

Luna & Joshua 451

Chapter 451

Adria could hardly believe his own eyes.

He clearly remembered, a few years ago, he once visited the Walter family in Sea City. He got drunk and started to feel sorry for Hailey.

In his heart, Hailey was always the best candidate to be Joshua's wife. As his father, he thought even if he never loved and cared about his son, he would listen to him, listen to their family, and marry Hailey who had been intended to him since they were children.

Instead, Adrian never expected Joshua to reject the marriage once and for all. He even married Luna Gibson who also grew up in Sea City, just to rebel against his family.

In the end, even when Luna Gibson went missing, he still rejected Hailey adamantly. To not be involved with Hailey in any possible manner, he was even willing to get engaged to Aura, Luna's younger sister.

Back then, he was drunk, scolding Joshua as he comforted Hailey, telling her she deserves someone better. That day, Hailey cried, touched by his words.

Her gaze that night left a deep impression on Adrian. Her eyes looked exactly the same as Alice who was standing right in front of him as if they were... one and the same...

Seeing Adrian stare at herself, Alice paused, then glanced at Adrian with grateful eyes and hurriedly lowered her head.

Adrian stood in his spot, caught in a daze for a long moment before he recovered his wits.

He shook his head.

He must have been so angry his mind was muddled! Hailey was dead. Besides, when she was alive, the person she hated the most was Luna, the woman who married Joshua back then.

Alice Gibson was in fact Luna Gibson, just with a change of names.

At this thought, he sucked in a deep breath, turned, and continued looking at Joshua. "Joshua, say something! "

Joshua curled his lips up in a cold and detached smile. "Do you want to know the truth?"

He lifted his head, his gaze faint and emotionless. "If there's a woman I hate the most in this world, then that woman would definitely be Hailey Walter."

At his words, Alice, who was sitting right beside him, felt as if all the joints in her body were starting to stiffen. She could not believe her own ears.

Dazedly, she looked at Joshua's face, all harsh lines and sharp edges, feeling as if her own voice drifted from a distant, faraway world. "Wh.. why?"

She had been madly in love with Joshua for years. She knew he did not return her feelings. But she never expected... Joshua would use the word 'hate'. She bit her lower lip harshly, her hands curling into fists beside her. She wanted an answer,

The man frowned slightly. He thought this question would come from Adrian, but unexpectedly, it was Alice, who was sitting beside him, who brought up the question first. But it made no difference, whoever asked him, his answer would remain the same. "Because she can do anything to achieve her goal."

His voice was soft and casual. "That's true, before we were born, both families had already agreed on our marriage. But in reality, since I was a child, I rejected this political marriage. The good relationship between the older generation has nothing to do with me, I don't have to sacrifice my life just for the happiness of the older generation. Initially, the Walter family already agreed to cancel the engagement, even Granny agreed. Just when I thought I had finally left this engagement behind, once, accidentally, I went to Sea City and met with Hailey. Since then, our engagement was brought up again. Even though they knew I was unwilling to do so, my family and the Walter family forced me to marry her."

As he spoke, he suddenly snorted, "To marry me, she tried all possible means. Father, this is the obedient and docile girl that you mentioned?"

Adrian's expression turned ugly.

He was right.

Back then, to marry Joshua, Hailey did in fact employ some tricks. "She only did it for her own happiness, her actions were harmless."

Chapter 452

Joshua laughed, "Back then, to marry me, she could employ such tricks, and now, she could also employ other tricks, to deal with Luna."

With his left hand, he elegantly unfastened the buttons of his shirt. The bandages on his right arm made the old lady cry out in dismay, "Joshua, what, what happened?"

"It was Hailey's fault." He raised his eyes in cold detachment and glanced at Adrian, "Everything that Luna said, is evidence of her crimes that I managed to find. Initially, I thought, since she's already dead, then these pieces of evidence should not be exposed. But if father, you insist that she is a good

girl and Luna was the one who framed her... I don't mind exposing to the world the dirty deeds of a dead woman..."

Adrian's complexion was pale, with a hint of grey. Unconsciously, he took a step backward, standing shakily as if he was about to fall at any minute. "That's impossible... Hailey is a nice girl..."

"Adrian! " Alice rushed forward and hurriedly steadied him. She held onto him, then turned and glanced at Joshua coldly. "Joshua, she's already

dead, why do you have to destroy the image your father has of her? How can you hit your own father with such a blow?"

Then, she bit her lip harshly. "Hailey was just in love with you, she likes you, so she used a few tricks to try and marry you, isn't that normal? No matter how

wrong her actions were, you don't need to hate someone who loves you, right?"

Joshua frowned slightly. A moment later, he laughed lightly, "Alice, actually I always wanted to ask you.

You're so close to Hailey now... Did you forget what Hailey did to you when we just got married?"

With one sentence, Alice's complexion turned pale as a ghost.

Back then, when Joshua and Luna Gibson just got married...

She once drove a car and knocked into Luna on purpose.

Back then, Luna Gibson and Joshua just got married. While Luna was waiting for Joshua at the entrance to the hotel, Hailey seized the opportunity when there was a large amount of traffic at the intersection and the roads were in a mess and drove her car into the direction where Luna was standing.

But back then, Luna reacted quickly and rolled away in time.

Later on, this incident was suppressed, firstly because the traffic situation on the day of the accident was indeed in a mess, and secondly because she did not actually harm Luna.

But she was warned by Joshua, never to step foot in Banyan City again.

Back then when she did that, it was only because she was angry that Luna Gibson could marry Joshua, and claim everything that she wanted as her own.

All those years ago, she could not have guessed that later on Luna Gibson would be involved in an accident and go missing, nor could she have guessed that one day, she would receive plastic surgery to wear the face of the woman she hated, just to obtain Joshua's love.

At this thought, she bit her lip. "Of course I remember. But that night, the traffic was a mess, and Hailey only spun the steering wheel because she was trying to avoid an oncoming car. I'm no longer fussing about what happened so many years ago, so you don't have to mention it too."

With that, Alice was afraid Joshua would continue talking about the incident from all those years ago, so she hurriedly helped Adrian up the stairs, his entire body trembling fervently. "Adrian, let's find you a room. You shouldn't get angry, as long as to you, Hailey is a nice girl, then I'm sure she's definitely a nice girl! "

With that, she helped him climb up the stairs.

Looking at their retreating backs, Granny Lynch frowned slightly, then turned and looked at Joshua in confusion. "Your wife... when did she grow so close to your father? Didn't they used to not interact with each other at all?"

"I have no idea." Joshua looked at them from behind, his gaze darkening slightly.

Just like what Granny Lynch said, the two of them never interacted at all. It could even be said that today was only their second meeting.

Their meeting was at her and Joshua's wedding all those years ago.

Now, Alice no longer afforded anyone the same kindness and understanding that she used to have,

except Hailey whom she was particularly tolerant of.

Not only that, she was even very close to her, but treating her old friend, Gwen, like a stranger.

And now, she seemed so close to Adrian, who she had just met for the second time today.

. . In the six years that she was missing, what actually happened to her?

Chapter 453

“Are you okay?”

After Alice helped Adrian upstairs, Joshua looked at Luna who sported a red, puffy palm print on her

cheek, his brows screwed tightly together.

“What bad can it be?”

Luna raised her lips coldly, took the ice cubes that Neil handed her, and held them gently against her

swollen cheek. “It won’t kill me.”

With that, she glanced at him, her eyes faint. “Mr. and Mrs. Lynch exerted yourselves to get me to bring

the two children back to your home because you wanted me to become your father’s punching bag.”

Joshua's eyes darkened. "I did not know my father and grandmother would be here..."

Beside him, Granny Lynch rolled her eyes. "What do you mean you did not know?"

The old lady pursed her lips. "Before you came home, I asked the butler to inform you! Joshua, why do you care what an employee like her thinks? Even if you asked her here to be slapped by your father to vent his anger, so what? Doesn't she at least deserve a slap for the things that she did?"

The moment her words left her mouth, the entire living room instantly grew quiet. His expression ice-cold, Joshua ordered the servants to summon the butler.

"Granny Lynch did in fact ask me to inform you. but I was worried I would disturb you while you were discussing business, and informed Ma'am."

With that, the butler glanced at Joshua in confusion. "Did she not tell you?"

The living room was once again enveloped in silence.

Helplessly, Joshua massaged his aching temples with his long fingers. "Get back to your work."

No wonder, since the start Alice kept insisting on bringing the two children back to the villa. And later, at the Swan Lake Residences, she suddenly changed her mind and wanted to bring Luna along to his home.

Not to mention Alice, any servant working for the Lynch household knew of the friendship between

Adrian Lynch and Dennis Walter.

Alice intentionally instigated Luna to come to the villa when Adrian was in the house... actually, it was

all for this moment, was it not?

At this thought, Joshua finally had an answer to the question of why Alice was so attentive to this

father.

He heaved out a long sigh, helplessness creeping in between his brows, "Neil."

He raised his eyes faintly and looked at the little guy who was sitting beside Luna. "Bring your Mommy

to you and your sister's room."

Neil frowned and looked at him, confused.

"Didn't you have a lot to say to her? Don't tell me you want to do that in the living room for all of us to

hear?"

Hearing the man's words, Neil was stunned for a moment. A second later, he finally understood,

Joshua was giving him and his sister a chance to spend time alone with Luna!

And so, the little guy jumped up from the couch excitedly, dragged Luna behind him with one hand and his sister in the other. "Let's go!"

Luna laughed at the agitated expression on his face, then turned and glanced at Joshua.

He nodded at her, indicating to her to leave with Neil.

Only then did she suck in a deep breath, hold the hand of each child, and lifted her legs, and headed upstairs to the children's room on the first floor.

The sound of the door to the children's room being closed drifted downstairs.

Only Joshua and Granny Lynch were left in the living room.

The old lady glared at Joshua coldly. "Why did you allow the kids to leave with her? So what if she misses the kids, I miss them too! "

Joshua raised his eyes and looked at the old lady in front of him with faint eyes. "Weren't you living happily enough even before you knew you had great- grandchildren?"

With that, he glanced in the direction of the first floor.

"To us, the two children are unexpected surprises, but to her...they're a family whom she can't live without, built over the past six years."

He did not know why Luna took him and Luna Gibson's two children. Maybe, like what she said, because she met a useless man and gave up on marriage, that was why she took the children and raised them as her own. But, since he and Alice decided to forgive her for her transgressions all those years ago, now they should also understand the love they had for each other after spending every day together for the last years.

Chapter 454

Granny Lynch rolled her eyes.

"Those that didn't know would think Luna was the one who gave birth to the children."

Joshua lifted his lips slightly in a wry smile. "Granny, you can't just say things like that."

Six years ago, the only woman in his life was Luna Gibson. Where could he have met Luna?

The old lady pursed her lips. "Was I wrong? You care more about Luna than your own father. Alice on

the other hand, in the past they didn't seem close, but now she acts like she's his daughter! "

With that, she could not help it and glared at him. "Go upstairs and take a look at your father! "

Joshua raised his teacup again and drained the cup, then placed the cup down elegantly and headed

upstairs.

When he reached the first floor, Alice was just shutting the door to the guest bedroom behind her.

Seeing him come upstairs, she laughed lightly, “Adrian is asleep. Don’t worry, I’ve comforted him, he won’t lose his temper at you anymore.”

Joshua narrowed his eyes. “I need to talk to you.”

With that he turned and entered the study. Alice followed him in.

“You knew my father and grandmother were here, that’s why you deliberately asked Luna to come over, am I right?”

After closing the door behind them, Joshua asked her directly.

“You know full well how close my father is to Dennis Walter, close enough that he’ll lose his mind

when he sees Luna, and you brought her over at a time like this... I thought our trip to Sea City this

time would make you stop acting out, make you realize there’s no reason for conflict between the two

of you. But unexpectedly, I was wrong.”

Alice gritted her teeth harshly, her fingernails digging deep into the flesh of her palms.

A moment later, she bit her lip, raised her eyes, and looked at Joshua, “Joshua, I don’t know what

you're talking about. All I was thinking about was that Adrian and Granny miss the children, while Luna is their foster mother and she hasn't seen them in quite some time. That's why I suggested this..."

With that, she reached out and hugged Joshua from behind, a hint of a sob in her voice, "It's my fault, I never considered the bad blood between Adrian and Luna. I can go and apologize to them... don't think of me as such an evil woman, okay?"

Joshua stiffened immediately. A moment later, his tone softened, "You... you are generally a very careful and meticulous person, how could you have missed this?"

A flash of a smirk crossed her lips, satisfied that her trickery had successfully fooled Joshua. But still, she rubbed her head against his and pressed her cheek to his back, her tone was slightly unhappy, as if she was wronged and felt dissatisfied. "How am I careful and meticulous? If I was, I would not have missed all the evil things that Hailey did, I also would have predicted she would commit suicide because she didn't want to leave the country..."

Joshua's heart skipped a beat at her remorseful tone. A moment later, he sighed and held her gently, "I misunderstood you."

No matter how careful and meticulous she was, when faced with her best friend's suicide, it was only normal that she lost her rational mind.

"Joshua." Seizing the opportunity when he was being gentle to her, Alice decided to take things one step further. "We're finally home." The more she spoke, the shyer and more bashful she sounded, "I... I want to sleep with you tonight. You wouldn't reject me, would you?"

Chapter 455

Luna had no idea how Alice convinced Adrian, but at night when they were eating dinner in Blue Bay Villa, he was much calmer when he saw her.

There were no signs of his blatant fury from the afternoon, he even took the initiative and apologized to Luna.

"Ms. Luna, I acted impulsively. Alice explained the whole situation to me, I realized you were right, Hailey was the one at fault. That's why."

The middle-aged man looked at his palm print that was imprinted onto her cheek from his slap, and sighed deeply, "I would like to apologize. I'm sorry."

Luna was quite shocked. Even though she did not have a good impression of him, even though he was

her elder. She smiled slightly at him and allowed the issue to pass just like that.

Maybe because Sebastian and Alice had been away for too long and it so happened the whole family was present that day, the butler ordered the chef to prepare a sumptuous feast for dinner.

Adrian was fairly excited, he kept asking Joshua to drink with, downing glass after glass of alcohol. In the end, there was no one else at the table except Joshua, his father, and Alice, who took care of him from the side.

After 10 p.m. that night.

Adrian finally got prepared to leave, sufficiently

drunk on the food and wine. At that moment, Joshua was so drunk, he was barely conscious.

“He is still my son, after all, his tolerance for alcohol is much lower than mine! “ Adrian burst out

laughing and ordered his bodyguards to help him as he stumbled out of the door. He raised his eyes

and glanced at Alice. “Bring him upstairs. I did what you asked.”

Alice nodded and smiled in his direction. “Thank you, Adrian.”

After he left, she laughed, satisfied that her evil plan had come to fruition and helped Joshua up the

stairs.

In their bedroom.

She lay him down on the bed, then started unfastening his shirt buttons. She could not let go of this

invaluable opportunity!

But unexpectedly, the moment she unfastened two of his buttons, his big hand locked onto her wrist.

His eyes were shut tight, his mind fuzzy from the alcohol but he was still exceptionally conscious of his

surroundings.

“Who are you? You’re not Luna Gibson, you’re not my wife... go... away! “ He flung her hand aside.

Caught off guard, she lost her balance and fell on the carpet in a heap. She lay on the carpet and

gritted her teeth from the searing pain.

She could not believe it! He could not make himself sleep with her when he was sober. And now that

he was dead drunk, he still rejected her!?

So she sucked in a deep breath, endured the scorching pain, dragged herself up from the floor, once

again climbing on top of Joshua, her hands tearing his collar open. She was just about to kiss him

when

His big hands caught her wrist deftly and flung her aside.

“Get out! “

His eyes were closed, his voice thick and hoarse from the alcohol, he sounded confused. “You’re not

Luna Gibson! You’re not my wife! Stay away from me... “

Alice climbed up from the floor again. She kept her eyes trained on the drunk, flushed man on the bed.

The same thing happened last time when he got drunk at the banquet in Sea City.

Even drunk, he could push her away from him deftly and refused to sleep with her. The plots shown on

TV where the characters slept together in a drunken, confused mess were all fake!

Even drunk, Joshua still retained a glimmer of reason. What’s more, his senses were more acute

compared to when he was sober, more honest. He could directly point out that Alice was not Luna

Gibson.

She stood and looked at him, her teeth grinding so hard together they almost broke. Could it be that

this time, she once again had to watch as Luna reaped the benefits of her hard work?

Alice closed her eyes and weighed her options.

Joshua rarely got drunk, much less to such an extent. It was an opportunity of a lifetime. She could not afford to let it slip away.

The night of the party, Joshua had slept with Luna, but he had no memory of that at all when he woke up the next morning. He thought he had slept with Alice instead, which was why he changed his mind about the divorce and even started to treat her better than he did prior to that.

Alice contemplated for a few moments before she finally made a bold decision: she would call Luna over and send her right into his arms.

Besides, even if Joshua found out he had slept with Luna, he would not admit to that at all and, instead, treat Alice even better due to his guilt. It was the perfect opportunity for Alice to drive a wedge between them.

She let out a sigh and gingerly picked up Joshua's phone. Then, she composed a disappearing message to Luna and sent it to her.

Disappearing messages was a special text messaging function on Joshua's phone. The message would automatically be deleted after the recipient had read it, and Joshua used it often whenever he

wanted to conduct business in secret. That way, he would not be caught, and no one else would be able to obtain his trade secrets even if they managed to get ahold of his phone. This messaging function existed only on Joshua's phone.

Meanwhile, Luna was in the children's room as she cleared up Neil and Nellie's toys. She had just managed to get them to fall asleep not too long ago.

Maybe it was because it had been a while since she last came to Blue Bay Villa, but the children's room was terribly messy. Nellie's design sketches and Neil's toys were strewn everywhere.

Luna gathered the sketches from the floor and paused to admire Nellie's designs. It was undeniable that Nellie had inherited Luna's talent and love for jewelry design. Although Nellie's sketches were still somewhat childish, they contained a few elements of her own design and creativity. That impressed Luna.

After picking up the rest of the toys, Luna gave Nellie's sketches another look and could not help but add a few elements to spice up the designs. Just as she did, her phone chimed.

It was a text message from Joshua. [Come to the study.]

Luna froze at the text. She glanced at the time and realized that it was 10:30pm. Why did he want to see her so late at night?

(It's late now. We can talk tomorrow instead.)

She received a reply almost immediately. (No, this can't wait till tomorrow. Come now. I have something urgent to tell you.)

Luna paused. Although she was reluctant to do so, she had no choice but to obey Joshua's orders. He was her boss, after all.

She sighed and draped a jacket over her nightgown, then left the children's room.

As soon as Luna walked out of the children's room, she ran into Alice, who just came out of Joshua's study. The two women made eye contact with each other.

Alice froze when she saw Luna, then immediately let out a snicker. With that, she turned around and disappeared into the master bedroom, slamming the door forcefully behind her.

Luna pursed her lips. What was it this time?

She guessed that Joshua had probably fought with Alice, and this was why he had summoned her over to discuss work.

Luna felt a little exasperated by that. She did not want to get caught in a married couple's fight.

Luna heaved a sigh and knocked gently on the study room door. There was no response. She frowned and knocked again, but no one answered as well.

Finally, she sighed and pushed the door open. "President Lynch, you..."

Before she could finish, someone darted out from behind the door and wrapped his arms around her.

The door slammed shut behind her with a loud thud.

The pungent smell of alcohol lingered in the air. Luna could tell who it was without even turning around.

She frowned and lowered her voice as she asked, "Are you drunk?"

"Luna Gibson," Joshua murmured as he gently grazed her earlobe. "I missed you so much..."

Chapter 457

Luna spent the whole night in the study with Joshua. He finally drifted off to sleep around 4am.

Luna felt a little exhausted and uncomfortable after that. However, she was afraid that the children would wake up and discover she was gone, so she tiptoed out of the study and back into the children's room.

As she gently opened the master bedroom door and walked out, Alice glanced in the direction Luna had left with an expression of envy and resentment.

She went into the study, dragged a drunken Joshua back into the master bedroom, and gingerly lowered him onto their bed. Then, she drew a few fake hickeys all over her body with makeup, removed her clothes, and slipped herself in between Joshua's arms.

The first thing Joshua saw when he opened his eyes the next morning was Alice's sleeping face. She laid next to him, stark naked, with a few dark red hickeys scattered all over her chest and arms.

Joshua's expression darkened. What happened last night?

"Are you awake, Joshua?" As if sensing his gaze, Alice slowly opened her eyes. When she realized he was staring at her naked body, she immediately blushed and tried to cover herself. "What are you looking at?"

Joshua did not know how to feel about it. He turned his head away from her and asked, "Aren't you tired? Don't you want to sleep a little longer?"

Although he was utterly wasted, he still vaguely remembered that they had been up almost the entire night, or at least, until 3 or 4 am.

Joshua's energy levels were different from his wife's. Ever since they had gotten married, Joshua knew that Luna Gibson's stamina was much weaker than his. Every time they spent the night together, he would be fine the next day, but Luna always had to sleep in until past noon to regain her energy.

Since they had been up almost the entire night, he thought Alice would want to sleep a little longer. To his surprise, however, Alice chuckled. "No need. I don't feel tired."

A gleam of surprise flashed through Joshua's eyes. "Really? You don't feel tired at all?"

"Nope. I'm fine." Alice could see the confusion in his eyes, so she immediately lowered her head bashfully. "I'm feeling a little sore from last night, but otherwise, I'm fine. I don't need to sleep that long."

With that, she got out of bed and put on her nightgown. "I'll go downstairs and make everybody breakfast."

Joshua's lips curled up in a smile. "Since when did you become such a devoted wife?"

Alice grinned at him. "I've always been a devoted wife."

There was another reason why Alice wanted to cook breakfast for everybody. She knew that Luna would be exhausted from last night and thus would have no energy to prepare breakfast. Therefore,

Alice wanted to take up this responsibility and show everyone

how virtuous and devoted a wife she was.

Alice could not help but let out a chuckle as she thought of this. Then, she turned around and

disappeared out the door.

Joshua propped himself up against the headboard and watched her leave with a frown.

Not only did Luna Gibson's personality change, but her stamina did as well. How was that possible?

It was 8am. Luna was sound asleep in the children's room when all of a sudden, someone knocked on

the door.

Neil glanced at Luna, still fast asleep, and frowned. Then, he leaped off the bed and flung the door

open.

It was Alice, with an apron on and a bandana wrapped around her head, looking like a proper

housewife.

When she realized it was Neil who had opened the door, Alice snickered and said in a gentle voice, “

Neil, where's Nellie and Aunty Luna? Mommy made some delicious breakfast. Come eat it while it's still

hot.“

Neil furrowed his brows and shot her a dubious glance. “Since when do you know how to cook?”

Alice smiled at him. “I’ve always known how to cook. Why don’t you try out my cooking for yourself?”

Neil glanced at Nellie, who was working on one of her design sketches, and said, “Alright. Let’s go

downstairs, Nellie.” With that, he slammed the door shut. However, Alice was faster than he was, and

she stopped the door from closing fully. She peered into the room and caught sight of Luna, who was

still sleeping. “Why don’t you invite Aunty Luna along as well?”

Chapter 458

“It’s already 8am. It’s about time she wakes up and has breakfast.”

Neil frowned at Alice’s words and immediately stretched his arms out to block Alice’s path. “No.

Mommy’s still sleeping. We can’t wake her.”

Of course, Alice did not listen to him at all. She stood next to the door and shouted at the top of her

lungs, “Luna! Luna! It’s 8am now, time to get up! I’ve made you breakfast! You’re supposed to head to

the company with Joshua at 9am for your meeting!

Luna! “

Alice's voice was deafening, and she finally managed to wake Luna up from her slumber. The latter

jolted awake and glanced at the time—it was 8am. She had only managed to sleep three hours.

Despite that, however, she knew that Alice was right. She had to go to work, so she crawled out of bed

and muttered, "Thank you. I'll be down in a while."

Seeing that Luna was awake, a hint of triumph flashed across Alice's eyes. She chuckled and stared at

Luna with a gentle expression as she said, "I've made you breakfast. You should eat it while it's still hot.

Why don't we go downstairs now?"

Luna paused for a moment, then nodded at her. "Thank you." With that, she let out a yawn and slowly

trudged towards the bathroom.

"We're all waiting for you to have breakfast. You'd better come downstairs soon!" Alice reminded her

before she turned and disappeared down the stairs.

Neil stood in front of the bathroom door and stared at Luna with his arms crossed. "Why are you so

tired today? Didn't you fall asleep around the same time as we did?"

Nellie gazed at Luna's dark eye circles with an expression of concern. "Mommy, why don't you get

some more rest? Neil and I can go downstairs for breakfast first.”

Luna glanced at her two children and smiled. “It’s okay. It’s about time I wake up anyway since I have to work today. ” With that, she let out another yawn and started washing up.

By the time the three of them came downstairs, everyone was already seated in the dining room. To their surprise, however, Joshua and Alice were not the only ones there. Adrian and Granny Lynch were present as well.

Granny Lynch glanced at Luna, who still looked exhausted, from her seat in the corner and said pointedly, “Tsk! You’re just a guest who happened to be staying here for the night, but you don’t have any manners at all! How could you make everyone wait like this? Don’t you know you’re just an ordinary employee working at Lynch Group? Who do you think you are? The mistress of the house?”

Luna frowned at that but said nothing in response. Her mind was foggy from the lack of sleep, so she did not feel like getting into an argument with Granny Lynch. Instead, she ignored her and plopped down in a chair without replying.

Alice had prepared a lavish breakfast that day, and all of them were Joshua’s favorite dishes.

“Alice is quite the cook,” Adrian commented as he munched on the food. He glanced at Alice and

curled his lips into a contented smile. “She’s such a devoted wife. I can’t believe she got up so early in the morning and went to all this trouble to cook us breakfast! “

Alice grinned at Adrian in return. “No, no. It’s no trouble at all. It’s the least I can do as Joshua’s wife.”

As soon as she said this, she shot Joshua a meaningful glance. “Don’t you think so, Joshua?”

Joshua smiled at her. “Don’t be so modest. My dad complimented you, so you should just accept it.”

Joshua felt a little touched by Alice’s gesture. They had been up almost the entire night, yet she still got up early in the morning to prepare such a hearty feast.

It was the first time in their many years of marriage that she had done something like this.

Neil could not stand watching Joshua and Alice display their affection in front of everyone, so he

pursed his lips and tried to change the topic. “Mr. Lynch, I’d like to apply for a day’s leave on behalf of

Ms. Luna. She didn’t manage to get any sleep last night.”

Joshua frowned at that and turned around to look at Luna.

She looked exhausted, with two rings of dark circles underneath her eyes. She indeed looked like she had not gotten much sleep.

A hint of displeasure clouded Joshua's eyes. "Luna, this isn't your first day of work. Today is your first day back at the company after coming home from the business trip. Aren't you aware that you have a lot to do today? Why didn't you get any sleep?"

Joshua peered at Luna's weary face with a slightly annoyed expression. "What were you up to last night?"

Chapter 459

What was she up to last night?

Luna bit down on her lip and cast Joshua a displeased look. "What else do you think I was up to last night, Mr. Lynch?"

Although he was drunk last night, he still managed to text her and invited her over, so why did he play dumb?

Joshua shot her a cold glance and replied curtly, "How would I know?"

Last night after dinner, he reminded Luna to sleep early and rest since they had a long day ahead the following day. They had a meeting scheduled to discuss the information collected over the business trip and finalize some plans.

Why did she ignore his reminders?

Besides, Luna had slept in the children's room last night with the kids. Naturally, the kids would have gone to bed early, and there was no place for her to work, so she could not have been up all night working.

Joshua could not understand why she did not get much sleep last night. Was she up all night talking to Theo? Joshua's expression darkened as he pondered that possibility.

Last night, he had overheard Neil and Luna's conversation after dinner. Neil had been asking her about Theo. At that time, Luna had gently ruffled Neil's hair and told him, "Why don't you ask him yourself? We'll call him later as soon as we go back to your room."

Did she spend the whole night talking to Theo?

Joshua sneered, "I always thought Ms. Luna is an efficient and professional worker. You knew very well that we have a very important meeting scheduled today, but you still stayed up all night, and now you're exhausted." His dark eyes swept across Luna's face with an air of contempt. "I guess I was wrong about you."

Luna rubbed her brows in exasperation. Her head throbbed, and she started to feel a little

uncomfortable. Even a single look at the platters of food before her made her want to retch.

Luna heaved a deep sigh and put down her cutlery. "Don't worry. I won't take any leave of absence

today. I know what I'm supposed to do, and it wasn't entirely my fault that I didn't manage to get any

sleep last night." She glared at Joshua and

continued, "There's just one thing I want to say. Mr. Lynch: you have no right to reprimand me for not

getting any rest."

Then, Luna stood up and said, "Thank you, Mrs. Lynch, for preparing such a hearty breakfast.

Unfortunately, I don't have much of an appetite

now, so I won't be eating. I'm going to work now."

With that, she turned around and disappeared up the stairs. A few moments later, she reappeared

again with the stack of documents she had brought to Sea City in her arms and breezed out the door

without looking back.

Just as she stepped out of the door, Luna caught a glimpse of Joshua putting some food onto Alice's

plate in an intimate manner. The sight made Luna feel as though someone had struck her heart with a

hammer.

“Luna, don’t you want to get some food?” Lucas could tell she was unwell, so he insisted on driving her to work. “You don’t look too well. Are you sure you want to head straight to work?”

Luna leaned against the seat and closed her eyes. “

Yes, I’m sure.”

Suddenly, her phone chimed with a message. It was a long text from Neil, first criticizing Joshua for his attitude, then reminding her to get some food as soon as she arrived at Lynch Group Tower. Neil did not want her to pass out due to hunger.

Luna stared at Neil’s text message for a long time. She could feel her heart beat in her chest.

The only people who cared about her were her three kids. As for Joshua...

Luna convinced herself that what happened last night was just a price she had to pay in order to cure

Nigel.

The car soon arrived at Lynch Group Tower. Luna let out a sigh, got out of the car, and quickly made her way upstairs.

Lucas watched her leave and immediately took out his phone to call Joshua. "Sir, Luna doesn't look too well. You—"

"I know, " Joshua cut him off before he could finish.

Then, he hung up the phone without saying another word.

Chapter 460

Lucas sighed.

When 9am rolled around, Luna had already finished looking over the materials for the meeting.

"Shannon, notify everyone that we're having a department meeting soon. I want to explain everything

I've gathered in Sea City."

Shannon nodded in response. However, just as she was about to leave Luna's office, she paused and

peered at Luna. "Director Luna, are you sure you don't want to take a break?"

Everyone could tell that Luna was not feeling well. Her face was as pale as the wall behind her.

Luna curled her lips into a smile. "Work is more important."

Shannon frowned and gave her a peculiar look. She knew workaholics existed, but Luna was on a

whole new level.

Shannon walked out of Luna's office, but after a moment, she decided that something was wrong and stopped at her door. "Director Luna, why don't I pour you a cup of coffee?"

Luna shook her head. "No need." The scent of coffee always made her feel like throwing up whenever she was exhausted.

Shannon sighed and left, but not before she closed the door behind her.

However, a few minutes later, Luna's door was pushed open again. Luna, thinking it was Shannon again, did not even lift her head. "Shannon, if you have so much spare time on your hands, you should focus it on work instead of asking me questions every three seconds. Have you notified everyone of the meeting?"

There was no response.

Luna furrowed her brows in confusion and lifted her head.

To her surprise, it was Joshua who stood at her door. He had one hand tucked in his pocket, and the other was holding a paper bag of food. He curled his lips into a smirk and asked, "Did you want me to help you notify everyone of the meeting?"

Luna frowned and lowered her head again to focus on her work. "Mr. Lynch, are you here to do a spot check and make sure I'm not slacking off? Don't worry; I've been doing work since the moment I stepped foot into the office. You're not paying me in vain."

With a frown, Joshua took in her thin frame and the weary look on her face. He strode over and set the food down on her desk. "I apologize for the way I behaved this morning, but Luna, can you just tell me why you spent the whole night up instead of getting rest? Were you not aware that you had work the next day?"

Luna's hand froze right in the middle of writing a sentence. It was ironic that Joshua would ask her that question when he was the reason she did not manage to get any sleep. Not only did he refuse to admit what had happened, but he even blamed her for being tired?

That made Luna a little disgusted. He knew full well that he was the reason she had stayed up all night, yet he pretended not to know and acted like a considerate boss instead.

How could she tell him the truth, lest he took it the wrong way and think she blamed him?

Luna closed her eyes and let out a sigh, trying to suppress her emotions. She closed the file in her hand and replied, "I wouldn't mind if it was anyone else who asked me this, but you..." She shot him a

cold glance and sneered, "You have no right."

With that, she picked up the file and sauntered right out of her office.

Joshua watched her retreating figure and could not help but narrow his eyes. That woman was extremely stubborn.

He sighed and looked at the untouched food on the desk. He had bought Luna some breakfast out of kindness, but she did not even give it a second glance. Joshua suddenly felt a little irritated by this.

He felt as though he was the one being ignored instead.

Just as he was about to leave, he heard a loud thud coming from outside the office. Shannon's voice rang out almost immediately, "Director Luna!

Director Luna has fainted! "