showed up in the afternoon with a bouquet of red roses.

The young ladies at the studio were used to it by now.

Zoe, on the other hand, couldn't help but feel a little embarrassed. She dragged him over to Leanna's office. "Nana's inside waiting for you."

He passed her the roses and stared at her. "I'll be out shortly, and tonight, I'll—"

"Just get in there already." She cut him off and shoved him into the office. "Stop dawdling."

He was speechless.

Leanna had been looking up news about Elliot when she heard a knock on the door. As soon as she lifted her head, she saw Daniel stumbling into her office.

Her lips twitched slightly in amusement. “What a unique way of entering.”

He cleared his throat. “Zoe said you were looking for me. Did anything happen?”

“Did you see the car parked outside?” she asked.

“I did. It’s been following me all this while, but for some reason, I didn’t see it when I woke up this morning. I thought they had stopped following me. Who would’ve thought that they decided to come and stake out here in advance instead?”

And because of that, he finally had the chance to handle a thing or two.

“I think they’re keeping an eye on me,” she commented.

That wiped the smile off Daniel’s face. “What’s going on?”

“Last night, I told Lloyd that I plan on moving out of Crossley Residence.”

“And what did he say?”

“He refused and asked me to stay until Crossley Group’s anniversary ceremony was over before leaving,” she filled him in.

He frowned. “He must be plotting something. Don’t listen to him. Leave at once.”

Leanna nodded. “That was my plan as well, but...”

She paused for a moment before continuing, “I ran into Ron Sedley this morning. He told me that they’re hiding Jethro someplace near Crossley Residence.”

Although she didn’t elaborate further, Daniel could fill in the gaps himself.

“You plan on staying until you find out where Jethro is?” he asked.

She pursed her lips. “He’s held Jethro captive for so long. They must’ve met several times. I don’t know what Jethro told him, and I don’t know what he

plans on doing with Jethro, but I'm certain that he has something huge planned for the anniversary ceremony, and Jethro is his most important chess piece."

"I'm sure you're fully aware that regardless of what he's using Jethro for, you're still the target."

"That's why I plan to stay. Maybe I'll glean something out of it."

"Has President Pearson agreed to this?" Daniel asked.

Leanna's lips parted, but she couldn't say anything.

Aidan was still coming to pick her up tonight.

She hadn't figured out how to tell him about this.

"See?" Daniel continued, "You know very well that he won't let you do such a dangerous thing, so don't even think about it. Since we know where Jethro is now, I'm sure we can find him."

"We?"

He realized he'd misspoken. He chuckled awkwardly. "Well... President Pearson and me, of course. I'm sure he's been trying to locate Jethro, too."

"Aidan's looking for Jethro for my sake, but you don't seem to have a reason to do the same," Leanna remarked calmly.

Before he could say anything, she added, "Even if we're friends, friends wouldn't go that far for each other. What do you think?"

He had no way out of this.

He fell silent in thought for a while before letting out a sigh. "Actually, it's Elijah who's been helping you, but he's afraid that you'd refuse his help and that President Pearson might be displeased, so he asked me to keep watch over you instead. That's why I've been trying to help you out, too."

She smiled. "If it's because of Elijah, then all the more reason for me to decline your help. He has already helped me out a lot. I feel bad about that as it is. I don't know how I can make it up to him, so I'd rather not be indebted to him."

“Well...”

“Either way, thank you for your kindness. I’ll take care of things myself.”

Daniel couldn’t say much else now. He could only nod in acknowledgment. However, before leaving, he turned around and advised, “I think you should discuss this with President Pearson. I don’t think he’ll agree to let you take this risk.”

Once he left, Leanna exhaled and stared out the window.

She knew that Aidan would disapprove as well.

After checking the time, she quickly organized her things and walked out of the office. She decided to take a trip over to Pearson Group.

While she was driving, she soon realized that the black car, which had been parked outside the studio earlier, was tailing her.

Just as I suspected.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 436-Leanna didn’t enter the building immediately upon arriving at the Pearson Group. First, she went to a nearby bakery and bought a few things before heading up to Aidan’s office.

Aidan was in a meeting.

“The meeting will end in about half an hour, Miss McKinney. Please have a seat,” Jonathan said.

She smiled. “Alright.”

She took out one of the pastries she had bought and handed it over to him. “I bought a lot. You can have this.”

He was a little surprised. He didn’t expect her to include his share when she dropped by with lovingly prepared snacks for Aidan. “Oh, my. You shouldn’t have.”

Yet, even as he said so, his hand reached out to take it from her.

Just then, another one of Aidan’s assistants knocked on the door. There was a document that required Jonathan’s attention.

He cleared his throat before saying, "I'll get going then, Miss McKinney. Let me know if you need anything."

Leanna nodded. "Will do."

Once he left, she sat on the couch and occupied herself with her phone for a while. Soon, she began to feel rather drowsy.

She hadn't slept a wink last night, and her eyes were drooping heavily now. It wasn't long before she dozed off.

When Aidan came back to his office after the meeting ended, he was greeted by the sight of a woman sleeping on his couch.

He stopped in his tracks.

The two executives who followed along behind him stopped as well, but they didn't know what was going on inside the president's office as Aidan blocked their view.

He turned around and eyed them before stating calmly, "Go back to work first. Come here in an hour."

The two executives got the hint and left at once.

Aidan closed the door and went over to the couch.

He sat down beside Leanna and was about to wake her up when he saw the dark eye circles she sported. It was clear that she didn't sleep well last night.

He took his tie off and shrugged off his jacket before draping it over her. He picked up a folder from the coffee table and began to go through the documents inside.

Leanna ended up sleeping for four whole hours. The sky was completely dark by the time she opened her eyes again.

She stretched lazily and yawned, but her hand brushed against something.

"What did you do last night?" A man's voice rang out.

She looked up and spotted Aidan, who was sitting beside her and still going through his documents.

She slowly sat up. Her head was a little woozy, but she didn't forget to lay it on thick. "I spent all night thinking of you, so that's why I couldn't fall asleep."

He cocked his eyebrows. "Oh? Is that true?"

"Of course not."

He was speechless.

After sleeping so long, Leanna was getting pretty hungry. She began digging into a slice of cake that she took off the coffee table.

Aidan observed her for a little while before speaking up all of a sudden, "Did you buy that for yourself?"

She swallowed and replied, "You can't finish everything anyway. I'll help you finish some of it."

She reached out to grab another bite, but he caught her wrist. "Leave it. I can finish everything by myself."

She was dumbfounded.

You stingy, miserly b*stard.

She nestled comfortably on the couch and stared blankly in front of her. It was as if she wasn't fully awake yet.

"No work at the studio today?" Aidan asked.

"There was."

"Why did you come over, then?"

Leanna turned to him and blinked. "I missed you."

He chuckled and stretched his arm out behind her as he licked his lips. "What kind of trouble did you get into?"

She pouted. "I'm not a child. Why would I get into any trouble?"

She wriggled in her seat. The man was distracted, so she seized the chance to grab another bite of cake. However, she didn't eat it. Instead, she held it out to him. "This tastes pretty good. Try it."

He bent down and took a bite. His expression remained the same.

She stared at him expectantly. "Does it taste—"

Before she could even get the last word out, a pair of lips pressed against hers.

Aidan deepened the kiss as he wrapped his arms around her waist and pulled her into his lap. Then, he held the back of her neck and kissed her even more fiercely.

Leanna was nearly out of oxygen, so she shoved him lightly in protest.

He let go of her a while later and murmured into her ear, "What do you think?"

"What?" She was still a little out of it.

"You were asking me if it tasted good, right?"

She silently repeated his words before she understood what he meant. Instantly, she turned bright red.

Ugh. He's so sleazy.

"What did you want to tell me?" he drawled.

"I..."

"Hm?"

She licked her lips. They'd kissed, he'd eaten the cake, and she'd even flattered him earlier.

Now was as good a time as ever. She'd covered all the bases.

"Well, I wanted to discuss my moving out of Crossley Residence," she muttered.

"There's no room for discussion," Aidan declared.

“I haven’t said anything yet.”

“Wasn’t it clear enough already?”

Still, Leanna did her best to put up a fight. “I really did give it my fullest consideration, okay? I do want to move in with you too, but circumstances forbid me to do it just yet.”

He snorted. “Are you alternating between the carrot and the stick right now?”

She ignored his comment and continued, “I know nothing good will come out of me staying at Crossley Residence now, but I’m not someone who gives up halfway. I should see things through till the end.”

“Then, why did you get a divorce with me if you were someone who saw things through till the end?”

She was rendered speechless at that.

How on earth are these two things the same?!

Aidan let go of her and walked over to his desk. “Wait a little while longer. There’s still something I need to do.”

“Oh. Well, that’s fine. I can leave first—”

“Go ahead and try.”

Leanna glanced at the remaining desserts on the table. I shouldn’t have bought him anything.

She trudged over to his desk and slumped down on it to stare at him while he worked.

After a few seconds, she called out, “President Pearson.”

“Out with it.”

“You’re quite handsome.”

“I know,” he replied plainly without even looking up.

She took a deep breath as she didn’t feel like talking anymore.

At last, once Aidan put his pen down, she looked up at him again. "Are you done with work?"

He hummed in affirmation. "Let's go home."

"Actually... there's something I haven't told you yet."

He leaned back against his chair and stared at her with a neutral expression as if he was waiting to see what kind of harebrained excuse she could come up with this time.

However, Leanna was completely serious this time. "I know where Lloyd's hiding Jethro, and I'll move out once I've found him."

"What are you going to do once you've found him?"

"I'll..." She gave it some thought before continuing, "I think Lloyd will most likely get rid of Jethro once he's no longer useful, but there's still something I want to ask him."

"What's that?" Aidan probed.

"I want to know where my mother's buried," she said softly. "And I want to know whether he's Louis' father."

He tapped his fingers on the desk and asked impassively, "Do you think he'll tell you the truth?"

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 437-Leanna had considered this too, but she would regret it if she gave up before even trying first. She'd feel as if she didn't do right by Louis as well.

After a while, she said, "Even if he refuses to tell me, I can still try and dig something out of him. Plus, by staying at Crossley Residence, I can find out what Lloyd's next move will be."

Aidan stared at her quietly. His lips were slightly pursed.

She stared right back at him without backing down.

"I'll keep in touch with you at all times," she continued. "If I sense any danger, I'll leave at once without wasting a single second. Is that enough?"

After a while, he stood up. "Let's go."

She sighed in defeat.

She'd wasted all that time trying to convince him.

Before she could say anything else, he spoke up, "Remember what you said, and don't forget that you still have... a younger brother you need to raise."

"Louis can earn enough to support himself," Leanna retorted. "He doesn't need me to—"

She immediately clammed up once Aidan gave her an icy stare.

He remained quiet the whole time they were on the road, and his expressionless face gave nothing away.

"Are you angry?" she asked tentatively.

"Yes."

She didn't know what to say.

She didn't expect him to answer in the affirmative.

"Don't you always claim to be less sensitive and small-minded than me?" she groused.

"So, you're admitting that you're sensitive and small-minded, then?" he shot back.

Leanna thought about it before answering, "Well, having a small mind means that it's fully occupied by you alone."

Aidan was speechless at her words.

He pressed his tongue against his cheek and remarked plainly, "Where on earth did you learn to say all these ridiculous things?"

"From you," she fired back solemnly.

He ignored her and focused on driving.

She tried to find a different subject to talk about. "Did you see the news today?"

"Nope."

"Elliot Watts is dead."

"Don't know him."

After a pause, she explained, "That designer who helped Queenie cheat during the competition and said that she bribed the judges."

"Oh," he replied coolly.

Leanna took a deep breath and continued, "According to the police's initial investigation, they think it's a case of revenge homicide, but Queenie's the only one he's gotten into conflict with lately. However, the disparity between their sizes and strengths is too large. I don't think she's the culprit."

"It might not be a recent grudge."

She nodded. "He was a rather frivolous guy who lacked principles and morals. I guess he'd have a ton of enemies."

"Mm-hmm," Aidan hummed.

Another half-hearted answer.

She didn't want to bother anymore, so she closed her eyes and took a nap.

He turned to glance at her. His lips moved a little in an attempt to speak, but in the end, he didn't say anything.

Half an hour later, the car pulled up outside Crossley Residence.

He unbuckled his seatbelt and got out of the car.

Leanna walked over to him. "Is Jonathan coming to pick you up?"

"Yeah."

She stared at him impassively. "Aidan Pearson."

His eyes flickered over to her. "Hm?"

"You can go ahead and wait here by yourself!"

With that, she climbed back into the car and drove into the driveway.

Aidan's brows twitched slightly before he glanced down at his watch. Jonathan had left the office five minutes after them, so he was arriving soon.

Thus, he stood by the road and got out a cigarette. He was just about to light it up when a white car stopped beside him.

Georgina stepped out of the car and appeared in front of him. "Aidan? Why are you standing here alone? Where's Miss McKinney?"

He put his cigarette away and glanced at her. "Get to the point."

She chuckled. "Can't we just chat for a bit if I don't have anything specific to talk to you about?"

"There's nothing to chat about between us. Do you want to talk about when I'm getting married or whether you're attending Leanna's and my wedding?"

She pursed her lips, and her expression became a lot more unpleasant.

After a moment of silence, she finally said, "We did grow up together. It's been so many years, yet you always take this attitude with me."

"I take this attitude with everyone," Aidan replied.

"Not with Miss McKinney, right?"

"You can't compare yourself to her."

"I still don't get it." Georgina scoffed. "What do you even like about her?"

"You don't need to get it." He eyed her and said curtly, "You should just focus on yourself, Miss Crossley."

Just as he was speaking, a black Rolls-Royce stopped beside them.

She stood in place as she watched Aidan leave.

She closed her eyes, and her expression hardened.

Meanwhile, inside the house.

As soon as Leanna went back to her room, someone came to the study and reported the day's observations to Lloyd.

"Did she meet anyone else?" Lloyd asked.

"We started surveilling her when she got to the studio. As for what she did before that..."

Lloyd waved his hand. "I got it."

Once his subordinate left, Georgina entered the study. "Dad."

"What is it?"

She bit her lip. "I didn't handle things well last time. That's why they managed to find something to link it back to me."

He got up and went over to the window. "Forget it. It's all in the past."

"I heard the maids saying that Leanna wants to move out, but you didn't agree to let her do so," she said. "Why did you—"

"Georgina," he cut her off. "Do you see the wisteria over there?"

She looked out the window. "Yes, I see it."

"Although you can see it from here, if you want to pluck the flowers, you need to get past this window and walk some distance away. However, if you plucked it beforehand and placed it in a vase, you can keep it within arm's reach at all times."

Georgina understood what Lloyd meant. She knew he wanted to be able to control Leanna easily. Even so, she couldn't help but frown. "But—"

"Start packing your things. We'll leave for Europe as soon as the anniversary ceremony is over. You won't be seeing her ever again."

She froze in shock. "Are we never coming back again?"

“There won’t be a reason for us to come back,” he said. “I’m sure I don’t have to tell you the state that Crossley Group is in right now. Furthermore, all the things you’ve done recently are still on everyone’s minds. Even though we’ve attempted to clear your name, we still can’t control what other people say. I’ve made all the arrangements over in Europe. We can just head over without needing to do anything else.”

“Then... are we just going to let Leanna keep everything we gave her last time?”

He chuckled. “Since she wants it so badly, just let her have it. Still, it remains to be seen whether she’s capable of holding onto it.”

There was more that Georgina wanted to say, but Lloyd turned around. “That’s enough. Start packing everything important to you. We’re leaving immediately after the anniversary ceremony. Don’t tell anyone that we’re going to Europe. Once we’re there, there’s no reason for you to contact any of your old friends again.”

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 438-The next afternoon, Leanna got a call from the police, claiming they saw Elliot coming to her studio sometime before he died. They noticed his frequent contact with the studio, so they wanted to ask her questions and see if they could find any clues. After she ended the call, she got up and took her stuff before leaving her office.

Seeing her exiting the office, Zoe asked, “Where are you going, Nana?”

Leanna responded, “The cops just called. They said they needed my help in the investigation of Elliot’s death as they found out that he had come to our workshop before and that he had a beef with me.”

A frown creased Zoe’s forehead. “What’s that got to do with you? You’re the victim here.”

Leanna smiled faintly. “It’s fine. Just a testimonial record. I’ll be back soon.”

“Okay. Call me if you need anything.”

“Sure.”

Once at the police station, the cops first told Leanna to tell them who she was, then they asked her about the relationship she shared with Elliot. They also

wanted to know when the last time she saw him was. She answered all questions honestly. After the testimonial was done, one of the cops gave her an appreciative nod. "Thanks for coming. Your cooperation is much appreciated."

"No problem." A momentary pause swooped in. And then, she asked, "How is the investigation going?"

Just as the cop was about to answer, she saw Queenie arrive at the police station.

Queenie glanced at Leanna before approaching the cop. "I'm Queenie Wojzicki. I'm here to provide my testimonial."

The cop turned to Leanna and said, "That's all for today. We'll call when we find any clues."

"Sure. Thanks."

The cop then turned his attention to Queenie. "Come with me."

Queenie hummed in acknowledgment and went with the cop, looking calm.

Leanna saw her off. She pursed her lips as a few thoughts ran across her mind. Instead of leaving right away, she chose to wait outside the police station.

One hour had elapsed, and Queenie finally came out.

Unlike Leanna's beef with Elliot, Queenie's feud with him was public knowledge. He claimed Queenie had assaulted him before and that he was even hospitalized for that. Thus, she had become the prime suspect in his murder. However, just as Leanna and the others had suspected, Elliot's killer was a grown man. No matter the situation, Queenie could never overwhelm him, let alone kill him.

When the cops asked her if she had hired someone to assault Elliot, Queenie remained firm on the stance that she had no idea about it. She claimed Elliot slandered her because she wouldn't give in to his harassment. There was no evidence proving the veracity of his testimonial, and the cops did notice how raunchy his private life was. Queenie's testimonial fit the bill, so they let her go.

The moment she left the police station, she saw Leanna standing right outside. Her fists were balled, and no longer did she look calm. She mocked, “Are you happy now?”

“Why should I?” Leanna asked.

“Elliot is dead, and now I’m the prime suspect. You got your wish. I’ve paid for sabotaging the competition.”

A silent chuckle escaped Leanna’s lips. “Oh, you’re so charming. You make it sound like I’m shifting the blame for his murder to you. If you aren’t the real killer, you have nothing to worry about.”

Queenie lost her composure for a moment, but she quickly calmed down. “Just trying to vent.”

Leanna stared at her. “Have you seen Ron lately?” she blurted.

Alarm bells rang in Queenie’s head. “Why do you ask?”

“Nothing. Just wanna see him.”

“I don’t know anything. Don’t ask me. I have nothing to do with Elliot’s murder.”

Icily, Leanna remarked, “That was a simple yes or no question. Why did you complicate it?”

Queenie gnashed her teeth. “I said I have nothing to do with this. Stop asking me.” With that, she tried to leave.

Leanna stood around for a few moments before she turned around. Her voice was a whisper, but Queenie heard it anyway. “I know you have something to do with Elliot’s murder.”

And she’s going to push all the blame onto Ron. The last time I brought him up, she looked frustrated. She even blamed him for not handling the Elliot problem well. But now, she looks alarmed instead. The cops will find out she and Ron have a connection sooner or later. If she loses composure in front of them and gives them vague answers, they’re just going to think she’s trying to cover for him.

Queenie froze at that. She turned around once more, her teeth clenched. “I know you hate me, but don’t try to pin the murder on me.”

Leanna responded, “And your next line will be, ‘I might not be the murderer, but I won’t sympathize with Elliot. The murderer did God’s work. All the better if he’s already a fugitive.’ Am I right?”

“Well, odd to hear you say that. Yes, Ron and I are childhood friends, but I was overseas for three years. I have no idea what he was up to during that time, and his business is none of my concern. Ever since I found out he was a sc*m, I never contacted him again. But you... You wouldn’t stop bringing him up, and you’re trying to make him look innocent. Are you trying to pin the murder on me when you’re the real murderer?” Queenie questioned, but her eyes were looking elsewhere.

Leanna smiled. “Good point, but you know why he’s being hunted. Do you think pinning the blame on him will help you out?”

Queenie snapped, “I have no idea what you’re talking about. I will not confess to something I never did.”

And I’m not going to argue anymore. Leanna took a few steps forward, and then she turned around. “Oh, did you know? Your father died.”

That statement surprised Queenie, and the look on her face changed. “Leanna McKinney, you witch! First, you try to make me a murderer, and now you’re cursing me?!”

Leanna continued, “He’s been dead for a month at least. I’m just trying to tell you about it. This isn’t a curse, Queenie. You’re overreacting.” After that, she got into her car without saying another word.

The car vanished into the distance. Queenie tried to say something, but not a word came out of her mouth. He’s dead? Impossible. That b*tch is lying. She was about to call her father when she abruptly stopped what she was doing. If he’s dead, then at least there won’t be anyone left to drag me down. Nobody will look down on me anymore.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 439-Right after Leanna returned to the studio, Zoe came up to her and dragged her into the pantry. “So, what did the cops say? Did they get any clues?”

Leanna shook her head. “No. They just asked me some basic questions.”

Zoe clicked her tongue. “That Elliot guy probably had a lot of enemies. It’s gonna be hard to find who’s the killer.”

Feeling rather thirsty, Leanna grabbed a cup and poured herself some water. “I saw Queenie, by the way.”

“Why was she there?”

“Same reason I was there.” Leanna took a swig of water before continuing, “But I think...”

“What? Did you notice something?” asked Zoe.

Leanna snapped out of it and shook her head. “It’s nothing. We should wait for the results.”

“I called Jamie. We’re gonna hang out at the bar we went to last time. You wanna come? I got Daniel with me. Why don’t you call Aidan, too?”

“Better not. He’s still angry at me.”

It had been nearly a day, but Aidan didn’t even give her a call or text. She texted him good morning earlier, but he still hadn’t replied to her.

Happily, Zoe said, “Cool. Let’s go, then. We can let loose without him around.”

Leanna heaved a sigh. “You guys have fun. I’ll have to get through the pile of drafts.”

Well, work is the top priority. “Sure. Don’t burn the midnight oil, though. Don’t stress yourself out,” Zoe reminded.

Leanna smiled. “Sure.”

She spent the whole afternoon in the office coming up with a few drafts. Once she was done with the last one, she stretched her arms. Whoa, it’s already dark outside. What’s the time? Whoa, eleven? That’s late. She looked at her phone, but there were still no texts from Aidan. He’s so petty, she grumbled in silence before she packed her stuff and left the office, calling Jonathan at the same time.

Once the call connected, Jonathan asked, "How may I help you, Miss McKinney?"

Leanna asked, "Is Aidan still at work?"

"Yes, he is. Things have been hectic lately. He's been calling meetings the whole day."

"I see. So, where's he staying over the last couple of days? Castor Villa or the condo in the city center?"

Jonathan had no idea why she asked that, but he knew she didn't really like Castor Villa, so he answered tentatively, "The condominium, I believe."

"I see. Good luck at work."

She hung up and locked the door before getting into her car and driving her way to the condominium.

Meanwhile, Jonathan was still holding his phone with a baffled expression. Ten minutes later, Aidan emerged from the conference hall, and Jonathan went up to him. "President Pearson, Mrs. Pearson just called."

"What did she say?" Aidan asked.

"She wanted to know if you were still working." Jonathan recounted the whole conversation, including his answer. "I told her, yes, and I said you've been working the whole day."

Oh, I haven't replied to her good morning text. He whipped his phone out and looked at Jonathan. "Is that all?"

"No." Jonathan thought back to the call. "She also asked whether you've been staying in Castor Villa or the condo."

Aidan frowned. "So, what did you answer?"

"The condo."

Aidan pressed his lips together and stopped in his tracks. He took a sharp turn and entered the elevator. On his way to the condominium, he had called Leanna a few times, but she didn't take them. "Drive faster," he ordered the driver coldly.

In the meantime, Leanna had set her phone to silent during work and had forgotten to change the setting. Her eyes were on the road, so she had no idea calls were coming in. Once she parked her car at the complex, she turned around and saw that the black car was still tailing her.

She got out of the car, ignoring the stalker. Then, she went straight to the condominium. It was late at night, and not a single soul was out. Dark silence draped itself over the neighborhood. She was about to enter the complex when she saw a familiar figure nearby. It made her freeze for a moment. She tried to have a closer look, but the lights were too dim for her to recognize who it was. Without thinking, she went after that silhouette.

Just a bit closer, and I can see who it is. However, before she could call out to the silhouette, Aidan appeared before her.

His breathing was ragged. It was as if he had been running all the way here.

She stared at him in confusion.

Despite being out of breath, Aidan looked as calm as usual and asked, "What brings you here?"

"Just... passing by." Shoot. Why am I getting distracted? She then shoved him away, but the silhouette was long gone.

"You seem to have taken a long detour, though," he commented flatly.

Alright, he's being sarcastic again. She replied in all her seriousness, "Probably because I was blind for a while."

She was about to leave, but he held her arm. Slowly, he said, "And you might still be blind. Don't run around."

Dammit, Leanna cursed in silence.

"Under such circumstances, you should seek help from me. I could have given you a ride home."

"I'd rather call the cops. They're more reliable."

"You sure you won't ask me for help?" Aidan queried.

"I won't."

“Fine. Then, you’re coming home with me,” he answered.

Gee, A+ for comprehension.

His hand moved downward, and their fingers interlocked.

Leanna closed her eyes. “That’s enough. We’re still in a fight, you know.”

“I don’t remember us fighting.” Unfazed, Aidan took her into the complex. Since she came to me, she’s better not thinking about running away.

After they entered the elevator, she tried to pull her hand out but failed. I give up. She stared at the rising floor number and asked, “I think I saw Celia. Is she here as well?”

He spared her a glance before answering coolly, “You need to get your eyes checked.”

She chuckled. “I could have caught up to her if you hadn’t shown up. That person looked like her.”

“Have you been rushing drafts the whole afternoon?”

“Huh? Yeah, but—”

“You have overworked your eyes and were probably hallucinating. Don’t worry about it, though. Your eyes will get better after some rest.”

I am not worried about anything. F*ck it. He’s not gonna tell me anything useful. She ignored him and tried to pull her hand out once more.

Just when she was finally breaking free, Aidan pulled her into his embrace. With a voice as soft as a whisper, he said, “There’s a surveillance camera here. Don’t get handsy.”

I am most certainly not going to get handsy!

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 440-At the same time, Lloyd received a call saying Leanna had gone to Aidan’s place. He told his men to keep an eye on them and said nothing else. He then looked outside the window before leaving the study. Not a moment later, he got into the car that was parked in the garden.

Jethro was locked up in a warehouse near the residence. It used to be a storage room of sorts, but it was slowly getting abandoned. Nobody would come near the place, so Lloyd transferred Jethro here not long after Ron escaped.

Jethro was lying on the single bed in the warehouse, watching a movie playing on an old TV before him. It wasn't too messy around him, but it certainly wasn't clean, either. Food containers and old newspapers were strewn all over the floor and table, though it was obvious someone would clean the place up from time to time. His broken leg hung limply on the bed, and he hummed languidly. Imprisonment didn't seem to take a toll on him.

A moment later, someone opened the door, and the light from the streetlamp flooded the room.

He sat up, squinting at the man who just entered.

Lloyd came in, and his lackey turned on the lights.

Blinded by the glaring light, Jethro held his hand up to cover his eyes.

Lloyd shot his lackey a look. The guy left the room and closed the door behind him.

He approached Jethro and took a seat on the couch before him. "So, what is your decision?"

Jethro chuckled and rubbed his fingers together. "Give me what I want, and I'll tell you what you want."

"You are insatiable."

"Hey, I had to spend tons of money raising a b*tch I call my daughter. She finally got married, and I thought she could help me out, but that ingrate won't even give me a single cent. So, I gotta help myself."

Slowly, Lloyd said, "Your greed might be your downfall, you know."

Jethro shrugged it off. "I don't care. I'll talk when I see the money. Imma hold the cash tight even if that's the last thing I do. It'll probably give me luck when I go to hell."

Lloyd chortled. "Someone's optimistic."

"If you give me the money, I'll tell you everything." Jethro then added, "And you won't lose anything. I still have dirt on you, but if you give me what I want, you won't see me ever again. Never in your life. But if you refuse, I'll expose your little secret."

Unfazed, Lloyd responded, "I don't have any secrets."

Jethro's burn mark contorted as he smiled, his laughter tinted with a hint of cackle. "Yes, you do. You're not Lloyd, are you? No matter how much you try to mimic him, you're still not him."

Lloyd's eyes narrowed, murder flashing within them.

"And I'm not scared of death. Remember the guy who escaped? I told him all about it. If I die, he'll tell everyone who you really are. But if I get the money, I'll split it with him fifty-fifty. Only an idiot wouldn't make this deal."

"You think everyone will believe you just because you said so?"

"No, but I have evidence." He grinned. "It's right in my wife's grave. I bet Lloyd had never expected his wife to marry me. Hah! I can't wait to see the look on his face when I tell him all about it in the afterlife. No regrets."

Lloyd stood up and looked at him like he was a dead man. "One more question. Answer me, and you get everything you want."

Generously, Jethro said, "You can ask me hundreds of questions if you want."

"Leanna's brother... Whose son is he?"

A big grin cracked across Jethro's lips, contorting his scar even more. He looked like he had just heard a joke. "Mine, of course."

"Are you sure?" Lloyd asked.

"You'll have to give me more for that question." Jethro gesticulated. "This much, and I'll tell you."

Hearing that, Lloyd left without saying another word.

Jethro lay back down on the bed, shouting at him, "Hey, turn the lights off." The only response he got was the closing of the door. He shuffled over to turn the lights off and peeked through the crack under the door. He clicked his

tongue as he saw Lloyd leaving in his car. He spat in Lloyd's direction and thought, You're just a fake, *sshole. Over the years of running from his debt collectors, Jethro had trained himself up to be a glib talker. He lied about telling Ron about Lloyd's secret. I don't even make enough, and you expect me to share?

...

Leanna entered Aidan's house and poured herself a glass of water. A sense of hunger welled within her. She had skipped lunch and dinner, after all. She went to open the fridge only to find the same

things she bought last time lying in there. Well, at least I can make something.

Just when she went to get some water, Aidan showed up and hugged her from behind. "How did you know I didn't have dinner yet?"

She wanted to roll her eyes when she heard that. "I'm making dinner for one, thank you very much."

He cocked his eyebrow. "I thought you were on a no-dinner diet to lose weight."

She did say that, but only because she wouldn't feel hungry at night after having lunch. "And you believed that?" She threw his quote back at him.

"Oh, I get it. No means yes when it comes to you," he said.

Leanna wondered what he was talking about. All of a sudden, he swiveled her around and bit her lips. Ouch! She wanted to push him away, but he was already holding her hand and pushing her back against the counter. A long kiss later, she huffed breathlessly, "You're so annoying. I have to make dinner. Shoo."

A smile tugged at Aidan's lips. He took a step back and let her make dinner.

She turned around. A pause later, she asked, "You said Celia and the others are going overseas. Are they gone?"

He leaned on the wall and answered calmly, "Not yet."

She then shot him a curious look. "Why?"

“Migration isn’t easy. Their process is still ongoing.”

“I see.” She turned her attention away. “And you looked so sure, too. I thought they were going to leave right away.”

“So, do you want them to leave, or not?”