

## **Luna & Joshua 1701**

### Chapter 1701

Lucas was confused to hear this.

Joshua had been saying the same thing for the whole day, whether to Cheryl's parents, Jim, or even the police.

He had claimed that if Luna refused to return to Banyan City with him, he would let Luna be imprisoned forever.

He would not let her out or give her even a small taste of freedom until the Landry and Quinn families were destroyed.

All of a sudden, Joshua was saying that he would not let Luna be imprisoned indefinitely for his benefit.

Glancing at Lucas' puzzled look, Joshua narrowed his eyes and said in a cold voice, "Luna is just one of the suspects in this murder.

"Even the security guards who witnessed this only saw Cheryl choking Luna before she died, demanding to know why she wanted to kill her, none of them saw Luna assaulting her. She merely struggled, and she didn't even fight back.

“On top of that, the cops have found a fingerprint that didn’t belong to Luna on the murder weapon.

Because of this, everyone knows that there is another suspect out there.”

With that, he curled his lips into a smirk and said, “What would you do after Luna was brought into jail if you were the murderer?”

Lucas fell silent for a moment, then suddenly came to a realization. “If I were the murderer, I’d be keeping a close eye on the investigation progress of this case.

“If the police and the victim’s family all insist that Luna is the murderer, then I will act as though nothing had happened...”

“However, if they were to come after me, I’ll leave Merchant City immediately!”

Joshua smiled when he heard this. “You’re getting cleverer now.”

## Chapter 1702

“There’s no need,” Joshua interjected Lucas curtly. “The Quinn family also has a few spies among the cops.”

If Lucas were to tell Luna the truth, the change in Luna’s attitude toward him would surely give them

away, even if no one was eavesdropping on their conversation.

Glancing at Joshua once more, Lucas let out a sigh but did not say another word.

Soon, the car arrived at Lynch Tower.

As soon as Joshua and Lucas got out of the elevator, they came face-to-face with Theo and Gwen, waiting outside his office.

Seeing that Joshua had returned, Gwen immediately stormed forward and glared at him. "I hear that you were the one who convinced Cheryl's parents to keep Luna imprisoned, weren't you?"

She gritted her teeth as she continued to glare at him. "Don't you know what kind of person Luna is and whether she can possibly kill someone or not? How dare you do this to her!"

Joshua glanced impassively at Gwen and curled his lips into a smirk. "How dare you talk about this with me?"

"When Luna's mother was injured, didn't she also doubt my integrity? If you hadn't notified Luke and me, I would've become the murderer that almost killed Rosalyn.

"When Luna mistrusted me, you didn't blame her at all, but now, you're blaming me for doubting Luna.

"I know you're Luna's friend, but that doesn't mean you can hold double standards like this, does it

now?"

With that, Joshua circled past Gwen as though she were made of thin air and strode toward his office.

Gwen clenched her fists and gritted her teeth but could not say a single word.

All of a sudden, Theo walked toward her. He gently patted her shoulder and said, "I'll go talk to him."

With that, he followed Joshua into his office.

As soon as the door closed behind him, he sat down in the seat across from Joshua, smiling. "How's

Luna doing in there? You must've sent some people to protect her, haven't you?"

He gave Joshua a gentle smile and continued, "I wouldn't want what happened at the mental asylum to

happen once again. Luna has only nine fingers left, you know."

Joshua narrowed his eyes and shot Theo a cold glance, then smirked. "Why aren't you reprimanding

me?"

"Because I know you too well." Theo let out an exhale and shifted into a more comfortable position in

his chair, a small smile playing on his lips. "When I went to see Dr. Rachel, she told me she had met

you before and that you were a weirdo.

“You were so busy, yet you had the time to wait outside her house for a week so that you could convince her to come with you to Merchant City and save a woman that was your mortal enemy.”

With that, he fixated his penetrating stare on Joshua and continued, “I’m sure neither Luna nor the Landry family knows about all this.

“Since you were willing to beg Dr. Rachel to save your mortal enemy for Luna, how can you possibly not trust her and instead frame her for murder?”

Joshua fell silent upon hearing this.

He did not expect that the person who would understand him the most was the man who had once competed with him for Luna’s heart.

Joshua could not help letting out a bitter chuckle when he thought of this.

He lifted his head to stare intently at Theo. “Do me a favor.”

Chapter 1703

“Something terrible has happened, Vice President Land ry!”

At Landry Group Tower, Jim had just finished gathering his notes of the Land ry Group and Quinn

Group's merge and was pondering how to solve this predicament when his secretary stormed into the room. "Something bad has happened!"

Jim furrowed his brows. "What's wrong? Why are you so anxious?"

His train of thought had been utterly interrupted.

The secretary said, panting, "Um... Someone has shown up with a banner at our building entrance right now to cause trouble!

"They're claiming that the CEO of Landry Group, Luna, had killed their daughter, and they have many reporters with them!

"They even said if Landry Group doesn't give them any compensation for their loss, they'll bring their daughter's corpse over to let everyone know the truth about us..."

With that, the secretary quickly took out his phone and handed it to Jim. "Look, the whole ordeal is going live on the internet right now!"

Jim quickly stood up and took the phone from the secretary.

The secretary was right. The people in the live footage were none other than Cheryl's parents, which he had bumped into at the police station that morning.

Hundreds of thousands of people were watching this live stream, and the audience was all postulating what had happened.

[Luna is a murderer.]

[Landry Group has lost its money and killed innocent people.]

[Landry Group should get out of Merchant City.]

All this news about Luna and Landry Group had surged to the top of the search results.

Jim narrowed his eyes and looked closer at Mr. and Mrs. Martin in the livestream.

Soon, he noticed some familiar faces.

Jim recognized a few of the people that were protesting among the crowd.

They were actors from a famous PR firm in Merchant City, and this PR firm...belonged to the Quinn family.

Jim narrowed his eyes and strode into the control room.

According to the security footage, it took less than an hour for Mr. and Mrs. Martin to arrive at the building entrance until the entire city heard about this news.

Jim narrowed his eyes. Someone had planned this.

The only person who could do this...

It was either Joshua's work, or the Quinn family were behind this.

However, this was not the time to find out who the mastermind was.

The most important thing at hand was to reassure his employees so that they would not panic over this sudden twist of events.

As soon as he thought of this, Jim let out an exhale and said, "Contact Malcolm Quinn, and then count how many reporters are gathered downstairs. I want to sue each and every one of them for falsifying news.

"Also, invite Cheryl's parents into the VIP room and serve them well.

"Finally, I want you to get rid of the crowd that's here to cause trouble!"

After giving these orders, Jim let out an exhale and rubbed his temples in frustration after returning to his office.

A few minutes later, he received a call from Malcolm.

"Jim." Malcolm let out a bitter chuckle. "Heather and I have also been kicked out of the Quinn family



after what happened last night.

“You shouldn’t contact me about anything regarding the Quinn family anymore. Contact my Granny instead; she’s the head of the family now.”

With that, he let out a sigh and added, “Heather and I have both been kicked out of our respective families overnight.

“Can you take us in, Jim?”

Jim furrowed his brows upon hearing this.

#### Chapter 1704

“You’ve both been kicked out of your families?” “That’s right.” Malcolm did not even get the chance to continue when he heard Jim slamming the phone down without a hint of hesitation.

On the other end of the line, Malcolm closed his eyes helplessly when he heard the dial tone.

“How did it go?” Heather, who was holding Riley in her arms, approached him. “What did Jim say?”

Malcolm shot her a cold glance and tossed the phone onto the ground with a thud. “He’s not willing.”

Jim’s attitude was enough to prove everything.

The phone landed on the ground with a loud thud that startled Riley, who burst into tears. Heather

furrowed her brows and gritted her teeth as she tried in frustration to shake the baby to sleep. "Shut up!

"We shouldn't have stolen this baby! Now, we're broke and can only live in this rented house, yet we still have to take care of this one-month-old baby!"

Heather wanted nothing more than to choke this baby to death right this instant.

Malcolm glanced at her, frowning. Then, he suppressed the rage in his heart and strode over to take

Riley from her. "We still have to look after her; she's the only thing that can give us money at this time."

Heather bit her lip. "I'll go find Joshua Lynch right now!"

"No, we can't go to Joshua." Malcolm narrowed his eyes. "He's too intelligent, and if we use Riley to threaten him, we might not even get anything in the end.

"The only thing we can do now is help the Landry family get Luna out of jail.

"She's already a sensitive and fragile woman, but on top of that, Riley is her biological daughter...

"Besides, now, as CEO of Landry Group, Luna has a lot of money and power in her hands. She's the perfect target for us to get what we want."

Heather pouted slightly and asked, "How are we supposed to get by now? We've already sold our cars and luxury items but only managed to get a few million dollars out of that. On top of that, we have a child with us, and we're bound to use up all this money in a matter of days!"

"I have a plan." Malcolm narrowed his eyes, picked up the phone he had tossed onto the ground, and dialed Hunter's number.

Hunter soon picked up the phone. "Hello, Malcolm."

"Hunter." Malcolm curled his lips into a small smile. "Congratulations on becoming the sole heir of the Quinn family fortune."

Hunter fell silent for a moment, then chuckled. "What on earth are you talking about, Malcolm?"

"Granny is just angry right now, but by the time she gets over it, you'll be able to come home."

As he said this, Hunter was leaning against the headboard of the hospital bed, staring at his index finger-less right hand. "I'm not as competent as you, so how can I possibly take over the Quinn family?"

Granny Quinn would never allow a handicapped person to take over the family business.

The fact that she had ordered for his finger to be cut off not only allowed him to evade suspicion as a

murder suspect but also meant there was no way he would be able to inherit the family fortune anymore.

No one was more heartless than Granny Quinn.

Samuel had once claimed that Granny Quinn was the cruelest woman on earth, and on that day,

Hunter had finally realized this was true.

“Of course I know that. I’ll return to the Quinn family eventually.” Malcolm curled his lips into a small smile. “Nonetheless, I’m having some financial difficulties now, Hunter, and it’d be great if you can help me out a little, but if you can’t...”

Malcolm’s laughter suddenly turned sinister. “Then I have no choice but to expose everything you did in the past to the media in exchange for some money to feed my family.”

Chapter 1705

Landry Group.

Because Granny Quinn had already retired for many years, Jim had to go through much effort to obtain

Granny

Quinn's number.

By the time he managed to get in touch with her, the reporters and spectators outside the building had already been chased off.

The only people that remained were the actors from the PR firm, who were protesting alongside Cheryl's parents.

Jim narrowed his eyes and dialed Granny Quinn's number as he watched the people from the security cameras. "Hello, Granny Quinn."

He let out an exhale and continued, "I want to ask you something; does the PR firm under Quinn Group take every job offer that comes its way?"

On the other end of the line, Granny Quinn leaned against the sofa and took a puff of her cigar as she said lazily, "Why would you say this, Master Landry?"

Jim let out a sneer. "According to my investigation, the people causing trouble at my office doorstep all belong to a PR firm under Quinn Group.

"Now that everyone in Merchant City knows about the connection between the Quinn and Landry families, I'm sure the people working at the PR firm wouldn't be oblivious either, would they?"

“If so, why did they even take this job offer to cause trouble at my office building?”

Granny Quinn erupted into laughter upon hearing this. “Do

you know why they accepted this job? “It was because I had sent them.”

Jim’s entire body stiffened when he heard this. He furrowed his brows, unable to believe his ears.

“Granny Quinn, you shouldn’t joke about this kind of stuff; it’s not funny.”

Granny Quinn chuckled. “Do you think I’m joking?”

“Jim Landry, you and I have never crossed paths before, so I’ll forgive your naivety this time, but I hope

you won’t ask such stupid questions next time.”

There was a hint of arrogance and contempt in Granny Quinn’s tone as she added, “I never joke

around; it’s true that I’m the one who had sent those people over.”

Jim narrowed his eyes and clutched his phone tightly. “Granny Quinn, the Landry and Quinn families

are a single unit now, and victory and losses are shared amongst the two.

“I don’t understand why you’d want to hire people to tarnish our name at a time like this.”

Granny Quinn cackled. “You’re right; we are indeed a single unit now. But, even families have to decide

on a leader, don't you agree?"

As soon as she said this, Jim immediately understood what she was hinting at. He clutched his phone tightly and gritted his teeth. "So you're trying to use this to force the Landry family to hand over the authority, aren't you?"

This old lady was too cruel.

He had just managed to revitalize the collaborative projects between the Landry and Quinn Groups after receiving the funds from Luna that morning, and less than a few hours later, this old woman had sent people over to make a scene at Landry Group Tower.

Her motive was to force Landry Group to hand over the authority of both the companies to the Quinn family!

As soon as he thought of this, Jim could not help narrowing his eyes as he asked, "What if we refuse to do as you say?"

"Well, then the worst is yet to come." Grann Quinn let out a sigh. "Jim, you shouldn't blame me at all.

"After what your sister did, the victim's family will still eventually make a scene at your office building, even if we didn't give them a little push.

“I’m just giving you an early warning, that’s all.”

Granny Quinn leaned against the sofa and picked at her nails elegantly. “Even if you didn’t hand over the authority now, you’ll eventually have to do it, considering how badly the Landry family is doing now.

“You can do it the easy way or the hard way.”

Chapter 1706

Jim narrowed his eyes and hung up the phone with a thud. Then, he leaned against his seat as he panted.

The Landry and Quinn families had already been bound together for a while, and he could not possibly untie those bonds after just a day of taking over.

The company that had run into trouble was the Quinn Group, not the Landry Group, yet while he was busy reviving and fixing the two corporations, the Quinn family was plotting how to take over the authority to the two companies!

Jim slammed his fists against his desk in anger, gritting his teeth.

In the past, Jim used to think Malcolm was cruel, but he finally knew whose genes Malcolm had



inherited.

“Vice President Landry.” All of a sudden, the secretary knocked and entered his office. “We’ve already invited Cheryl’s parents to the VIP room, but the two of them appear to be psychologically unstable...

Do you want to go over and take a look?”

Jim let out an exhale, stood up, and followed the secretary into the VIP room.

The floor was covered in shards of porcelain.

Cheryl’s parents were smashing the porcelain tableware onto the ground as they shrieked, “What are you planning to do, inviting us here?”

“Let me tell you this; don’t you dare think you can buy us out with money. All we want is for Luna to get the punishment she deserves!”

“We’ll never use our daughter’s life in exchange for money!”

The first thing Jim heard were the sounds of Mr. and Mrs. Martin’s screams.

He furrowed his eyes and entered the room, smiling. “Sir, Madam, I know you’re not here for the money.”

Seeing that the person who had arrived was none other than Luna's brother, a hint of hostility flashed across Mr. and Mrs. Martin's faces. "Were you the one who had asked these people to bring us here?

What are you trying to do?"

"I should be the one to ask you this." Jim let out a sigh, walked over, and stood in front of them. "Since you're not here for the money and instead just here to demand justice for your daughter, then you should go to the police station to find out more details about what had happened and maybe even start investigating yourself.

"By coming here to cause a scene at our office building, were you somehow hoping that the spectators and people watching online will help you crack the case?"

Mr. and Mrs. Martin exchanged a glance, then lifted their heads to stare at Jim in anger. "We just want people to see your true colors! We—"

"One million dollars." Jim narrowed his eyes. "I'll offer you one million dollars, and in exchange, you'll never come to Landry Group Tower to cause a scene anymore. How does that sound?"

"I'm not going to interfere in your search for the truth, and if evidence proves that Luna was indeed the murderer, you can still press charges.

“This one million dollars is just some pension money for the two of you.”

Seeing that Jim had offered them money, Mr. and Mrs. Martin exchanged a glance.

Finally, Mr. Martin let out a cough and said, “We can agree to your terms, but...”

He extended five fingers at Jim.

Jim narrowed his eyes. “Five million dollars? Well, that’s not entirely impossible...”

“No.” Mr. Martin sneered. “Five hundred million dollars.

“The people at the PR firm told us that what we did today had caused significant financial losses to Landry Group, so if you offer us any amount less than five hundred million, we’ll continue to make a scene.”

Jim sucked in a deep breath and clenched his fists next to him.

Granny Quinn was showing no mercy at all!

Chapter 1707

Landry Group could not afford to pay 500 million dollars at all!

Besides, even if they could afford it, Jim would not be willing to hand over this money to the Martins

over something like this.

Seeing the pained expression on Jim's face, Mr. Martin sneered and leaned against the back of his chair. "We won't stop until we get the five hundred million dollars."

Before being brought over to the tower, the people at the PR firm had already told them that Landry Group was capable of paying them 500 million dollars in compensation and that the problem was whether they were willing to do so or not.

The reputation of the Landry family, one of the most influential families in Merchant City, was worth far more than 500 million dollars!

Jim could not help snickering when he heard this. "I'm afraid that even if you manage to get your hands on these five hundred million dollars, you won't live long enough to spend it!

"Secretary, kick these two people out of here. If they come to cause a scene again in the future, take a video of them, call the cops, and sue them!"

With that, he glanced coldly at the two people before him and said, "If you want to play with fire, prepare to be burned!"

With that, he strode out of the room, leaving the astounded Mr. and Mrs. Martin.

Mr. Martin stared at Jim's retreating figure in shock.

Did the people at the PR firm not say that...Jim would hand over the 500 million dollars? Why did he leave just like that?

"Please go, Sir, Madam," the secretary said in a low voice as he approached them.

The two of them exchanged glances but ultimately got up to leave.

However, to their surprise, a car stopped in front of them as soon as they stepped out of the entrance of Landry Group Tower.

Lucas' face appeared as the window was rolled down. "Sir, Madam, please get into the car."

Mr. Martin frowned and quickly pulled Mrs. Martin into the car.

Even though they had their reservations about Joshua, he was still a distinguished boss compared to Jim and helped take care of Cheryl's affairs after she died.

With Lucas driving, they arrived at Cheryl's rented house.

The tiny room was filled with Cheryl's possessions, and the walls were decorated with pictures of her, alongside clothes hung up on hooks.

When the two of them entered the room, Joshua was leaning against the window sill, staring out at the view.

As soon as she entered the room and felt her daughter's presence, Mrs. Martin burst into tears and slumped onto the ground, crying.

Even Mr. Martin's eyes were brimming with tears.

He walked over to Joshua and said, "What are you trying to tell us by bringing us here, Mr. Lynch?"

Joshua shrugged and smiled, pointing at the photo of

Cheryl beaming at the camera. "She was a beautiful and cute girl.

"If I were you, I'd show her some respect after her passing and avoid exposure of Cheryl's death in the public eye."

With that, he glanced at Lucas.

Lucas murmured in understanding and quickly turned on the television.

The Merchant City news appeared on Cheryl's television, which was decorated with cute bunny stickers.

The news displayed a photo of Mr. and Mrs. Martin causing a scene at Landry Group Tower.

“According to what we know, the victim’s name was Cheryl Martin, and she was a secretary working for

Joshua Lynch, president of Lynch Group.

“She was twenty this year and hailed from a small town known as Tavoo on the eastern side of

Merchant City.

According to our investigation, she graduated from Merchant City University last year...”

Pictures of Cheryl were displayed on the screen one after another.

All of her personal information, including her life experiences, had been exposed and was displayed to

the public on the internet.

Not only that, but the reporter had even paid visits to all the places Cheryl had lived in and worked at

and interviewed the people she had been in touch with before she died, including her colleagues, past

teachers and classmates, and even her neighbors and schoolmates from her hometown.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin were devastated and angered by this violation of Cheryl’s privacy. “How can they

do this?”

## Chapter 1708

“How can they expose our daughter’s personal information all over the web?”

No one was perfect, and neither was Cheryl, of course.

Among the people interviewed, some of them had exposed all of the bad things Cheryl had done in the past.

Some of them claimed that Cheryl wanted to become a mistress and tried to force Joshua to fall in love with her, despite knowing his heart belonged to someone else...

On top of that, even the salesperson at the store where Cheryl had bought her dress was interviewed.

All this negative news struck Mr. and Mrs. Martin like waves.

Their daughter had already died, but even after that, her personal information and past experiences had been exposed to the entire world to see.

Even after changing the channel, the head lines of multiple news channels were about Cheryl.

Mr. Martin was so angry that his entire body started to shake, and he had to hold onto the doorway to keep himself steady.

Mrs. Martin, on the other hand, cried so hard that her throat had turned hoarse.



A split second later, Joshua gestured for Lucas to stop. Lucas turned off the television.

“These are the consequences of you spreading false news.” Joshua turned around to stare coldly at the two people before him. “If you had a brain, you’d know that the only reason Lynch Group had come to Merchant City was to bankrupt the Landry and Quinn families and defeat them as soon as possible.

“Cheryl was one of my employees, so if I were to arrange for my men to cause a scene at Landry Group Tower and tarnish their reputation, wouldn’t this be a good thing for Lynch Group?

“However, I didn’t let anyone do that at all, not because I’m stupider than you, but because I was aware of the consequences of doing this, but what about you?”

Joshua narrowed his eyes and continued, a sneer playing on his lips, “Cheryl is your daughter, but you care about yourselves so much that you never stopped to think about the consequences of your actions on her.

“Are you satisfied to see your daughter’s personal information spread all over the web even after her death?”

Mr. and Mrs. Martin were speechless.

Mr. Martin slumped on the ground in despair and said, "Mr. Lynch...what are we supposed to do?"

"Stop what you're doing right now." Joshua let out an exhale. "I can help you take care of this so that

Cheryl's photos and personal information won't become a topic of interest anymore, but—"

He narrowed his eyes. "You have to cremate the body as soon as possible and bring her ashes back to

her hometown so she can rest in peace.

"Don't come to Merchant City ever again, not before we find who the true culprit is."

Mr. and Mrs. Martin exchanged a glance upon hearing this. They hesitated for a moment and finally

could not hold it in anymore. "But...Mr. Lynch, will you really avenge our

daughter's death?

"Luna is your...ex-wife. We're worried that..."

"Don't worry: If Luna were indeed the one who had killed Cheryl, I won't let Cheryl die in vain."

The two of them fell silent for a long time before Mrs. Martin finally stood up, nodding as she started to

pack Cheryl's possessions. "Alright, Mr. Lynch. We'll do as you say."

After helping them pack up Cheryl's possessions, Joshua left.

When he returned to the car from Cheryl's house, Lucas' phone rang.

A split second later, Lucas hung up the phone and said, " Sir, we've found something.

"The second heir of the Quinn family, Hunter, had lost his right index finger last night."

"Noted." Joshua narrowed his eyes and sneered.

Lucas furrowed his brows. "But Sir, if there's only one fingerprint on the murder weapon, and now that

Hunter's finger is already gone, we...don't have any evidence proving him as the murderer anymore."

Joshua curled his lips into a smirk. "The fingerprint left on the murder weapon wasn't that of a right

index finger at all."

Chapter 1709

Lucas' jaw dropped in shock.

It turned out that...the fingerprint left on the murder weapon was not that of a right index finger.

This was just a piece of false information leaked out by Joshua and the police to lure the murderer.

The murderer would surely try to destroy any evidence pointing toward them as soon as they found out

about the fingerprint.

Therefore, anyone who was desperate to get rid of the finger that had allegedly left behind a fingerprint at the scene of the crime would be the murderer!

As soon as he thought of this, Lucas could not help admiring Joshua's intelligence. He raised his thumbs at Joshua and said, "What a great plan, Sir!"

Joshua shot him an impassive glance but did not reply.

Lucas meekly pulled his hand back and continued, " Well, Sir, since we already know that Hunter Quinn was the one who had killed Cheryl...would the police take any action?"

"Will Ma'am be able to get released from jail after the police arrest Hunter?"

Joshua narrowed his eyes and lowered his head to toy with his phone. "I don't intend to let her out at this moment."

Heather and Charles had just handed over Landry Group to Jim and Luna, and there would surely be plenty of things to take care of during this time.

Considering that Luna did not have any experience running a company, she would face many

challenges, but Jim was different.

Jim had been running Landry Group since more than a year ago before he eventually quit his job.

Therefore, Joshua did not want Luna to get released from jail at a time like this.

At least, he wanted to wait until Jim had successfully segregated some of the Quinn Group's assets from that of Landry Group's before releasing Luna so that she would not have to deal with so much bothersome stuff.

However, Lucas did not understand this at all.

That evening, Lucas was talking with his girlfriend on his phone as he ate dinner at the restaurant on the ground floor of Lynch Group Tower. He could not help lamenting as he told this story to his girlfriend, "I guess love is always selfish; even President Lynch is no exception. Even after knowing who the real murderer is now, he still wants to keep Ma'am locked up in jail for his benefit.

"I know he doesn't want Ma'am to become his opponent in the future, but won't doing this make her hate him even more? I don't understand what he's trying to do..." Lucas said as he ate.

In a corner of the restaurant, a woman with sunglasses curled her lips into a smirk as she tucked her phone away.

She put on a cap and mask and exited the restaurant, disguising herself in the shadows.

The woman hailed a taxi, leaned against the backseat, and said, "Driver, go to the police station.

The driver glanced at her through the rearview mirror and said, smiling, as he started the engine, "

Miss, what are you doing, wearing sunglasses at

night like this? You're so covered up and even heading to the police station; are you going there to turn yourself in?"

The woman leaned against the backseat lazily and said, "Why can't I wear sunglasses at night?"

Her tone was so icy that the driver could not help shuddering upon hearing it. "Nothing. I was making small talk, that's all.

"I just think you seem like a beautiful lady, so I was wondering why you'd cover yourself up like this..."

"You think I'm beautiful?" The woman curled her lips into a smirk as she removed her cap and

sunglasses, revealing her face that was covered in multiple scars. "Do you still think I'm beautiful now?"

When the driver caught sight of the woman's face in the rearview mirror, he was so startled that he

almost lost control of the steering wheel.

The car jerked for a split second.

However, the woman seemed to be used to this reaction. She put on her cap and sunglasses gracefully

and said, "Keep your eyes on the road and your nose out of other people's business."

The driver nodded, his face pale, and did not dare to say another word.

The car soon arrived at the police station.

After the woman got out of the car, the driver zipped away into the night without even taking her money.

She curled her lips into a sneer as she watched the car disappear, then turned and strode into the police station.

## Chapter 1710

Visitors were not allowed at night, but the woman emanated such a terrifyingly sinister aura that the police on duty made an exception for her and let her in.

Luna was awoken from her sleep.

She could not stop asking the prison guard who the visitor was as she followed her out of the cell.

However, the prison guard could not offer her any information apart from the visitor's gender. The

visitor was a woman.

Luna furrowed her brows, thinking it was Gwen.

To her surprise, it was a strange woman dressed entirely in black and wearing a pair of sunglasses.

Luna entered the visitation room, frowning, and sat down across from the woman. "You are..."

"Let me introduce myself." The woman lifted her head to smile at Luna. "My name is Charlotte Jacobs,

I'm about the same age as you, and I was your brother Jim's first girlfriend."

Luna widened her eyes in shock.

Jim's...first girlfriend?

How did she not know that Jim had ever had a girlfriend before?

Ever since she returned to the Landry family, she had only known of Jim's reluctance to date, and even

Harvey's birth six years ago was simply an accident, so where did this woman come from?

"Jim and I were together six years ago, and at that time, you hadn't returned to the Landry family yet,

so it's natural that you're unaware of my existence." The woman smiled. "I've been avoiding this for six

years now, and it's about time I face the truth."



With that, she elegantly removed her sunglasses and mask, revealing her scarred face to Luna.

Luna stared at Charlotte's face in shock.

This was a face that looked even more terrifying than hers after Malcolm had deliberately ruined her face.

It was clear that this woman had tried to salvage her appearance, but scars all over her face were too deep to get rid of entirely, and her wounds were still shocking to any onlooker.

"You're different; you're not scared of me at all." Charlotte curled her lips into a smile when she saw Luna's surprisingly calm expression.

"Your brother and I met at the orphanage when we were young. I used to love wearing red clothes and would always follow him around, calling his name.

"At that time, he mistook me for you and wanted to take me away from the orphanage.

"However, after that, the Landry family found Heather and brought her home instead, so I didn't get to leave the orphanage with him in the end.

"After we grew up, we managed to reunite again, but unfortunately, not long after your brother and I got

together, Heather lured me to an abandoned warehouse and set it on fire, ruining everything that I had.”

With that, she gazed at Luna and continued, “I should be thanking you. If it weren’t for you, Heather wouldn’t have been kicked out of the Landry family, and I wouldn’t have gained the courage to return to Merchant City.”

After she finished describing her experience to Luna, Charlotte let out an exhale and fixated her gaze on Luna. “All these years, I’ve been learning how to run a business while I was abroad, and I always hoped that I’d be able to stand on top of the world, right next to Jim.

“Now that the Landry family is going through difficulties, I couldn’t bear to see him go through this alone, so I decided to come back.”

Luna pursed her lips and let out a small sigh when she caught sight of the look in Charlotte’s eyes upon mentioning Jim’s name. “The reason you came to visit me so late at night...is to thank me?”

“Of course not.” Charlotte took out her phone and played the recording of Lucas’ voice that she had overheard at the restaurant to Luna.

“I guess love is always selfish; even President Lynch is no exception. Even after knowing who the real

murderer is now, he still wants to keep Ma'am locked up in jail for his benefit.

"I know he doesn't want Ma'am to become his opponent in the future, but wouldn't doing this make her hate him even more? I don't understand what he's trying to do..."

When the audio clip finished playing, Luna felt as though her entire body had been submerged in ice-cold water.

She bit her lip as despair filled her entire heart.

It turned out Joshua had already found out who the real murderer was...yet he would instead let the culprit get away scot-free than release her from jail.

"I can help you get out of here." Charlotte stared at Luna intently. "But you have to agree to one condition."