Read Novel Love Change Of Heart Chapter 771-780

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 771-After the advertisement shooting was done, they still had to take a few more promotional photos.

There was so much to do that it was already 10.30PM and they were still not done.

Looking at the time, Leanna asked Zoe, "Is Louis still needed here?"

Zoe flipped through her schedule. "No, not really. We're basically done with his scenes."

"I'll tell him to head back first. He has classes tomorrow morning," Leanna said.

"Okay. He can go." Zoe then waved Louis over and said to him, "Farewell, handsome boy."

Back in the changing room, Louis took off his suit and hung it on a nearby rack.

When he walked out of the dressing room, he found Leanna waiting for him by the door.

"What is going on between you and Daphne?" she asked.

"What?"

"You two have been acting strange the whole time. There's something off in the air," she elaborated.

He shifted to look away from her. "Nothing much."

"Did you get rejected after confessing your love to her?"

Her words rendered him speechless.

His silence confirmed her suspicions.

"I didn't confess anything," he replied.

"What is going on then?"

He started walking as she answered, "She knows."

As she walked beside him, she silently thought about his answer before commenting, "You didn't act like you don't want her to know."

Once more, his silence confirmed her guess.

She sighed. True, it was impossible to hide one's love as they would constantly want to get close to their crush.

With Theodore involved, Louis could not avoid sitting still just because he was afraid Daphne might know about his love for her.

It was only a matter of time.

When they reached the entrance, Leanna asked, "What is the conclusion of your discussion?"

It was still drizzling outside. However, the air felt much colder now.

It seemed like autumn was coming.

"Nothing much. We'll improvise as we go," he replied.

Not even he knew what the future held.

After a few seconds, she suggested, "Call a cab."

Perhaps it was because of the rain; perhaps it was due to how remote their place was. Minutes ticked by and not a single driver accepted their request.

Louis put his phone away. "There's a subway station nearby. I can walk over."

She stopped him. "That station is over a mile away and it's raining hard. If you walk, you'll catch a cold. Wait for a while. If no one takes your request, I can drop you off."

He glanced at the rain in thought.

Just then, they heard a man languidly ask, "Can't get a ride?"

She turned around to find Aidan standing nearby. Parked next to him was his Rolls-Royce.

For some reason, the way he spoke just now made him sound like he deserved a punch.

Aidan walked over to stand beside her and calmly said to Louis, "If you call me your brother-in-law, I'll have my driver drop you off."

Louis was at a loss for words when he heard that.

Leanna was similarly rendered speechless.

Louis turned to look at Leanna. "I'm off."

He then moved to rush into the rain.

"Stop right there," Aidan barked out.

Subsequently, Louis turned to look at him.

"If you don't call me that, you will not be hearing my son call you uncle," Aidan continued.

"You'll have to wait until he can speak first," Louis shot back.

Louis then marched away.

Aidan stared silently in shock.

Leanna was having a hard time resisting the urge to laugh as she clenched a fist around Aidan's shirt.

"Are you not going to lecture him for that?" he asked her, dissatisfied with her response.

She did her best to maintain a calm voice as she replied, "Why would I do that? I think... he's quite right. He can't lose and let himself be tormented..."

He wrapped an arm around her waist and pulled her close. His dark eyes were dangerously narrowed as he said in a dark and suggestive voice, "You must have suffered quite a lot then."

She was suddenly reminded of how he would constantly force her to call him "honey". Her cheeks immediately burned bright red.

She gently shoved him and whispered, "Behave yourself. We're in public."

He looked around. When he saw that there was no one else around, he dipped his head down to kiss her on the lips. "You'll be compensating me later back home."

She stared back at him, confused.

What did she owe him? Why did she have to compensate him?

He strode over to the filming location. "Let's go."

At that, she followed behind him.

Inside, everyone was taking a break, enjoying their supper and smoothies.

When Aidan and Leanna walked in, an invisible tension could be felt in the air, making everyone instantly go from cheerfully chatting away to silence.

Zoe and Daphne were people who enjoyed chaos, so they immediately spoke up.

"Thanks for the smoothies, Mr. Pearson," Zoe called out.

"Thanks for the food, Mr. Pearson," Daphne said.

He merely stared at them in silence.

The rest of the crew followed their lead to voice their thanks.

Aidan's brows twitched. He was not used to situations like this. He immediately glared at the two women who had spoken up first.

The two instigators swiftly ran away.

With that, the tension in the room dispersed.

The crew turned their attention to their food and their work.

Leanna walked over to Zoe. "Can you send the very first picture of Louis to me, Zoe?"

"Sure," Zoe replied.

"I'll be printing the photos tomorrow. I can give you a copy as well," she added.

Leanna nodded. "Sure."

Zoe then turned to Daphne. "Louis is so handsome, right? He will be a worthy co-star."

Daphne did not respond.

After a few moments, she let out an awkward chuckle.

Leanna cleared her throat and changed the topic. "How long until we're finished here?"

"We'll resume the shoot in 10 minutes. We should be done before 1.00AM," Zoe replied.

"Okay," Leanna said with a nod.

As though a thought just struck her, Zoe continued, "Why don't you head back with Mr. Pearson first, Nana? We're almost done here. Once we finish filming, we'll be heading back."

"I'll wait for you to finish."

Zoe stuck out her tongue and muttered, "I actually want you to take him away. He makes everyone nervous."

Leanna turned to glance at Aidan, and she instantly understood what Zoe meant by that. He was standing around like a boss who was checking in on his employees. He stood out with his cold and emotionless face.

Leanna gave a helpless smile. "Fine. I'll be going then."

After bidding Daphne and Zoe goodbye, Leanna dragged Aidan away.

"Didn't you say you'll be here for a while more?" he asked.

"It's all thanks to you," she lazily responded.

He stared at her. "I see. Shouldn't you give me a proper thanks, then?

Once more, she was rendered speechless.

He was certainly a man who would take a mile if given an inch.

Not long after getting into the car, Leanna's phone buzzed, notifying her of the photos Zoe had just sent to her.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 772-Leanna pulled out her phone and downloaded all of the photos.

Zoe even added a few photos Leanna had not asked for, such as a photo of both Daphne and Louis.

The two of them looked so strangely perfect together. They even made the intricate backdrop they had spent hours on look boring and dull in comparison.

After arriving home, Leanna took off her shoes and headed straight into the bedroom to grab the photo album from the bookcase. She then returned to the living room couch where she pulled out her phone so that she could carefully compare Louis' looks to William's.

Aidan walked over to sit beside her. As he wrapped his arms around her, he asked, "What are you doing?"

She shuffled slightly, annoyed at him. "Behave. This is important."

He only needed one glance at her phone and the photo album to know what she was doing.

After repeated comparisons, she turned to Aidan and said, "Look! Doesn't Louis just look like my dad when he was younger?"

"Yes. Kind of."

She was confused by his answer.

"What do you mean by 'kind of'?" she asked, puzzled.

He took the album from her and languidly flipped through it. "It means all beauty looks the same."

She stared at him in silence.

Was there something wrong with him?

"Of course, I am not like them," he continued.

She was so speechless that she was speechless personified.

"You actually dared to say that to my father's face?" she huffed.

He froze and fell silent.

She snatched the album away from him and grumbled, "Louis doesn't look like Jethro as a young man."

"Have you seen photos of Jethro as a young man?"

After a beat, she eventually replied, "No."

"That solves the mystery."

She was not willing to give up on that train of thought, however. "Don't you think they look really similar in terms of their bone structure and brows? Maybe someone made a mistake with the DNA test..."

"You should not be thinking about that at this time," he said.

She fell for his trap. "Then..."

He placed his hand around the back of her neck and kissed her. "If you want another child, you need to make a move."

Before she could even make a sound, she was carried into the bedroom.

The rain continued to drizzle outside. Sometime during the night, it grew into a storm.

As drops of rain smashed against the windowpane, the air within the room grew warmer as moans filled the air.

As he kissed her fingers, his gaze wandered over her arms.

There was a spot on her arm that was different.

It seemed to be hiding injection marks.

He slowed down and softly asked, "What's happened here?"

As she caught her breath, she turned to look at the spot at which he was staring. The haze in her mind instantly vanished and she nonchalantly replied, "It's from mosquito bites."

"Is this what mosquito bites look like?"

"Yes. It's the really tiny kind. It's all because you planted so many flowers at the studio. We are drowning in them during the summer."

She thought her excuse was perfect.

He stared at her, stunned.

After a few moments of silence, he leaned down to kiss her brow and slowly repeated, "It's all my fault."

The tone in his voice made her wonder if she had gone overboard. After all, the flowers were nice to look at.

Furthermore, it was just an excuse she made up.

"Well... It's not that bad. They can't get in through the mosquito netting. I just... I accidentally left it open..." she stammered.

"Good on you for your self-reflection," he remarked.

She was rendered speechless.

Give him an inch and he will take a mile.

. . .

When Leanna fell asleep, Aidan tucked her in before walking over to the balcony.

He pulled out his phone and looked at the paternity test Jonathan sent him a few weeks ago.

His dark eyes narrowed in thought as he stared at the report.

After a while, he put it away and headed back inside.

Halfway through the night, Leanna sensed a cooling sensation on her arm. She even smelled the faint scent of herbs in the air.

She opened her eyes and turned to the man sitting beside the bed. As she resisted the urge to fall back to sleep, she asked, "What are you doing?"

"You said you were bitten by mosquitoes, right? Don't scratch at the spot and use this instead. Bring it to the office tomorrow. It's also a repellant," he softly replied.

She froze as all thoughts of sleep fled her mind.

He put down the herbal balm in his hand and turned off the light before laying down beside her. He then pulled her into an embrace. "Let's go back to sleep."

She spent a few minutes in silence with her head on his chest. Then, she softly called out, "Aidan."

"Hm?"

"If... Would you hate me if I am unable to bear you any children in the future?"

"That doesn't matter. Anyway, we already have a son," he answered, wrapping his arms around her.

"What if we don't even have a single child together? Would you divorce me?" she asked.

"He already exists. This hypothesis is baseless."

She fell silent.

Could he not even reassure her with a few words of love?

B*stard.

As she turned over to go back to sleep, he continued, "I recall telling you that I never liked children much. I only like you."

She smiled. "If my memory serves me right, you said you hated children. Why has it turned into 'not liking them much'?"

"Did I say that?"

"Yes!" she insisted. "Tell me. What is with the sudden change in attitude?" "Well, it's because he's your son," he slowly explained.

Her smile widened as the gloomy thoughts in her mind were chased away.

"Okay. I know that now. Let's sleep," she said, closing her eyes.

"Is that it?" he asked.

"What else?"

"What about my reward?"

Once more, she was at a loss for words.

Her eyes snapped open. "Did you just say all that to make me happy?"

"No. I was being honest," he replied. "Still, that's a different matter."

She pouted.

Whatever.

He did cheer her up.

In order to sleep early, she raised her head to peck him on the lips. "There."

"Where's the effort?"

"Don't go overboard. Sleep already. We have an early start in the morning," she grumbled.

"Are you filming tomorrow?" he asked.

She hummed. "We're filming the outdoor scenes tomorrow."

"It's still raining."

"We'll check on the weather tomorrow morning. If the rain doesn't stop, we'll postpone the shoot."

She was so tired that her last words ended in a yawn.

It was hard enough for her to keep her eyes open.

He ruffled her hair before saying, "Very well. Sleep then."

"Good night," she whispered.

"Good night."

The rain continued to fall outside their window.

For the whole night, the rain did not stop.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 773-The next morning, the rain had stopped. But since it had been raining all day and night, they couldn't use the set anymore.

So, they had to postpone the shoot and redecorate the set.

When Leanna arrived at the studio, she realized Aidan had sneakily placed the cream in her bag without her knowing.

She took it out and unscrewed the cap before taking a sniff and placing it by the window.

The scent of the flowers after the rain with the refreshing scent of the cream calmed her down and she had a wonderful morning.

In the afternoon, Zoe entered and told her, "Nana, I've edited a few photos and sent them to you. Pick one and we'll post the outline as a teaser."

Leanna placed her pencil down. "Okay. I'll take a look now."

As she was looking through them, Zoe asked, "Nana, what's this smell? It smells amazing."

Leanna looked at the cream beside her and smiled. "Mosquito repellent."

"Mosquito repellent?" Zoe looked around. "Are there mosquitos here?"

"Bugs fly in through the window sometimes. It's fine."

Zoe released a relieved sigh. "That's good. I had been thinking about this problem earlier, but I'd never noticed that there were mosquitoes in the office. Oops."

Leanna then said, "There are quite a lot of bugs outside, but the screen window is also closed. If it's open, I'll probably be carried away by now."

Eventually, she selected a photo and added, "This one."

Daphne's face could be seen clearly while Louis only had a side profile. It was perfect.

Then, Zoe got up and said, "Okay. I'll work on it."

"Zoe," Leanna called out to her.

She turned her head around. "What's up?"

Then, after a short pause, Leanna inquired, "Are the pictures from yesterday processed?"

"Some of them. They're in my office. Shall I bring them over to you later?"

Leanna declined her offer and answered, "It's alright. I'll come with you."

Then, she grabbed something from her bag before leaving with Zoe.

There were many photos hung up on Zoe's office wall, some of which were taken yesterday.

Leanna took down a photo of Louis and stared at it silently.

Zoe approached her and asked, "Nana, what's on your mind?"

She looked up and hummed an instinctive response.

Zoe probed further, "You've been acting weird since yesterday. Is there a problem with Louis' photo?"

Leanna shook her head. "It's not the photo."

"Then..."

"I suddenly realized that Louis... looks a lot like my father when he was younger."

Zoe was stunned and exclaimed, "Really?"

Leanna pursed her lips lightly and took out the photo in her hand and placed it beside Louis' before telling Zoe, "Look at this."

Zoe took the photo from her and frowned deeply. As she scrutinized both images, her eyes gradually widened. "F*ck! They're so alike. I knew it! Louis can't be Jethro's son. He's probably your half-brother!"

Leanna went silent for a while. "Even you feel the same. Aidan said there wasn't a significant difference when I showed him this last night."

Zoe then asked the same question Leanna had. "What does he even mean by that?"

She answered in exasperation, "He said good-looking people all look the same."

Zoe was speechless by Aidan's response. Then, she refuted, "That can't be. Louis' eyes and his features look similar to your dad's."

She proceeded to continue with her analysis. "But I think President Pearson may be right. Good- looking people do have similarities. Besides, this photo of your father is at least 20 years old. We can't use this as proof of our suspicions."

On the other end, Leanna sighed silently. Zoe's words made sense. Some people looked alike despite not being related by blood. Still, for this coincidence to fall on William and Louis...

Then again, Aidan had done a DNA paternity test to clarify this matter. Besides, he had no reason to hide this from her.

After a while, Zoe said, "Why don't you send both your and Louis' pictures to your father? I'm sure he has a better idea."

Leanna replied, "I was thinking that too. But...what if this isn't true. You know what my dad feels about Louis because of Jethro. That's why I want to wait for solid evidence before telling him about this."

Zoe nodded agreeably. "Yea. We should do that. We shouldn't rush such an important matter. Then... What do you have in mind now?"

She answered, "I want them to do another DNA test."

"It's simple enough to get a DNA sample from Louis, but your dad is in Lachstein. That's far from easy.

Also, you can't let him find out about this. This is going to be challenging."

Leanna lowered her head. "Yeah. I'm still thinking over my options right now."

After a moment of silence, Zoe suggested hesitantly, "Maybe...you can ask Daniel. He may know what to do. When you returned to the Crossley Residence, he asked me about Louis. I guess he has some suspicions regarding this matter as well."

Leanna then retorted, "But he's still in the hospital. I'm certain he can't return to Lachstein so soon, especially with his severe injury. Even if he arranged for his people to do this, they wouldn't be able to easily get ahold of William's DNA too."

"Then... Elijah? I remember that he's one of your father's men."

Leanna fell silent. "I don't want to ask him for help."

Even though Leanna didn't want to go into detail about what happened that night, Zoe understood her concerns. Elijah had pursued Leanna for a long time, so he probably still had feelings for her.

It was better to keep her distance from him and avoid contacting him just in case.

Then, Leanna murmured, "I'll think of something. Such a long time has passed, we can wait a few more days. Besides, my dad may return to Highside soon. It'll be easier to make them take the DNA test then."

Zoe nodded. "I guess all we can do now is wait."

Leanna picked up the photos and mulled over it. "Zoe, I'm going out later. Call me if anything happens."

Zoe replied, "Okay."

Then, she asked casually, "Where are you going?"

Leanna was silent for a few breaths, but the words couldn't escape her mouth. She wanted to visit Daniel at the hospital. Firstly, to see how he was recovering. Then, she recalled what Elijah had said. Even though she didn't believe him, she still wanted to prove Aidan's innocence. She couldn't let Elijah accuse him like that.

Zoe noticed the look on her face and immediately caught on. So, she didn't pursue the matter further and merely replied, "Okay."

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 774-On the way to the hospital, Leanna bought some fruits and nutrient supplements as a visiting gift.

When she arrived at the ward, the doctor was changing Daniel's bandage.

So, she sat on the chair by the door to wait.

After a while, Elijah walked over. "Leanna."

She smiled lightly at him before asking, "Don't you have work today?"

"I'm about to."

Then, Elijah paused for a second before saying, "That night... I spoke without thinking. I'm sorry."

Leanna replied, "You don't need to apologize to me. Just like you said, if Aidan is falsely accused, you should just apologize to him."

Elijah's face stiffened and didn't speak, but his gaze landed on the ring on her hand.

After a moment, he asked bitterly, "He proposed to you?"

Leanna nodded. "We've been married for a month."

He replied, "Congratulations."

She answered, "Thank you."

At that moment, the doctor was done and walked out, continuing with their rounds for the hour.

Elijah then said, "Leanna, I'll be heading off now."

"Alright."

After he left, she carried the gifts and entered the ward.

Daniel sat on the hospital bed with a pale face, but he looked a lot better than before.

When he saw her, he politely greeted her, "Miss McKinney."

Then, Leanna placed the bags down. "I just wanted to see how you're recovering."

Daniel laughed. "I'm alright. Still alive."

"The doctor said you shouldn't move around too often. So, call me if you need anything."

He pursed his lips and wanted to ask something, but he couldn't bring himself to say the words.

Leanna understood what was on his mind and sat on the chair beside the bed. "You wanted to ask about Zoe, right? She's doing alright."

"The baby. How did it happen? Can you tell me the details, Miss McKinney?"

Leanna only roughly told him what happened last time when they were rushing to the hospital. So, that was the only thing on his mind as he lay in the hospital these few days.

So, Leanna recounted the story in detail of how Charlotte was taken away by Joseph, but Zoe followed after them because she was worried. She also told him how Zoe has been doing after the baby was lost.

After he listened to the story, his voice turned icy, "Where is Joseph now?"

"He's dead." Leanna paused for a moment before saying, "He's probably dead because no one has found his body until now."

Daniel asked, "He died in Jamesdon?"

She nodded. "Yes."

"I see."

After a while, Leanna spoke, "I came today for one more thing."

Daniel replied, "Be my guest, Mc McKinney. I'll tell you everything I know."

"From Leroy's men finding you and taking you away and how you escaped from their hands. And... Amanda taking you away. I want to know everything."

Daniel didn't understand why she wanted to know about the entire incident. "Why are you asking about this, Miss McKinney?"

Leanna told him honestly, "I don't know why, but Elijah is suspecting this has to do with Aidan."

"But... Elijah had always been somewhat hostile toward President Pearson. You should be aware of that."

"Yes, I know. But since he has this suspicion, I can't let it slide without proving Aidan's innocence. What if someone else brings this up again and puts the blame on Aidan? Besides... if Amanda disappeared in Highside, I may have a way to find her."

Daniel paused for a moment before demanding, "Is that true, Miss McKinney?"

Leanna nodded. "Yes. I have my ways."

Daniel fell silent for a moment before slowly revealing his side of the story.

The truth was similar to their assumptions, but it was just that from Daniel's narration, there were more details that Leanna didn't know.

It was revealed that it wasn't only John who had contacted Leroy.

Nonetheless, neither John nor Leroy had mentioned that person's name, but it seemed highly likely that that person was the mastermind behind everything from the way they talked about that person.

Leroy was also rescued and hidden away by that person.

When they arrived at Highside, they didn't pay a lot of attention to Daniel since he was severely injured.

That was why Daniel managed to escape.

Alas, before he managed to contact Elijah, he bumped into Amanda, who put him on drugs, forcing him to be her captive.

She was smart and knew where to hide since many people were looking for her.

Even if the people searched every possible corner of the world for Daniel, they would never consider going to his home.

At least, Daniel had never expected Zoe would suddenly visit his house.

As the story came to this point, Leanna guessed, "If I'm right, she wanted to attack Zoe right then."

Daniel didn't deny it. "Her target has always been me. Plus, she didn't want to make things tricky for herself."

Daniel had always felt guilty toward Amanda because of Franco's passing.

He could let her hurt him but never allow her to hurt others.

Amanda was very well aware of that fact as well, so she didn't proceed with her plans the moment Daniel came out to stop her.

In addition, Amanda knew what Zoe would think since she was a woman herself. Zoe would definitely assume Amanda and Daniel were doing something in the bedroom.

A woman would become irrational the instant she arrived at that conclusion.

But since Daniel's whereabouts were exposed, they couldn't stay hidden for long.

So, Amanda left with Daniel as soon as Zoe departed.

During this time, Amanda had been on the run just to avoid Daniel's men.

Then, Daniel said, "This is the first time Amanda came to Highside. Considering her familiarity with Highside, she wouldn't be able to do this alone at all. So, we've got no lead on this. Elijah was merely making assumptions out of worry. Please don't overthink this, Miss McKinney." Leanna questioned him instead, "You're right. She can't possibly do this successfully without help. So, someone in Highside is helping her in secret. This person can even avoid Elijah and the others. But have you ever thought about how Amanda could find you at the first moment?"

Daniel didn't really understand where this was leading. "You mean..."

"I have a hypothesis. Is it possible that Leroy had made some sort of pact with Amanda? That's why you could escape from Leroy's hands. She was helping them with something, and they handed you over to her once you were useless."

Daniel furrowed his brow upon hearing her speculation and didn't speak.

Leanna continued, "I heard Elijah mention that Amanda's a great doctor and she's also a doctor with rather loose morals. She has several dealings with shady figures."

"As long as she's still in Highside, I can find her. Once we do, we can prove if my hypothesis is correct."

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 775-After Leanna departed from the hospital, she keyed in a specific address into the navigation system and headed there without delay. It was the address Ron gave her when he left. At that time, he told her she could find him at this address if she needed his help.

Half an hour later, the car stopped outside an alley. However, Leanna couldn't drive in because it was far too narrow for her vehicle. Hence, she had no choice but to park the car on the roadside.

Although it was daytime, several hooligans were roaming about and smoking cigarettes in the alley. The moment they laid their eyes on Leanna, they started catcalling.

Meanwhile, on both sides of the alley stood a few scantily clad women with heavy makeup and cigarettes in their hands.

One could clearly picture what this alley would look like at night.

Leanna walked a few steps before a woman called out with a smile, "Pretty girl, are you trying to look for a job?"

Leanna paused slightly upon hearing the words that just escaped the woman's lips. Then, she turned around and approached the woman.

The woman grinned like a Cheshire cat when she saw Leanna walking towards her. "If that's the case, then I am precisely the person you should seek. I can help you find and secure any jobs you want. Judging from your beautiful looks, you will definitely—"

"I want to ask you about someone," Leanna interrupted.

The smug grin on the woman's face faded a little at Leanna's questioning. Her attitude wasn't as enthusiastic as before, and she simply responded awkwardly, "So, you are looking for someone..."

Leanna rummaged through her bag, took out a necklace, and said, "This is for you."

The woman's smile resurfaced when she looked at the seemingly valuable and exquisitely packaged necklace. "Oh, dear me. It's just an inquiry about someone. Sure, I can help you with that. After all, I know everyone on this street. Whom would you like to inquire about?" she asked.

"Ron Sedley," answered Leanna.

The grin on the woman's face disappeared and was replaced by a slightly wary look when she heard the name that fell from Leanna's lips. "What business do you have with him?"

"He asked me to come here to find him if I need anything," Leanna explained.

"What's your name?"

"Leanna McKinney."

"Wait here for a moment," the woman requested before turning around and heading into the house.

"Sure."

Then, the woman swiftly took out her phone and dialed a number. She told the other party what

happened in the alley and quickly she received a reply from the other end of the phone, "I have never heard of this name."

"Judging from her rather beautiful appearance and how she dresses like a rich lady, I doubt that she's here to look for trouble."

The person on the other end of the phone went silent for a few seconds before saying, "Mr. Ron is in the underground casino, so you may take her there."

As for Leanna, who stood and waited at the door for a few minutes, she was quietly studying her surroundings.

The woman came out a moment later, and around her neck was the very necklace Leanna had given her earlier.

Finally, she wasted no time in saying, "Come. I'll take you to Ron."

While they were on their way to the underground casino, the woman asked Leanna, "Pretty girl, what is your relationship with Ron?"

"We are friends," replied Leanna.

The woman was obviously a little surprised by her answer. "He has friends like you?!"

Leanna merely smiled and said nothing upon hearing her shocked exclamation.

Now that the woman discovered Leanna and Ron were friends, her curiosity about Leanna

skyrocketed. Therefore, she probed further, "What do you do for a living?"

"I'm a designer."

"What's the brand of the necklace you gave me just now? It's quite pretty. It has to be expensive, right?"

"I was the one who designed that necklace, so it's not that pricey." Leanna chuckled lightly.

An unconcealed admiration glimmered in the woman's eyes as she said, "Wow. You're amazing! I am quite fond of the style of your design. Can I buy some accessories from you in the future?"

Leanna immediately took out a business card from her bag and handed it to the woman. "Of course, you can. This is my studio's address. You can look for me here if you need any accessories."

The woman took the business card and read the name of Leanna's studio, "Starry Night'... That's a nice name."

Soon, Leanna followed the woman into an underground casino. The atmosphere in the casino was boisterous and the air was smoky as the scent of nicotine was terribly pungent.

After the woman and Leanna entered, two men whistled at them. "Martha, here for business today?"

The woman, who was named Martha, waved her hand and reprimanded, "Shut the f*ck up! This pretty girl is Mr. Ron's friend. Are you two trying to court death?"

After the two men heard what Martha said, the smirks on their faces instantly vanished, and they never

spoke another word.

Meanwhile, on the largest table in the casino sat Ron. The scar on his face was startling, which caused him to exude appalling yet terrifying vibes.

After Martha whispered something to a man, who was standing to the side, he merely glanced at them before informing Martha and Leanna to wait on the spot for a moment. Then, he walked up to Ron and whispered something to him.

Ron furrowed his brows a little before he looked up. Unfortunately, his vision was filled with a tight cluster of people.

So, he tilted his head, and gave a few instructions to his subordinate, who swiftly nodded and left.

The man walked up to Leanna and Martha and said to Leanna, "Miss McKinney, I will take you to the lounge. Mr. Ron will come right over."

"Okay," Leanna murmured agreeably.

Just as she had taken two steps, the man blocked Martha, who was just about to follow. "You may return."

Martha pursed her lips but stopped in her tracks and then went to join the gambling party.

The man took Leanna to the lounge. Before he left the lounge, he attentively brought her another bottle of water.

If truth be told, the room was more like a utility room than a lounge. The light was dim, and a damp smell lingered in the air in the room.

Nevertheless, it was still far better than the crowded gambling den despite its poor environment.

Leanna took out her phone and discovered that Zoe had sent her a message 20 minutes ago, asking her when she would be returning. As she didn't want to worry Zoe, she hastily replied, informing Zoe that she had some business to attend to and would only be home after an hour or two.

As soon as she sent the message, the door of the lounge creaked open.

Ron sauntered in while he waved his hand, trying to get rid of the odor in the room. "The environment in this room is pretty awful. Shall we have a chat outside?"

"It's fine. Let's just talk here," Leanna said since it was really troublesome and a waste of time to move from this room to another one.

Ron sat across from her. "Speak. I'm listening."

She stated her purpose for coming here without further ado. "I'm looking for someone, but she is intelligent and often wanders around various shady places. I can't locate her through legal means."

He effortlessly grasped what she meant. "Do you have any photos?"

Leanna shook her head. "No, I don't, but she is a foreign national. She has just arrived in Highside recently. Moreover, she is medically skilled. So, her appearance might coincide with obstructive situations."

Ron furrowed his brows slightly at her description. "A foreign woman who is medically skilled?"

"Yes. Have you heard of her?"

"Someone did inform me about a foreign woman showing up in various casinos and winning a lot of money a few days ago. Even so, I still have to ask around to confirm if that woman is the person you are searching for."

"Her name is Amanda. Please contact me if you have any information," requested Leanna rather urgently.

Ron gave her a number. "This is my current number. Just call this number if you need anything. You don't have to come here to look for me again."

Leanna was startled by his actions. Shortly after, she understood what he was implying, so she smiled slightly as she expressed her gratitude. "Thank you." Then, she swiped off the dust on her skirt as she rose to her feet. "I shall leave first, then."

"Let me see you off. After all, this place can get quite... rambunctious," Ron offered to escort her.

"Sure."

After she followed Ron out of the underground casino, she could almost immediately tell that the air was a lot fresher.

Those hooligans that were eyeing her earlier scattered the moment they caught sight that she was

being accompanied by Ron.

It was as though they were afraid that Ron would pick on them.

When they got to Leanna's car, Ron drawled, "I will look into the woman and pass you any information I have about her tomorrow at the latest. Are you trying... to find out her whereabouts? Or are you trying to get to her?"

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 776-The sky was already dark after Leanna returned from the underground casino.

Zoe came to Leanna with the processed film sketch. After they confirmed the release time and content copy, she detected the smell of cigarettes on Leanna's body. Therefore, she blurted, "Nana, where did you go?"

"I went to look for Ron," Leanna promptly replied.

"Ron?"

Leanna nodded lightly, "I asked him to find someone for me."

Zoe felt her heart flutter in fear as she expressed her concern. "The place Ron hangs around is rowdy. Do you not feel scared going there unprepared?"

Leanna smiled a little before saying, "I'm not afraid, for I grew up in a rowdy neighborhood when I was young." The place my family and I lived in the past, along with the nearby streets around the neighborhood, were all similar to the alley I visited today. Back then, I would inevitably pass by such an alley every time I came home from school. I was teased by the women on the street and threatened by gangsters multiple times. Yet, the women who teased me would scold and drive the drunkards away from me when they saw those good-fornothing making things difficult for me. Those gangsters who threatened me would also push me home in a small cart when they noticed that my leg was fractured. It was only after I was in junior high that the area was no longer rowdy. Hence, I know very well that no one would be willing to live there for a long time if they weren't beaten down by reality.

Zoe changed the topic instead of dwelling on the matter further, saying, "I've checked the weather

forecast for tomorrow. It is reported that tomorrow will be a sunny day. Our film shooting will certainly turn out well."

"I'm not going tomorrow. I have to go home early in the evening to make dinner. Freddie has been nagging me about it for many days. Come over with Daphne after you guys wrap up the shooting. Just call me if something happens," Leanna informed.

"Okay." Zoe paused before she continued, "Then... shall we ask Louis to join us?"

Leanna went silent before deciding. "Let's just leave him out this time." Judging from the current situation between Louis and Daphne, it's better not to let them meet and hang out together on such an occasion. After all, their personal lives are something private. So, they should be the ones dealing with this matter, not us.

"Have you gotten in touch with the models?" Leanna asked, directing her attention to their jobs.

Zoe promptly replied, "Yes, yes. I have already contacted the two backup models. Everything will absolutely go according to plan this time."

Right then, there was a knock on the door of the office. A young female employee in the studio appeared and said, "Zoe, your boyfriend is here to pick you up."

The smile on Zoe's face faded away. After that, she turned her head and instructed, "Okay. Ask him to wait outside for a while."

The young female employee nodded and shut the door before leaving.

Meanwhile, Leanna flipped through the draft in front of her. "Alright. It's getting late. Go on and have your dinner."

"How about you? When will you return home?" Zoe inquired.

Leanna discretely sniffed herself and thought, The smell of cigarettes is indeed pungent. Aidan certainly will interrogate me when he comes home and gets a whiff of this smell.

Therefore, she said, "I will go home after revising this draft."

"Sure," said Zoe. "Then, I'll be leaving now. Bye."

Leanna gave her a nod. "Okay. Bye."

Zoe left the studio after returning to her office to grab her bag.

Not far away stood Brandon, who was waiting with a bouquet in his hand.

Zoe approached him. "Sorry for keeping you waiting. I've just finished my work."

Brandon smiled. "It's okay."

As he spoke, he handed her the bouquet in his hand. "For you."

Zoe was stunned. For a moment, she made no move to accept the bouquet and asked hesitantly, "Is today a special day?"

"No, no. It's just that I came across this bouquet while I was on my way here. I thought it looked quite pretty and that you would like it. But of course, it is also a token of apology," Brandon explained.

Zoe was puzzled. "Apology?"

"I'm sorry for not being able to come to pick you up because I worked overtime last night," Brandon elaborated.

Zoe simply smiled. "Well, actually, I was also working overtime for the shooting yesterday. Moreover, I wasn't in the studio. It was fortunate that you didn't come yesterday. Otherwise, you would have made your trip for nothing."

As soon as these words escaped Zoe's lips, neither of them continued, resulting in a moment of silence as awkwardness tainted the air.

After a while, Zoe reached out, accepted the bouquet, and broke the ice. "Thank you. They're lovely. I love them."

Brandon said, "I'm glad you like it."

Zoe started walking as she asked, "What are we having for dinner today?"

"My friend recommended a restaurant that serves authentic Jesund cuisine. From what I heard, their food tastes delicious, and the ingredients they use in the restaurant are imported directly from Jesund. Shall we go and try out their food?"

"Will the bill turn out to be bloody expensive?" Zoe was worried that it would blow a hole in Brandon's wallet. After all, Brandon was just an employee in a government-owned corporation, and his salary wasn't that high even though his job was stable.

Zoe was already very apologetic that Brandon had been paying for all their meals while they hung out together.

For that reason, she hinted to Brandon that they could take turns paying and treating each other.

Yet, Brandon dismissed her proposal, saying that it was just a meal and would not be pricey.

Zoe didn't say anything more after sensing his determination to foot the bill. Eventually, she figured that all she could do was repay him with some gifts of similar expense.

Still, there was one thing that Zoe was sure of after learning that the ingredients were airlifted from Jesund, and that was—the meal would undoubtedly cost more than a few hundred if they decided to dine there.

"It's fine. My friend is a regular there. So, I can get a discount," Brandon persuaded.

Zoe had no choice but to nod after his insistence. "Okay. Let's go there then." We will just go Dutch if we truly can't get a discount later.

Once they arrived at the restaurant serving Jesund cuisine that Brandon mentioned, Zoe placed the bouquet in her hand down and said, "Just order without me. I'm going to the bathroom."

"Sure," replied Brandon.

Right after Zoe came out of the bathroom stall, she spotted a woman reapplying her lipstick.

The woman was wearing a tight wine-red dress. Her hair was wavy, and her makeup was flamboyant and heavy.

Zoe smiled politely at her upon accidentally making eye contact with the woman.

However, the woman simply snorted, kept her lipstick, and flounced away.

This left Zoe utterly speechless. What the hell is wrong with that woman? I can't believe she's actually more distasteful than Maya.

While she returned to her table, she sent a voice message to Leanna. '... She actually snorted at me! This is the first time I have encountered someone who

is ruder and more disgusting than Maya. I swear I won't speak ill of Maya ever again!'

Zoe almost arrived at her table as soon as she sent out that voice message.

After she took her seat, Brandon's voice sounded, "I've ordered the food. What would you like to drink?"

Zoe ordered a cold beverage, and the waiter left after taking her order.

Brandon took the initiative to start the conversation. "You told me earlier that your studio is planning to find a brand ambassador. Were you shooting an endorsement commercial yesterday?"

Zoe nodded. "Yes. Initially, we were going to continue shooting today, but we postponed it to tomorrow because of the rain."

"In that case, will you be free to-"

Suddenly, a figure showed up and stood beside them, stopping Brandon from finishing his sentence.

Zoe looked up and saw it was the woman she encountered in the bathroom just now.

As for Brandon, his facial expression turned completely ghastly when he saw the woman.

On the contrary, the woman smiled and said to Brandon, "So, this is your girlfriend?"

One could tell that there was a hint of disdain and sarcasm in her words.

Brandon's voice turned slightly dark as he demanded, "What do you want?"

"Oh, nothing—" the woman replied as she took out a pen from her bag, "—you left this at my home last night."

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 777-After she said that, the dining table slipped into an eerie silence, and Brandon's expression fell and turned stiff at a speed visible to the eyes. Then, the woman glanced at Zoe, her smile and eyes tinged with provocation before she twirled and left. When she was gone, Brandon stammered, "Zoe—"

Zoe had a smile on her face as she asked, "Is she your friend?"

Brandon picked up the glass and took a sip of water to ease his nervousness and awkwardness. "Don't get the wrong idea. Yesterday, I merely went to her place to pass something to her and dropped the pen there without realizing it. Nothing happened between us," he explained.

She picked up her cutlery and said, "It's fine. I understand. Let's eat."

His mouth opened, and he wanted to say something, but when he saw that she didn't seem interested, he shut his mouth and didn't bother explaining himself further. As a result, the atmosphere between them turned rather stifling. Suddenly, his phone started ringing just as they had left the establishment. When he checked the incoming number, he furrowed his brows together tightly and tossed his cell phone into his pocket. "Zoe, let me drop you home," he offered.

Right after he said that, the woman appeared in a spot not far off from them with her cell phone in her hand, as though she was making a call, and the phone in Brandon's pocket continued to vibrate.

Zoe glanced at him. "You seem rather busy, so I won't hold you up any longer. I'm leaving now. Bye."

"Zoe." She had just taken a step when Brandon grabbed her arm and said, "I'm sorry about what happened today. I..."

She turned to him, catching sight of his visibly hesitant face, and said gently, "Don't worry, I won't tell your parents about this."

Finally, he breathed a sigh of relief at her promise and released her arm. "I'll take care of this and give you an answer."

She merely smiled and waved at him before stopping a cab and leaving. When she was in the cab, she saw him walking toward that woman, who had a gleeful smile on her face. Then, she rolled her eyes and sighed, looking away.

Although she had an idea that Brandon didn't make a clean break with his exgirlfriend, her own relationship was also an utter mess. Frankly, they were in the same boat, getting together to please their parents. So, she truly couldn't be bothered about Brandon's affairs. Unfortunately, based on the situation today, it was clear that his ex-girlfriend wanted to eat in this restaurant, and—whether it was to commemorate their deceased relationship or to make up for his regret—he actually brought her here. Honestly, his actions had crossed a line. Even though she could accept that they were slowly getting to know each other and had no feelings for one another, she couldn't accept that he was treating her as a substitute while keeping her in the dark. The bottom line here was that she found his actions repulsive and offensive.

Back at home, she bought a big bucket of spicy buffalo wings from a street vendor to let off some steam. She initially wanted to invite Leanna for supper and drinks, but just before knocking on Leanna's door, she recalled Aidan's expressionless face and decided not to disrupt their alone time.

Alas, the consequence of eating wings and drinking alone was contracting gastroenteritis in the middle

of the night—diarrhea and vomiting. As she didn't want to delay the shooting tomorrow, she forced herself to get up and called a cab to the hospital.

When the driver asked which hospital she would like to go to, she was already in such agony that she could barely speak, and her mind was hardly functioning. "Whatever. Just get to the nearest hospital..."

Soon after, the cab stopped in front of a hospital. Zoe raised her head and took a look. Regrettably, the moment she did, she felt more sweat breaking out on her forehead. Then, she said with a pale-stricken face, "Sir, please drop me at a different hospital."

"You shouldn't be so picky, miss," the driver argued. "Just look at how serious your condition is. You better hurry and go in now."

"[—"

Before she could say anything else, the driver helped her out of the car and into the hospital. Then, he passed her over to a nurse and left like an anonymous hero.

After the nurse asked Zoe about her situation, she hurriedly put her on the drip and advised, "It's way past midnight now. You should call your family over to accompany you."

Alas, Zoe simply waved her hand dismissively. "I'm okay. It's not that serious and I already feel a lot better after the drip." While the nurse was speechless by her careless attitude, she asked, "When will I be done? I still have to go to work tomorrow..."

"It will take about four to five hours. I think you should be all done in the morning. But judging from your current condition, it would be better to ask for a day's leave," the nurse suggested.

"Never mind. The details of my job have been in the works for quite some time, and I can't back out on this due to poor health. If I—" As she spoke, regret overwhelmed her, and she trailed off mid-sentence. "Thank you, miss. Please go on with your work. I'll be fine by myself here."

The nurse nodded. "Just call me if you need anything."

"Okay."

After the nurse left, Zoe let out a long, weary sigh while leaning into the chair. If the shooting tomorrow was delayed because of her, she would really try her best to turn back time just to kick herself in the face.

She looked around the hospital and saw that several patients had already left the treatment ward. She also quickly noticed that the inpatient department wasn't nearby. Hence, the chance of running into Daniel was only 0.1 percent. But in reality, the possibility is zero, she thought and composed her racing heart.

After she allowed her mind to wander for a bit, she stared at the IV bag above her head, tolerated the numbing pain, and slowly closed her eyes to rest. A few minutes later, the effects of the drug started to spread, and she felt her whole body relaxing. Still, before she dozed off, she did some quick math, estimating the time needed in order she could return to her apartment on time, whisked out her phone, and set an alarm for every half an hour before shutting her eyes.

Zoe gradually felt herself becoming drowsy due to the drug administered to treat her ailment. Although she wasn't all there, she could still vaguely sense someone sitting next to her and something covering her body a moment later. She furrowed her brow slightly, snuggled into the blanket, and tilted her head

to one side.

However, a hand caught her head and gently shifted it to another side. Then, she leaned against a man's broad shoulder. Perhaps it was because she had been tormented by her illness the entire night, she fell into a deep slumber this time and was only awakened by the nurse instead of her alarm.

Her eyes flew open, and she looked around sleepily as the nurse's voice echoed into her ears, "You're all done. If you don't feel unwell anywhere else, you can go home now."

Zoe finally gathered her thoughts together and yawned. "Thanks."

"You're welcome. Keep your meals light for the next couple of days. Avoid spicy and oily food as well as alcohol. This is your medicine, and you should take one pill whenever your stomach feels uneasy," the nurse said sternly.

Zoe nodded. "Got it."

By the time she walked outside the hospital, she stretched out her limbs and sore neck as she admired the sun that was rising in the distance. After she walked a few steps, it suddenly dawned upon her that her alarm hadn't gone off during her stay in the hospital. Thus, she hastily fished out her phone and was even more confused to find that her alarm had been turned off.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 778-Zoe felt a lingering sense of confusion as she made her way back home. She clearly remembered setting the alarm and ensuring it was properly set before going to bed. She truly could not recall turning it off at any point during the night.

As she stepped out of the elevator, she coincidentally locked eyes with Leanna, who was on her way to the grocery store. Leanna inquired as she was quite surprised to see Zoe, "Hey Zoe, where did you go so early this morning?"

Zoe wanted to downplay the situation, so she nonchalantly shifted her body as if she had just finished an invigorating workout. She responded with a casual tone, "Oh, I was just out for a morning run. Got a bit sweaty, you know? I should hit the shower soon." She wanted to prevent her friend from feeling concerned.

Unfortunately for her, Leanna seemed to notice something on Zoe's sleeve. So, she grabbed onto Zoe's arm and examined the label closely. "Did you go for a run at the hospital?" At that moment, Zoe realized she had forgotten to remove the incriminating evidence. Thus, she swiftly tore off the small hospital label, crumpled it in her hand, and chuckled sheepishly, "Nah, it's nothing. I had a sudden stomach issue in the middle of the night, so I went to the hospital for a quick check-up. I'm all sorted now. Look at me, I feel super energized."

Leanna furrowed her brow and asked in concern, "What did you eat that gave you gastroenteritis?"

Zoe paused for a moment, considering how to explain the situation. "Well, it's a long story. Remember the woman I mentioned last night? The one I bumped into in the restroom? Turns out she's Brandon's ex-girlfriend."

Zoe proceeded to recount the events of the previous night to Leanna. "I guess you can't mix sushi and BBQ together after all. I mean, I've never had any issues eating BBQ from the place downstairs before."

Leanna scolded Zoe and did not accept her shabby explanation at face value. "You really think this is just about sushi and BBQ? Brandon crossed a line this time. Are you really just going to let it slide and pretend nothing happened?"

Zoe glanced down, speaking softly, "Well, Daniel has already punched him once, and I'm not utterly blameless either. So, maybe it's better to just call it even."

Leanna vehemently disagreed, retorting, "No, those are two different things! You need to confront him and find out the truth. If he continues to have any kind of ambiguous relationship with his ex-girlfriend, you should break up with him as soon as possible. It's not like you can't live without him. And I'm sure Leo and Sheila would be on your side if they found out about this."

"Okay, okay, I know. I'll talk to him after I get through this busy period. But Nana, something strange happened to me at the hospital last night. I clearly remember setting my alarm clock before going to bed, but it was turned off when I woke up this morning. It's honestly giving me the creeps..."

Leanna paused briefly before inquiring, "Which hospital did you go to?"

Zoe's memory was triggered by Leanna's question. "Well... um... but it doesn't seem possible. The infusion and inpatient departments are in different areas. Plus, when I arrived at the hospital, it was already around 2.00AM or 3.00AM. There's no way he could have been wandering around the hospital

at that time."

Leanna seemed to have caught onto something odd and pressed on, "But you mentioned that Daniel had linked your phone number to something when you were pregnant. He would receive a notification as long as you checked in at the hospital."

Leanna's words struck a chord with Zoe, and suddenly the memories came rushing back. It had happened before Daniel left for Lachstein. He was constantly busy and could not spare time to accompany her to the hospital. Yet, he still wanted to ensure her well-being and monitor any potential complications with the baby. So, he secretly set up the notification without informing her. Although she had complained about it at the time, she had actually enjoyed the special attention deep down.

So, someone really was with me last night! It wasn't a dream! Oh, my God! Zoe thought.

Meanwhile, Leanna observed her friend's ever-changing expression, from stunned to bewildered, then to shocked and surprised, and finally settling into a state of utter bafflement. She found it quite amusing. "Why don't you rest at home in the morning? I'll have Freddie handle everything related to the shoot. You can go to the filming location in the afternoon directly."

Although Zoe had no clue about the specifics, she instinctively nodded in agreement. Leanna then entered the password to the apartment and pulled Zoe inside. "Alright, get some rest while I bring you some breakfast."

Zoe sat on the couch and still felt somewhat dazed long after Leanna had left. She could not believe that Daniel had not only stayed by her side throughout the night but also turned off her alarm. Moreover, he left no trace behind when he departed. Was it to prevent any misunderstandings, or was there another reason? Her stomach was no longer aching, but now she had a headache from

pondering over all the confusion.

Before long, Leanna returned with some chicken soup. Initially, she had hoped that Zoe would take a nap after having it, but Zoe's adrenaline was running high, and she was far from being able to sleep. Leanna had already asked Freddie to handle the filming matters with the studio. So, after Zoe finished her breakfast, she and Leanna decided to go grocery shopping.

Inside the supermarket, Zoe pushed the cart while asking, "Hey, Nana, did President Pearson mention anything last night?"

Leanna picked up a bag of seasoning and placed it in the cart, shaking her head in response. "Nope, I went home early last night. By the time he returned, I had already finished washing and hanging up the clothes I changed out of."

"Good to know. By the way, have you heard anything from Ron about that person?"

Leanna paused for a moment before answering, "Sort of, it's about the woman who kidnapped Daniel."

Zoe could not believe how the conversation had veered straight into the topic she was trying to avoid. How did they even get to this point? Nevertheless, since Leanna had already brought it up, Zoe took a momentary pause before continuing, "Why were you looking for her?"

Leanna provided a brief explanation about the situation and then added, "Ron is familiar with certain places and has better knowledge regarding certain specifics than us. If we want to find someone in those areas, he's our best option."

Zoe nodded in agreement but could not help but let out a sigh. "Honestly, I never expected Ron to turn out to be a decent person."

Leanna agreed, saying, "Yeah, he's someone who believes in repaying kindness."

Zoe and Leanna continued their conversation while purchasing a bunch of groceries before heading back home. Once they had stored the groceries in the refrigerator, they made their way to the studio together.

As soon as they arrived, they were approached by a female employee in a hurry. "Hey, Zoe, Leanna, you're finally here!"

Leanna noticed the employee's distressed expression and inquired, "What's going on?"

She hurriedly explained, "About half an hour ago, we had a customer who was being extremely picky. She criticized all our products and even drove other customers with her arrogant attitude away."

Zoe then followed the employee's gaze, and sure enough, she spotted Brandon's ex-girlfriend standing there with a contemptuous look on her face, clutching a necklace in her hand.

As such, Zoe gestured for the employee to leave and approached the woman with a calm demeanor. She locked her eyes with the woman and asked, "Is there a problem?"

The woman met her gaze and smirked condescendingly. "Well, I heard this jewelry store boasted about its unique designs, so I decided to check it out. But everything here is just so ordinary. It's a shame, really. Some people should have the decency to be self-aware and not shamelessly try to snatch things that don't belong to them. It's such an embarrassment, don't you think?"

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 779-Zoe maintained an expressionless gaze as she retorted, "If you're unwell, go to the hospital. Don't try to create a scene here."

However, the woman provocatively threw the necklace on the ground and responded, "You run a business here, yet you seem afraid of your customers finding fault in your designs? If you're so sensitive, you might as well go home and spare us the embarrassment."

Before Zoe could respond, Leanna swiftly approached the woman. She commanded, "Pick up the necklace." Yet, the woman remained unfazed. She met Leanna's intense gaze, crossed her arms, and scoffed, "Who do you think you are? Trying to show off? You're not even worthy—"

Before the woman could complete her sentence, Leanna grabbed a cup and mercilessly splashed the coffee in it onto the woman's face.

"Ahhhhhhh—" The woman screamed frantically, her eyes widening in disbelief as the coffee dripped down from her head. As she trembled with anger, she also instantly became the center of attention for the surrounding customers. "You... you..." Her shock rendered her unable to form a complete sentence.

Nevertheless, Leanna maintained her composure in the face of the enraged woman and calmly stated, "I repeat. Pick it up."

The woman glanced up, feeling the weight of all eyes upon her. It would be false to say that she wasn't embarrassed. She tightly clutched her belongings in anger and attempted to leave.

Unfortunately, Zoe promptly blocked her path as soon as she took a step. "You made quite a scene

earlier, but now you choose to pretend to be deaf?"

Finally, the woman cursed at Zoe, "Y-You're a motherf*cker! I'm going to take this up to the authorities!"

Nevertheless, Leanna remained calm as she responded nonchalantly, "Sure, I'll be waiting for you, then." The woman tried to leave, but her path was blocked from every direction. She clenched her teeth in frustration, quickly squatted down, picked up the necklace, and threw it onto a nearby counter with a thud. Then, she briskly walked away with her bag.

Leanna turned to the employees behind her. "Clean this up." The employees promptly responded. Some went to fetch a mop while others tried to reassure the customers who had formed a circle around them.

Leanna pulled Zoe into the office, and as soon as they were alone, Leanna inquired, "Was that Brandon's ex?"

Zoe nodded lightly in response. "You bet. I didn't expect to see her here. I'm sorry, Leanna."

However, Leanna wasn't pleased that it was Zoe who apologized. "What are you apologizing to me for? Go and clarify things with Brandon."

Zoe tightly pursed her lips in response to Leanna's mention of the matter. "Okay, I'll do it right away."

Leanna questioned, "Have you figured out what to say, though?"

"[…"

Leanna observed Zoe's hesitation and laid out a plan for her, saying, "Just explain what happened. Someone recorded the incident, so send the video directly to Brandon without any additional comments. Don't waste your time."

Zoe didn't want to waste time arguing with Brandon about the issue either, so she naturally agreed with Leanna's plan. Therefore, she returned to her office, forwarded the video that Leanna had sent her to Brandon without any additional message, and then set her phone aside to focus on her work.

About an hour later, as Zoe was preparing to leave with her photography equipment, Brandon appeared at the entrance. Clearly, he had hurried over since he looked slightly flustered and anxious.

"Zoe, can we talk privately?" he requested.

Zoe briefly glanced at her phone and noticed many missed calls from him. He quickly pleaded with her as she did not seem to show any emotions, "Just give me five minutes, please!"

She handed her belongings to her assistant upon hearing his plea and instructed, "Wait for me in the car."

Once the other staff members had left, Brandon hurriedly continued, "I'm really sorry about what happened today. I never expected her to come looking for you. Zoe, I apologize on her behalf. I—"

Zoe interrupted him and questioned, "No need to apologize. I'm simply wondering how she found out about our studio's address."

His face stiffened at her question, and since he didn't respond, she continued her criticism. "Since

we've been together, you should have met her multiple times. It seems like you shared everything with her."

"Yes..." he stammered and confessed. "We did meet a few times, but it's not what you think."

She shrugged indifferently. "Well, I suppose. It's just hard for you to let go of the past. You felt guilty, so you went to accompany her—sitting together, chatting, having a drink, reminiscing about the past. I understand the pain of unrequited love, but at the very least, you should respect me. I'm not a

substitute for your lost love. By the way, the sushi we had yesterday was God awful."

"Zoe—"

Once again, Zoe bluntly interrupted him, "There's a reason why your parents disapprove of you being with her. Having someone like her at home would definitely create unrest in the family."

Her words seemed to strike a nerve that he frowned. "You don't have to put it so harshly."

She scoffed, "I don't recall your ex saying anything pleasant when she came to my studio."

"That's just how she is. Besides, you didn't suffer any loss. You spilled coffee on her."

Zoe wasn't surprised. She nonchalantly remarked, "She wasted no time complaining to you, it seems."

He responded, "I've already talked to her. I promise she won't come to your studio again. Zoe, please, I —"

"Just leave it at that. I don't want to deal with these senseless people anymore. Let's break up," she

declared.

Brandon clearly didn't anticipate such a reaction from her, and his brows furrowed tightly. "I don't want to." Then he softened his tone, "It was an accident. I promise I won't see her again, and she won't disturb you anymore."

Regardless, Zoe smiled, devoid of any emotion. "Let's part on good terms. You know how we got together in the first place, and now it's clear that we're not compatible."

"Can you give me another chance?" he begged. "Besides, aren't we similar? I don't care about your past or that you're still in contact with your ex, so—"

"So, I shouldn't mind that your ex came to my studio, caused a scene, and insulted me in front of everyone? She even went as far as ruining my friend's design," she reprimanded as she continued where he left off. "I already apologized to you, and I scolded her too. What else do you want me to do? I promise she won't appear in front of you again."

Zoe let out a laugh as if she heard a joke. "The only reason you're reluctant to break up with me is because of your parents, right? Using me as a shield so you can meet her without any pressure. You initially claimed not to mind my past relationships, but it was just a way for you to get an easy out; if you don't mind mine, then I can't mind yours either."

Brandon appeared to have more to say, but Zoe's patience had worn thin. She interrupted him, "Time's up. Although we haven't spent a lot of time in the past months, you're not a terrible person. I genuinely hope we can part ways amicably. I've dealt with my fair share of jerks, and frankly, I'm done. If you

persist in bothering me, I'll simply send that video directly to your parents."

He fell silent instantly, seemingly afraid of his parents discovering his ongoing contact with his ex. Zoe inwardly scoffed, turned around, and swiftly got into the car.

Love Change Of Heart Chapter 780-Meanwhile, at the Crossley Residence, Jonathan handed some documents to Aidan while reporting, "President Pearson, Keaton just called and informed us that someone from the Pearson Family has arrived today."

Aidan did not even bother to raise his head. "I'm not interested." This marked the third time the Pearsons had sent someone to the Residence since his return from Jamesdon. Jonathan hesitated for a moment before continuing, "The person mentioned that Old Master Pearson's health is deteriorating, and he wishes to see you one last time."

Aidan paused flipping through the documents upon hearing this and locked eyes with Jonathan. "So? Will seeing me miraculously restore his health?"

Jonathan knew that Aidan's retort was not directed at him, yet he still felt a tinge of sheepish awkwardness for even bothering him with this matter.

Yet, just as Jonathan was about to leave the room, he heard Aidan give an unexpected order, "Bring the person in."

Jonathan was taken aback by the sudden command, and it took him several seconds to grasp Aidan's intentions. He nodded in response. "Alright."

Ten minutes later, a middle-aged man was escorted into the room. As soon as he laid eyes on Aidan, he began speaking in a pleading voice, "Young Master Aidan..."

Aidan instantly recognized the man. He was one of Gordon's frequent companions, but he had not been seen in many years. It now became apparent that Gordon had left behind a contingency plan.

Nevertheless, Aidan's expression remained unchanged. "No need for formalities. Get straight to the point."

Thud.

The middle-aged man immediately dropped to his knees upon hearing Aidan's words. There were even tears streaming down his cheeks as he implored, "Young Master Aidan, please save Old Master Pearson. He is being imprisoned in the Pearson Family Estate, enduring a fate worse than death!"

"Then, you should have given him a swift and merciful end instead of coming to me."

The middle-aged man sobbed, begging, "I understand he has committed many wrongs against you in the past, but he is still your father. Can you bear to witness him suffer in such agony?"

Aidan replied coldly, "Yes, it's called karma."

"But... but..."

"Enough of the nonsense. Tell me something I want to know."

The man glanced around, hesitating for a moment. Nonetheless, he understood that Aidan had not sought him out solely because of Old Master Pearson. The only logical explanation for Aidan's interest was that he wanted information that he had not yet acquired. After he pondered for some time, he finally said, "I... I once witnessed Mr. Crossley, or more precisely, Leroy, in the backyard of the Pearson Family Estate. He was having a conversation with Young Master Justin about an event that took place

twenty years ago."

Aidan met the man's gaze calmly, showing no signs of emotional disturbance. The man continued saying under immense pressure, "Twenty years ago, the Crossleys went through a major upheaval, and Leroy's success was made possible because Old Master Pearson provided him with assistance."

During that period, the Crossleys were in the public eye, and Lloyd and his wife became the talk of the entire city.

Old Master Pearson's ambitions extended beyond Highside, and he sought to expand his influence elsewhere. Consequently, the Crossley family became an obstacle in his plans. During a social gathering, he had a brief encounter with Leroy and immediately sensed the cunningness and jealousy concealed beneath Leroy's usual demeanor. They did not even need to discuss how to proceed with their scheme; their understanding of each other's character led to tacit cooperation.

Unfortunately, no matter how one analyzed the situation, this incident had a tremendous impact. That was why Old Master Pearson chose not to reveal himself and instead relied on other forces to assist Leroy in executing their plan.

It was perhaps during this time that the retribution began. Old Master Pearson was entirely consumed by the upheaval, unaware of the forces emerging from Jamesdon. As a result, numerous factions converged in Highside, creating a highly chaotic situation.

In the midst of this chaos, Justin became a pawn in the scheme and suffered a car accident. Alas, perhaps out of guilt, Old Master Pearson refrained from investigating the matter, fearing that it would expose his actions during that period.

The Zielinski Family still wielded significant power twenty years ago, and if they had discovered Old Master Pearson's covert involvement with Leroy, it would have spelled doom for the entire Pearson Family. Therefore, he could only treat the incident as an accident and brought Aidan back to the Pearsons. This way, Sienna could direct all her animosity toward Aidan, diverting the Zielinski Family's attention from Justin's accident.

Years later, Leroy successfully replaced Lloyd. Meanwhile, Old Master Pearson lacked the energy and desire to unearth the past due to Justin's car accident and Aidan being increasingly uncontrollable. Furthermore, the Crossley Group was not progressing as rapidly under Leroy as it had under Lloyd. Consequently, Leroy could no longer impede Aidan's path.

Aidan immersed himself in his thoughts, and when he finally glanced up through his lashes, a coldness flickered in his dark eyes. "It appears that he has committed quite a few despicable acts."

"Young Master Aidan, please understand that everything Old Master Pearson did was for the Pearsons' sake. Moreover, even without his involvement, Lloyd would have eventually met his demise at Leroy's hands, given the nature of the Crossley brothers. Old Master Pearson cannot be solely blamed for this matter."

Aidan remained silent, and the man understood that Aidan wanted to know more than what he had said. He clenched his teeth and pressed on, "Young Master Justin should have been aware of all this a long time ago—the truth about his car accident and the Woodleys. He knew far more than we anticipated. That's why he treated Old Master Pearson the way he did."

"Isn't that self-inflicted?" Aidan scoffed, turning to Jonathan. "Escort him out."

"Young Master Aidan!" the middle-aged man exclaimed upon hearing the order. "Even if Old Master

Pearson was at fault, he never intended to harm your child. He always wanted to groom that child as the future heir of the Pearson Family! But some individuals placed their hatred on such a young child, your very own son! Are you truly willing to let it go like this?"

Aidan fixed his cold gaze on the man. It even felt as if the temperature in the entire office dropped several degrees instantaneously. Jonathan's expression shifted subtly, and he urged the man, "Don't make claims without evidence."

"I have evidence! I have evidence!" the man cried out desperately. "When Young Master Justin took the Old Master to Vinland for treatment, they encountered a female doctor. The Old Master overheard them discussing... saying..."

"What did they say?" Aidan interrupted coldly.

"They said the upgraded nutritional injections should have a positive effect. I swear this statement is absolutely true; the Old Master overheard it himself. He also heard the woman asking Young Master Justin if he wanted to keep the remaining injections, but he declined. In the end, she discarded the injections, but Old Master risked his life to retrieve the bottle and kept it with him."

The man continued, his voice filled with urgency, "Young Master Aidan, the bottle is still with the Old Master. If you rescue him, you can obtain this crucial piece of evidence! Once that happens, Young Master Justin will be unable to deny it any longer. Moreover, you can seize this opportunity to regain control of Pearson Group. Old Master Pearson will undoubtedly stand by your side!"

Aidan's expression turned icy cold, and his jaw tightened, but he remained silent throughout the exchange.

The middle-aged man continued to shout, but Jonathan stepped in and pulled him away. From a distance, the man's voice carried on, "Young Master Aidan, you have to consider this carefully. Even if you harbor resentment towards Old Master Pearson, you cannot let this matter slide. That's your son we're talking about! You have to reclaim what rightfully belongs to you!"