

Luna & Joshua 1521

Chapter 1521

The entire hallway fell into silence upon hearing this. Luna clenched her fists.

She lifted her head to glance at Jim, about to say

something, but she could not utter a word. If Joshua had really hurt Mother like this...

She did not dare to think of the consequences, nor was she willing to face this.

Suddenly, the doctors wheeled Rosalyn out of the operation room.

Luna quickly went over to check on her.

The woman who had wanted her to leave the Landry family and return to Joshua's side was at this

moment lying peacefully on the bed, as though she was asleep.

There was even a hint of a smile on Rosalyn's face.

Luna felt as though someone had stabbed her heart with a knife when she saw how Rosalyn looked.

She gritted her teeth and grabbed hold of Rosalyn's hand as she followed the doctors into Rosalyn's

room.

All the way from the operation room to the ward, Luna stared intently at Rosalyn's face, her gaze never

wavering for even a second.

“Mother...” Luna said tearfully as she sat down next to Rosalyn’s bed, still clutching her hand.

If it were not for her, Rosalyn would never have ended up this way. Heather was right. Father was right.

It was all her fault!

Luna initially thought that her return to the Landry family would speed up Rosalyn’s recovery, but she

never knew that she would instead bring disaster to her mother.

Joshua Lynch...

Luna bit her lip and silently chanted this man’s name.

How bold was he to attempt to murder her mother? What did he think she was?

Did he think her love for him was so unconditional that even after killing her mother, she would still

return to his side?

As soon as she thought of this, tears pooled in Luna’s eyes, and she could not keep them from falling

anymore.

Did all her years of unconditional love and forgiveness toward him make him think that she and her

family were of no importance at all?

Behind her, Jim stared at Luna crying while holding onto Rosalyn's hand, and could not help letting out a sigh.

He approached her and gently patted Luna's shoulder in reassurance, then turned and left.

"Where are you going, Jim? " Heather's cold voice rang out as soon as he opened the door. "Are you going to the police station to visit your murderer cousin?"

Jim narrowed his eyes and gave Heather a once-over. He could not feel even an ounce of sadness from almost having lost her mother from this woman.

Not only that, but she even looked gleeful at this moment.

Jim sneered and replied, "Well, there's no telling who's the murderer yet."

He inched closer to Heather, and the domineering aura of his towering presence made Heather take a few steps back.

He forced her up against a corner and said, a sneer playing on his lips. "Don't you know? Joshua had gone to the police station not to admit his crime but to file a police report.

"He's accused you of murdering Mother." The color drained from Heather's face.

She turned her head away in terror and avoided Jim's gaze. "He's talking nonsense! He has no proof at all! "

Jim's expression darkened upon hearing this. "How do you know he has no proof? What if he has?"

Jim lowered his voice and continued, "Heather, even though Mother isn't your birth mother, she still raised you for more than twenty years and treated you as her own.

"You'd better pray that I won't find out it was you who had killed her all along and that you had framed Joshua for murder.

"Otherwise, I will slaughter you alive."

Chapter 1522

Both the look in Jim's eyes and the tone of his voice made Heather feel as though she was about to be eaten alive.

Even though she had deliberately avoided his gaze, she could still feel the hatred and coldness of his stare. She could not help shuddering as she replied, " What—What nonsense are you talking about?

How could I...how could I have...

“Isn’t the evidence of Joshua killing Mother as clear as day? Don’t try to frame me so that your cousin can go scot-free! “

Jim snickered and said, “Well, I hope that’s the case. Otherwise, I can’t even imagine the consequences.”

With that, he let go of her and strode away.

Heather propped herself against the wall and stared intently at Jim’s retreating figure.

It was only after he had entered the elevator that Heather let out a sigh of relief and slid down onto the floor feebly.

Her heart thumped in her chest.

Even though she had devised plans of killing other people with Aura in the past, whether it was Luna six years ago or Granny Lynch not long ago...

She had never carried the plans out by herself.

This time, because Malcolm had suffered gunshot injuries in both his legs, she had no choice but to take matters into her own hands.

Whenever Heather recalled the shocked, terrified look on Rosalyn’s face when she plunged the knife

into her chest, Heather would get so nervous that her palms would start to sweat.

From Jim's behavior just moments ago, she had thought he had somehow managed to obtain evidence of her crime.

Heather narrowed her eyes. This could not continue.

She could not possibly rely on only Charles, the man who treated her as his daughter. She needed to find someone else to rely on.

Someone...who could protect her from all harm!

After coming out of the hospital, Jim headed straight to the police station.

Truth be told, he did not believe that Joshua could have killed Rosalyn, not because he trusted Joshua entirely due to their shared bloodline, but because...

He did not think that someone as intelligent as Joshua would commit such a stupid crime.

If he wanted to kill Rosalyn, he could have used other methods that would not expose him, so why did he choose to kill her when Rosalyn requested to meet with him?

Not only that, Joshua had returned to the crime scene a second time and exited Rosalyn's room

covered in blood, then summoned a doctor and after that went to lodge a police report.

None of this seemed like anything a genius like Joshua would do.

After reaching the police station, Jim could not help feeling a little worried as he sat in the visitation room, waiting for Joshua to see him.

He still recalled what Charles had said when he called Malcolm from the hospital, requesting him to stop Joshua from coming out of the police station alive at all means.

Merchant City was the Landry and Quinn families' territory.

Even though Joshua was extremely powerful and influential in Banyan City, he would never win this battle in Merchant City.

At this moment, someone opened the room door.

As opposed to the security footage, Joshua had changed into a set of clean clothes.

As soon as he opened the door and caught sight of Jim, Joshua curled his lips into a small smile.

Despite wearing handcuffs and shackles, Joshua made his way elegantly to Jim's side, looking like a king.

Finally, he sat down across from Jim, and the prison guard left after giving him some instructions.

Jim was a little surprised by this, and he furrowed his brows. "Did no one...try to bully you here?"

"Nope." Joshua shifted into a more comfortable position in his chair. "Have you heard of the name Luke Jones?"

Jim frowned and nodded.

It was impossible not to have heard of Luke Jones.

This man, who hailed from Sea City, managed to conquer all the gangs in Merchant City within a month. Even Todd, the gangster whom Jim had known for quite some time, had fled Merchant City after he was defeated by this legendary Luke Jones.

Now, Luke Jones was the head honcho of all the gangs in Merchant City.

Joshua curled his lips into a smile and said, "He's my friend whom I called to Merchant City to help me."

Seeing the shocked look on Jim's face, Joshua smiled and continued, "Malcolm's men can't do anything to me at all."

With that, his smile disappeared, and he glanced at Jim with a meaningful look. "Mrs. Landry...is she

okay?”

Chapter 1523

Jim narrowed his eyes slightly.

Joshua’s face was etched with an earnest look, without any hint of pretense at all.

Jim let out a sigh and replied, “She managed to survive, but...”

He lifted his head to observe Joshua’s expression and continued, “She’s now in a vegetative state, and she can’t speak or move anymore. The doctor says it’s unlikely she’ll ever awaken from her vegetative state.”

Joshua’s entire body stiffened. After a split second, he closed his eyes and said, “Thank God she’s alive. As long as she’s alive, there’s still hope.”

Jim squinted slightly upon hearing this.

He had said the exact same thing to Luna not long ago.

Jim let out another sigh as he stared at Joshua. He had never seen a murderer who longed so much for their victim to survive.

Either Joshua was not the murderer at all, or he was simply too good at pretending.

Jim was more inclined toward the former.

He lifted his head to stare at Joshua and asked, "You said that Heather was the one who killed

Mother?"

"Yes." Joshua opened his eyes and continued in a low voice, "The second time I returned to the room,

the knife was already in Mrs. Landry's chest. After I summoned a doctor, she used the last ounce of

strength she had to tell me that the person who killed her was none other than the fake daughter she

had raised for more than twenty years."

Jim narrowed his eyes. "That's why you came to lodge a police report?"

Joshua smiled and nodded. "Of course."

Jim let out an exhale and shot Joshua a cold glance. "

Since Luke Jones is your friend, he could've protected you in Merchant City, and you could've asked

him to bring you out of here...

"Why did you come to the police station voluntarily and be locked up as a suspect? Didn't you know— "

"I knew." Joshua interjected him and replied, "I knew that if I came to the police station, both the Landry

and Quinn families would use this against me and attempt to frame me for murder, but I still chose to come anyway.”

Joshua wrapped his hands together and added, a small smile playing on his lips, “I voluntarily bore the risk of becoming a suspect.

“Since Luna is still here, and I have already expanded Lynch Group into Merchant City’s market because of her...I have no intention of leaving anymore.”

He stared at Jim and continued, “Not only did I choose to become the prime suspect of this murder, but I will walk out of this police station unscathed and proven innocent.

“Merchant City used to be the territory of both the Landry and Quinn families, but now, that is no longer the case.

“I will take my revenge on the person who attempted to frame me for killing Luna’s birth mother and avenge Mrs. Landry as well.”

With that, he stood up and said, “Help me take care of Luna and the child in her belly.

“Before the child arrives, I will stop attacking the Landry family, so please remind Charles to enjoy this

period of peace.”

With that, Joshua turned and strode out of the visitation room.

Chapter 1524

Jim remained motionless and narrowed his eyes as he watched Joshua leave.

In the past, whenever he saw Joshua, he always looked feeble and sad because of Luna.

However, after witnessing the cold, arrogant man before him, Jim suddenly realized he had never known the true Joshua at all.

Was this cruel, heartless man the real Joshua Lynch?

Jim regained his composure, and as soon as he walked out of the police station, he bumped into

Charles and Heather, who had just gotten out of their car.

Charles was furious as soon as he caught sight of Jim.

He stomped over and lifted his hand to smack Jim across his face. “What are you doing here? Are you here to see Joshua Lynch and help him evade his crime?”

Jim grabbed hold of Charles’ hand in mid-air and said, sneering, as he gripped Charles’ wrist tightly, “

What does it have anything to do with you what I'm doing here and whom I'm visiting?"

With that, he flung Charles' hand away and glanced coldly at Heather, who was standing behind

Charles, and snickered, "I never knew an older man like you would commit such a fatal mistake like

trusting the wrong person. Charles Landry, you will regret ever having trusted this woman one day! "

Charles grew even more outraged when he heard this. "Who should I trust if not for Heather? Should I

trust a good-for-nothing b*stard like you?"

With that, he glared at Jim and continued, "From today onward, you won't have to work at Landry

Group anymore. I'm worried that you will use all our money to break your cousin out of jail and save

him! "

As soon as she heard this, Heather quickly strode over to snake her hand around Charles' arm. She

gently patted his chest to soothe him and said, " Father, don't be so angry. Jim probably came to visit

Joshua because they're blood-related, and it's just that, a visit.

"Jim was just trying to be loyal, Father, so don't be so angry.

"After all, he's still your biological son, and he has the blood of a Landry coursing through his veins,

unlike me...

“No matter how kind I treat you and Mother, I will never become a true Landry, but Jim is different...”

Charles grew even more irate upon hearing this. He glared at Jim and snapped, “What use is it to have a child like this? Both my children have only the Lynch family on their minds and care nothing about us at all! They’ve clearly forgotten how their uncle and my brother died! “

Finally, Charles shot Jim another icy glare. “Go to Landry Group right now to process your termination, go home, and think back on what you did wrong! Only after you’ve realized your mistake are you allowed to return to the company! “

“No need.” Jim snickered and gazed at Charles’ face coldly. “I will never return to Landry Group again.

The last time I quit, it was genuinely because I didn’t want to work there anymore. If it weren’t for

Mother’s pleading, I would never have returned to pick up after your messes after what Joshua did.”

He let out an exhale and added, “Remember this, Charles Landry: you were the one who wanted me to

resign from Landry Group, so no matter how much you beg in the future, I will never help you again! “

With that, he turned and strode away without looking back.

“What a traitor! Traitor! “ Charles was so angry that he lost his balance and took two small steps back. “

Rosalyn is now in a vegetative state, and both my son and daughter have betrayed me! “

Heather quickly grabbed hold of him and said, “ Don’t be too upset, Father, you still have me...”

Charles let out a sigh and reached out to gently stroke Heather’s head. “Thank God I still have you,

Heather... Otherwise, I wouldn’t know what to do...”

“Don’t worry, Father, no matter what happens, I’ll always be on your side.” Heather smiled at him

obediently and wrapped her arm around his. “Let’s go inside and take care of the man that killed

Mother; that’s the most important thing.”

Chapter 1525

Inside the police station.

Joshua sat alone in a small prison cell and stared impassively at the skylight above him.

Suddenly, the prison guard’s voice rang out from behind him, “Mr. Lynch, there’s a Mr. Landry and Ms.

Heather here to see you.”

Joshua curled his lips into a sneer. He turned and glanced at the prison guard. “I don’t want to see

them.”

The guard hesitated for a moment, then replied, "But..they're the Landry family. If you refuse to see them, they'll make your life difficult after you get out of prison.

"You're not from here, so you don't understand the true extent of the Landry family's power in Merchant

City...especially Ms. Heather. No one dares to get on her bad side even if she stirs up trouble anywhere."

Joshua lowered his head and said, "That's only to you. After I get out of here..."

"There's no telling who will make whose lives difficult."

With that, he shifted into a more comfortable position in his seat and said, "Tell them I refuse to see him. I 'll visit them if they ever get sent into jail someday."

The guard shot this oblivious man a helpless glance, let out a sigh, and left.

"What?"

Outside the cell, Charles was outraged when he heard the prison guard's message.

"That man is getting more and more outrageous!" he snapped in anger as he clutched the head of police's hand. "Sentence him, I say! Sentence him! Don't let him walk out of here alive! "

The head of police looked a little uneasy as he replied, "We understand how you're feeling right now, Mr. Landry, but..."

He glanced at the prison cell holding Joshua and continued, "We can't sentence Joshua Lynch with the evidence we have now.

"He has found the best lawyer to defend him, and the evidence we have isn't sufficient to prove that he was the one who attempted to murder Mrs. Landry..."

Charles was so furious that his face turned scarlet. "Why can't you prove him guilty? Isn't the evidence concrete?"

"It's the time factor." The head of police let out a sigh and explained, "According to the degree of blood drying as well as the amount of blood Mrs. Landry lost during the operation..."

"Mrs. Landry had been attacked after Joshua first left the room and before his second time entering.

"Even though there was only a ten -minute gap in between, this isn't enough to prove that Joshua was the one who had attacked Mrs. Landry."

The color drained from Charles' face.

Heather's expression, too, was dark. "Mr. Officer, could the coroner have been wrong? It's only a few

minutes' time...they can't have been accurate, can they?

"Besides, my mother is ill, and her health is different from ordinary people, so the time..."

The head of police waved his hands dismissively and replied, "Yes, the possibility is there, but according to the remaining evidence, we can only prove that Joshua was at the crime scene and had come into contact with the victim, but as for the rest, we can't prove anything."

Heather narrowed her eyes.

Before Rosalyn passed out, Joshua had seen her and even heard her say that Heather was the one who had attacked her.

If Joshua managed to get out of this prison alive...he would come after her!

No! She could not let him get out of prison alive! Heather bit her lip and swiveled her eyes.

Finally, she let out a sigh and wrapped her arm around Charles'. "Father, I guess...there's no other way anymore."

Chapter 1526

"Poor Mother, she's now in a vegetative state and stuck on her bed, but the real murderer is going to go

off scot-free because of lacking evidence..." Tears started falling from Heather's eyes as she said this.

"Is there no other way? Poor Mother..."

Charles narrowed his eyes when he heard this. He scoffed and said, "How can there be no other way?"

Since he could not punish Joshua through prosecution, he would use other means!

Charles had heard that a new gangster named Luke Jones, who was notorious for his crimes, had recently arrived in Merchant City.

Tonight, he would find Luke Jones and ask him to kill Joshua, at any price!

"If you have a plan, Father, that would be great..." Heather let out a sigh, comforted Charles, and sent him home. After bringing him back to Landry Mansion, she left again in a hurry.

Sitting in her car, Heather let out an exhale, took out her phone, and dialed Malcolm's number. "That old grinch says he can take care of Joshua Lynch.

"Though, that old grinch only thinks of me as his daughter, and I can't become the new Mrs. Landry.

Quick, help me come up with a plan."

Malcolm fell into silence for a moment, then snickered. "Heather, your taste is becoming more and

more questionable. Are you willing to sleep with

an old man like Charles Landry for riches and power?"

Heather rolled her eyes and snapped, "What else am I supposed to do? Am I supposed to go back to

Sea City and spend the rest of my life in poverty with Joseph and Natasha Gibson?

"They were the ones who had switched me out with Luna so that I could enjoy life with the Landry

family in the first place, so how can I go back so easily?"

Malcolm sneered. "So this is why you're trying to sleep with Charles Landry?

"C'mon, Heather, you used to be my fiancée in the past, so can you stop being so shameless?"

Heather grew outraged as soon as she heard this. "If you hadn't gone to save Luna behind my back,

me and Aura's plan would've succeeded six years ago, and you and I wouldn't be in this situation

today!

"At that time, you insisted on breaking our engagement and marrying the real heiress of the Landry

family, so have you succeeded yet?"

Malcolm replied in a cold voice, "She and I are engaged now."

"Too bad she's pregnant with Joshua's child, and you've already been cheated on even before you got

married! “

Malcolm gripped his phone tightly and narrowed his eyes but did not reply.

Seeing that Malcolm had fallen silent, Heather could not help curling her lips into a smirk. “I’m just

messing with you, don’t be too angry. Now, you and

I are on the same team, so how can I bear to see you get cheated on like that?

“Luna’s still in the hospital looking after Rosalyn, and it’s already been a night now. She’ll be back to

get some sleep in a while.

“In the evening, I’ll use Rosalyn’s injury as an excuse to drink with her, and I’ll spike her drink. By that

time, you can visit the Landry Mansion to ‘comfort’ her, and then you’ll be able to claim her as your

own tonight...

“By the time daylight comes, you can claim that Luna mistook you for Joshua and slept with you in

her drunken state. After all, the baby in Luna’s belly is less than two months old, and it can’t afford to

suffer this kind of physical trauma. If she suffers a miscarriage, she can’t blame anyone apart from

herself! “

Malcolm narrowed his eyes upon hearing this. “Why are you treating me so well all of a sudden?”

Heather had never been willing to help him get closer to Luna in the past.

Heather fell into silence for a moment, then chuckled. “My plan to kill Rosalyn didn’t succeed, and

Joshua is about to be released due to lacking evidence.

“In that case, I’ll need you to protect me.” With that, she hung up the phone and lowered her head to

stare at the bottle in her hand. A glimmer of malice flashed through her eyes.

Chapter 1527

At 8 a.m., Luna finally left Rosalyn’s ward after Jim’s persuasion.

The person who took over watching Rosalyn from her was Charles.

Even though she and Charles had gotten into a dispute not long ago, Luna still gave him instructions

on the doctor’s rounds and asked him to provide Rosalyn with massages from time to time. After

making sure he had understood all this, Luna finally turned and left.

As she closed the door behind her, she caught sight of Charles clutching Rosalyn’s hand, his face

looking tear-stained.

A twinge of sadness spread through Luna's heart as she shut the door.

Rosalyn had told her before that she envied Lucy.

When Lucy passed away, Charles, a man known for his toughness, cried for her.

Rosalyn thought that a man would only cry for a woman if she truly meant the world to him.

With Rosalyn in a vegetative state at this stage, Charles was crying for her, too.

It did not matter whether Rosalyn meant the world to him or not, but the fact was, Charles was at this moment crying for her.

However, Luna did not know whether Rosalyn could feel it...

"What are you thinking of?" Jim furrowed his eyes and asked, seeing that Luna seemed absent-minded.

Luna suddenly came to and shook her head, then followed Jim out of the hospital and onto the car.

"I went to the police station this morning," said Jim from the passenger seat to Luna. "I went to see Joshua, and he's still adamant that Heather was the one who had killed Mother."

Luna closed her eyes, leaned against the backseat, and replied in an exhausted tone, "I don't want to talk about him right now."

Jim narrowed his eyes and said, "Father only forced you to swear that you'd never see Joshua ever again. Why did you extend that vow to include not talking about him too?"

Luna sneered but did not open her eyes. "I'm just very tired right now and don't want to use my brain for anything."

She had not slept in two nights.

Two nights ago, she had been forced to stay in the praying room and familiarize herself with the fact that the Lynch family had killed Colin Landry.

The night before, she had spent an entire night sitting by Rosalyn's bedside.

Today, Luna was utterly exhausted, and she was in no mood to talk about Joshua with Jim.

Just like how much she loved Joshua in the past, her feelings for him were equally tangled and complicated. She had never gotten to know him, and therefore, she could not say for sure that Joshua would never kill her mother.

He had given her too much disappointment, so much so that she could not trust in him anymore.

Seeing how pale Luna looked, Jim let out a sigh and swallowed the words he had wanted to say.

The car soon arrived at Landry Mansion.

Luna quickly got out of the car. She thought Jim would follow suit since he had not rested for an entire night either.

However, to her surprise, Jim glanced at the driver and ordered, "Bring me to Landry Group Tower. I need to process my termination."

Luna's hand, which was about to shut the door behind her, stiffened when she heard this. "

Termination?"

She frowned and stared at Jim. "You're quitting your work at Landry Group?"

"Yes." Jim squinted slightly and leaned casually against his leather seat. "This morning, I got into a fight with Mr. Charles Landry at the police station.

"Mr. Landry thinks I don't deserve to be a Landry, and I don't deserve to be his son, so he requested me to resign from my positions at Landry Group."

Luna furrowed her brows upon hearing this. "Now that Mother is in this state, Father has already gone to the hospital to be with her, and he can't possibly have the time and energy to take care of Landry Group..."

All of sudden, he forced Jim to resign from Landry Group...

Chapter 1528

Was Jim planning to give up on the family business that had been passed down through the generations?

Jim could see through Luna's thoughts. He curled his lips and replied impassively, "Did you somehow forget that there's another daughter of the Landry family?"

With that, he shifted into a more comfortable position on his seat and continued, "I carry the Lynch bloodline within my veins, and you carry a baby belonging to Joshua in your belly, so of course Father would detest both of us, now that Mother isn't here to protect us.

"At a moment like this, Heather would be able to rise to power...and the future Landry Group will probably be named Gibson Group instead."

With that, Jim reached out to close Luna's door and said, "Go back and get some rest."

The car pulled out of the driveway.

Luna remained motionless and bit her lip as she watched the car drive away.

Heather...

She was unwilling to believe that Heather would think of herself as a Landry, nor would she be able to run Landry Group smoothly.

Luna let out an exhale and returned to the mansion. Laying on her bed, she stared up at the ceiling and could not help recalling Rosalyn's kind face.

She had clutched Luna's hand, telling her that she had sacrificed everything for Landry Group.

In the past, Charles had been so devastated by both Lucy and Colin's deaths that he spiraled into mental insanity and had no way of running Landry Group.

Therefore, Rosalyn, who was pregnant at that time, was forced to formulate drugs to keep Charles' nervous system and mental state under control while at the same time running the day-to-day of Landry Group.

There were a few occasions when Landry Group had almost been bankrupted by Lynch Group.

Every time, Rosalyn had to visit the people who could help Landry Group one -by-one and beg for their help, all while being heavily pregnant...

Finally, she managed to save Landry Group.

Not only was Landry Group the lifeline of the Landry family, but it was also Rosalyn's!

All too abruptly, Charles was about to hand it over to Heather, the daughter who was not only incompetent but harbored bad intentions. How could he do this to Rosalyn?

As soon as she thought of this, Luna took out her phone and dialed Charles' number.

Before she could even make the call, she received a call from Jim instead. "Don't participate in any of the Landry Group's affairs. Father is irate now, and if you bring this up with him, he'll be even more biased against you.

"Get your rest and don't take part in any of this. The Landry family has a strong foundation, and we won't go broke just from a few days of Heather's meddling."

With that, he hung up the phone without even waiting for Luna's reply.

Luna let out an exhale and closed her eyes. Jim was right.

Because of the baby in her belly, she no longer had any status in Charles' eyes, so she could not afford to get on his bad side right now.

As soon as she thought of this, Luna tried to console herself that Landry Group would not go bankrupt

so easily as she drifted off the sleep.

When she finally woke up, it was already nighttime.

Luna opened her eyes and gazed out at the inky black sky outside the window. Then, she let out a yawn and shuffled downstairs to find something to eat.

As soon as she opened the door, she came face -to – face with Heather, who was standing in the hallway, holding two bottles of red wine.

She curled her lips into a smile and gently shook the wine bottles in her hand. “Shall we have a drink together?”

Luna circled past her curtly and said, “Now that Mother is in this state, I’m in no mood for drinking.”

Heather grabbed hold of Luna’s arm. “It’s precisely because of Mother’s state that we have to drink.

Don’t you want to drown your sorrows with alcohol?”

Chapter 1529

Luna furrowed her brows and circled past Heather again. “I don’t like drowning my sorrows with alcohol.”

With that, she strode down the stairs.

After she had just taken two steps, Heather stopped her once more. "Why are you so afraid to drink with me, Luna? I won't laugh at you if you're lightweight."

Luna frowned upon hearing this. She glared at Heather and said, "Since you know I'm lightweight, why do you keep on insisting on drinking with me? What are you up to?"

Heather's entire body stiffened when she heard this.

She suddenly realized that out of her desperation, she had accidentally said the wrong thing.

She pursed her lips and grabbed hold of Luna, smiling. "Of course I'm not up to anything. I just thought you're probably so preoccupied with everything that's happened lately. After all, Mother raised me since

young, and I, too, am upset to see her like this.

"I've been thinking that you and I haven't gotten the chance to have dinner together and chat ever since you returned to our family. Mother used to long for us to reconcile and be as close as real sisters.

"Therefore, seeing how Mother is doing now, I've wanted to have a drink with you not only to drown our

sorrows but to get to know you better as well.

“Maybe Mother will even get better if she sees us getting closer with each other.”

Luna narrowed her eyes upon hearing this. She could tell that Heather intended to drink with her tonight. Even though she did not know what Heather’s motives were...

She still smiled and agreed to her request.

“It’s a bit boring just to drink, so why don’t I go downstairs and whip us up some food?”

Heather paused, then smiled and replied, “There’s no need to go to so much trouble; I’ve already asked the kitchen to prepare some food. Shall we go to your room?”

Luna narrowed her eyes slightly, tucked her phone in her pocket, and nodded. “Alright.”

Since Heather had already ordered the kitchen to prepare the food, it would be impossible for her to spike the food and drinks with drugs that could cause Luna to miscarry or pass out.

Luna was curious to see what tricks Heather had up her sleeve.

Seeing that Luna finally agreed, Heather let out an exhale and felt the weight lift off her shoulders.

She had already invited Malcolm to come to Landry Mansion in an hour, so if she could not get Luna to drink the spiked wine in time, then her plan would fail.

The two of them sat down in the bay window of Luna's room.

Luna gazed out at the night sky and said, "I never thought you would invite me for a drink tonight. Did you used to like drinking?"

Heather paused for a moment, then let out an awkward smile. "I never...liked drinking. I just thought you and I could use a drink tonight."

Luna turned around and glanced at Heather impassively. "I guess you're not a very good drinker either.

Neither Joseph nor Natasha can hold their liquor, and Aura is only slightly better at drinking than I am, so how can you possibly like drinking?"

Heather's expression darkened upon hearing this.

She did not like anyone bringing up her birth family, nor did she like hearing anyone talk about Joseph and Natasha Gibson.

However, at this moment, not only did Luna bring them up in conversation, but she even compared her with the two of them!

What a b*tch!

If she had a choice, Heather would never want to be Joseph and Natasha's daughter at all!

As soon as she thought of this, Heather stared at Luna through narrowed eyes.

This woman should have died six years ago, but she survived against all odds!

As soon as she thought of this, Heather gritted her teeth and gazed out the window with a look that could kill, but despite that, she still said in a calm tone, "All these names sound too foreign to me. Apart from Aura, I've never met any of them at all."

Luna smiled. "Well, then you should go and see them some time."

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She turned to look at Heather and continued, "I've already come all the way to Merchant City to see my birth parents, so shouldn't you go and visit yours, too?"

Heather narrowed her eyes and said through gritted teeth, "I'll pay them a visit if I have time in the future."

Luna turned to gaze out the window once more. She could see Jim's car parked outside the gate.

When she saw this, Luna let out a small sigh of relief.

When they stood outside her room moments ago, she had dialed Jim's number as she put her phone

into her pocket.

Jim had overheard their conversation and knew that Heather was drinking with Luna in her room.

Luna finally felt the weight lift off her shoulders when she saw Jim getting out of his car.

She knew that she could not escape Heather's persuasion, and she was clear that Heather probably had ulterior motives for inviting her for a drink.

However, she had someone to help her, too.

Heather did not notice that Jim had returned. She was still engrossed in her anger at Luna bringing up her birth parents.

After a moment, she regained her composure and turned to stare at the moon in the night sky. “

Mother used to wish that you and I would be as close as real sisters, and I hope that after tonight, you and I can fulfill her wish.”

Luna narrowed her eyes and smiled. “Alright.”

“Well, since you're going to become sisters, how can you leave me out of this?” As soon as Luna

finished her sentence, someone pushed open her room door.

Jim, dressed entirely in black, strode into the room, bringing the chilly air of the outside along with him.

Heather widened her eyes in shock and immediately tried to hide her bottle of wine behind her back. “J

— Jim, what are you doing here?”

Had Jim been home all this while?

“I heard that the two of you are having a wine party, so I decided to come, “ replied Jim as he walked

over and plopped down in between Luna and Heather.

The servants brought out the tidbits that Heather had ordered from the kitchen.

Jim took out a gigantic decanter and poured the contents of the two wine bottles into it, then handed

the bottles back to Heather.

Heather’s eyes were as wide as saucers.

This...

The two bottles of wine were different; she had spiked one of them, whereas the other was an ordinary

bottle!

She had initially planned to trick Luna into drinking the one with lower alcohol content, which she had

spiked previously.

Who would have thought Jim would appear out of nowhere?

Not only did he invite himself to their party, but he even mixed the two bottles of wine. What could she do?

Soon, the wine was ready to drink.

Jim lifted the decanter and poured himself, then Heather a glass of wine.

Finally, he poured the wine into another empty glass and placed it in front of himself, glancing at

Heather. "Luna's pregnant, and she can't drink alcohol, so I'll take her place instead."

With that, he pursed his lips at Heather and said, "Come on, drink. Are you waiting for me to make you a toast or something?"

Heather felt her stomach turn as her gaze landed on the glass of wine before her.

If Luna drank this spiked wine, Malcolm would be able to counter its effects for her, but what about

Heather?

What would happen to her if she drank it?

As soon as she thought of this, Heather let out an awkward smile and stammered, "Um, Jim, I suddenly

remembered that I have something to do. I As soon as she stood up, Jim grabbed hold of her and dragged her back, pressing her down onto the chair. “Weren’t you the one pestering Luna to drink with you?

”Well, I don’t care what you have going on; you have to drink this glass! “