

## **Luna & Joshua 2001**

### Chapter 2001

Joshua was worth it...unlike Jim.

As soon as she thought of this, Bonnie started to doubt her decision to keep the baby.

Was she really going through with the pregnancy?

Jim was not worth her sacrifice at all,

“Careful, careful.”

At this moment, Sean had returned to the car, and with Harvey’s help, he slowly brought Shelly out of her seat. He carried her in his arms carefully, as though he were afraid she would break.

Bonnie had to admit that in many aspects, Sean was almost an identical copy of Jim.

As she watched him carry Shelly, she could not help imaging the scene of Jim holding their future baby in his arms.

As soon as she thought of this, Bonnie felt as though an invisible hand was squeezing her heart.

“Bonnie?” Harvey walked over to her, having noticed the sorrow in her eyes, and gently clasped her hand. “It’s getting late now; shall we go rest?”

He even grinned at her, trying to lighten the mood. "You still have to accompany me to Aunt Luna and Uncle Joshua's house to bring June here tomorrow.

"Now that Uncle Christopher isn't in Merchant City, I'm the closest family she has, and I promised her that I'll take good care of her."

A surge of warmth spread into Bonnie's heart, accompanied by a twinge of sadness.

She crouched to hug him and replied, "Okay. Men should stick to their word."

She hoped that Harvey would grow up to be a man of his word, unlike the people she had encountered in her past...

For example, the young boy she had met at the orphanage when she was young, who had promised her that he would return for her but did not show up.

Jason, who had promised that he would take care of her but almost killed her.

Jim, who had promised that he would marry no one else but her, but what happened after that?

He could not even remember a single detail of their time together.

"Bonnie..." Harvey let out a sigh, grabbed hold of her face, and pressed a kiss on her cheek." Don't

worry; you have me. From the moment I decided that you would be my new Mommy i knew I'd try my

best to make you happy!”

Bonnie immediately came to, and as she met Harvey’s bright, hopeful gaze, she suddenly realized she should not be acting so sullenly in front of the children.

Therefore, she forced herself to perk up, kissed Harvey back on his cheek, then turned to smile at Sean. “Come on. You can bring Shelly into the house first, then come back out for the rest of the luggage.”

Sean nodded, then quickly strode into the Landry Mansion’s yard, holding the baby gingerly in his arms.

In the distance, Jim and Charlotte’s car had turned around, and they could see Bonnie and Sean chatting happily from inside the vehicle.

There was a happy, gentle smile on her face, and her eyes were bright and animated.

After smiling at him, she said something to Sean that they could not hear, to which Sean responded with a grin and a reply of his own.

Then, the two of them turned and entered the yard together, with the baby in Sean’s arms.

Jim narrowed his eyes when he saw this.

Charlotte, on the other hand, sighed. "They look like such an adorable family."

"What on earth are you talking about?" Jim clenched his fists and turned to glance coldly at her.

"Harvey and Shelly are my kids!"

With that, he narrowed his eyes and asked, "Isn't Shelly your daughter, too? If so, why would you think she and Bonnie would make an adorable family?"

Chapter 2002

Charlotte's entire body stiffened when she heard Jim's words.

All of a sudden, she recalled that previously, when she was trying to convince Jim to bring Shelly and Harvey over to Merchant City, she had lied to him about Shelly being her daughter.

At that time, all she thought was that since Shelly and Harvey would die in the explosion on their flight to Merchant City, as long as she feigned sorrow and devastation, she would be able to hold up to her lies.

None of that went according to plan!

Charlotte never thought that Joshua and Luna's wretched son would join them on their journey here, and not only had he managed to find all the hidden bombs, but he had also even switched out all the flight attendants and crew without her knowing!

Charlotte's plans had been utterly ruined.

Because of this, she had spent her entire day drowned in disappointment and anger, so much so that she had forgotten about what she had lied to Jim in the past.

Jim had so suddenly brought it up at this moment, and only then did she recall that she was supposed to be a sobbing mother, devastated about her separation from her child!

A glimmer of nervousness flashed through her eyes, but a split second later, she calmed down and said, "Even though Shelly is indeed my daughter, but..."

She let out a sigh as tears started to brim in her eyes. "But as soon as she was born, you had taken her away from me and passed her over to Christopher to take care of because she was always sick

"After that, Christopher brought the children with him when he went to Banyan City to find Bonnie..."

The more she said this, the more choked her voice became, "Because of this, even though Shelly is my daughter, I've never taken care of her even for a day.

“Now, the child has become so attached to Bonnie that it’s as though she’s her mother instead. On top of that...”

Charlotte sobbed, “Sometimes I even wonder if Shelly is my daughter or Bonnie’s...”

With that, she slumped helplessly in Jim’s arms and whimpered, “Jim, trust me when I say I want nothing more than to be close to my child again, but...I never got the chance.”

Watching Charlotte cry, Jim suddenly felt a twinge of pain shoot through his heart. He

immediately reached out to wipe Charlotte’s tears away. “Don’t worry; I promise you that as soon as the children warm up to me, I’ll try to create opportunities for you and Shelly to bond.

“After all, she’s still young and can’t remember anything yet, so you still have time to rekindle your bond with her.”

“Okay.” Charlotte nodded with tears in her eyes. “Jim, you’re the best!”

Jim let out a sigh and pulled her into his arms. “Of course. After what you did for me at the orphanage, I will do anything to make you happy.”

Charlotte narrowed her eyes at the mention of the orphanage, and a glimmer of displeasure flashed

through her eyes.

However, she still suppressed her emotions and smiled as she wrapped her arms around Jim's waist. "I

can't believe you still remember that."

"Of course I do." Jim chuckled, and after informing the driver of their destination, he continued

impassively, "Maybe it's because I lost all my short-term memories, so it made all the long-term

memories in my head even more vivid. I even remember the red birthmark on your left shoulder."

With that, he reached out and tried to pull down Charlotte's collar. "At that time, you were so self-

conscious about it and kept worrying whether the birthmark will grow bigger as time passes. How big

has it gotten now?"

Charlotte widened her eyes in shock upon hearing this.

She immediately held down her shirt and shrieked, "Don't look at it!"

The terror in her tone made Jim's arm freeze in mid-air. He furrowed his brows and stared at Charlotte

in puzzlement. "What's wrong?"

Charlotte froze for a moment, then turned her head away and let out a small cough. "We're still in the

car, and we have a driver with us..."

Chapter 2003

“We...”

Before Charlotte could even finish her sentence, the driver quickly pressed a button, lowering, the partition between the front and back seats.

The back seat was entirely separated and concealed from the front of the car,

Charlotte stared at the partition board and silently cursed the driver. Did he think he was being thoughtful? She was just using him as an excuse!

She had not anticipated that the driver would literally take the hint.

Jim could not help letting out a chuckle when he saw Charlotte staring dazedly at the partition board.

“Well, we can now.”

He reached out once more and tried to pull open her collar.

It was not because he wanted to take a look at her birthmark, but...

He had seen Charlotte’s bare shoulder before, and he did not recall seeing anything there.

It was rather out of the blue, even, that he recalled that Number-9 had told him about her birthmark in

the past.

Therefore, he wanted to double confirm if this was true.

However, Charlotte clung to her shirt, refusing to relent. "There-There's nothing to see. That birthmark is...hideous! Don't look at it!"

With that, she held both ends of her collar close together, concealing every inch of her bare neck and skin. "Jim, I'm a bit tired now, and I don't feel like playing this game with you."

Jim narrowed his eyes and glanced at her left shoulder. "Alright. I'm a bit tired too."

Truth be told, he had deliberately misspoken about an important detail; the birthmark was supposed to be on the right, not the left shoulder.

Jim had deliberately misspoken about the location in hopes that Charlotte would notice it and tease him about misremembering. However, he was surprised that she did not seem to know of the birthmark's existence at all.

She had clutched her left shoulder after hearing what he said.

Jim stared at Charlotte's pale face and, for the first time ever, started to suspect that...

Could it be that Charlotte was not Number-9?

However, this doubt only crossed his mind for a moment,

Asplit stond later, he shook his head and tried to chase away his strange thought.

How could Charlotte not be?

There would not be another person in the world who knew of the secret between him and Number-o

nor would they know that the pendant was supposed to be the token of their love.

Besides. Jim had already been with Charlotte for so many years that he could not imagine the

consequences if he had truly mistaken someone else as Number-9.

Meanwhile, at Landry Mansion, Bonnie had changed into her pajamas and was trying to put Shelly to

sleep in the bedroom.

It was almost summer at this point, and for some reason, there was no air-conditioning in the small

house they were staying in.

Bonnie wondered if Jim had turned off the air-conditioner on purpose, and initially, Harvey had wanted

to confront his father about this, but Bonnie stopped him before he could do so.

She knew that Jim was not around, and it was just going to be a night; they would get through it just

fine

However, she never thought that the night would only grow hotter from that point.

In the end, she changed into a thin camisole to tide her through the heat as she sang a lullaby for

Shelly.

After all, Sean was supposed to be sleeping in the small room outside hers, and only Harvey and

Shelly would be staying in the same room with her, so there was nothing to be embarrassed about.

Staring at Bonnie and Shelly, Harvey's attention was immediately grabbed by a rose tattoo on Bonnie's

right shoulder. "I never thought you'd be the type to get a tattoo, Bonnie." Bonnie froze, then chuckled.

"I got it just to conceal a birthmark on my shoulder."

Chapter 2004

Honnte still remembered how much it had hurt for her to get this tattoo.

Initially, even though she had always thought this birthmark was hideous, she never intended to hide it

with a tattoo at all.

When she was still at the orphanage, she had once complained about her birthmark to the boy she had

met there, but what he told her next delighted her so much that she changed her mind about her

birthmark

He had said, "I heard that some angels helped God carry out a lot of good deeds while they were in

heaven, so in order for God to repay them for their kindness, he deliberately left marks on their bodies

when he sent them back down to earth as humans so he wouldn't lose track of them

"That way, God will be able to recognize them for who they are and send his blessings their way."

This was the first time Bonnie had ever heard anyone explaining it this way, so she widened her eyes in

excitement and asked, "Are you saying that I was an angel in my past life, and God will bless me in this

one?"

The boy nodded earnestly. "Yes, this birthmark is a symbol of good luck and happiness, and it means

that you'll have a good life in the future, with God's blessing!"

At that time, Bonnie was so overjoyed to hear this that she never thought of her birthmark as hideous

ever again.

However, everything changed when she met Jason.

Every time Jason wanted to get intimate with her, he would lose interest as soon as he caught sight of the birthmark on her shoulder.

Therefore, Bonnie decided to spend her bursary money on a tattoo to conceal her birthmark so that Jason would not be so repulsed by her.

However, as soon as Jason found out that she had spent a fortune on the tattoo, he was so angry that he beat her up.

Bonnie let out a sigh when she recalled these memories, then lowered her head to glance at her birthmark.

Was this a symbol of God's blessing?

She found that harder to believe already.

After all, apart from inheriting tens of billions of dollars from her family fortune, there had never been another moment when she felt happy and blessed,

Maybe, to other people, the money she had inherited was her blessing

"Did you get this tattoo to cover a birthmark?" Harvey inched closer in curiosity and scrutinized the skin of Bonnie's shoulder. He could see, in between the lines and colors, the faint markings of the birthmark

concealed underneath the rose,

He was a little shocked by this and lifted his head to stare at Bonnie. “Bonnie, can I take a photo? Your tattoo is absolutely stunning!”

Bonnie shot him a helpless glance. “Of course you can.”

Harvey quickly brought out his camera and took a photo of Bonnie’s shoulder. Then, he uploaded it in his cloud drive with the remark, (The flower that blooms not in a field, but on one’s shoulder).

Every square meter of Merchant City center was so expensive that some people could not even afford to buy a bathroom here despite working their entire lives.

However, at this moment, Charlotte sat in a 300-square-foot villa smack dab in the middle of Merchant City.

The frustration of Jim bringing up the orphanage dissipated as soon as she stepped foot into the villa.

She paced around the room in excitement, her entire heart bursting with delight.

She was the happiest woman in Merchant City!

This villa was worth at least billions of dollars, and she would become the owner of this place!

She was no longer the small, weak little Number -12 who was constantly bullied by the other children at the orphanage anymore!

Charlotte's face was etched with joy and euphoria as she paced around the villa, looking at her surroundings.

After walking through the house a few times, she finally exhaled, strode over to Jim, and lifted her head to look at him. "Jim, can I renovate this place? I think the decoration is a little too drab, and it doesn't suit our status at all!" Jim glanced at her, smiling.

Chapter 2005

"Of course you can. This will be our house in the future, so you can renovate it any way you want."

Charlotte nodded, then strode into the living room. "I want to switch out this sofa to a customized, high-end one. I previously saw one that would be perfect for this space, and it cost 1.8 million dollars. Can I buy that?"

Jim nodded. "Of course you can."

“The paintings on the wall are too simple; I’m planning to hang up a few paintings from famous artists.

I’ll look around to see if there’s any that suits our house, but to match our status, I’ll have to buy ones that cost upward of ten million.

“Also, the curtains and the rugs...”

The numbers that came out of Charlotte’s mouth were each bigger than the last as she rattled off her calculations for the renovation.

Jim listened to her quietly and could not help furrowing his brows.

A split second later, after Charlotte had finished talking, he stared at her and asked, “What if one day I lose all my money and become a broke, homeless man, like the mechanic who works for Joshua now? Will you still be together with me?”

Charlotte froze when she heard this.

A split second later, she let out an awkward smile and replied, “What are you talking about, Jim? Why would you end up like that?”

“You’re the master of the Landry family, so how can you even compare yourself to that man?”

Jim narrowed his eyes. “All I’m asking you is if you’ll still marry me if I were him?”

The smile froze on Charlotte's face.

A moment later, she curled her lips into another smile, walked over to Jim, and snaked her arm around his. "Of course I will. I love you as a person and not just for your money...

"If you think all these items are too expensive and don't want to pay for them, it's fine. I...I'm not that materialistic at all."

After all, one day, all his money will become hers anyway.

Jim glanced at her meaningfully but did not reply. Instead, he turned and walked away.

"Jim!" Charlotte was shocked by this. She quickly chased after him and called out, "I was just

"It's getting late now, so you'd better get some rest." Jim strode out of the door without looking back.

"I've assigned some maids and bodyguards to look after you, so you'll be safe here."

Suddenly, he froze in his tracks and added, "As for all the renovation plans you had... We'll discuss

them in the future after Landry Group has gotten back on its feet."

With that, he disappeared into the night.

Charlotte remained motionless and bit down on her lip as she watched his retreating figure.

Had she...been too impatient?

As soon as she thought of this, Charlotte sighed and returned to the villa. She plopped down on the comfortable sofa and closed her eyes in exasperation.

All the furniture and decoration in this villa were too simple; it was not fit for someone like her at all!

All of a sudden, her phone rang.

It was a call from a number without a name, but she would recognize it anywhere.

She rolled her eyes, and after letting it ring for a long time, she finally picked it up reluctantly and

barked, "What?"

"Haven't I already told you not to use the bombs unless you're absolutely certain? Joshua's men are already looking into the source of the bombs, and you—"

"I what?" Charlotte grew even more frustrated at the mention of the bomb. "Sirius, if you still think of me

as your daughter, you should be thinking of ways to help me get rid of Jim's wretched kids instead of lecturing me about it!"

Chapter 2006 The night grew darker.

Perhaps due to their exhausting journey to Merchant City and the commotion ever since their arrival, it was surprisingly difficult to coax Shelly to sleep that night.

Bonnie had to coax and soothe her for a long time before finally getting Shelly to sleep.

By the time Bonnie placed Shelly back into her crib and confirmed that she had indeed fallen asleep, it was already past 10 o'clock.

When Bonnie opened the door, she discovered that Harvey had fallen asleep on the couch, still clutching his phone

Bonnie sighed, walked over, and took his phone from his hand.

His text conversation with Nigel was left open on the screen.

(Nigel, no matter what happens, I will find a way to make Bonnie get back together with Mr. Jim.

[I don't think I'll ever be happy again unless she becomes my new Mommy.]

Tears slid down Bonnie's cheeks as she read these words.

She lowered her head to stare at Harvey, sleeping soundly on the sofa, and suddenly felt as though someone had stabbed her in the heart.

After a long time, she finally let out an exhale, placed Harvey's phone aside, and gently laid a blanket over him.

Then, she turned to glance out the phone.

At this moment, Sean was sitting on a stone bench in the garden, talking on the phone.

She could faintly hear the gentle sound of his voice as he talked to the person on the other end of the line.

When she saw this, Bonnie could not help feeling a little lonely.

It seemed that...everyone had someone to love and love them back.

However, she had no one except Harvey and Shelly, who were not even blood-related to her.

Not only that, but Bonnie could not imagine any man treating her as kindly as Sean had.

In a split second, loneliness and solidarity enveloped her entire being.

She let out a sigh and turned around. After picking up her jacket, she let herself out of the back | door and followed the path out of Landry Mansion's backyard.

The sounds of the leaves rustling and the crickets chirping soothed her.

After a while, she found herself standing in front of a burnt, abandoned cave.

Staring at the entrance to the cave, Bonnie could not help feeling despaired as she gazed into its depths.

This must have been the place that Luna had been tricked into bringing Charlotte to, where she stole the drugs that had put Jim under her control.

At one point, this place could have housed the antidote to Jim's poison, but at this moment, there was nothing.

"What are you doing here?" a male's voice rang out from behind her and interrupted her thoughts out of the blue.

Bonnie froze, then turned around.

Jim was standing behind her, his expression dark

He was wearing a pair of gray pajamas underneath his coat, as though he had also come out for a walk on a sleepless night.

Bonnie could not help feeling a little sad when she caught sight of the corner of his pajamas peeking out from underneath his coat.

The pajamas that he was wearing...were a gift from her.

To be specific, she had made it for him.

About six months ago, she had heard an old wives' tale about how to keep a man by her side, one should make him a set of clothes with her bare hands.

Because of this, Bonnie had started learning how to tailor and make clothes from scratch.

However, she had no talent in this at all, and no matter how hard she tried, she could not make him a nice, proper-looking suit.

In the end, Luna was the one who had suggested that she make Jim a set of pajamas instead, after watching her try and fail many times.

After all, this would not only hold to the old wives' tale, but Jim would not be embarrassed either.

Bonnie thought this was an excellent idea, so she proceeded to pick out the perfect cloth and made him these gray pajamas.

She still remembered the look on his face when he had received this. His face had been etched with slight disgust, and he said he did not like wearing clothes with haphazard stitching like

this.

However, every time she video called him after that, he would always be wearing the same pajamas

At that time, Bonnie thought she had managed to catch his heart and keep him by her side, but it

turned out...

Chapter 2007

At this moment, Bonnie could not help sneering as she stared at the man before her, who wore the

pajamas he loved but stared at her with an expression so cold it was as though he was looking at his

enemy.

It turned out that women would do plenty of stupid things for their partners.

As soon as they broke up, all the memories of the things she had done for him felt like knives that

plunged into her heart.

Pain, sorrow, despair.

“What are you laughing about?” Jim furrowed his brows and shot her a displeased look when he saw

her smirking. “I’m asking you what you’re doing here so late at night.”

Bonnie lifted her head to glance impassively at him. "I couldn't sleep, so I came out for a walk

Jim squinted at her. "You walked all the way here because you couldn't fall asleep?"

Whether it was before or after the explosion, this cave was off-limits to everyone!

In the past, people were prohibited from getting near because this was where Rosalyn stored her drugs and poison.

At present, everyone was forbidden from stepping foot near this place because of the potentially deadly and hazardous gasses emitted by the drugs after the fire.

A woman like Bonnie, who had just undergone major surgery, should not be near this place!

"Of course." Bonnie, unaware of Jim's concern, thought he was trying to mock her. Her tone grew even frostier as she added, "Or maybe you'd like to think of it as me trying to find a poison that can put you under my spell."

She shrugged and answered herself, "Although judging by how ruined this place is now, I'm guessing I won't be able to find any."

With that, she turned around and left.

Just as she brushed past him, Jim grabbed hold of her wrist. "Bonnie."

There was a hint of repressed emotions in his voice as he clutched her slender wrist. "Both you and

Luna insist that you and I have been together in the past, but I don't remember anything about it."

He lifted his head to stare at Bonnie's small, delicate face. "Can you answer me truthfully? Were we...

together in the past?"

His dark, penetrating stare was etched with earnestness as he continued to gaze at her. "When did we

start dating, how long were we together, and why did we break up? I want to know everything."

Every time anyone brought up the topic of him and Bonnie in the past, Jim would insist that they were

lies, but at this point, he really wanted to know the answer.

He wanted to know why Bonnie mattered to him that much.

Even though he no longer remembered anything about their time together, every time he closed his

eyes, the image of her standing underneath a maple tree, dressed in red, would emerge in his mind.

Staring at Jim's earnest face, Bonnie curled her lips into a smirk and replied, "Will you believe me if I

tell you the answer?"

Jim narrowed his eyes. "I'll believe you as long as you tell me the truth."

“Okay.” Bonnie let out an exhale. “Jim, I had been lying to you.

“We’ve never been together at all, and we never even knew each other in the past. I was just trying to trick you into thinking that after you lost your memories so that I’d be able to take your money.” With that, she shot him a cold look “Are you satisfied now?”

Chapter 2008

Rage surged into Jim’s heart when he heard this. “You’re lying!”

He fixed his dark, penetrating stare on Bonnie’s face and furiously retorted, “You can’t possibly have done it for money!”

He had investigated everything about this woman; she was the last heir to the Craig family business and had inherited every last penny of the family fortune.

According to rough estimations, the Craig family was worth almost as much as the Landry family.

Not only that, but after suffering the financial losses as a result of Joshua’s attacks, the Craig family

had already surpassed the Landry family in terms of wealth and assets! How could Bonnie say that she

was trying to trick him out of his money?

“Who wouldn’t want more money?” Bonnie retorted as though she could tell what he was thinking. She flung his arm away, sneering. “Haven’t you always thought of me as this kind of person, Jim? From the moment I approached you, you’ve thought I was just trying to take advantage of you after losing your memories.

“No matter how much I tried to explain everything, and no matter what Luna said, you refused to believe that you and I had been in love in the past.

“Why do you not believe me now if that’s what you’ve always taken as the truth since the start?”

Her gaze was etched with disdain and contempt. “Why do you think I’m lying now? Tell me, Mr. Jim Landry, what do I have to do to make you satisfied?”

Jim narrowed his eyes upon hearing this.

He had to admit that Bonnie was right. He had indeed doubted her intentions in the past, but...

Everything that happened over the last two days made him certain that Bonnie would never do something like this.

Children would not lie; they were not capable of pretending whom they liked and whom they did not.

Because of this, Jim could tell that Harvey and Shelly both truly adored Bonnie, and Bonnie, too, had

taken great care of the two children.

If they had never dated in the past, and if she truly had been Christopher's girlfriend...she would not have taken care of the children so diligently.

In that case, she would have taken more of a liking to June instead.

However, he could tell that Bonnie and June were not very close. In fact, she had only brought Harvey and Shelly with her to Landry Mansion and had left June behind.

This meant that...

Jim narrowed his eyes and stared at Bonnie. "We've dated in the past, haven't we?"

"It doesn't matter anymore." Bonnie sneered and turned around. "Jim, you've already told me that the fact you couldn't remember any of this means it never mattered to you at all.

"Since it bears no importance, I don't think there's a need to talk about it anymore."

With that, she strode away once more.

Jim remained motionless and felt a twinge of pain shoot through his heart as he watched Bonnie leave.

It hurt him so much that he could not help crouching down in pain.

As he did so, he accidentally stepped on a loose rock on the ground and lost his balance.

Immediately, he reached out with his right hand, which he had burned on the kettle, to prop himself up.

The excruciating pain that shot up from his palm made him grunt.

Bonnie had not gone far yet, and when she heard him grunt, she furrowed her brows but did not stop.

“Jim, you don’t have to pretend that you’ve hurt yourself. I won’t...”

Despite saying this, she could not help stopping in her tracks and turning to glance at him. Behind her,

Jim’s palm had been cut by the sharp edge of the rock and was bleeding.

Chapter 2009

Tim’s other hand was clutching his chest, and he appeared as though he was in excruciating pain.

Bonnie’s entire body stiffened at this sight.

After hesitating for a moment; she let out an exhale, strode over, and helped him up from the ground.

Then, she asked with a hint of repulse in her voice, “What’s wrong?”

Jim furrowed his brows and shook his head but did not reply.

Bonnie knew that by shaking his head, he was trying to tell her that he was fine. “Do you expect me to

believe you’re fine after what just happened?”

She rolled her eyes at him, helped him off the ground, and took out his phone from his pocket. Then, she dialed the number of the person he had saved on his phone as 'M'. "Hey, Mickey, are you at Landry Mansion now?"

"Jim has gotten injured, and we're near the drug warehouse in the backyard. Come help us."

She had come out of the house in such a hurry that she forgot to bring her phone. On top of – that, Sean was responsible for protecting Harvey and Shelly, so she could not possibly ask him for help.

Therefore, she had no choice but to call Mickey.

After being together with Jim for more than a year, she had naturally gotten to know Mickey quite well.

"Alright. I'll come over right now." Mickey was a little surprised to hear Bonnie's voice, but he agreed without asking further and hung up the phone.

Bonnie was finally relieved to hear this. She turned off Jim's phone and swiftly tucked it back into his pocket.

Jim furrowed his brows even more when he saw this.

Not only did Bonnie know which pocket he always put his phone in, but she even knew the passcode to unlock his phone without even having to ask him.

Finally, she managed to find the contact named M and even knew that the person on the other end of the line was Mickey.

All this made it almost impossible for Jim not to believe that he and Bonnie had, at one point, been very close.

After all...

Not even Charlotte could accomplish all this.

She had no idea what the alphabets in his contact book meant, nor did she know the passcode to his phone.

“What are you staring at?” Seeing that Jim was looking at her, Bonnie furrowed her brows and rolled her eyes at him. “I asked Mickey to come because he knows some basic first aid. Besides, he’s been staying here in Landry Mansion all this while, so he’d be able to rush here as soon as possible.”

Finally, she pursed her lips and added, “You’re too heavy; did you expect me to carry you all the way back to the house if not for him?”

As he watched Bonnie trying to explain herself, a surge of warmth spread through Jim's heart.

He removed his hand from his chest and reached out to gently tuck Bonnie's hair behind her ear. Then, with a hint of adoration in his voice, he said, "I just think you look extra cute like this."

Bonnie felt her chest tighten. She widened her eyes and stared at him in shock, as though he had turned into a monster. "What are you trying to do?"

If Jim had said this to her in the past, she would have been delighted, but at this moment...

She could only feel fear and terror.

This man must have been trying to tease and humiliate her again.

Jim was a little unsettled by her gaze and quickly regained his rationality. He turned away so as not to meet her gaze. "Well, you can pretend like you've never heard me."

Bonnie rolled her eyes at him but did not reply. Instead, she shuffled in the direction of Landry Mansion, dragging Jim behind her slowly.

Not long later, the two of them bumped into Mickey, who had sprinted in their direction.

Mickey was frozen in shock when he saw them together. "Did you...get back together?" Jim narrowed

his eyes upon hearing this. “Yes, we have.

Chapter 2010

“No.”

As soon as Jim’s words escaped his mouth, Bonnie interjected without even a single hint of hesitation.

She handed Jim over to Mickey and added in a voice so cold that there was barely any warmth in it,

“How can he and I possibly get back together? Mr. Jim is still waiting to marry his precious Charlotte.”

With that, she turned and left.

Jim remained motionless, deep in his thoughts as he watched her leave.

When Bonnie disappeared from his view, he turned to glance at Mickey. “She and I...”

“You two were together in the past, and you were very close too,” Mickey replied in his deep voice as

he lowered his head. “If Ms. Charlotte hadn’t come back to Merchant City, the person you would’ve

been marrying would be Ms. Bonnie by now.”

Jim furrowed his brows when he heard this. He glanced coldly at Mickey and asked, “Does this – mean

that I was the one who had wronged her?”

Even though he could feel the displeasure in Jim's gaze, Mickey still nodded in defiance. "Well, according to what happened, that was indeed the case. You..."

He let out a sigh but decided to keep the truth about Jim being poisoned by Charlotte to himself.

He had been with the Landry family for more than 20 years, and he knew exactly what kind of temper Jim had. If he attempted to convince Jim otherwise of something he believed, it would serve them no good apart from angering him.

"What did I do?" Jim asked, frowning when he saw Mickey hesitating.

"Nothing." Mickey let out a bitter chuckle and continued carrying Jim back to the mansion. "I just thought you'd never believe Ms. Bonnie."

Jim glanced at him through narrowed eyes.

For some reason, he felt that Mickey was hiding something from him.

After bringing Jim back to Landry Mansion, Mickey quickly helped him clean and bandaged his wounds and left soon after that.

However, Jim could not seem to fall asleep at all.

He opened his laptop and could not stop searching for other clues about Bonnie but to no avail.

The only thing on his laptop related to Bonnie was the photo he had taken of her underneath the maple tree.

Leaning against the back of his leather chair, Jim gazed at the photo for a very, very long time.

That night, after finally drifting off to an uneasy sleep, Jim had a dream.

In his dream, a girl dressed in red stood underneath a maple tree, GJG'NE\_} she called out to him in her clear, singsongy voice, "Are you done yet, Jim? What use is it for you to spend so much time just taking one photo?"

"Come on, hurry up. I need to pee! I can barely stand straight now!"

Jim could not help chuckling as he held the camera up to his face and gazed at the woman's slender back. "Ms. Craig, you're the only woman I know who'd say something like that. I can't believe you used to be a reporter in the past. Aren't you supposed to be literary instead of using such crude language like that?"

The woman turned to roll her eyes at him. "How long have we been dating already? After being together for so long, it's only natural that I have to be straightforward.

– “What else do you expect? Am I supposed to tell you I’m thirsty when my bladder is about to burst?”

With that, she furrowed her brows and suddenly realized that she was making fun of herself instead, so she quickly added, “Besides, you know what kind of person I am. If you don’t like me this way, you can find a new girlfriend!”

Jim curled his lips into a smile when he heard this, strode over to her side, and pulled her into his arms.

“I don’t want a new girlfriend anymore after finding you.”

Bonnie rolled her eyes at him. “You’re slick, aren’t you?”

Despite that, she still snuggled closer to him and said with a smile, “Well, you’d better stick to your word, Jim. If you dare break my heart, I will curse you...”