

Read Novel Love Change Of Heart Chapter 481-490

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 481-Previously, Aidan had been paying too much attention to Leroy until he started to notice the mysteries that subsequently surfaced about the explosion 20 years ago.

Having managed to escape, Leanna's mother could have approached Mr. Jackson for help anytime throughout the three months in which Leroy was unconscious in the hospital. However, she didn't do that. Instead, she took her daughter with her and married a scoundrel. Maybe Jethro was indeed a decent man back then, but I can't understand why she'd do that unless she was hiding something or was threatened to do so. Anyway, Leroy was lying in the hospital at that time, so he wouldn't have been capable of pulling any of those off. Furthermore, he thought they were killed in the explosion.

"In the same year?" Leanna probed.

Aidan replied with an affirmative hum. "During the accident that Justin was caught in, he was the only survivor while his driver and the one who caused the tragedy died on the spot. However, he was left with his legs paralyzed for the rest of his life, and he could never stand on his feet again."

"H-How did the accident happen?"

"It was a case of drunk driving."

When Leanna heard that, she frowned in response. "Both drivers must have been speeding to cause an accident that took two lives away. Look, I know that driver was at fault for drunk driving, but what about Justin's driver? Justin was in his car, so why was he speeding?"

"That's a good question. You're pretty smart," Aidan said with a chuckle.

Leanna was speechless for a second before she continued, "You'd better start talking." Come on, man! Considering what just happened, how can you not be serious?

Aidan replied, "That's the problem. After the accident happened, there were no signs of attempted braking on the scene."

“Are you saying the two cars rammed each other headlong?” Leanna paused and continued, “But wouldn’t that have been too obvious? Didn’t you... Or Old Master Pearson investigate the matter?”

“We did. We just didn’t find anything useful. That driver had been working for the Pearson Family for years. We knew he didn’t have a family, and we weren’t sure about his motive as well. On the other hand, the other driver just got promoted to supervisor of his department. Before the tragedy happened, he had just left a celebration, and there was nothing suspicious about his motive. In the end, the tragic incident could only be classified as an unfortunate accident.”

Even so, Leanna continued to frown. “Well, it sounds like the two of them were innocent, but...” Something still sounds wrong here.

“Well, I was confused too when I started investigating the matter a few years ago, but thankfully, I’m beginning to find some useful leads,” Aidan replied.

“What do you know?”

“It was too much of a coincidence that the Pearson Family and Crossley Family found themselves in trouble at the same time.” Aidan tapped the steering wheel gently with his fingertips and added calmly, “If someone else was indeed behind all this, it would explain everything. As for the two deceased drivers, we haven’t managed to find anything unusual with that.”

After hearing Aidan’s explanation, Leanna thought everything had come to an end the moment Leroy’s wickedness was exposed, only to realize it was just the beginning. At that moment, Aidan’s phone rang shortly before he pulled over and answered the call.

“Talk.” Upon learning what he was told from the other side of the call, Aidan furrowed his eyebrows and clenched his jaw.

“What’s wrong?” Leanna noticed the man’s reaction, and she asked nervously as soon as he hung up the call.

“Jethro is dead,” Aidan answered coldly. Meanwhile, Leanna was in disbelief, and she couldn’t snap out of her trance.

...

Standing in front of Jethro's corpse, they could see his pale face and stiffened limbs. It was then that Leanna realized that her father was truly dead this time. "He appeared to have died for quite some time when we found him. As far as we're concerned, it looks like he committed suicide, but we're waiting for the forensic department to confirm that," the warden said.

The next second, Leanna closed her eyes, feeling as though her energy had been drained from her body. After all, her hopes had been dampened when she thought she could perhaps learn something useful from Jethro.

Soon, Aidan wrapped his arms around the lady from behind her while trying to console her. "A man like him is better off dead than alive."

"I'll be fine here. Perhaps you should return to your office," Leanna said as soon as she stepped out of the penitentiary.

"You know what? You should probably carry a mirror with you all the time," Aidan replied. While Leanna was left speechless, Aidan continued to say, "Those bold words wouldn't have come out of your mouth had you seen the look on your face."

Really? This guy is never serious, eh? Leanna silently thought to herself, having nothing to say in response.

"Come on, let me take you someplace else to take your mind off this matter." Aidan held her hand.

"But it's raining now. Where else can we go?" Leanna didn't know where they could go, and she was instantly taken aback when Aidan took her to a rock-climbing gym. Standing there, she recalled some unpleasant memories and shifted her gaze to the man next to her with an emotionless look. "Do you think this is going to help me relax?"

Aidan curled his lips upward. "I thought you were an adventurous person. If this isn't exciting enough, we could try bungee jumping next time."

Leanna was speechless, wondering what was wrong with Aidan. Is this guy out of his mind? Having learned from her lesson, Leanna demanded that Aidan join her when the attendants brought them their climbing gear. "Put them on. You're coming with me."

"Hm? Starting to miss me already?" Aidan raised his eyebrows.

“Hurry up.” Leanna nudged Aidan, thinking she should eliminate all chances of the man peeking at her from below.

Not long after that, the duo put on their gear, whereupon Aidan was the first to climb. A few seconds later, Leanna jerked the rope and began to follow as well. Unlike Leanna, Aidan’s agility allowed him to quickly widen the gap between him and her. He then looked down, setting his eyes on the lady with a casual smile. “Do you need help?”

“There’s no need for that!” Leanna bit her lip and continued climbing. At the same time, she looked down, thinking she had made better progress than she previously did last time.

Well, the platform doesn’t seem as high as the one back in the club, so I think I can make it to the top. At the thought of that, Leanna took a deep breath and was ready to go all out to make her way up to the top.

Nevertheless, she quickly regretted it; Leanna had overestimated herself when she started struggling to continue climbing. The next second, she lost her grip and balance, but just when she was about to fall onto the other side, she suddenly felt someone’s arm around her waist before she was pulled into his arms. She then immediately turned around and asked, “I thought you were up there. Since when did you come down?”

“Does that matter?” With his arm around her waist, Aidan looked down and asked, “Do you want to get down?”

Leanna went silent for almost ten seconds, thinking she should ignore him. I knew he would be waiting for me here, but thankfully, I saw that coming. As long as I don’t let go of him, he is going to tire out sooner or later. By then, he is going to get us down. Meanwhile, Aidan, who felt Leanna’s arms tightening around his body, smiled mischievously. “Are you scared or something?”

“No, I’m not. I’m just…” Fine, I should probably not waste my breath explaining to him.

“I don’t mind indulging myself in your sweet cuddle, but if you ever see yourself on the news tomorrow, don’t blame it on me,” Aidan remarked cheekily just as Leanna turned her head around and realized dozens of cameras looking at them.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 482-Many youngsters were at the rock climbing gym, and they recognized Leanna. Then, they looked at the person beside her. Although they couldn't see Aidan's face clearly, they were able to guess since Leanna was hugging him tightly. At that moment, they were shrieking while taking pictures of them.

Never would Leanna have expected such a thing to happen. At that moment, she buried her face into Aidan's embrace and whispered, "Hurry up and get me down!"

Aidan wrapped one of his arms around her and said casually, "Of course, but are you forgetting something?"

Hearing his words, Leanna gritted her teeth and said, "You are doing this on purpose."

"How can you say that? Aren't you the one who pushed me up here?"

"That..." Just as Leanna was going to say something, she realized that this wasn't the best place to talk. Then, she pinched Aidan's waist secretly and said, "Hurry up!"

Aidan groaned quietly and whispered in her ear, saying, "Babe, did I ever tell you that a man's waist is not to be simply touched?"

Judging by his words, it seemed that he wasn't going to go down any time soon.

Seeing that the atmosphere between them was getting hotter and even more people were gathering down there, Leanna couldn't get those words out of her mouth. Then, she said, "Why don't we do it at home?"

"When have you ever kept your promise?"

"I swear that I will keep it this time."

Hearing her words, Aidan looked at her and seemed to be in thought. Then, he said, "If you promise to call me 'honey' every day when we get home, I might consider it."

This b*stard is pushing his luck, thought Leanna.

Before she could object, Aidan said, "What do you think?"

“You didn’t even give me time to think about it.” Leanna huffed exasperatedly.

“It’s not me, it’s them.”

At this moment, many people were gathering together down there. Moreover, they were spending way too much time up here. If the photos were to be leaked out, Leanna didn’t know far it would spread.

“Alright, I promise.” She nodded her head.

Hearing her words, Aidan smiled and tugged on the rope. At the same time, he said to her, “Hold on tight.”

Initially, Leanna was already hugging him tightly. When she heard his words, she instantly closed her eyes and wrapped her arms around him tightly. After mere seconds, she felt her whole body falling. Soon, her feet touched the ground, and she quickly released Aidan as she breathed out a sigh of relief.

While putting away the equipment, Aidan asked with a smile, “Are you throwing me away after using me?”

However, Leanna ignored him.

At this moment, a staff member came up and said, “How should we settle this, President Pearson?”

“It’s fine. Tell them that I’ll pay for everything tonight and they can keep the photos. Just don’t share it in public,” said Aidan as he turned around and looked at Leanna.

When Leanna heard his words, she wondered if he had lost his mind. After all, who would have the spare time to admire such a thing?

The staff hummed in response and evacuated the crowd.

Then, Aidan took a glance at the time and said, “Do you want to watch a movie?”

“No, thanks, I’ll pass,” replied Leanna.

“Why?”

“You said that we are here to relax, but I feel more upset than before.”

Hearing her words, Aidan raised his eyebrow and said, "Is that so? Why do I feel like you are in a good mood?"

At that moment, Leanna couldn't help but kick him in the leg before turning around and leaving.

Aidan trailed behind her and held her hand as he spoke. "Let's go home."

After such an eventful day, Leanna didn't realize she was mentally exhausted when she was already physically tired. All she wanted to do right now was to take a hot shower and lie comfortably in bed.

On the road back, Daniel gave her a call, saying that the funeral had ended. If it weren't for them, this matter would've been troublesome, and they would need to waste a lot of time dealing with it.

After thinking for some time, Leanna gripped the phone and said, "Jethro is dead."

On the other end of the phone, Daniel didn't expect to hear such news. Thus, he paused for mere seconds before saying, "Did you see his body?"

Leanna hummed in response and replied, "Yes. The police said that it was a suicide attempt, and the forensic doctor is conducting an autopsy."

Hearing her words, Daniel was silent for a moment before he said, "Although he should have rotted in hell, it's too easy for him to die just like this."

Leanna didn't say anything more. After chatting with Daniel for a while, she hung up the phone.

Just as she kept her phone away, she heard Aidan's voice. "Do you think that they are the ones who did it?" he asked.

"What?" Leanna was stunned.

"Jethro's death," replied Aidan.

Hearing his words, Leanna pursed her lips and nodded. To be honest, she didn't believe it when she heard that a man like Jethro would kill himself. Hence, she thought about two possibilities. The first possibility was that he had been murdered by someone lurking in the dark, while the second possibility was that William had killed him. That was why she had told Daniel

about it just now, wanting to see if he knew anything about this. However, it seemed like he had no clue at all.

“It’s normal for you to think that way. After all, Jethro would die hundreds of times for what he did,” said Aidan.

Leanna whispered, “It doesn’t matter who the killer was because Jethro’s death would alert everyone. However, he died in prison, which meant that not many people could kill him. If...”

If she were William, she would have chosen to kill Jethro after sending him back to prison to avoid making a stir.

Just as she thought about it, she heard Aidan’s voice again. “Based on your understanding of him, do you think he’s the one behind this?”

When Leanna heard his words, she shook her head and felt lost. To be honest, she didn’t know much about William. She had met him several times, and he was always a gentleman. Unfortunately, it seemed like she had underestimated him. He returned to get revenge, so he wouldn’t be as innocent as he looked. Moreover, even the kindest person would have a change of heart after going through such a terrifying experience. Hence, how could William not change during the past 20 years he had been waiting for?

After some time, Leanna said, “He isn’t the killer.”

“Oh? Why is that so?” asked Aidan.

“Even if he wanted to kill Jethro, he wouldn’t choose to do it at a time like this. As you said, there are still many unsolved questions about Jethro, so William wouldn’t rush to kill him even if he loathed the man. Moreover, Daniel’s right; it would be a shame that he died so easily.”

“You’re right.” Aidan smiled slightly.

“If that’s the case, it would be those guys who killed Jethro.” Leanna frowned.

“Since they chose to kill him at this moment, it could only mean that Jethro had something that they were afraid of. That was why they wanted to kill him as soon as possible. It also proves that what we had guessed about them was right,” said Aidan.

When Leanna heard his words, she nodded and thought, He's right.

Seeing that she was frowning, Aidan curled his fingers and flicked them against her forehead. "Alright, let's not think about this anymore. I think it's better if you think about what you promised me. After all, it's too late to take your words back now."

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 483-When Leanna returned home, she was forced to call Aidan 'honey' since she had fallen into his hands. Ultimately, she was so embarrassed that she wanted to kill him.

After taking a break for a week, she still decided to see a therapist.

If it is a mental illness, whether it is anxiety or something else, I should get it treated properly. Otherwise, who knows if I'll end up like last time—my emotions were a wreck, I overthought too much, and I even felt paranoid.

Before coming to this decision, she had discussed it with Aidan the night before.

When Aidan heard her words, he frowned slightly. He paused for a moment before saying, "If you think that you are not relaxed enough yet, I can rearrange my work and travel with you in a few days. You don't have to see a therapist."

"I think I'm sick. This isn't something about whether my emotions are calm or not, nor is it a problem that can be solved by traveling," Leanna replied seriously.

Aidan was unhappy when he heard her words. "You are not sick. You just think too much and hurt your brain," he said.

"Overthinking is also an illness. If I hadn't overthought so much, I wouldn't have kept thinking that my child was still alive and right in front of me. With this thought, I couldn't control myself and was obsessed with this matter."

Hearing her words, Aidan pursed his lips and said nothing.

On the other hand, Leanna continued, "Moreover, you are also responsible for this."

Aidan clenched his jaw and gulped. Then, he looked at her and said slowly, "What?"

"If you didn't keep telling me that you would take my child away, I wouldn't have thought about it."

"Well then, do you want to?"

"See, you're doing it again," said Leanna as she looked at him emotionlessly.

Looking at her, Aidan chuckled and grabbed her shoulder, saying, "This isn't an illness, Leanna."

"I'm not obsessed about it. It's just that..."

"You're thinking about it."

Hearing his words, Leanna was speechless.

Then, Aidan reached out and cupped the back of her head as his lips pressed against hers. "You don't need to see a therapist because of this. I can treat you."

"I'm being serious," said Leanna as she raised her hand and blocked him.

"So am I." Aidan moved her hand away and kissed her fingertips. "I've told you before that I can get anything you want, whether it's a child or that little punk," he said slowly.

At that moment, Leanna felt exhausted and said, "I've also told you before not to give me such hallucinations."

"What hallucinations?"

"It's obvious that you dislike children, but why do you keep taking me to see someone who isn't blood-related..."

Before she could finish her words, Aidan cut her off and said, "I don't like children, but I like you, Leanna."

When Leanna heard his words, she was momentarily stunned. It seemed as though she didn't expect to hear such an answer from him.

Aidan stared at her deeply and said slowly, "I will love everything that you like, whether it is the children or anything else."

Staring into his eyes, Leanna couldn't see any trace of him lying or fooling with her. All she could see was the calmness in his eyes. At that moment, she felt like she had been persuaded by his words.

Before she could speak, Aidan kissed her again.

Just as he was about to get up and take something from the nightstand, Leanna held his arm and said, "Don't."

"What?" Aidan said deeply.

"Didn't you say that... you want a child?"

They had unprotected sex in Weavside back then, but it seemed like she hadn't gotten pregnant.

After hearing her words, Aidan paused for a moment, seemingly in thought.

When Leanna saw his reaction, she turned to the side and said, "It's fine if you don't want to."

"Why wouldn't I want to?" As Aidan spoke, he leaned down and hugged her. His voice was raspy.

Although things are getting complicated, it's fortunate that there are many people here to protect her. It won't be a problem if she gets pregnant. After all, I'll still have to wait at least ten months for her to give birth to my child. With such an extended period, I'm able to deal with everything, thought Aidan.

...

After a steamy night, Leanna woke up at noon the next day. Then, she thought about it thoroughly and felt that seeing a therapist might not be the best idea. After all, she had to strengthen her inner self to overcome these difficulties.

However, she couldn't withstand staying in the house any longer after a long rest. Hence, she went to the studio after lunch.

Just as she sat down in her office chair, Zoe entered the room and said, “Why don’t you rest a little longer, Nana?”

“I’m well-rested. If I rest any longer, I’m not going to be able to feel my limbs anymore,” replied Leanna.

Zoe sat in front of her and sprawled on the table. “Speaking of which, Zayn came by the other day. When he heard that you were sick and was resting at home, he left without saying anything.”

Hearing her words, Leanna paused for a moment and said, “Did... Did he say anything about his father’s condition?”

“I did ask him about it, and he said that it’s all good. However, judging by his expression when he answered, it doesn’t seem like his father’s condition has gotten better. I couldn’t pry for more information, so I left it at that.”

“It’s good news as long as there isn’t any news,” said Leanna with a nod.

Although nothing was going on between her and Zayn, the Barnetts still disliked her because of Anna. No matter how much time passed, Carly’s actions would always be a pain in her heart. Although she did not hold onto it after things had passed, she still couldn’t forgive the Barnetts that easily. Plus, there was no need for visiting as it would only make both parties awkward.

After thinking about it, Leanna snapped out of it and said, “Have you found a house?”

“Yes, but I was afraid that Anthony would find it again. Thus, I deliberately found a house further away,” replied Zoe.

“Has Anthony been looking for you recently?”

“No, he finally gave up. I should go to church during Christmas to thank Jesus for protecting me.”

Hearing her words, Leanna smiled and said, “That’s good. If you ever reencounter him, remember to call me.”

“What about you? Have you gone to a therapist? What did they say?” asked Zoe.

Leanna shook her head and said, "I didn't. I guess I'm just too overwhelmed since many things have happened recently. I might get better after having some rest."

Zoe agreed with her words and said, "I was thinking the same thing too. If I were you, I would be too shocked to do anything in those situations. However, you were brave enough to let yourself into a crucial situation and kill the mastermind. With that, you are a courageous heroine."

Hearing her words, Leanna felt that she was exaggerating and said, "Okay, now that's too much."

Zoe smiled and said, "I mean it. Now that this is over, you can finally be at ease. Speaking of which, did you find Georgina?"

"No."

"She's too good at hiding. Where could she have possibly hidden?"

Ever since Georgina left Violet's house, she was never seen again. Leanna felt that she was hiding in a place that no one had expected.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 484-Meanwhile, in the hospital, Carly and Marilyn rushed to Zayn when they saw him coming out of the ward. "How is he, Zayn?" they asked anxiously.

"Dad has fallen asleep. The doctor who did a check-up on him mentioned that he is recovering well, so don't worry about him," Zayn answered.

Hearing that, Marilyn sighed as she sat down on a chair next to them. "I know that you are trying to comfort me, but I know his condition well. He spends less time conscious, and he's asleep most of the time. How could his condition be better?"

"Mom, the doctor said that it will take time for him to recover. You should go home and get some rest since you've spent so many days in the hospital," suggested Zayn while squatting in front of Marilyn.

"I'm fine. However, you've been back for a while now, yet you've been in the hospital for so many days. You haven't stepped foot at home, so you need to rest more than I do."

“I’m fine. There’s still some work that I need to take care of in the company...”

“Zayn,” Carly suddenly uttered. “You should listen to Mom and go home to get some rest. Our family is already in such a situation, and we wouldn’t know what to do if you collapse too.”

Upon hearing that, Zayn pursed his lips and slowly got up. “Alright, I’ll go home and return later in the evening.”

As he was about to leave, Marilyn suddenly grabbed his hand. Her expression was solemn compared to earlier on. “Zayn, there’s something that I need to tell you about.”

Seeing that, Carly’s expression turned grave, and she stretched her hand out to tug Marilyn’s blouse. “Mom...”

“There’s no point hiding it from him at a time like this. Moreover, how are you planning to explain it to him when he sees her with his own eyes once he gets home?” Marilyn explained.

Carly’s face instantly turned pale. She stammered as she opened her mouth, but she couldn’t say a thing.

“What happened?” Zayn furrowed his brows and asked.

“Your sister did something really silly. She got someone to push Aidan’s ex-wife into the water. It commotion back then, but she was fine after she got out of the water,” Marilyn whispered.

“I know about this,” replied Zayn as he pursed his lips. However, it wasn’t as simple as that.

“Your sister went to apologize to her after that. We thought that we could put the incident behind us, but who’d have thought this incident was used to get a hold over the Barnett Family?! Because of this, your sister has been suffering from insomnia and drastic weight loss.”

“No matter what, I’ll bear the consequences of my actions. However... As you can see, Dad is currently in such an unstable condition. The doctor said that we shouldn’t provoke him. Moreover, the Barnett Family has become vulnerable, and a lot of people have set their sights on us. In other words,

they're hoping to get a hold of us. If this news gets out, the Barnett Family will be done for!"

"Who has been threatening you?" Zayn asked.

"It's... It's..."

Seeing that she was stammering, Marilyn revealed, "It's Georgina."

"I watched that child grow up. Yes, Carly made a mistake, but she kept holding that information against us and threatened us with it. Carly and I are just worried that your father might not be able to take it when he finds out about the incident. That's why we didn't dare to tell him about it and let her stay at the Barnett Residence." Marilyn sighed.

"Zayn, you might not be aware of what has happened within the Crossley Family recently, she..."

"I'm aware of it," he responded.

He was concerned that Leanna's gala might be affected, so he had been keeping an eye on news that was happening within the country even though he was at Swiysal. At times, although he might only find out about things later on or without too many details, he couldn't have been unaware of the major incident that happened to the Crossley Family.

At that moment, Carly's legs suddenly gave way as she stumbled against the chair. As she covered her face with her hand, she said in a quavering voice, "I don't know what to do. Aidan's men are looking for her, and if he finds out that the Barnett Family has been hiding Georgina, he will not let us off the hook. The thing is, I can't tell dad about this either..."

Hearing that, Zayn squatted before her as he pursed his lips and said after a brief pause, "Carly, you are part of the Barnett Family, and we will stand by you no matter what."

"What about dad..."

"I'll get someone to watch over him, and I will also remind the doctors and nurses to never let any news get to him."

“Does it mean that you’re ready to hand Georgina over to Aidan? Have you thought of the consequences? The Barnett Family might be done for if we do so.”

“The Barnett Family is now an empty shell. If it wasn’t for the sacrifice that Leanna made and her discussion with the Pearson Family, the Barnett Family wouldn’t have been able to hold up until now,” Zayn responded impassively.

Marilyn was speechless after hearing that. After the marriage with the Pearson Family was called off, they initially thought that it would all be over for the Barnett Family. However, they were surprised to find out that the projects they had previously negotiated weren’t against the contract. It was also because of these projects that the Barnett Group was able to survive until now.

“We are indebted to Leanna. We should make up to her whenever we can.” Both Marilyn and Carly were quiet after hearing that.

“Is Georgina still at the Barnett Residence?” Zayn asked after a short pause.

“She is staying in the backyard. She was worried that someone might discover her, so she’s been asking us to send her things over. However, after Dad was hospitalized, I arranged a maid and reminded her repeatedly not to reveal to anyone that Georgina is staying at our house.”

“Got it,” Zayn answered.

When she saw him standing up, Carly suddenly grabbed his shirt and asked, “Zayn, what are you planning to do? Are you planning to send her over to Aidan directly? If we make a commotion, I’m afraid...”

“Let me handle it. I’ll make sure to take care of things properly.”

Hearing that, Carly slowly retracted her hand. After Zayn left the hospital, he dialed Aidan’s number as soon as he got into the car.

Just as the call went through, Aidan said calmly, “Mr. Barnett, do you have a business to discuss with me upon returning to the country?”

“I have something to speak to you about,” Zayn replied.

“I don’t think there’s anything to discuss between us.”

“In that case, I’ll have to look for Leanna.”

Aidan was speechless upon hearing that and replied as he licked his mouth, “What is it?”

“I know where Georgina is,” Zayn uttered.

“Where?” Aidan’s tone had become cold.

“My house.”

Upon hearing that, Aidan chuckled as he knew the reason why the Barnett Family was helping Georgina to hide. He then lightly tapped the table with his finger and said coldly, “Are you turning against your family?”

“My dad had fallen sick, so both my mother and sister are concerned about his condition. They don’t want the whole thing to escalate, and they were even threatened by Georgina. However, I guarantee you that I will personally send Georgina over by today.”

“Alright,” answered Aidan, his gaze darkening.

After the call ended, Zayn put his phone down and drove toward the Barnett Residence.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 485-In the afternoon, just as Leanna was about to go home, she received a call from Aidan.

After she answered the call, he asked in a deep voice, “Aren’t you at home?”

“I was bored, so I came to the studio. I’m heading home now,” she replied.

“Alright, I have something to take care of, so I’ll be home late. Rest early,” he said.

“Did something happen at work?”

“Nope, it’s nothing major. I’ll tell you about it when I get home.”

“Alright.”

After the call ended, Zoe poked her head into the room from the outside and asked, “Nana, aren’t you leaving?”

“Let’s go.” Leanna stood up.

Since Zoe took the cab over, Leanna decided to send her home.

While on their way home, Zoe asked curiously, “Did President Pearson urge you to head home today?”

Hearing that, Leanna laughed and responded, “He has to take care of some work, so he’ll be home late.”

“By the way, that b*stard seemed idle at times, but he’s really busy when there’s work to do. However, that’s when you can get a breather since he won’t be clinging onto you all day long.”

Leanna was distracted when she heard Zoe’s words, for her statement would be a big joke if it was applied to Leanna’s and Aidan’s relationship a year ago. Who would have thought that so much had changed within less than a year? Not long later, the car reached its destination with help from the navigation system.

“Is this the place?” Leanna wound her mirror down and looked outside.

“Yes. Thanks for the ride. Drive safe,” Zoe responded.

“Alright.”

After Zoe left, Leanna shifted her gaze to the front and drove away. When she reached the apartment, she could hear a baby’s cry next door upon exiting the elevator, and she halted her footsteps. It was her first time hearing a baby’s cry after staying there for some time.

She then continued walking, but as she was about to reach her unit, the elevator door suddenly opened again to reveal a figure walking out from it.

“Louis? Why are you here? It’s late.” She was puzzled to see him.

Louis, however, looked calm and answered as he stood there, “I’m here to have dinner.”

Leanna had previously invited him multiple times to come over for a meal, but he rejected her offers each time. Thus, his presence took her by surprise. However, after giving it some thought, she thought that he mustn’t have felt

good after what had happened before that, which could be why he was there to see her.

She then walked toward her unit's door and entered the passcode. "Come on in," she offered.

Hearing that, he followed behind her and took a look at the next door before entering.

"What do you feel like eating?" Leanna entered the kitchen after changing into her house slippers.

"I'm fine with anything." Knowing that Louis wasn't a picky eater like Aidan, she took a look at the ingredients she had in the fridge and planned to cook with whatever ingredients she had.

As she was cooking, Louis walked to the kitchen door and asked her, "Isn't Aidan at home?"

"He has something to do, so he'll be late," she replied while slicing the vegetables.

"Something to do? What is it?" Louis furrowed his brows and asked.

"No idea. I didn't ask him."

"Why didn't you ask him? What if he's lying to you?" Louis asked again.

"If he is lying to me, he could easily come up with an excuse even if I ask him." Leanna turned around to look at him.

"Aren't you worried that he would look for other girls behind..." Louis pursed his lips but couldn't bring himself to finish the sentence.

"He won't do that," Leanna uttered.

"Do you trust him that much?"

Hearing that made Leanna laugh. "You'll understand me after you are in a relationship. If someone likes you, no matter how big the temptation is, it would be nothing for him. However, if he doesn't like you, it would still happen even if you're worried about it," Leanna replied.

“What about you? Have you been seeing Daphne recently?”

Louis' ears became red at the mention of Daphne's name. He looked away and answered, “I don't know.”

“What do you mean? It's either a yes or a no.”

“Her new movie is premiering soon, so she is on tour around the country,” Louis uttered.

“You seem to know her schedule well.” Leanna smirked.

“It was all over the internet. You weren't paying attention.”

After Leanna was done with cooking, she arranged the utensils and beckoned Louis to come over. “Let's eat.”

“I previously heard Aidan say that you were resting at home, but I noticed that you just came back from somewhere. Where did you go?”

“It seems like Aidan and you keep in touch quite often.” Leanna smiled.

A guilty Louis was speechless, and he kept quiet as he chewed his food.

Leanna had been teasing him, so she changed the topic. “Well, how's the contract with the film and entertainment company coming along?”

“It's fine,” Louis replied.

Just then, Leanna's phone rang. It was Aidan.

With that, she stood up with the mobile phone in her hand and said, “Louis, please excuse me. I have to answer this.”

“Alright.”

Leanna then walked to the balcony and swiped her phone screen to answer the call. “What's wrong?”

“Have you reached home?” Aidan was heard asking.

“Yes, I’m at home. Louis came over, and we are having dinner together.” After a brief pause, she continued, “What time are you reaching home? Should I prepare some food for you?”

“That won’t be necessary. I’ll be late,” Aidan answered.

“Got it. Carry on with your work, then,” Leanna uttered.

“Aren’t you going to ask what I’m doing?”

“You’d tell me if you want to. You will just come up if an excuse if you don’t feel like telling me, so what’s the point of me asking?”

Hearing that, Aidan chuckled and responded, “Alright, I’ll tell you when I get home.”

After the call ended, Leanna walked toward the dining table. When she saw Louis, she seemed hesitant as she pursed her lips. She then sat in front of him and said, “Louis, there’s something that I haven’t told you.”

“Is it related to Jethro?” Louis asked after a brief pause.

“He died... On the day of the funeral.” She nodded as she spoke.

However, she didn’t ask Aidan about Jethro’s autopsy results. She wouldn’t be of much help even if she knew about it, after all.

Upon hearing that, Louis seemed calm, and there wasn’t a trace of surprise on his face. “He should have been dead,” he said impassively.

“Since he’s already dead, the whole thing has ended. Don’t occupy your head with silly thoughts. Go study or get yourself a girlfriend.” He was speechless after hearing what Leanna said.

After dinner, Louis brought the bowls into the kitchen and washed them. After a while, he walked out and announced, “I shall take my leave.”

“I’ll see you out,” Leanna responded.

“There’s no need for that. I’m not a child. Bye,” Louis replied.

Leanna smiled as she looked at his back. To Louis and her, the incident was far from being resolved. Whatever happened in the future, her only hope was for Louis not to be hurt in any way.

After she heard the sound of the door closing, she walked back to her bedroom. As she lay in bed, she took her phone out and started scrolling through several online articles.

It turned out that Daphne was on a tour around the country, and it just started not long ago. It might take her some time before she would get back to Highside. Just as she was about to put her phone down, she saw the news about the Crossley Group. After a brief pause, she clicked into it.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 486-Meanwhile, since Douglas was hospitalized, Carly and Marilyn never returned to Barnett Residence. Although Carly specially arranged for a servant to deliver meals to her, Georgina still kept her guard up all the same.

Georgina had secretly inquired about Leanna's situation before. Therefore, she learned from the information she acquired that Leanna didn't get into a car accident. This could only mean one thing— her plan failed.

Even so, Aidan's men were still looking for her. So, Georgina held the jewelry she took from Violet and wandered around several places. Eventually, she succeeded in sneaking into Barnett Residence without anyone the wiser.

Fortunately, she hadn't been in touch with Carly for a long time. In addition, the Barnetts could hardly fend for themselves now. Thus, Aidan would never suspect Georgina to hide in Barnett Residence.

Then again, staying here is not a long-term solution either. I have to find a way to get the Barnetts to send me abroad. Now that Zayn is in Swiysal, the Barnetts should have a way to get me out of the country without being discovered by Aidan!

When she thought of the plausibilities, she immediately gave Carly a call. Yet, Carly never once picked up her phone.

Georgina furrowed her brows slightly as a wave of annoyance rose within her. She also couldn't help but feel snubbed while she thought, I can't go out now, and I don't know Mr. Barnett's current condition. If Carly intends to avoid me, there's a high chance she would drag her feet when meeting me.

Soon, she heard the sound of footsteps from outside the door just as the sky turned dark.

However, unlike the set of footsteps from before, these sounded firm and purposeful. So, when she considered these factors, she quickly concluded that an unknown man was sauntering down the corridor.

Georgina instantly made a mad grab for the fruit knife on the coffee table. She curled her fingers around her choice of weapon tightly as she gave the door a sharp glare.

Shortly after, the door opened, and in came a man with a slender and tall figure.

Nevertheless, her frown only deepened at the sight as she gasped in disbelief, "Oh, it's you." Then, after a beat, she added, "Why are you here? Wait. No. When did you return?"

Zayn stood by the door and merely stared at her quietly. His gaze gradually traveled downward and landed on the fruit knife in her hand. Finally, he parted his lips and drawled, "Miss Crossley, you are a guest of the Barnetts, so of course, I have to greet you in person."

Even after hearing Zayn's words, Georgina still didn't let her guard down. She just regarded him coldly, "Since Carly told you about me living here, you should know why. It would affect the Barnetts greatly if words about the things she did were to get out. Aidan will never let her off the hook."

Alas, he only gave her a slow smirk and said, "Miss Crossley, since you have so graciously need of an answer. Carly and Leanna have never interacted, so how did she know that Leanna is pregnant?"

"Anna told her."

"Is that so?" Zayn pursed his lips doubtfully before he continued, "Then, how did Anna learn about this?"

Georgina remained silent in the face of his interrogation. However, her facial expression turned colder.

“I think you and I both know who the true mastermind behind this incident was. But, Miss Crossley, did it never cross your mind that the situation would turn out this way before you did all these things?”

She sneered scornfully, “It was all thanks to Leanna that I ended up like this! But that wasn’t enough for her. She even harmed the Crossleys! Can’t you see?! That woman manipulated Aidan into marrying her a few years ago. Plus, she even uses tricks to slander my dad and me today! You guys are the ones who are utterly fooled by her manipulative nature! Mark my words: the truth will be revealed sooner or later!”

Zayn demanded coldly, “Miss Crossley, considering you are adamant that you were gunpoint to force you to scheme against her?”

“I—” Georgina was momentarily at a loss for words. Nonetheless, she quickly tried to defend herself, refuting coldly, “I just want to reveal her true colors, that’s all.”

“If so, why did you have someone tamper with her car, hoping that Leanna would die in the car crash? Is that also a part of your plan to reveal her true colors?”

“She deserved that! She robbed me of everything! She even caused the Crossley Group to end in such a tragedy! However, I never expected that she would change her plans at the last minute!”

Zayn simply stared her down as he said dispassionately, “Miss Crossley, you should know very well that you have to pay for what you did. It was only a matter of when.”

Georgina laughed in amusement and jeered, “Sure. I will pay for what I did! But what about Carly? Shouldn’t she pay for what she did too?”

“Of course,” he replied promptly.

The instant she heard his reply, the confident smile painted across her lips faded once the implication behind his words set in.

Then, Zayn took a few steps away and freed up the room’s entrance while keeping a sharp eye on her. The corridor lights also turned on the moment he was a safe distance away from the door.

Only then did Georgina realize that several people other than Zayn had arrived at the garden at some point. Her eyes widened in shock as she saw that Aidan was also among them.

As Aidan stood under the night sky, his voice sounded chilly and biting as he questioned, "Why don't you tell me what Leanna stole from you? Me?"

Georgina's face instantly twisted in resentment at his remarks.

Then, he continued, "As long as you possess a modicum of self-awareness, you should be well aware that even if Leanna didn't show up in my life, I still wouldn't fancy you." After that, he mused as though he was genuinely confused. "So, I'm quite curious. What exactly were you thinking when you said these words?"

It seemed that his words had thoroughly incited Georgina's anger as she roared, "You are just an illegitimate child! How could you not fancy me?! You should be grateful that I even gave you even a sliver of attention!"

Aidan wasn't the slightest bit angered as he chuckled, "Miss Crossley, I have you to remind you of one thing. Your dad, Leroy Crossley, was never married and had no legal children. Therefore, you are, at best, the illegitimate daughter he brought home to deceive others when he had no other choice. Speaking of which, you were the one who stole what belonged to Leanna and lived as her for twenty years."

"Bullsh*t!!"

Still, he didn't intend to continue discussing this issue with her any longer. Instead, he tilted chief who followed him here, "Chief Higgins, you should have heard the crime she confessed to just now."

As soon as those words escaped his lips, he turned and left without further ado.

Before Georgina could react, she saw a few personnel in police uniforms crowding around her.

Blood drained from her face, and she turned ghastly pale. Then, amid her struggle to break free, she accidentally cut her face with the fruit knife she held in her grasp. When she felt warm blood welling up from the cut, she touched her cheek with trembling hands. When she tried to wipe the blood

away, she only managed to smear half her face in blood once she realized what had happened.

At that moment, everyone could hear only Georgina's uncontrollable screams across the backyard.

After Aidan stepped outside the Barnett Residence, he turned his head to gaze at the man behind him. Then, he questioned flatly, "Why are you following me? Don't tell me that you think that I should be thanking you."

He didn't bother waiting for Zayn's answer as he continued, "You guys have hidden Georgina for so long. So, I'm being rather magnanimous by not pursuing this matter."

"I want to apologize to Leanna on behalf of Carly," Zayn replied.

Aidan immediately answered, "I will convey your apologies to her, so there's no need for you to meet her."

After a few seconds, Zayn suddenly chuckled in amusement.

"What are you laughing at?" Aidan demanded as he frowned in displeasure.

"President Pearson, I just didn't expect you to be so afraid of me meeting Leanna. This only shows that you aren't confident in your relationship."

Aidan merely graced the man he regarded as a pest with a huff of disdain.

Shortly after, Zayn spoke again, "I still have to deal with several matters upon my return, so I probably won't have time to find Leanna. Regardless, I heard that many things have happened to Leanna recently. President Pearson, I hope you can take good care of her."

"You don't have to remind me of that."

Finally, Zayn advised, "President Pearson, since you claim to love Leanna, you should know her true personality. She will only give you one chance at most for some things, so I hope you will cherish it well."

Aidan narrowed his eyes at the other man and remained silent.

"I still have to go to the hospital. Take care, President Pearson."

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 487-In the middle of the night, just when Leanna almost fell into a deep slumber, she suddenly felt a dip in the bed behind her. Soon, she was wrapped in a warm embrace.

She kept her eyes closed, but her voice was laced with tiredness. "Did you just return?"

Aidan replied with a hum and gently patted her back with his big palms and murmured in his deep voice, "Go back to sleep."

Leanna turned around and wrapped her arms around his waist out of habit. Shortly after, she fell back asleep.

In the dark, Aidan planted a long kiss on her forehead.

They had gotten ahold of Georgina now, but Leroy was nowhere to be found.

He was like a ticking bomb, unsure when it would explode.

At the moment, the Crossley Group was a mess. Many of their financial statements did not add up, and multiple managers ran or jumped ship because of that. As such, only the oblivious employees were left behind.

If no one stepped up, the great family that once stood over Highside for hundreds of years through the blood, sweat, and tears of their generational leaders would fall to its feet overnight, never to be seen ever again. Many of the company's employees and their families would also suffer a major blow.

Everything happened because of Leroy. Due to his agenda, he caused harm to thousands of people.

He would not be able to repent for his wrongdoings even if he died.

The ringing of the alarm clock woke Leanna up the next day, but Aidan wasn't by her side.

She got up with a yawn and got ready before walking out of the bedroom.

When she went down, Alice was already in the kitchen making breakfast. "You're up, Madam. Breakfast is almost ready."

Leanna looked around the room before asking, "Where's Aidan?"

Alice replied, "Master had just left when I arrived. He said that something came up in the office and asked me to let you know that he'll be busy. Also, he doesn't want you to think about him."

Leanna was speechless.

Who's thinking about him?!

When she was halfway through her meal, she suddenly thought of something and asked, "Alice, did our neighbor have a baby? I think I heard a baby crying yesterday."

Alice shook her head. "I'm not sure about that. I've never seen the neighbors."

"I've never seen them either."

Alice smiled. "If you like children, Madam, you could have one yourself."

Hearing that, Leanna paused and didn't speak.

Alice saw Leanna's reaction and assumed that she was from before, so she carefully asked, "Madam, did I say something wrong?"

Leanna assured her, "No, I just think that children are quite cute."

Aidan had not put on a condom during their last few sessions. She wasn't sure if she'd get pregnant and decided to just go with the flow.

After breakfast, Leanna headed to the studio.

Since she had taken a break for some time, a lot of work was waiting for her.

Even though fashion week was several months away, some things had to be confirmed and prepared in advance.

Time passed. In the afternoon, Zoe knocked on her door while asking quietly, "Are you busy, Nana?"

Leanna stretched her arms. "I'm not that busy. What's up?"

"There are two people out front saying that... they're from the Crossley Group. They want to meet you."

Leanna was stunned. “Me?”

Zoe nodded. “Yes. If you don’t want to meet them, I’ll reject them.”

It had been a while since the Crossley Group’s anniversary celebration.

Leanna didn’t keep tabs on the Crossleys, but she saw the news last night whereby a few important projects of theirs had stopped. As such, many of their collaborators had gone up to the office and made a scene. However, there was no one left in the Crossley Group to give them an answer. It was a no-brainer that the employees were on pins and needles.

After staying silent for a while, Leanna ordered, “Let them in.”

“Okay.”

To her surprise, she knew the two people who came.

One of them was Jimmy, the guy who forced Maya to drink during one of their dinners.

The other was Raymond, whom Maya wanted to introduce to her single father.

Compared to their last meeting, Jimmy was very emotional and filled with tears as he entered the office. He went up and reached out his hands, wanting to grab her hand. “Miss McKinney, I’m so grateful that you’re willing to meet us despite your busy schedule. I am—”

Leanna avoided his outreached hand and said quietly, “You’re welcome. Let’s get straight to the point.”

Jimmy wiped away the beads of perspiration on his forehead awkwardly and sat down on the couch. “We only discovered that you are the true heir to the Crossley Group during the company’s anniversary celebration. You know the situation the company is in right now. We have no choice but to—”

Raymond cut him off and took over. “I’ll continue, Miss McKinney. After Mr. Crossley’s disappearance, the Crossley Group is in chaos. Neither the collaborators nor the employees know what the future holds for them. No one knows what will become of the company. As such, we’re here to ask what you think of the situation.”

Leanna replied coldly, "I've got nothing to do with the Crossleys."

Jimmy agreed, "Yes. Yes. Those problems were caused by Mr. Cross—Leroy. We know that it wouldn't be fair for you to take over the company in this situation, but the thousands of employees in the Crossley Group are innocent, let alone the numerous collaborators. They all have families to feed. If the Crossley Group goes down, it won't affect anyone else but these people who have put so much money and effort into the business. I can't even imagine how many companies are going to shut down, as well as the families that will be torn apart."

Hearing his speech, Leanna furrowed her brows but stayed silent.

Then, Raymond picked up after him. "We know that you have no obligation to take responsibility for the employees of the company. However, that's not just thousands of people's lives at stake—it's also thousands of families."

Jimmy hurriedly continued, "Yes, that's right. The rest of the high-level managers all ran away. We have worked here for so long, and the employees are like family to us. We can't bear to see this happen to them."

Leanna suddenly looked up at those words. "The employees are like family to you?"

He thought that Leanna's reaction was a sign that she would agree and slapped his thigh. "That's right! We can't possibly abandon our family."

Leanna hummed and slowly drawled out her words, saying, "In that case, I must have been living under a rock. It's a first for me to see people forcing their family to drink and trying to cause them harm."

In an instant, Jimmy's red face was filled with awkwardness and embarrassment.

However, he still tried to explain, "That...I was drunk back then and acted out. I hope you won't take that to heart."

Raymond added, "Miss McKinney, despite Mr. Ollander's lack in certain areas, he has been with the Crossley Group for more than ten years. You can't deny his deep connection with the company."

“Ray is right. The Crossley Group is like my family. Now that it’s going down, who could just watch that happen?” Jimmy then sighed heavily. “If you are still angry about what happened before, I could—”

However, Leanna interrupted him curtly, “So, what is the purpose of your visit? What do you want me to do?”

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 488-The silence in the office was shattered when Raymond spoke. “We hope that Mrs. Pearson will step in and lead the Crossley Group. That’ll allow everyone to settle down and buy us more time.”

“More time? What for?”

“Here’s the thing; we’ve been working with Mr. Colander to pull in more investments lately. We’ve been trying to alleviate some of the Crossley Group’s current predicament, but they didn’t have anyone in charge before this. No company is willing to work with us, and no bank will loan us any money.”

Jimmy continued, “However, if Mrs. Pearson takes over Crossley Group, that’ll give everyone more confidence in us. They’ll be more willing to cut a deal.”

Leanna was never one for tact. She cut in, “Are they confident because of me? Or because of Aidan?”

Jimmy couldn’t help but glance at Raymond. “Well... when you put it like that...”

Raymond didn’t miss a beat and replied nonchalantly, “It’s true that we’re hoping to capitalize on President Pearson’s stature. But at the end of the day, you’re the Crossleys’ rightful heir. If you helm the family, the employees and partners will feel at ease. Other companies and banks will also be willing to give Crossley Group another chance on account of you and the late chairman.”

Jimmy breathed a sigh of relief. “He’s right. I’ve never met the late chairman, but I’ve heard much about him. When the Crossleys almost split up, he was the one who held them together and saved the day. You could see his affection for the family. Now that he’s no longer here, I’m afraid you’re the only one who can save the Crossley Group, Mrs. Pearson.”

Raymond and Jimmy kept trying to convince Leanna.

They had an ace in the hole, and they hoped she would do this for her father's sake.

Unfortunately for them, they didn't know that her biological father was still alive.

He couldn't be unaware of Crossley Group's current straits. Since he wasn't even going to lift a finger to help, it meant that he was displeased with them.

However, they did make a good point; thousands of employees working for the Crossley Group were innocent.

Leanna shut her eyes. There was a sudden stab of pain in her temple.

"Mrs. Pearson, we—"

Jimmy was about to say something when Raymond shushed him.

Then, Raymond said, "We've laid a lot of new things through. There's no hurry, and we'll wait for your reply."

Leanna nodded, trying hard to hide her relief. "We'll talk soon, then."

He was right; she did need time to digest all this information.

Meanwhile, Jimmy looked dissatisfied. As soon as they left the office, he burst out, "We wasted so much effort to woo her. Are we just going to leave it at that?"

Raymond was unflappable. He said calmly, "Mr. Ollander, even if we forced her to agree with us today, do you think Aidan would give in so easily when he hears about this?"

Jimmy hesitated for a couple of seconds before letting out a snort. "Please. By then, things would have been finalized, and everyone will have their eyes on us. Not even Aidan Pearson would dare to step out of line."

"I'm afraid you've underestimated Mr. Pearson on this. No one can force him to change his mind if he doesn't want something. The consequences will be damned."

Jimmy snorted once again. "If I weren't so afraid that this whole thing would end up with an egg on my face, I wouldn't have made this trip. I hated looking at that spoiled girl's face."

Although Leroy had fled, he didn't bring his wife and children, nor did he bring all the property his family had amassed. Without any preparations at all, he couldn't simply escape.

He had been hiding for some time but would eventually be dug out of his hideout. He'd have to explain himself sooner or later.

Jimmy wondered what sort of explanation Leroy would give them.

Regardless of whatever happened, Jimmy would not be caught in the crossfire.

Until then, he had no choice but to help Raymond in wooing Leanna.

He would have a lot fewer problems as soon as she agreed to take over Crossley Group, after all.

Raymond chuckled. "Mr. Ollander, you know as well as I do that Mrs. Pearson is the Crossleys' golden child. If they ever get back on track, we'll also end up working for her."

Jimmy hastily waved his hand. "Come on, you know the Crossleys as well as I do. They're a stubborn lot. They'll limp on as long as they can, but they'll never make a comeback. That spoiled princess can't do anything at all. We're only just using her to distract the outsiders."

Raymond made no reply to that, and he merely narrowed his eyes.

Compared to Jimmy, he was a lot more relaxed.

He knew he had a trump card in his hand, and he wasn't worried about getting out unscathed.

The only thing on his mind was when he should use it for the maximum benefit.

Jimmy then piped up, unable to bear the silence,

Raymond smiled, slightly surprised. "Why is that so?"

Jimmy chortled and patted Raymond on the shoulder. After stepping into it the late Lloyd Crossley crawls out of the dirt.”

Raymond rolled his eyes. “You have a sick sense of humor. Lloyd Crossley’s been dead for years.”

“That’s what I’m trying to say. The Crossley Group is finished.”

After closing the door to his car, Jimmy continued, “Alright, I’ll get going. I’ll leave the rest to you. I never want to come back here again.”

Raymond nodded. “Drive safe.”

With that, he watched Jimmy’s black car drive off.

Once he was sure Jimmy had left, Raymond’s gaze shifted to the nearby office. His lips curled into a curious sneer as he ran through the details of his scheme once again.

He was interrupted by the beeping of his phone. He glanced at the number and picked up the call. In a soothing voice, he said, “Yes, Celia?”

Celia breathed a sigh of relief upon hearing his voice. “I finally got to go out today. Are you working? If you’re not too busy, can we get dinner?”

“Of course.” Raymond started the engine. “Speaking of which, you never told me where you moved to.”

“I’m still in the same neighborhood. I just moved next door to the boss.”

“Next door?”

“Yeah. At first, I was worried that the boss’ girlfriend might find out, but he seems to think the safest place to be is out in the open.”

After being with Raymond for so long, Celia was no longer as guarded or wary. She told him everything.

The only information she withheld was Aidan’s name. She only referred to him as the ‘boss.’

While glancing at the office, Raymond said, “Well, your boss seems like one smart cookie.”

“That’s true. However, I lost the floor card once, and he made a big fuss over it. I was scared to death.”

He sighed. “Why don’t you quit? I can take care of you. You’ve been coming out less and less. It’s so hard to get together nowadays.”

“It’s not the right time. The boss has been so good to me. Please, just wait a little longer until things settle down.”

He impatiently drummed his fingers on the steering wheel. “What is he waiting for?”

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 489-On the other end of the phone, Celia replied, “I have no idea. That’s the boss’ business. It’d be weird if I asked him about it. What I do know is that the child was born prematurely because of his family. His family situation is quite complicated. I guess he wants to deal with all the messy stuff at home quickly.”

“All of this... messy stuff at home, is there any chance it could involve you?”

“No way. Don’t worry about it.”

Raymond shut his eyes and massaged his brows. “Alright, I’m coming to pick you up.”

“Alright, see you soon.”

With that, he tossed the phone onto the passenger seat. Then, he yanked at his tie and glared at the office with mockery and contempt.

...

After Raymond and Jimmy left, Zoe strutted into the office. “Nana, what did they want?”

Leanna pursed her lips and stared aimlessly into the distance. “It’s about the Crossleys.”

“The Crossleys? What about them?”

“They’ve been leaderless since Leroy fled. They’re a mess right now.”

“That has nothing to do with you. Why did they come to bug you about it?”

Leanna whispered, "They want me to take over the Crossley Group to help them secure investments and bank loans."

Zoe frowned, for the whole thing smelled fishy. "Don't do it. With Crossley Group's current state, whoever gets involved would be equivalent to digging their graves. Let them do whatever they want. It has nothing to do with you."

Leanna hummed. "That's what I thought at first, but ..."

"But what?"

"Crossley Group isn't the only one affected; it's their employees as well. They're innocent."

Zoe pursed her lips. "Well, that might be true. Leroy has done a great job screwing everything up. Lots of people are caught in the crossfire. However, that has nothing to do with you. You don't have to take responsibility for their mess. You don't have to care at all."

Hearing this, Leanna lowered her eyes. Her voice was low and sullen. "I know."

Zoe couldn't help but sigh.

Of course, Leanna knew all of this. However, that might not affect her decision.

After a spell of uncomfortable silence, Leanna suddenly asked, "Zoe, do you still talk to Daniel?"

Zoe flushed. "No. I haven't spoken to him."

The last time they saw each other was at the funeral of Leanna's mother.

Leanna nodded. That was good, for it would save everyone a ton of heartache.

She said, "I want to talk to him."

Zoe tilted her head slightly in confusion. "Does he have a solution for this mess?"

"Nope."

Leanna didn't know what to say. After a pause, she ventured, "It's just that... he has a better picture of the Crossley Group's situation than I do."

Zoe nodded reluctantly. "That's true. He went through a lot of trouble while getting close to Georgina."

A teasing smile darted across Leanna's face. She couldn't help but ask, "Are you jealous?"

"D-Don't be ridiculous. I just think he's quite the charmer. Even someone as accomplished as Georgina isn't immune to his lies."

Leanna nodded. "Okay, then. I'm going to visit him later. Do you want to come along?"

Zoe shifted her feet. "I won't be joining you. I have a date tonight."

Leanna faintly remembered Zoe mentioning that, but she was still surprised. "That's tonight?"

"Yeah, it's just dinner. I'll just come up with a reason to leave after we eat."

Leanna nodded thoughtfully. "In that case, when are you leaving?"

Zoe checked her watch. "Well, we're meeting at 6.00PM. I should probably get going at 5.30PM. The place is pretty close, and I can get there in ten minutes."

Leanna rubbed her palms together. "That's great. I'll drop you off."

Zoe shook her head. "It's fine. I'll drive."

Leanna had a grave expression on her face. "You don't get it. If you think the blind date's going well, you can get him to send you home after dinner. If you drive, you won't get that option. Besides, you can always call a cab if things go badly and you need to leave."

Zoe chuckled mischievously. Her friend was making a lot of sense. "That's true. I can get him to drop me home if he's dreamy."

"It's settled, then. I'll drive you there."

"Cool, let me change and put on my makeup. I couldn't get ready this morning; things were too hectic."

“Go on, then.”

As soon as Zoe left, Leanna breathed deeply to steady herself. Then, she called Daniel.

She asked, “Are you free to meet up?”

He replied flippantly, “Sure. Where?”

“I’m still at the office. I’ll send you the address soon.”

“Okay.”

After hanging up, Leanna frowned. Glancing around the office for a while, she then messaged Aidan to ask when he would be home tonight.

After ten minutes slogged by and Aidan had not replied, she decided that he must be pulling another all-nighter at his office.

Turning to her laptop, she searched up the Crossley Group.

Every news article portended doom for that poor family.

In a photo of one of their suspended projects, a large group of workers hunched over the ground dejectedly. Their tools lay beside them, inert and impotent. The workers had blank looks on their faces,

and the sight of this made Leanna squirm in her seat.

In an interview with a reporter, the workers said they hadn’t been paid a penny. They didn’t dare go home, so they milled about the site, not knowing what they were waiting for.

In another news article, the head of the Crossley Group’s partner couldn’t bear the pressure. He tried to jump off a building but was saved. He got nothing for his troubles except more worries and a broken leg.

The list of similarly gloomy articles continued on and on.

This was just the tip of the iceberg.

Unable to read on, Leanna closed the web browser. She leaned back against her chair and let out a long exhale.

He must've seen these articles as well. What is he thinking? thought Leanna.

She stared out the window, lost in her thought.

Suddenly, there was a rapping at the door. It was Zoe. "Leanna, it's almost time. We should get going."

Leanna got up. "Let's go."

Despite being a weekend, the streets were desolate. There was no traffic, and they arrived at the restaurant in ten minutes.

Zoe undid her seatbelt. "Well, I'll be going. Drive safe."

Leanna managed a thin smile. "Have fun."

After ensuring Zoe entered the restaurant, Leanna parked a bit further from the restaurant and sent the address to Daniel.

Daniel was at home. He wasn't that far away, and he'd arrive in 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, Leanna stood next to the restaurant, waiting for him.

She straightened her back when she saw Daniel walking up to her. He raised a hand in greeting and said, "I'm sorry. You must've waited long."

Leanna shrugged. "No biggie. After all, I'm the one who sprung this on you suddenly."

"Well, shall we go in?"

Upon entering the restaurant, Leanna scanned around and saw Zoe sitting by the window. There was a man across from her, but his back was facing Leanna, so she couldn't get a good look at his face.

Leanna picked a spot where she could look at Zoe and her date. "Let's sit here."

Daniel shrugged and plopped down on his seat.

However, he immediately spotted Zoe after a quick look around.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 490-When Daniel sat down, he looked up to see Zoe sitting not far away from him. And a man was sitting opposite her.

He didn't know what they were talking about, but Zoe was smiling happily.

Leanna watched the scene unfold but pretended not to notice. She coughed and tugged on Daniel's shirt to get his attention. "Let's order some food."

Although he kept his eyes on the couple, he still casually replied, "You should order. I'll eat anything."

It was her first time dining at this restaurant as well, so she asked the waiter for recommendations.

She turned to look at Daniel after ordering, only to find him still looking at the couple with a frown. His hands were clenching a glass of water.

Seeing this, Leanna raised an eyebrow curiously as she slowly sipped her drink.

It was only when the waiter came back to serve the appetizers did Daniel finally look away. "She... Whom is she eating with?"

Leanna slowly put down her glass and said softly, "I think it's a blind date that our family set up for her. I've heard good things about him; he's a very down-to-earth man who works at a state-owned enterprise. Seeing how well they're getting along now, it won't be long until we hear the wedding bells ring. I think we'd give them a year."

"That soon?"

Leanna's tone became serious as she explained, "You have no idea how our family works. As long as both sides of the family agree on this blind date and the two people hit it off, they will be forced to get married in a flash. I was just being generous when I said a year. They'll probably be married in two to three months."

Hearing this, Daniel frowned harder. "Don't they want to get to know each other better first? I think it's too hasty to be marrying someone like this."

“It’s our two families that set them up. They would know more about each other than normal people. If they get along well, don’t you think that two to three months is enough?”

Daniel pursed his lips but said nothing.

After a while, he asked, “Does she really want to get married?”

Leanna said, “She doesn’t really mind, but her parents are in a hurry to marry her off. Matchmaking depends on fate too. I think they’re quite suitable for each other, so it’ll be great for them to marry.”

Daniel replied coldly, “I don’t think they should marry.”

With one look, anyone could tell that the man with Zoe wasn’t up to any good. It was clear that he was a player, and he was just whispering sweet nothings. Leanna was always good with her judgment. There was no way that she couldn’t see through that man.

However, Leanna just smiled faintly. “It’s up to them whether they get married or not.”

Daniel was speechless when he heard that.

After regaining his senses, he broke the silence. “Miss McKinney, why did you invite me for dinner today?”

When he mentioned it, the smile on Leanna’s face fell. “You probably have seen the recent news about the Crossley Group.”

He immediately knew what she was referring to and gave the nod. “I have.”

“I asked you out to ask about your opinions. Are you just going to ignore it?”

Daniel mumbled, “We’re dealing with it.”

“How are you dealing with it?”

He didn’t know how to answer her.

The issue at hand wasn’t an easy one to solve. No matter what they did, it would amount to a drop in the ocean. The only way to solve it was to face it head-on. However, it posed a great risk.

Leanna pursed her lips. "I've heard a lot of news today. Although Leroy Crossley is definitely guilty, the others are innocent. They've been kept in the dark by him for so long. Moreover, Leroy is the only one who did those things, not the entire Crossley Group. Although I don't feel anything for the Crossley Group, if they're left to fend for themselves, the dreams of countless people would be crushed."

Perhaps he was overthinking it, but something in him told him that the things Leanna said were not directed at him.

Although Leanna had occasionally asked who exactly they were, it was the first time she had used this tone of voice to talk about the Crossley Group.

With that thought in mind, Daniel asked hesitantly, "Miss McKinney, do you know something?"

She looked at him, unperturbed. "What should I know?"

Hearing this, he forced a laugh and didn't answer. Instead, he picked up his glass of water and drank it.

Then, she continued, "I just think that we have the same goal all this while, and now that Leroy is missing, I don't think you'll sit idly by with the mess he made."

Daniel was silent for a while before saying, "Miss McKinney, the matter isn't unmanageable, but it's also not an easy problem to deal with. It can't be solved overnight. Please give us more time."

Leanna shook her head. "We don't have time anymore."

He sighed and asked, "What do you mean?"

"Two higher executives from the Crossley Group came to see me today. They want me to step up and help stabilize the company's situation."

Daniel was surprised to hear this. "And you agreed?"

"No, I'm still thinking about it."

"Miss McKinney, no matter why they propose to you, don't agree with the Crossley Group's requests. Once you do, they aren't the easiest to get rid of."

Leanna said with certainty, "I know."

However, to maintain peace, no matter how troublesome things got, someone should step up and do it.

Daniel opened his mouth to say something but quickly swallowed back his words. In the end, he said, "Miss McKinney, before you make any rash decision, I suggest you discuss with President Pearson. I believe he wouldn't agree to it either."

Leanna nodded. "I will."

Just like how Jimmy and Raymond had come to her for advice, everything she did now would inevitably implicate Aidan.

Across from their table, Zoe and her blind date had finished their dinner. They were talking, laughing, and already heading out.

Daniel stood up in a hurry. "I will discuss this with Elijah... as soon as I get back. We'll try to figure out other possible solutions. If there's nothing else, I'll excuse myself first."

As he spoke, his eyes followed Zoe, and so did he. He strode out of the restaurant and disappeared the next second.

At this moment, a waiter came to Leanna and asked, "Madam, would you like me to clean up?"

Leanna smiled. "Yes, please pack them up for me."

"Alright."

Once the waiter finished packing the food for her, Leanna went out, took out her phone, and looked at it. Aidan hadn't replied to her message yet.

His meeting was going on for way too long.

She got into her car, placed her phone aside, and headed straight toward the Pearson Group.

As soon as Leanna got out of the elevator, Jonathan passed by her with documents in his hands. The moment he noticed her silhouette, he turned his attention to her. "Miss McKinney."

She asked, "Is Aidan still in the meeting?"

Jonathan nodded and said, "It's been going on all afternoon. It'll probably take a while more. Let me bring you there."

Leanna glanced at the documents in his hands. "It's alright; you're busy. I'll head there myself."

"Alright."

With that, he hurried off to the conference room.

As for Leanna, she took a deep breath before heading toward Aidan's office.