Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 63

/ Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 63

Elizabeth's face changed. "Pregnant? When I visited her in the hospital you didn't mention anything about it. How could she be pregnant suddenly?"

Olivia suppressed her anger and said, "Liz, what is wrong with you today? How co uld you talk like this? I couldn't say that much considering the crowd in the hospit al the other day. Amelia is already five months pregnant, and I'll be a grandmothe r next year."

"What's going to happen to Cassie now that she is pregnant? Cassie is pregnant w ith Oscar's child too. We are here today to discuss their marriage matters with yo u."

Amelia's eyes flashed with pain while utter disbelief darted across Oscar's eyes. He looked at Amelia only to see the hurt hidden in her eyes. His heart twitched u ncontrollably at that. Increasingly, he could not bear the sight of Amelia being sa d.

However, the news of Cassie's pregnancy caught him by complete surprise. He had said that he loved Cassie, but he had never expected to have children with her.

Olivia's face fell immediately. "Liz, our families have been friends for a long time, so you can't say malicious things like that. I would have been overjoyed to hear this if Cassie and Oscar were still engaged. However, Oscar is married now a nd his

wife is pregnant. Even though it is very normal to have mistresses in our society, it is not acceptable

for our family as it is not aligned with our family values. I congratulate Cassie on her pregnancy, but please don't link it to Oscar. We Clintons cannot offer to hous e your precious daughter."

Elizabeth flicked her perfectly coiffed hair

and said, "Olivia, you've said so yourself that our families have been friends for y ears. No matter what, I wouldn't make up something like this. Cassie is pregnant and she is really bearing Oscar's child. If you don't believe it, just ask Oscar. If he is a man he will own up to it."

Olivia turned to Oscar who actually nodded and said, "Mom, I did have a thing with Cassie. I plan to marry her as well."

Olivia was so angry she raised her hand to give Oscar a loud resounding slap.

Everyone was taken aback by the crisp sound of that slap. Nobody had expected Olivia to slap her own son. Oscar was a legendary figure in the business world and everyone looked up to him. His words were as good as the king's decree.

"Mom, how could you hit Oscar?" Stephanie exclaimed.

Heartbroken, Olivia stared

at Oscar and lamented, "Oscar, you've brought the company to such great height s, it led me to think that you were an honorable and upright man. Never did I expect you to be such a mess when it came to your personal relationships. You have s uch a wonderful wife, yet you gave her up for a woman that had not only hurt you but had multiple relationships with other men. Is this how you're going to repay me?".

Oscar pursed his lips and silently allowed his mother to vent her fury.

However, his silence angered her further, which led her to pant heavily while clut ching her chest in agony. Worried that something would happen to her, Amelia q uickly went up to support her. "Mom, don't be too worried. I'm sure that there m ust be some misunderstanding here. Take it easy, and let's just talk properly."

It was only then that Olivia looked a little more relieved.

Owen stepped forward to support Olivia and said gently, "Look at you. You are p ushing sixty and you still have such a raring temper. I am still the head of this fam ily, so as long as you disapprove, I will not allow her to marry into the family. So d on't worry, all right?"

Olivia finally looked better.

She nodded and said, "Owen, remember what you said, and don't disappoint me. Amelia is the only daughter—in—law I will ever have. If you make her suffer in any way, I'll pack my bags and leave the family together with her."

Owen comforted, "Don't worry. I will not allow that to happen."

Stephanie stomped her feet angrily and protested, "Mom, what are you talking a bout? What's wrong with Cassie? Why must you protect a woman who has nothin g?"

Olivia glared at her coldly. "Steph, I'll talk to you properly when this is settled. I t hought you were just a little strong–willed, but I didn't expect you to be so rude t hat you wouldn't even acknowledge your own sister–in–law."

Stephanie held her head up high and retorted, "Mom, Cassie is my only sister—in—l aw as far as I am concerned. This woman? She's just a materialistic woman that on ly has her sights set on marrying rich."

Olivia's suppressed anger began bubbling away again. "Shut up!"

"Steph, another word from you, and I'll send you overseas again to learn some respect," Owen said impassively. However, every single person in the room could sense the gravity in his words.

Stephanie glowered at Amelia before looking down and muttering, "Sorry, Mom. I shouldn't have said that."

Olivia did not say anything in response. Instead, she asked the other relatives and friends to leave with the promise of an upcoming party.

They were very understanding and all left one after another.

Owen brought Olivia to the couch while Oscar took Amelia in his arms to settle d own on the other end of the couch. Amelia looked up at the palm print on his face, asking, "Does it still hurt?"

Oscar looked down and his heart warmed up when he saw the distress in her eyes. He shook his head and replied, "I'm fine."

At this very moment, Oscar was actually somewhat resentful of Cassie's willful ac tions. In fact, when he first heard of her pregnancy, his first reaction was not of jo y but of suspicion. Is her child really mine?

He did not want to be suspicious but he was not dumb either. He did try to recall the one–night stand they had in the hotel, only he had no memory of what had happened halfway through his drinking that night.

He was an excellent drinker. If not for Cassie spiking his drink, he definitely would not have difficulty recalling that night.

He did not want to be cynical toward Cassie who looked pure and innocent on the surface, so he suppressed his suspicion. However, he was truly disgusted today, e specially after she brought her parents to force this marriage on him.

While he was willing to admit that he loved Cassie, there was still a bottom line. T he moment that line was crossed, he would no longer dote on her unconditionally

"Ms. Yard, so I heard that you are pregnant?" Oscar's train of thought was interrupted when Olivia suddenly spoke up.

Cassie glanced at Oscar and replied aggrievedly, "Mrs. Clinton, I know you can't f orgive me since I left Oscar at the altar. But we are truly in love, and I already kne w about my pregnancy when I was doing up my papers to leave the country. It's b een one month, and here is the report. You can take a look if you don't believe m e."

Olivia took a look at the report and sniggered, "Ms. Yard, I've gotten some people to check up on you. Even though it was not particularly easy to find out

more about your doings while you were overseas, nothing is impossible with mon ey.

Cassie's heart beat wildly when she heard that.

Olivia got up from Owen's arms and

looked at Cassie. "Ms. Yard, I was going to give you some respect due to the fact t hat your parents and I have been friends for many years. But who knew you could be so shameless?"

Charlie and Elizabeth's blanched. "Olivia, how could you say something like this? We have been friends for decades, and you have watched Cassie grow up since she was a little girl. Is this what you think of her?"

To that, Olivia said, "If I had known that this little girl would use such despicable ways to destroy my son's family, I'd rather that we'd never known each other."

The Yards' faces fell and Elizabeth spoke up sharply, "Olivia, that is just mean and spiteful. My daughter is now pregnant with Oscar's child. No matter what, my daughter is at the losing end. You don't have to acknowledge it, but how could you say that? Yes, the Clintons own a large business empire, but the Yard family is not to be trifled with either. If you

don't settle this properly today, this will spell the end of our families' friendship."

Olivia smirked. "Sure. Let's settle this once and for all then, shall we?" Then, she went upstairs amidst everyone's puzzled eyes and soon reappeared with a manila envelope in her hands.

"This envelope contains the results of my team's investigation this past month. I' m sure Ms. Yard would be very interested to see what's in here. This is also for my silly son, for him to realize that this supposedly pure and innocent girl is not what she seems after all. My son is perfect in every way, but h e has just lost himself to this woman. As his mother, I need to wake him up just so he would not be tricked by the same woman twice."

Cassie's expression changed when she looked at the manila envelope in Olivia's h ands. She

had an impulse to snatch the envelope from the latter's hands, but she restrained herself and waited painfully instead.

Olivia poured out the contents of the envelope. There were many photos inside, with Cassie featuring in each photo. However, there was a different man in each photo. They were either holding her by her waist, kissing her, or dancing closely with her. There were even some photos of Cassie

stuck closely to some muscular foreign men. Everyone was flabbergasted at how liberal she was.

"Ms. Yard, could you explain the photos, please?" Olivia said coolly.

Cassie's face turned white when she saw the photos. Meanwhile, Charlie and Eliza beth were in complete disbelief as they had not expected their daughter to be th at broad—minded.

"Cassie, what's going on here?" Elizabeth asked, clearly beside herself. Even thou gh Elizabeth was almost sixty years old, she had gone to great lengths to take car e of herself and she looked barely forty with her fair skin and fashionable outfits. But today, she looked like a miserable old shrew who had completely lost all control over herself.

Cassie's face was pale. I remember being very careful each time I went partying. How did she get all these pictures?

She subconsciously glanced at Oscar who had pain and disappointment written on his gloomy face.

If I don't get hold of Oscar today, the distance between us would only get farther and farther away. After four years apart, Oscar does not love me as much as he proclaims to. In fact, he does not even realize that he has been rejecting my body. Even though he has

never admitted it, my feminine instincts are definitely right. I know this child is d efinitely June's, but there is no way I'm going back to him. This is the child that co uld help me tie Oscar down. However, who would have thought that Amelia would be pregnant and that Mrs. Clinton would run all those checks on me? Am I still C assie Yard if I admit defeat without putting on a fight? If I have been able to utiliz e a man's influence to reach the peak of my career, I have my ways to persuade O scar again. As long as I am sincere enough, Oscar will definitely love me again. I re ally love Oscar. I truly do! I was playful in my youth, but now that I have grown up, I am more than able to be a good wife and help Oscar with his family business.

"Oscar, I can explain the pictures. It's not what it seems." Cassie gulped and looke d at

Oscar pleadingly.

Oscar's eyes returned to their usual calmness. It was almost as if she had merely i magined the anguish and helplessness in his eyes just now.

"Just speak, Cassie. I'm listening," Oscar said coolly.

Amelia knew him very well. The calmer he was, the more it indicated an impendin g storm. However, Cassie did not know that, and she assumed that he was about t o forgive her.

Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 64

/ Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 64

"Oscar, these were all my orchestra mates. After our final performance, we had a celebratory dinner where everyone had too much to drink. We were playing a game where the loser had to be kissed, no matter men or women. I did share a little kiss with a female colleague as well, but I don't know why they only took pictures of

me with my male colleagues. You can go and investigate yourself if you don't trus t me. Oscar, you are the only one that I love in my life. That is the truth. Now that I am pregnant with your child, I don't want you to misunderstand me just because of a few photos."

Oscar picked up a photo of Cassie passionately kissing someone at a bar. His voic e betrayed not a trace of his

emotions as he said, "Cassie, I'd always thought that you were pure and innocent. When I had sex with you a month ago, there was real blood on the bedsheet. But could you explain to me what was going on in this picture?"

"Oz,

can explain. It was my roommate Julie's birthday, and we decided to party at the bar. Before we knew it, we were carried away by the bar's atmosphere and had to o much to drink. I don't know how I ended up kissing that person in the picture, b ut I can guarantee that nothing happened after that. Oz, when I left you to go to Erihal, I was very down, and I thought that I'd never meet another man that could make me fall in love so deeply. All I wanted to do was to let loose so I went to all the bars and clubs. I wanted to find a man for a quick one–night stand but you re mained in my mind. All I shared with those men was a kiss, and nothing else. You have to believe me, Oz. You

are the only one in my heart. I've really never slept with anyone else."

Tears rolled down her cheeks as she spoke. Even Amelia could not help but praise her acting skills. With her looks, figure, and acting skills, it is a waste for her to not join the entertainment industry.

Oscar frowned and before he could speak, Olivia said, "Ms. Yard, you have excelle nt acting chops there. Regular men would definitely fall for it. However, our family is a proper business family, and we cannot allow such a wild woman into our family."

Elizabeth scowled with displeasure. "Olivia, I don't like what you are implying the re. Our financial capacity is not that far behind yours, and our Cassie is a pure and innocent girl. So what if you have those pictures? They're all from the past and they took place when she was single."

Olivia laughed. "Liz, we have been good friends for years. To be honest, I am not as

big—hearted as you are. For you to say that shows that you are very patient and m agnanimous. However, as a mother, I cannot handle the misgiving that my son could be cheated on in the

future. We can't afford to have a girl that is so wild and frivolous. Who knows if s he would cheat on my son in the future? Nobody can be certain about that."

The Yards' expression darkened.

"Olivia, that is too much. We've been friends for years and you've watched Cassie grow up. Shouldn't you know what kind of person she is by now?" Charlie finally s poke up. Charlie

and Olivia were university friends and they shared quite a solid friendship. Olivia met Owen through Charlie, so she was still willing to respect him.

Olivia sighed. "Charlie, it's not that I have insulted you. Look at how you barged in today. Not only did you destroy Oscar and Amelia's marriage, but you also made Cassie become the mistress. Is that what you wanted?"

a*n*

"Olivia, I don't want Cassie to be the hated mistress either. However, Cassie and Oscar love each other, and I cannot bring it upon myself to separate them. You ar e Oscar's mother, so how could you just stand by and watch him miss out on his h appiness?"

SO

Olivia smirked. "I thought you were the most logical person out of all the people here, Charlie. I did not expect you to turn out to be just like Liz and allow your daughter to do anything she wants. I don't care about Cassie's character, but she cannot blame things on Oscar. Yes, our families' standings are similar, but my son al ready

has a wife, and they are welcoming their own baby soon. If you still have any ounce of self–respect, please

bring Cassie with you as you leave now. Otherwise, I will have worse things to say about you."

Elizabeth's face darkened instantly.

"You can't say that, Olivia. Cassie and Oscar were in love back then, and it was Os car who requested for Cassie to come back now. On top of that, she is pregnant w ith Oscar's child, and that is why we came here despite the shame. If not for Oscar looking for Cassie despite being married, our daughter would have never been someone else's mistress. Are you trying to break off our friendship here?" E lizabeth questioned Olivia grimly.

Olivia was prepared to burn all bridges today. No matter what, she would never a llow Cassie to marry into the family. Cassie was the woman who abandoned Oscar at the altar and made the Clintons the laughing stock of the upper echelons. The mere

thought of that disgusted her. She could have just thrown Cassie out of the door if not for her consideration for the Yards' reputation.

However, she had to go for broke with the Yards right now. She had no choice as based on her son's character, he could very well abandon his wife to marry Cassie.

Olivia sighed. "Liz, Charlie, I didn't want to mean, but Oscar will definitely not ma rry Cassie. I am very satisfied with my daughter–in–law, Amelia, and I will never al low them to be

divorced. It was probably a night of confusion for Oscar and Cassie. How about th is? Let's assume that Cassie is really pregnant. We will conduct a DNA test when t he baby is born. If the baby really is Oscar's, we will bring up the child. On top of t hat, we will provide Cassie with allowance."

Elizabeth was so angry her face turned slightly green.

"Olivia, don't cross the line here. Our daughter is not to be abused like that. Now that she is pregnant, you Clintons definitely

have to bear the responsibility. Otherwise, our families will become enemies, and I will spare no expenses to seek justice for Cassie."

With that, Elizabeth looked at Oscar and said, "Oscar, you're the person in questi on here. What do you think? Just tell me whether you are marrying Cassie. We are still a reputable family and we won't hound you, but I'll tell you now that I will not just leave it as it is."

Oscar looked at Elizabeth calmly and said, "Mrs. Yard, I will handle this properly, and I will take care of Cassie's child. Stop making a scene here if you trust me. Ot herwise, Cassie should just abort the child."

Cassie looked at him begrudgingly with red eyes and said, "Oz, you said you would marry me. Was it just to make me happy?"

Oscar replied patiently, "Be good, Cassie. Go back with your parents first. I'll look for you later tonight."

Cassie bit her lips and nodded before saying amenably to her parents, "Mom, Dad, let's go back. Ms. Winters was just discharged from the hospital today and we shouldn't have been here in the

first place. I don't want your friendship with Mr. and Mrs. Clinton to be severed ju st because of me. You can't burn all bridges because of my wilfulness."

Elizabeth was about to protest but her husband tugged her dress. She had no cho ice but to get up and take her leave.

Before she left, she said, "Olivia, Cassie is our only child. If Oscar marries her, eve rything that we have will become yours. Don't cut off this financial route just bec ause of a moment of anger. It's not worth it."

With that, the Yards left.

Gloom hung across the Clintons' living room.

Amelia mustered a smile and said, "Mom, I'm so sorry that you have to stand up to the Yards because of a useless daughter—in—law like me."

"Silly girl, Oscar wronged you in the first place." Mrs. Clinton sighed and said, "A melia, don't blame Oscar. There are times when men just can't control their lower bodies. Even if Cassie is pregnant, you are still our only daughter—in—law, so don't worry."

Amelia shook her head and said graciously, "Mom, I'm fine. Don't get agitated bec ause of me. It's not worth it."

Olivia sighed and looked at Oscar disapprovingly. "Oscar, remember what I am about to say now. The Clinton family will only acknowledge Amelia as o ur daughter—in—law. If you still have unfinished business with other women, you can forget about calling me Mom for the rest of your life."

Oscar remained silent.

"Why, do you still want to continue your affair with Cassie?"

"Mom, Cassie is already pregnant with my child. I can't just abandon her," Oscar s aid.

"Oscar, don't forget that Amelia is your wife and she is pregnant with your child too. Aren't you worried about hurting her when you say things lik e this in front of her? When have I ever taught you to be such a beast?" Olivia reb uked him woefully. She did not expect Oscar to be so fixated with Cassie.

"What is it about Cassie that made you willing to abandon your own wife?" Olivia could not understand it at all. "I've spent a lot of money to get these photos, and you still can't see what kind of woman she is? You are an intelligent man, so you s houldn't

be easily misled by her words."

Oscar stood up and said, "Mom, I'll settle my relationship matters myself. Even if I were to divorce Amelia, I will make sure that she will not be in want for the rest of her life. Don't worry about that."

Olivia clutched onto her tightening chest and panted slightly. Instantly, Owen pulled Olivia into his arms and instructed Os car grimly, "Get Mr. Lancester here this very instant."

Oscar immediately made the call.

"Get out, you jinx! My mom would not be like this if not for you!" Stephanie dashe d forward and shoved Amelia aside.

Amelia nearly fell to the ground.

Olivia's chest tightened further at that sight. She stared at Stephanie and mutter ed with much difficulty, "Stephanie Clinton, she is your sister—in—law, and she is p regnant. If anything happens to her, you might as well kill me too."

Stephanie bit on her lip furiously as she stared at Olivia. "Mom, I am your daughte r, how could you—"

Owen picked up Olivia in one fell swoop and reprimanded Stephanie, "Steph, shu t up. Can't you see that your mother's suffering a relapse?"

Stephanie bit her lip aggrievedly.

Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 65

/ Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 65

Robert

arrived quickly and examined Olivia. "Olivia, you're not young anymore. You should really learn to control your emotions."

Owen asked nervously, "Robert, is she okay?"

"She needs a good rest. She got overly agitated which caused her to go out of bre ath. Be careful in the future though. Her heart is a little weaker than normal so she can't withstand such pressure again."

Owen said sullenly, "Okay. I was negligent this time. I won't let it happen again."

Robert nodded. "Olivia is generally fine so don't worry too much. All right, I have to get back to the hospital."

"Thanks. I won't walk you out then," replied Owen.

Robert waved his hands and replied, "It's fine. We've already known each other for so long."

After he left, Owen glanced at Oscar and Stephanie in displeasure. He said in a low voice, "Did you guys hear that? If anything were to happen to your mother today, you guys can forget about coming back to the Clinton residence ever again."

Stephanie's eyes were reddened. She said, "Dad, I didn't do it on purpose. If it wasn't for this jinx, Mom would have never gotten angry."

Owen glared at her and lowered his volume even further. "Your mother is sleeping so I don't want to wake her, but you need to remember that Amelia is your sister—in—law. You'd better apologize to her for being rude."

Stephanie scowled at Amelia, who was standing at one side. "You want me to apo logize to this jinx? I won't. I've never accepted her as my sister—in—law anyway."

Then, Stephanie ran off.

Owen clenched his fist, looking displeased.

Amelia walked over and said, "Dad, don't be mad at Steph. She's still young and m ay not understand you. Plus, she really cherishes Oscar, so she'll naturally find fault with

Owen looked thoughtfully at her and sighed after a while. "Amelia, you're pregnant. Don't tire yourself out. Go back and rest."

When Amelia glanced at Olivia, he continued, "I'll take care of her."

Amelia knew Owen did not really like her, so she left without another word.

Owen then turned to Oscar, who had been silent the whole time. "Oscar, I don't k now what's going on in your mind, but I want you to stay away from Cassie. You'r e already married with a child and you've seen how much your mother likes Ameli a. You just can't be with Cassie."

Oscar had a complicated look in his eye. After a while, he replied, "Dad, I really w ant to marry Cassie. She's someone that I've always desired to be with."

Owen tightened his fist in anger. "You would put your mother's life on the line for that woman?"

Oscar lowered his head and replied slowly, "I'm really sorry about Mom, but Cassi e's already carrying my child. I can't let the child be born without a father, so I ne ed to give her an official status. Moreover, as Mrs. Yard said, I'll have their family's support if I marry Cassie. Don't you want the Clintons to become stronger?"

Owen was speechless.

Back then, he had also been an ambitious young man, eventually growing Clinton Corporations to become one of the top companies today. Even though he had slowly decreased his involvement in the business, he still wanted the company to develop further.

Aside from its strong foundation, a marriage of convenience was the next best op tion to help Clinton Corporations become stronger. Merging two companies would help push for expansion into overseas markets, creating even more opportunities in the future.

Since Owen had never really liked Amelia, he was indeed enticed by Oscar's word s. Other than her beauty, she was just like any other normal girl.

Beautiful ladies are not hard to find. When Oscar had insisted on marrying Amelia

back then, he did not approve of their marriage. However, the Clintons were previously mocked when Cassie broke off the marriage, and marrying Amelia would put a stop to the ridicule. Thus, he had allowed Oscar to have his way.

Yet, Owen now wanted Oscar's marriage to be beneficial to the family business. Only by engaging in a marriage of convenience could their company continue to improve.

"You can marry Cassie but you have to get your mother's approval first. Otherwise, that is out of the question," Owen piped up.

Oscar nodded. "Dad, don't worry. I'll talk to Mom. Cassie is still that same girl that she's known since young. Someone is trying to frame her with the photos."

Owen

frowned and replied sincerely, "Oscar, you're smart. I just hope that you can put more effort into dealing with your relationship issues and not just focus on work. Cassie has been living overseas for four years and would have definitely changed. If you really fell for her words so easily then I think handling Clinton Corporation s over to you may be a bad decision."

Oscar stood silently as he pondered.

Owen patted him on the shoulder and said, "I'll just give you a piece of advice. Yo u have to put your heart into both business and relationships. Sleep on it—whethe r Cassie is really suitable for you or not. Although I'm not very pleased with Ameli a, she's pregnant with my first grandchild after all. There's nothing else more important than that. Just give it some thought. I don't want to see you suffer because of your marriage."

He continued after a while, "I'm willing to do anything for your mother because I think she's worth it. At the same time, she does even more for our family. Can the woman you choose manage and care for your family, and will she stand beside yo u in times of trouble?"

Owen patted Oscar on the shoulder again. "Just sleep on it."

Oscar raised his head to look at his father. His eyes held a mix of emotions.

He then nodded and said, "I got it, Dad."

Owen replied, "I'll stay here with your mother. You go on."

Oscar nodded. "Take good care of Mom. I'll go check on Amelia."

When his son left, Owen walked over to the sleeping Olivia. He smiled bitterly an d said, "You can drop the act now."

Olivia opened her eyes. It was clear that she was wide awake.

Owen asked, "Still want to sleep?"

Olivia sat up and looked at her husband. "Dear, it's been four years. I can't believ e you still don't like Amelia."

Owen laughed. "She's not my ideal daughter–in–law, but I neither like nor dislike her."

When Olivia got off the bed, he quickly reached over to hold her. "You've just recovered. Don't keep moving around."

She shook off his hand and retaliated, "I like Amelia. I get along well with her and she understands what I'm thinking. She's also definitely more suitable for Oscar t han Cassie is. I think Oscar is just too blinded by his obsession that he can't see w here his heart really lies."

Owen poured her a glass of water and said, "Drink some water, then we'll talk."

On

IC

She took a sip, then asked, "Dear, are you seriously willing to let Oscar marry Cassie?"

Owen took her in his arms and spoke in a low voice. "Let them decide for themsel ves. Don't worry too much."

However, Olivia was

determined. "I'll say it now. I only want Amelia as my daughter in–law. I won't accept anyone else."

He laughed bitterly. "Olivia, don't be stubborn. Just let them deal with it themsel ves, Oscar is a smart man, even smarter than me. I believe he can handle his relationships well too."

Olivia replied angrily, "I think he's stupid to abandon his wife for such an insignificant person. If he regrets it in the future, that's his own problem."

Owen could not help but laugh. "Okay. Lighten up, would you? He's almost thirty. He should know what he wants for himself."

Olivia nodded but stood by her words. "I'll only accept Amelia as my daughter–in law."

Owen chuckled. "Aren't you making things difficult for Oscar? If you keep favoring Amelia, you're also making Stephanie unhappy. I'm worried that your relationship with her will worsen because of this."

Olivia was lost for words.

Owen hugged her and added, "I understand you like Amelia, but you need to kno w your priorities. Stephanie's your daughter. Although she's a little headstrong, s he's still very filial. These past four years, your relationship with Stephanie has be en worsening because of Amelia. Are you sure you want to continue this way?"

Olivia still did not speak.

Seeing that, Owen did not continue to prompt her any further.

Five minutes later, she replied, "I'll try to be fairer from now on."

Owen tightened his hug. He had successfully persuaded his wife.

Meanwhile, Oscar headed back to his bedroom. He was about to knock on the do or when he hesitated.

Eventually, he opened the door to find Amelia sitting on the bed with a book in her hands. However, she was clearly in a daze.

Oscar walked over and took the book out of her hands. Only then did Amelia noti ce him. She had a lost look in her eyes and the former's heart hurt at this sight.

Amelia quickly composed herself and spoke as if everything was normal. "You're back, Mr. Clinton. Has Mom woken up?"

Oscar shook his head and sat down to embrace her. He whispered, "What were yo u doing?"

Amelia laughed. "You just took away my book. Isn't it obvious?"

Oscar studied the book then said, "It's upside down. You're clearly not reading it."

Amelia was not embarrassed. She simply replied, "I was spacing out. Since Ms. Yar d is already pregnant, I was wondering when I would be kicked out of the Clinton family. I just hope that I'll be able to leave happily then."

Oscar disliked the hurt look in her eyes. He covered them and asked, "Who said y ou would be kicked out of our family?"

"Well, am I wrong about it?" Amelia replied with a question of her own.

Oscar was silent for a moment. He then replied, "Don't worry. Even if we do get a divorce, I won't kick you out. I'll get a luxury car to send you out."

"I'll really have to thank you for your generosity then," Amelia paused. "I'd alread y predicted that this would happen when we got married four years ago. But considering that we've been married for so long, could you promise me something?"

"Just say it."

Nevertheless, Amelia held her tongue. Oscar released her from the hug and notic ed that she had shut her eyes. He bent down to kiss her, then said seductively, "If you have something to say, just say it."

Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 66

/ Love You Enough to Leave You Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 66

"Mr. Clinton, when our divorce has been finalized, I won't ask anything of you if y ou'll let me have our child," Amelia said.

"No," Oscar refused without a moment's hesitation. "I won't allow a Clinton to be left out in the cold like this."

Amelia's eyes widened. She said incredulously, "But Mr. Clinton, Ms. Yard is already pregnant. If

my child remains with the Clintons, what would he do without either of his parent s by his side? Why won't you let him come with me instead? He'll only be another sticking point between Ms. Yard and yourself if he stays here."

Oscar frowned, looking wrathful. "He's a Clinton. He's not a sticking point," he de clared.

A sardonic grin appeared on Amelia's face. She said scornfully, "What he'll have in stead of real parents are a stepmother and a stepfather. Mr. Clinton, you and Ms. Yard have children of your own. What makes you think that you'd be able to care for mine on the same level?"

Oscar's frown deepened. "You've gravely misunderstood Cassie. At the rate this c onversation is going, there's no way it can end well. Perhaps we should discuss this when you've calmed down a bit more."

Amelia wriggled out of his embrace. "I'm perfectly calm now, Mr. Clinton, so I would like to discuss this now."

Oscar looked at her wordlessly.

Amelia pressed on, insisting, "We didn't even

consider the possibility of having a child when we signed our marriage papers all those years ago. Why can't you revert to that original mindset now that we're divorced? I'll leave with no strings attached. All I want is my child."

Amelia paused and took

a deep breath. Then she continued, "You'll have other children with Ms. Yard. But this may be

the only child I'll ever have in my life. If you've ever loved me even a little, please give me custody of him."

Oscar continued looking at her.

"Will you, Mr. Clinton? Say something." Amelia returned his gaze resolutely.

Oscar fished for a cigarette. As he brought it to his lips, however, he suddenly re membered the doctor's orders not to smoke in the presence of a pregnant lady. He lowered his cigarette again.

Oscar got off the bed, crossing over to the couch, then sat down. Matter–of–factl y, he said, "Amelia, don't we have a rather good arrangement now? When you ask ed for romance, I created countless swoon–worthy moments for you. When you g ot pregnant, I permitted you to carry the child to term. If money is what you want, I'll see to it that you receive a hefty sum upon the finalization of the divorce. You can lead a carefree existence for the rest of your life. These are riches some wom en can't even dream of. Tell me, what is it that you're lacking?"

Amelia laughed bitterly. Her

label as a gold digger now eclipsed her. She couldn't blame Oscar for thinking she could be bought off by money.

When she had married Oscar four years ago, she never once imagined they'd get divorced one day, much less under such tumultuous circumstances.

"Mr. Clinton, I only want the child," Amelia repeated firmly.

"You can have him, but I'll freeze every one of

your accounts. You won't be able to take a single cent with you," Oscar threatene d. In his mind's eye, he thought Amelia's grubby personality would immediately b ack off when faced with this threat to her wealth. He thus never saw her reply co ming.

"Great. I hope you'll honor your word, Mr. Clinton," Amelia replied without missing a beat.

Astonished, Oscar looked at her and asked, "Are you certain of this?"

Amelia simply nodded.

"We've been married for nearly five years. It's not a long period of time, but it isn 't insignificant either. I'm thirty now, and I've given you some of the best years of my youth. I'll never regret having met you. Let's save ourselves the sleepless nights and finalize our divorce in five days. And please help me to convey my thanks to your mom. She's always treated me well, and I don't think I'll be able to bear her disappointment."

A warning gleam appeared in Oscar's eyes. Menacingly, he asked, "Are you that e ager to get away from me?"

Amelia shook her head wearily and said, "A love triangle will always leave victims in its wake, Mr. Clinton. I'm already at the losing end, so I don't wish to prolong my entanglement in this childish and hopeless aff air."

Oscar strode over. Towering over her, he bent down and seized her chin, saying, "Amelia, I don't want to get a divorce now. As for the child, I'll let you have him, but as far as I'm concerned, this is game over."

Baffled, Amelia looked at him. Then she asked evenly, "If you no longer love me, Mr. Clinton, then why do you insist on keeping me chained to your side? What's the point of that?"

Oscar stroked her face absently. "Leave that up to me," he replied.

Resigned, Amelia shook her head. "Mr. Clinton, has anybody ever told you that yo u're an absolute devil?"

Oscar replied cheerfully, "You're the first, but I like the sound of it. You're my wife, so I don't mind you calling me that."

His ability to remain unfazed by her insults left her feeling most helpless. Trying another tactic, she lowered her gaze and meekly pleaded, "Have mercy on me, Mr. Clinton. I don't wish to continue playing games with you anymore."

Oscar's hands dropped to his side. Flatly, he intoned, "You were just discharged. Stay at home and rest. I'll be heading out for a while."

Amelia knew that it was, in fact, Cassie who was on his mind. However, she refuse d to concern

herself with that. In the brief exchange that had just occurred, she had allowed h erself to think that there was a glimmer of hope for her relationship with Oscar—u ntil Cassie reappeared.

Whatever affection Amelia thought she'd glimpsed in Oscar was merely wishful thinking on her part

After Oscar left, Amelia sat dejectedly on the bed. Suddenly, the shrill ringing of the phone startled her out of her thoughts.

Amelia fumbled around for her phone. When she picked it up, Carter's name flash ed luminously across her screen. She instantly felt a rush of guilt.

Amelia answered the call. "Carter."

On the other end, Carter asked anxiously, "Have you been discharged yet?"

"I got out today. I'm very sorry, Carter. I've barely worked for a month at your company, and I've already taken half a month's worth of leave. Perhaps it would be better for me to resign. I don't want to make things too difficult for you."

Carter laughed gaily. "This position's reserved for you. It's a small matter, so don't take it to heart. Your health is of paramount importance. By the way, if you're st ill interested in going to Saspiuburg for training, I'll leave a spot open for you."

Amelia was silent.

After a few minutes, she finally said, "Carter, thank you for all the help you've giv en me, but I don't think I should go to Saspiuburg. Please let someone else have the

leo

spot."

"All right," Carter agreed.

"My body's mostly recovered, and I can actually return to work tomorrow. Will that be okay for you? Will it cause you too much tr ouble?" Amelia asked worriedly.

On his end, Carter smiled to himself. In a low voice, he replied, "Silly, enough of y our nonsense. If you feel up to it, come in tomorrow then."

"Okay."

"Have a good rest, and bring back that fearless iron lady I used to know. I look for ward to working with her again," Carter teased.

Amelia cheered up. "Got it. I won't let my personal issues affect my work."

"Rest well. I'll hang up first then," Carter replied,

After the call had ended, Amelia stared at her phone for a while, lost in thought. Cradling her belly, she whispered, "Sweetheart, your daddy's determined to marr y Cassie. It's not that Mommy wants to give up, but I am always destined to come out

poorer from this love triangle."

Amelia sat on the bed for a good ten minutes before deciding that she might as w ell lay down for all her trouble. She closed her eyes and tried to sleep, but the un ending clamor of her thoughts made peace and sleep a distant dream.

Amelia tossed and turned, but her thoughts returned unfailingly to Oscar. It was in this state of longing that she finally drifted off to sleep.

It was six in the evening when she was woken up by the maid for dinner. After she had gotten pregnant, she was prone to long bouts of drowsiness. She found hers elf wrestling frequently with her increasingly heavy eyelids. Hence, going to work was good

for her as it provided an environment in which she didn't dare to fall asleep.

Amelia headed to the bathroom for a quick wash–up. She then changed into a flowy dress that left her feeling less restricted before proceeding downstairs.

She was greeted by the sight of Olivia already seated at the dining table. She smil ed and made her way over to her, asking concernedly, "Mom, are you feeling bett er

now?"

Olivia returned her smile warmly. "I'm all better. Why are you here all alone? Whe re's Oscar?"

Amelia hesitated, then replied falteringly, "Something came up at work. His employee had called him back to manage it."

Olivia's face darkened. A

woman of the world, her keen eye saw right through Amelia's reply to the heart of the matter—work was merely an excuse and Oscar was with Cassie this very moment, no doubt.

"Mom, something really came up at work. One of Oscar's secretaries had personally called to inform him of it," Amelia consoled.

Olivia's heart ached for Amelia. She stifled her dissatisfaction toward her son and pulled Amelia closer to her. "Since Oscar is busy, we shan't wait for him to eat di nner then. It's late, and my darling grandchild can't be made to endure hunger."

Stephanie pouted and whined, "Mom, aren't you exaggerating? Amelia's just pregnant. It's not as if she has a national treasure with her or something. Isn't pregnan cy something that every woman will

she's royalty."

Olivia gave Stephanie a hard look, then said, "You'll only know the pain of being pregnant when you actually get there. You can choose to be civi

l and eat your dinner here, or I can get the maid to send the food up to your room.

Oliva's stern speech subdued Stephanie.

When the steaming hot dishes arrived, Olivia affectionately turned to Amelia, say ing, "Amelia, these are nutritious dishes that I've prepared especially for you according to the doctor's instructions. Try it and see if it agrees with you."

Amelia replied

modestly, "Mom, there's no need to go to such trouble. I'm five months in, but I'v e yet to experience morning sickness or any particular cravings.

There's no need to put yourselves out for me. I don't want i

Stephanie snorted. "Come on! Don't waste your acting talent here. Why don't you go ahead and forge a career in showbiz?".

Olivia gave Stephanie another warning look and said, "Steph, Amelia is pregnant. Can't you be a little more understanding? What if you agitate her and she ends up having a miscarriage?"

Stephanie burst in exasperatedly. "Mom, she's not the only woman who will ever get pregnant! Cassie also has Oscar's—"

Thwack! A firm sound of silverware clattering onto the floor was heard.

Olivia was seething. "Steph, if you keep this up, I'll get your father to pack you of f to study overseas! If I can't tame you, I'll get someone else to do it. I won't let a nyone speak badly of our family on your account."

Stephanie bit her lip, looking hurt beyond measure. "Mom, I don't like this woma n. I don't care if the child she's carrying is related to me. Don't even think about a sking me to get along with her."

Owen gave Stephanie a stern look. "That's enough from you, Steph! Amelia has ra rely come over to spend the night. Stop angering your mom, or I'll make a large d eduction from your allowance for this month?"

That was sufficient to anell Stenhonie

"Let's eat," Owen commanded. His family promptly obeyed.

The tension hung heavy in the air, however. Stephanie ate a few mouthfuls, then set her plate down. "Dad, Mom, I'm done eating. I'll head back to my room."

"Stop right there!" Olivia ordered. She pointed toward Stephanie's half—eaten din ner and said, "Steph, you're only allowed to leave this table when you've finished all your food"

Stephanie turned around in a huff. "Mom, I had too many snacks before dinner. I don't have much of an appetite now."

Olivia was on the verge of a retort when Amelia stood up, saying, "Steph, please go ahead. I've had my fill, and I'll be going out for a walk to aid indigestion. Why d on't you stay to accompany your parents?"

Stephanie clearly resented Amelia's graciousness. She spat, "Stop being such a hy pocrite, Amelia! When you're here, this entire place feels suffocating. I'm going o ut

for a breath of fresh air."

Having displayed her annoyance, Stephanie turned and stomped off.

Amelia remained where she was with an indecipherable expression on her face.

Olivia was evidently displeased. She pulled Amelia toward her gently and said, "A melia, Steph is just young and ignorant. Don't take her words to heart."

Amelia recovered herself. Smiling, she replied, "Mom, I'm fine. I'm just a little full from dinner. I'm gonna head out for a short walk; I'll be back in a while."

"I'll come with you," Olivia said.

Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 67

/ Love You Enough to Leave You Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 67

"Don't trouble yourself, Mom. I can take care of myself. I'll be back in half an hour, "Amelia protested genially.

Seeing that Amelia was resolute, Olivia reluctantly agreed.

After Amelia had left, Olivia's face resumed its vexed expression. "Did you see St eph's behavior just now? She has no manners and doesn't behave like a lady at all."

Ever the mediator, Owen

said, "All right, let's not get all worked up. Steph has disliked Amelia all along. W e'll invite Amelia over less often to prevent such squabbles from happening again. It puts you in a difficult position as well."

Olivia bristled and snapped back at Owen, "What are you talking about? Amelia's part of our family. Along with Oscar, she'll be the owner of this house in the futur

e. What do you mean by inviting her over less often? Besides, the two of you are a lways so busy with your own lives. Who do I have to talk to other than Amelia? Or would you prefer I leave with her?"

Bemused, Owen replied, "Don't get hysterical, Olivia. I just don't want an outside r to drive a wedge between your daughter and yourself. You wouldn't want Steph to hate you, would you?"

Olivia was silent.

"Let's eat. The children can handle their own affairs," Owen said kindly.

Olivia once

again resumed eating. By way of soothing his wife, Owen said, "When Steph is back, you can talk things out with her. Steph has been spoilt since she was young and must be

feeling jealous now that your attention's shifted to someone else. I can understand why she's objected so strongly to Amelia's presence here."

Olivia nodded.

Amelia

had wandered to the little artificial lake within the Clintons' grounds. Drawing ne arer, however, she noticed a tall, slender figure already standing there. It was no ne other than Stephanie.

Amelia hesitated. She considered retreating soundlessly back the way she came, but Stephanie

had already turned in Amelia's direction as she approached. Their gazes

met.

It's the clash of the titans!

The thought sprung unbidden to Amelia's mind.

Stephanie's eyes gleamed with hatred. She marched over, exclaiming, "Amelia, yo u're really something! Not only have you seduced my brother, but you've also ma naged to get my mom under your thumb. You must be pleased with yourself."

Amelia gazed at Stephanie for a moment, then said serenely, "Steph, I've always t reated you like family. I don't know what I did to make you hate me so much, but I 've constantly been trying to win you over. I hope you can give me a chance."

Stephanie folded her arms across her chest. "Amelia, do you know what it is that I hate most about you? You're clearly a gold digger, yet you're constantly playing the victim to gain sympathy. It annoys me to no end."

Amelia walked over to the side of the lake. She took a deep breath, then turned a nd said, "Steph, if I really wanted to get rid of you, I have a thousand and one oth

er ways to turn your own mother against you. It's up to you whether you choose to believe me or not."

Stephanie sneered, "Are you threatening me?"

Amelia shook her head. "I'm not. I rather hope that we can coexist in peace. Your mother is very kind to me, and I don't want to make things difficult for her. I hope that you'll stop throwing a tantrum whenever we meet."

Derisively, Stephanie said, "And what if I refuse?"

"I've checked. There are cameras installed in every corner of the Clinton residence. This lake is the only place on the grounds without any. If I threw myself in right now and accused you of pushing me in, which one of us do you think your family will believe?" Amelia said.

Enraged, Stephanie shouted, "Amelia, are you really low enough to stoop to such underhand tricks? Are you really asking to be thrown into the lake? I'll grant your wish and push you in for real. It won't matter what my parents think as long as yo u drown to your death. They'll find a way to cover it up for me."

Stephanie looked at Amelia, daring her to reply.

Amelia was slightly taken aback. She'd never imagined that Stephanie would be reckless enough to even speak of killing her out loud.

"Stephanie, it seems that you're not just a spoiled rich girl after all, you're also a f oolish woman who is far more confident in yourself than you have any right to be.

Stephanie said disdainfully, "Coward! I just said that to frighten you. Do you think that your devious plans will work? Even if you do get thrown into the lake, my parents will only be mad at me for a few days. Do you think you're really that import ant to them?"

Amelia retorted, "Why don't you ask your mother just how important I am to her? Or don't you already know the answer?"

Provoked, Stephanie cried, "You..."

Amelia had walked away, but she turned back and gave the former a sidelong gla nce. "Stephanie, if I were you, I wouldn't do anything to humiliate me in front of y our mother. It only makes her feel for me more. If you truly want to sabotage someone, do it more subtly. Your incessant whining only makes you look like a silly b*tch yapping away."

With her arms akimbo, Stephanie replied vehemently, "Amelia, if you continue to incite me like this, don't blame me if I knock you over and cause a miscarriage!"

"Push me then, please, if you don't mind your parents packing you off overseas a nd your brother cutting off all ties with you forever," Amelia replied. "Mr. Clinton's going to divorce me soon, anyway, and I can't take my child with me."

Stephanie's chest heaved as she gnashed her teeth with rage. "Amelia, has anyone ever told you that you're absolutely despicable?"

Amelia merely shrugged. "Thanks for the compliment, but no one's actually ever told me that."

Stephanie drew her hand back in a swift motion, fully intending to land a slap on Amelia's face. However, her hand was caught in mid—air by Amelia. The latter bra ndished her swollen belly in front of Stephanie, saying, "Watch yourself, Steph. Y our mother's looked forward to this grandchild for the longest time. If anything

happens to him, you'll be stuck overseas while I get to stay right here. Within a fe w years, you'll find yourself working for your own money."

Stephanie wrenched her hand away from Amelia's grip. She leaned in and said, "A melia, don't be so shameless. Try to enjoy it while it lasts. Cassie's coming back. It 's time for you to scamper back to wherever you belong."

Amelia shrugged again. "Don't

worry about me. Even if I get divorced, your brother will be giving me a hefty sum nonetheless."

"You shameless gold digger," Stephanie snarled. "You make me sick. You'd better get out of my sight before I make you."

She then swaggered off.

Amelia watched her retreating figure for a while, then raised her eyes toward the starry night sky. She sighed heavily.

That was how the maid found her after a long time.

Amelia followed her back to the house where Olivia was waiting. She dashed for ward and clasped Amelia, saying, "What in the world were you doing? It's gotten so late!"

"The moon was lovely tonight. I was so caught up watching its reflection shimmer ing in the lake that I must have lost track of time somehow. I'm sorry to have worried you," Amelia said apologetically.

Olivia said indulgently, "Now that you're pregnant, you shouldn't be wandering o ff by yourself. If you want to take a walk tomorrow, let me accompany you at leas t."

Amelia

returned her smile. "Mom, I'm going back to work tomorrow. I feel bad for taking

half a month's leave when I'm merely a new employee. If it weren't because of Carter, I'd have been fired long ago."

Olivia furrowed her brows and made as if to speak. Amelia quickly continued, "M om, I rather like this job. Besides, if I don't go to work, I'd only be letting my thou ghts run wild all day."

Olivia had no choice but to agree. However, she chided, "Amelia, you can go ahea d to work, but don't hesitate to resign if it's taking a toll on you. If you're bored, I can always get Oscar to give you a sinecure at Clinton Corporations. Don't tire yo urself

out."

Amelia said gaily, "Don't worry, Mom. I know my limits; I'll take care of myself."

VON

UW

Olivia nodded in approval.

"I'm a little tired now. I'll head upstairs first to rest," Amelia said.

"Go ahead then. I noticed that you didn't eat much for dinner. If you get hungry in the middle of the night, I'll get the maid to prepare a light supper for you," Olivia said reassuringly.

Amelia nodded.

She slowly walked up the stairs. The moment she entered the bedroom, she received a call from Oscar. Amelia picked up the phone only to be greeted by Cassie's voice on the other end of the line.

OIC

"Amelia, Oz has gone to take a shower. He'll be staying over at my place tonight. He asked me to call and tell you to be careful over at the Clintons'. Be sure not to slip and fall, or you'll squash that l

ump inside of you for sure," Cassie said rudely.

Amelia's fists clenched. Her reply, however, was breezy. "Ms. Yard, did you call me just to show off?"

"I'm sorry. I don't have that much time on my hands. I just wanted to tell you that in my eyes, you're nothing but another failure. So what if Oz saw those photos of mine? He's so in love with me that he thinks I'm still that innocent girl of yore. Th at's something that you definitely won't be able to convince him of about you."

Amelia almost flung her phone aside in anger. She forced herself to take a deep b reath, however, and swallowed her rage. "Congratulations, Ms. Yard. Be warned, though, that your sins will eventually find you out. Someday someone will catch y ou at one of those seedy places you frequent. You might be able to explain it away the first or second time, but it'll get old real guick."

"That's not your area of concern. Even if I go to those seedy places as you say, I'll bring Oz with me."

"That'll be nice. Ms. Yard, if you have nothing else to say to me, I'll hang up now," Amelia said. The exhaustion accumulated from the night's happenings was catching

up with her.

"Wait," Cassie said urgently.

"Anything else I can help you with, Ms. Yard?" Amelia inquired sarcastically.

"If you know what's best for yourself, divorce Oz now. Don't hang around and wai t to be chased out, though that is what going to happen eventually."

"Don't you worry about me, Ms. Yard," Amelia replied easily. "Your position as the Clintons' daughter—in—law is more precarious than mine. His mom loves me, and it so happens that you're not in her good books at the moment."

"You.."

"Ms. Yard, allow me to wish you and Mr. Clinton a good night. Treasure it; I'm afra id you won't be having too many more of such happy days together." Having said that, Amelia firmly hung up the phone.

She threw the phone aside, feeling her strength utterly drain from her. Tears gat hered in the corners of her eyes, threatening to spill over.

She wasn't as upset about her misfortune as she was over the fact that so few pe ople cared. Her own husband was in love with another woman; the entire Clinton family, besides Olivia, was entirely on his side. She was constantly treated as an o utsider. And even though the Clintons knew that she was pregnant, none of them had truly rejoiced for her.

When Cassie had gotten pregnant, not only did the Clintons not shame her for it, but they had actually rallied in her defense. Amelia had always scorned soap operas for being unrealistic, never imagining that her own life would be far more dramatic than some exposés.

No one envied the rich man's wife for her role. Over the years, the pride and self confidence that she had at the start had been so battered and bruised that nearly nothing of it was left.

Another sigh escaped her. She was at a complete loss. At that moment, it seemed as if the path ahead lay entirely obscured in shadow.

Amelia collapsed onto the bed, fully dressed, and closed her eyes. Amidst her

Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 68

/ Love You Enough to Leave You

Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 68

Perhaps it was the day's proceedings that made Amelia uneasy even in sleep. Osc ar's light touch woke her

up immediately. He saw that her eyes were reddened from crying and felt another pang in his heart.

Amelia blinked rapidly, then reached out and caressed Oscar's face. "Mr. Clinton, it seems that I'm only able to receive such affection from you in my dreams. I may be nothing more than a toy to you in reality, but in my dreams, perhaps I can be your wife."

Oscar was stunned for a moment. He then realized that Amelia must have though t she was still fast asleep.

Looking at her bleary eyes, Oscar couldn't help but laugh. He'd never really witnessed this vulnerable side of her before.

Seeing him laugh, Amelia couldn't help but be pleased. She leaned forward and ki ssed Oscar sensually on the lips, saying in a low voice, "Mr. Clinton, will you touch me? I want to be the only one you touch."

Oscar's eyes shifted. Like a wolf ready to devour, he clambered atop Amelia, care ful not to let any weight rest on her belly. He looked straight down into her face and said enigmatically, "Do you really want me to touch you that much?"

Amelia giggled, still imagining herself in dreamland. "Mr. Clinton, this feels incre dibly real. I've dreamed of this moment so many times before, but never like this. I can almost feel your hunger! That's just as well. You'll forget all about Cassie an d only think about your wife now."

Oscar's heart was racing. He said, teasing, "You don't want me to think about Cas sie?"

Amelia shook her head firmly. "Mr. Clinton, how I wish you belonged to me alone."

Having declared thus, she pulled Oscar close and kissed him fervently on his lips, finding a savage joy in the impossibility of that moment.

She would not think about letting go.

Meanwhile, Oscar had abandoned every other thought. In their passion, both of them had lost themselves entirely to the world and time.

After the affair came to its inevitable conclusion, Amelia drifted off to sleep in exhaustion. Oscar couldn't help but smile. "You sure know how to get out of things! I came here wanting to talk to you, but you've already fallen asleep."

The next day, Amelia woke up to find herself wrapped in Oscar's arms. She was momentarily baffled but quickly cast her confusion aside when she caught sight of his sleeping face. A smile still lurked at the corners of his mouth. She reached out and playfully pinched his cheeks.

Oscar woke up in pain.

He grabbed hold of Amelia's hands and demanded, "What are you doing?"

Amelia leaned her head on his chest and said somewhat dully, "Mr. Clinton, when did you come back?"

"Have you forgotten how you pounced onto me last night?" Oscar nudged Amelia .

Amelia's cheeks immediately turned crimson. Recalling the events of the previous night, she thought with a shudder, Wasn't all that just a dream?

Among the memories rapidly filling her mind were the words she'd said last night. She would never have considered uttering them under normal circumstances.

"Feeling shy?" Oscar asked, feeling uncharacteristically jovial.

Amelia buried her face in his chest and said shyly, "Mr. Clinton, about last night—

"Last night, you merely clasped me in your arms and said that you wanted me. Yo u didn't say anything else," Oscar interrupted.

Amelia heaved a sigh of relief. However, there was a niggling feeling that Oscar was merely feigning ignorance.

Perhaps Oscar was aware that her interest in him had already exceeded that of a financial backer. He knew that she loved him but was unready or unwilling to accept that fact.

"Mr. Clinton, didn't you meet Ms. Yard yesterday? Weren't you going to stay over at her place?" Amelia asked.

"Are you upset that I didn't?"

Amelia slowly rose. Ignoring Oscar's burning gaze on her bare body, Amelia slowly got dressed and headed for the bathroom.

Oscar followed her in. He was only wearing a pair of boxers, and the sight of his t aut, muscular body would have made any woman swoon over him.

Oscar gently hugged Amelia from behind and whispered in her ear, "Are you upse t?"

Amelia shook her head. She took her time to rinse her mouth, then said, "Mr. Clin ton, you and Ms. Yard are both extremely eligible individuals. Together, you're a match made in heaven. I've just been a substitute all this while, just waiting for her to come along. It doesn't matter whether I'm upset or not, does it?"

Oscar frowned. "Didn't you say you weren't upset? You're so bitter with jealousy that you're almost rank with it."

Amelia turned to face him. She said earnestly, "Mr. Clinton, Ms. Yard is carrying y our child now. Are you overjoyed?"

Oscar was speechless. Truthfully, Cassie's pregnancy hadn't excited any feelings whatsoever in him. Even when Cassie had placed his hand over her belly to feel the baby's movements within, he had remained absolutely unmoved.

Oscar claimed to love Cassie. When Cassie had returned, however, he wasn't as e nthusiastic to see her as he had expected himself to be. He could put up with her pettiness but found himself lacking the urge to touch her, hold her, and claim her for his own.

The previous night, Cassie had said, stroking her belly, "Oz, I practically gave up my entire career for you and this child. You don't seem as pleased as I expected y ou to be. Tell me honestly, do you still love me?"

He'd

taken Cassie into his arms and comforted her then, saying, "Don't be silly. You've really let your imagination go this time, haven't you? Of course, I still love you. I wouldn't be here otherwise."

Reassured, Cassie had smiled and then asked excitedly whether he hoped for a b oy or a girl. She'd then launched into a discussion of baby names.

Oscar had responded with vague interest. However, he knew that he was no long er quite as thrilled as he had once been.

Observing Oscar's reaction, Amelia presumed that he was too overcome with hap piness to speak. She muttered, "Mr. Clinton, I suppose it's a sort of happiness that can't be put into words. That's just so. With the woman you love bearing your child, I wouldn't believe you even if you said you weren't happy."

Oscar tilted her jaw, forcing her to look into his eyes. In a husky voice, he asked, "Are you jealous?"

ver

Amelia struggled against his strong grip. "Mr. Clinton, I'm sticky all over with pers piration. I need a bath. Could you go out, please?"

"I'll join you," Oscar said suggestively.

Amelia bit her lip, saying, "Mr. Clinton, I'm going to be late for work. I'll have to p ass up on the privilege this time. Ms. Yard can have the honor of playing out the s teamy shower scene with you instead."

Oscar gave her a look, then left.

After he had gone, Amelia caught sight of her pale self in the mirror and sighed. S he quickly undressed and showered herself.

When she had finished, she told Oscar, who was reclining on the sofa, "Mr. Clinto n, I'll make a move first. I've got to head off to work."

"Wait," Oscar said, just as Amelia reached for the door.

"What is it, Mr. Clinton?"

"I've changed my mind. Have the child. I'll give you enough money for you to live off comfortably the rest of your life. My only condition is th at you must leave this city and never see your child again," Oscar stated.

Amelia gaped at him in disbelief. A look of despair flitted across her eyes.

"Mr. Clinton, are you being serious?" Amelia asked through gritted teeth.

Oscar merely nodded.

"You're a cruel man, Oscar. Well, hear me, I will take my child with me. If you insis t on leaving him here with the Clintons, I'd rather miscarry than let you have him. He means more to me than life itself," Amelia vowed.

Oscar was slightly taken back by the strength of Amelia's ardent gaze.

"Are you threatening me?" he asked.

"I am," Amelia said evenly. "I love this child, and he may be the only thing I'll have to count on in this life. You have everything you could ever ask for, so you don't know just how precious something can be. If I leave my child with you, you'll mere ly treat him as a toy to be played with and consequently abandoned. When your child is born to that

woman, what would you care about mine? Someone like you only knows how to lo ok down on others. By the time you realize he's a real child and not just your play thing, he'd already be ruined."

Oscar's gaze remained on Amelia unwaveringly. He'd never imagined that her impression of him was so unbearable.

"Is that what you really think of me?" he asked.

"Yes," Amelia said without hesitation.

Oscar stood up and strode over to Amelia. Towering over her, he said coolly, "Give me a reason."

Bewildered, Amelia replied, "What reason?"

"A reason barbaric enough for me not to want my own child." Oscar replied.

Amelia's lip trembled. She'd been made articulate by the heat of her passion, but she found herself at a loss when it came to cool logic.

"So there's none?" Oscar stroked her ear and said patiently, "You're too unkind, A melia. I've always treated you well. You've never even seen the limit on your cred it card. Everything you eat and wear is the best that money can buy. I've given yo u everything, except perhaps my own heart. How dare you say that I'm cruel? Wha t about yourself? Have you forgotten all the good I've done for you?"

CWS

IV

Oscar's handsome face was merely inches away from Amelia's. She found herself mesmerized.

He suddenly leaned closer and took her in his arms. Amelia tried to escape but to no avail, finding herself engulfed in his embrace. He whispered in her ear, "You h eartless woman! I was only joking with you just now. I will give you custody of the child if you want him. There'll be conditions, though."

Stunned, Amelia looked at him.

Oscar tenderly stroked her nose and said. "What is it?"

Amelia was rather disoriented. She couldn't tell what the real Oscar was like. Was he harsh or affectionate? Cold or loving? Whenever she started taking him seriou

sly, he would immediately transform into an entirely different persona. Her heart had been both mended and shattered by him in turn.

"Oscar, which is the real you?" Amelia asked impulsively.

Oscar's eyes gleamed. Then he laughed and said, "It's morning, and your brain's probably still lacking oxygen. Look at you asking such a silly question!"

Amelia joined in, "I guess I slept for too long; I'm probably still half–asleep."

"Let's go downstairs and get breakfast. I'll send you to work, Oscar said.

Amelia nodded gratefully.

After breakfast, when they had both gotten into Oscar's car, Amelia asked again, "Mr. Clinton, you'll really give me custody of my child?" Her hands were placed protectively over her belly.

"I won't renege on my promises to you. But as I said, I do have a few conditions," Oscar emphasized.

Amelia gave him a look. "Say them."

"After the divorce is finalized, I will give you a sum of money. As for the alimony, I 'll send you money every month on the condition that I get to meet the child twice a month," Oscar said firmly.

"Won't Ms. Yard object to that?" Amelia asked.

"Cassie's warm–hearted and gracious. She'll definitely support me meeting my own

child," Oscar declared magnanimously.

Amelia gave a wry smile. Despite all the evidence pointing to the contrary, Oscar firmly maintained that Cassie was indeed as pure as she made herself out to be.

Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 69

/ Love You Enough to Leave You
Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 69

No wonder they call it true love. Even if there were incriminating photos of Cassi e with another man at a nightclub, a simple explanation from her had Oscar wrap ped around her little finger once more. No matter if the explanation makes absolutely no sense, he still thinks of her as some innocent little lady.

Amelia just closed her eyes and remained silent.

геm

"Are you tired?"

Amelia shook her head.

"So what did you think of what I just said?"

"After the divorce, I will get sole custody and sizable alimony, not to mention a more—than—adequate amount of child support. Since I love money so much, do you

think I will reject your proposal?" Amelia shrugged while replying.

Oscar's lips curved into a smirk, and he appeared to be in a good mood.

When they reached the Majesty Group building, Oscar parked the car on the side of

the road. As Amelia removed her seatbelt to get out, she said, "Mr. Clinton, drive safe." She then opened the door to alight from the car.

Oscar halted her. "As your chauffeur for today, shouldn't I get a little something as a thank you?"

As Amelia turned around, she saw Oscar gesture at his cheek. Chuckling, she kiss ed his cheek and meant to leave immediately, but Oscar was faster. He held her head in place and gave her a French kiss.

When they finally broke apart, Amelia was blushing furiously. She appeared coquettish and looked even more seductive than before. Even Oscar's gaze had changed as he swallowed, his Adam's apple bobbin a.

Amelia rolled her eyes weakly at him and tidied her mussed—up hair before leaving the car quickly.

Once she entered the office, everyone stared at her knowingly. She felt awkward at the attention, which didn't end when she reached the design department. Some of

her close colleagues even smirked when they saw her. The atmosphere was unset tling and perplexing:

One of her more familiar female colleagues came up to her and stared at her neck. She chuckled, "Amelia, it looks like your husband is a pretty passionate person. I'm sure you both enjoyed a pretty intense night yesterday."

Amelia felt her cheeks heat up. How can I discuss my sex life with other people!

"Jessica, what nonsense are you saying! We're at work; don't talk to me like that, or Mr. Scott will have your head if he sees us," Amelia replied.

Jessica just pointed at her neck and laughed. "Amelia, there's a very prominent hickey on your neck. I'm not sure anyone is going to think otherwise."

Amelia hurriedly pulled out a compact mirror from her purse. There was indeed a hickey on her neck; she hadn't worn a high—neck blouse today, and the hickey was like a flashing neon sign for all to see. No wonder everyone entered the lift; it's all because of this hickey!This is all that jerk's fault! He must have snu ck a hickey while I was distracted from all

the kissing in the car! How can I face my colleagues with a hickey like this! I'm goin g to be the laughing stock for ages! I know they're not mean, but I'm not that thic k-skinned!

She brought her purse with her into the washroom and dabbed some powder on her neck. Once the hickey appeared less obvious, she let out a sigh of relief.

When she returned to

her desk, Jessica pounced on her again. "Amelia, if your husband still has the ener gy to bed you when you're pregnant, I wonder how good his stamina must be? Yo u should bring him along sometime. I'd like to see which man has stolen the heart of such a hottie like you; you must know every male in the design department has eyes for you."

Amelia rolled her eyes at Jessica. "Jessica, you know the company rules. They'll d ock our pay for gossiping during working hours. If you carry on like this, I'm going to tell Mr. Scott."

Jessica stuck her tongue out playfully. "Amelia, you've gone over to the dark side! Siding with Mr. Scott against me! But alas, I'll forgive you because you're so prett v."

Amelia shook her head resignedly.

But Jessica wasn't done. She suddenly spoke with a mysterious vibe. "Amelia, wh en you were in the hospital, a gorgeous woman joined our company. Why, her bea uty is even comparable to yours! She quickly rose through the ranks to become the director of design. She's our new boss now, you know."

U

Amelia glanced at her and repeated herself. "Jessica, if you continue gossiping like this and get your pay docked, don't blame me."

Jessica's eyes widened as she spoke in a disbelieving tone. "Amelia, are you not a t all curious about who this femme

fatale is? There are two gorgeous women in our company now, and it's driving all the male colleagues crazy. I mean, you're married, but they can still hope."

Amelia

didn't know whether to laugh or cry at her antics. "Jessica, I know you millennials have all sorts of ideas up your sleeves. But please, just go back to your desk and work. We can talk about stuff outside of work during our lunch break, ok?"

Jessica chuckled to herself while returning to her desk. Her desk was next to Am elia's, so she continued whispering to her as she switched on her computer. "Ame lia, I'm telling you. Even though that new director is gorgeous, she's really hard to get along with. When you two meet, I hope you both don't make a big show of preening your own feathers."

"Jessica, tone down on your wild imagination, ok?" replied Amelia.

Jessica was born in the 90s and had just joined the company this year. She still has some of that school–going childishness and a boundless amount of energy and i magination. Although her endless smiles and laughter really did help her to get along with pretty much anyone. She may look like an air–headed girl, but she's really capable too.

"Amelia, she's coming over here. Be careful ok, don't become the target of her temper." Jessica had just ended her w ords before she quickly turned towards her desk, looking as if she was prepared for some impending disaster.

Amelia turned her head

around and saw a man and a woman enter the design department. One of them w as Mr. Scott, and the woman was none other than Jennifer Larson, who she'd met the other day.

In less than a month, someone who wants nothing to do with me is suddenly my b oss.

When Jennifer saw her, surprise flashed over her eyes. She immediately turned

towards Carter. "Mr. Scott, is this the employee who's been absent for half a mon th?"

Carter nodded.

Jennifer continued. "Mr. Scott, I remember company rules stating that employee s, who are serving their three months' probationary period, are not allowed to ap ply for long periods of leave. I checked the records, and it turns out she applied f or leave after only working for a couple of days. Shouldn't the company enforce d isciplinary action, Mr. Scott?"

"I approved her leave. Do you have a problem with that, Ms. Larson?" Carter replied lightly

Normally, a smart woman would never argue with a man over such petty matters. Jennifer was a capable worker, but her superiority complex would not allow anot

her woman to monopolize the attention of a man she liked. I have to send her packing no matter what!

"Mr. Scott, I am the director of design now. Don't I have a right to penalize emplo yees who are taking leave when they're not supposed to?" Jennifer lifted her hea d and replied in a sharp tone.

Carter just glanced at her before addressing Amelia. "Amelia, come to my office for a moment."

He turned and left the office. Jennifer shot an ambiguous glance at Amelia before stomping away on her heels.

Jessica expressed her annoyance and said, "Amelia, you need to be careful. Wom en get jealous easily, even more so for those who are beautiful. I'm pretty sure she has a target on your head."

Amelia tidied up the things on her table and laughed. "Sweetie, you've watched to oo many dramas, and you're mixing up fiction and reality. All you need to do now is to do your work properly. I'll arrange for an appointment for you so you can see a doctor about your penchant for overthinking."

Jessica wasn't angered at her words but merely pouted. "Amelia, why are you so mean! I'm just worried for you, yet you make fun of me. Don't make me angry."

Amelia just smiled and spoke to the rest of the office. "Everyone, I'll need to leave for

a moment. If my luck has run out and my boss wants to sack me, I hope you will all remember and miss me."

The male colleagues reacted strongly to her words. "Don't worry Amelia, we have your back. If that Ms. Larson is being unreasonable, we'll all quit in solidarity."

Amelia laughed. "Ok, with your words, I feel ready to face anything ahead of me."

Everyone burst out in laughter. "Amelia, if your husband hears this, he's going to be so jealous."

Surprisingly Amelia cracked a joke. "He's always stewing in jealousy."

After some friendly banter with her colleagues, Amelia made her way to Carter's office. Jennifer was already inside.

Amelia nodded politely in her direction. "Jennifer."

Jennifer, however, replied coolly. "In the office, please address me as Ms. Larson."

Amelia answered smoothly. "Ms. Larson."

Jennifer hmphed lightly, her eyes full of hostility towards Amelia.

Amelia was bewildered at her demeanor. I've only met her twice before this, but why does she have such a poor impression of me? The only reason I can think of is men's problems, with the man in question being Carter.

"Mr. Scott, what did you want to speak to me about?" asked Amelia as she tried to shake off the unpleasant thoughts in her head.

Carter looked at her and asked caringly, "Amelia, are you ok? Is the baby giving y ou problems?"

Amelia shook her head. "Thank you for your concern, Mr. Scott. I'm feeling fine n ow."

Carter nodded his head. "Cood. I reserved the spot in Saspiuburg for you. If you've decided to go, I'll make the necessary travel arrangements."

Amelia replied, "Mr. Scott, please don't trouble yourself. I'm five months pregnan

now, and I don't think my husband's family will allow me to travel to Saspiuburg f or training. You can let someone else have the slot; I recall there are training opp ortunities next year. I can always go with the new hires then."

"Amelia, is it? Don't you think you're asking for too much: You come and go as yo u please and take this training opportunity for granted. Do you somehow own this company or something? You're taking advantage of Carter's kindness, with not hought to how this will affect his image in the eyes of his other employees. Utterly selfish behavior," said Jennifer unforgivingly as she crossed her arms.

Carter

smiled apologetically at Amelia before addressing Jennifer coldly. "Ms. Larson, I hope you don't let your personal feelings get in the way of your work. I personall y approved Amelia's leave as she was hospitalized after a car accident. Any reaso nable boss would approve her reasons for taking leave. Don't you think your prec onception of the situation is making you sound like a shrew?"

Jennifer's expression soured as she gritted out, "Carter, you're telling me off because of that woman:

Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 70

/ Love You Enough to Leave You
Love You Enough to Leave You Chapter 70

"Ms. Larson, I hope you don't misunderstand. I'm merely looking at the facts objectively. If my tone came across as harsh, then I'd like to apologize for that. If there are no other matters, please get back to work. I need to talk to Amelia about so me other issues."

Carter invited Jennifer out of his office.

Jennifer stood up. Shooting a frosty glance at Amelia, she walked towards the door.

Va

She paused at the door and turned around. "Mr. Scott, I have a lunch appointmen t this afternoon. Since Amelia is a company employee, I'd like to bring her along. Surely you can't disagree with me on this."

Before Carter could reply, Amelia agreed. "Ms. Larson, I'll join you on your lunch a ppointment."

"Good, just don't pull any tricks up your sleeve. We need to make profits, not pay for incompetent slackers." She opened the door and left.

Carter scrunched his brows and said apologetically, "Amelia, don't listen to her."

Amelia shook

her head. "Mr. Scott, I won't think too much about it. She does have a point, thou gh. The company shouldn't be paying for slackers, and I did take a pretty long lea ve after only working for a few days. It's natural for others to feel uncomfortable about it. But don't you worry Mr. Scott, I will pour in a hundred percent of my eff ort to prepare a satisfactory questionnaire for you. I'll prove to everyone that yo u didn't hire me for my looks but my abilities."

Carter smiled gently.

He gestured for Amelia to sit down. "Amelia, don't be so nervous. The company is progressing well, and everyone has their own assigned work. While you were abs ent, your department

colleagues very enthusiastically covered your workload. They didn't want you to t ire yourself out on account of your pregnancy. You just need to thank them prope rly later."

"No wonder my desk has been so

clean! So they helped me to complete all my work! It looks like you have an eye for hiring people who are both capable and kind. Don't worry! I will work even hard er for colleagues like them."

Chapter 70

Carter's gentle smile was comforting and soothing.

Amelia was caught up in his gaze for a moment before she realized what she was doing. Calming herself down, she replied, "Mr. Scott, if there's nothing more, I'll g et back to work. After all, I still have a lunch appointment with Ms. Larson later."

Carter nodded.

When Amelia reached the door, Carter's voice rang out behind her. "Amelia, I'll follow you to the lunch appointment. They'd meant to invite me any way."

Amelia replied, "Mr. Scott, you're the head of this company. Of course, you can at tend if you please. You needn't inform me especially."

When she got back to the design department, her colleagues were clamoring for gossip on her fate in the company. Suddenly there was a loud noise, and everyon e shot back to their seats.

Jennifer had entered and was the culprit behind the loud noise.

"Everyone, this is working hours. I hope you're actually working during the manda ted hours. A company will soon become a mess if rules are ignored," Jennifer said with a strict tone.

Jennifer's curves were accentuated in her power suit. Coupled with her tactfully applied makeup, she was extremely gorgeous. She looks indisputably innocent and sexy at the same time. Even when she's stern, it's hard for people to hate her. She's simply too beautiful. This is an age where looks are prized above others. Even if she scolds others fiercely, no one can really bring themselves to hate her.

Amelia looked at Jennifer's get-up. I must admit she's a woman who's not only be autiful but also incredibly talented; otherwise, she wouldn't become the director in such a short span of time.

When everyone looked like they were busying themselves with work, Jennifer ap peared pleased and looked at Amelia. "Amelia, are you free now? Please come to my office."

She immediately left after her orders.

Amelia got up as Jessica sent her an encouraging gesture. Amelia said wryly, "I'm just

going there to discuss some matters, must you be so dramatic? If the boss sees th is, you'll be in hot soup again."

That elicited some laughter from the others.

Amelia left the design department and entered Jennifer's office.

"Ms. Larson, you were looking for me?" asked Amelia.

Jennifer pointed at the chair in front of her. "Sit. We need to talk."

Amelia sat

down and said calmly, "Ms. Larson, please tell me whatever it is you have on your mind. I have to get back to work soon; after all, I've been on long leave and have a lot of work to complete."

Jennifer set down the fountain pen in her hand and contemplated the woman sitt ing in front of her. Suddenly she said, "Amelia, you're really a very beautiful wom an." Just like a foxy b*tch.

Amelia was stunned at the compliment and answered politely, "Thank you for your compliment, Ms. Larson. But you are definitely more beautiful than me."

SO

Jennifer crossed her arms and spoke in a haughty tone. "Amelia, you're the wife to the sole heir of Clinton Corporations, am I right?"

VIS

Amelia's smile was still plastered on her face, though her gaze had cooled down considerably.

"You investigated me?"

"I won't consider it an investigation;

I was merely curious about the woman who had Carter wrapped around her little finger. Well, I supposed I'm not surprised. After all, you look just like a temptress. You know, the kind of woman who enjoys leading men on. And how could they n ot fall for your tricks?".

Amelia stared at her coldly. "Ms. Larson, I hope you can be more civil. While you a re humiliating me, you're actually dragging yourself through the mud. You're a ric h heiress with a good education; don't ruin your own image once you open your m outh."

Jennifer sneered at her. "Amelia, you have a rather sharp tongue which I really do n't

appreciate. I know that Carter has feelings for you, but you're here to work and n ot to seduce him. Please refrain from flirting with your boss during working hours.

Amelia was boiling with rage.

I've seen slanders, but none as warped from the truth like this! She must be paranoi d if she's spouting these words.

"Ms. Larson, I'm just going to repeat myself. Nothing is going on between Mr. Scott and me. You come from an elite background, so I hope you can have a better moral fiber." Amelia stood up and continued, "If there's nothing else, I'm going back to work."

Jennifer halted her angrily. "Stop right there!"

"Yes?"

"Amelia, is this the kind of attitude you use when you're talking to your direct supervisor?"

"Ms. Larson, this is working hours, and I hope you can separate your personal grie vances from your work."

"You want me to be objective?" asked Jennifer. "Alright, get me all the blueprints from the past couple of years."

Amelia stared at her, before nodding and leaving the office.

Amelia collated all the required original

blueprints in a short while, and the stack was even taller than herself. Her colleag ues in the design department couldn't help asking, "Amelia, what are you doing w ith all these?"

"Ms. Larson wants to use them, so she asked me to collate them for her."

Jessica appeared angry. "Isn't she just making your life difficult? We already sub mitted these blueprints to other companies, and they've all been reviewed. What does she want to do with them now? You're pregnant right now, and the way she's treating you is just plain unreasonable."

The male colleagues were also angry. "Amelia, we'll help you carry them to her office."

"Thank you," replied Amelia

as she turned to comfort an indignant Jessica. "Alright, don't I have all of you hel ping me? I'm not exhausted; don't be so angry on my behalf, or you might get wrinkles on your young face."

Jessica couldn't help but laugh at her teasing words.

Looking at the tall stack of documents in her office, Jennifer asked Amelia, "What is the meaning of this?"

Amelia replied, "Ms. Larson, these are all the blueprints you requested. There are more outside; if you would like to see them all, my colleagues will help me to mo ve it in."

Jennifer's expression darkened. "Amelia, you must be really talented at socializing. You've

barely worked in the company, but you seem to have your colleagues at your beck—and—call. I wonder if your seduction techniques work on all genders?"

Amelia replied, "Rapport

between colleagues boils down to sincerity. If you're calling me a temptress, I think the term suits you more as you

are much more beautiful than me. You can also build rapport with them if you'd like."

Jennifer sneered. "You can leave."

Amelia nodded.

Shortly after she returned to the design department, she heard that Jennifer had been called into Mr. Scott's office. Jennifer then left the office, glowering.

Jessica launched into another one of her gossip sessions. "Did you hear? Ms. Lars on got called into Mr. Scott's office. The secretary told me when she brought coff ee in, she saw that Ms. Larson's eyes were red. I'm pretty sure she was told off by Mr. Scott for

picking on you. She was called in so quickly after the incident. Let's see whether s he dares to be unreasonable next time."

Amelia just glanced at her. "Jessica, you shouldn't gossip during working hours. I' m sure Mr. Scott had some work–related issues to discuss with Ms. Larson. You shouldn't come up with such fantastical scenarios in your head, or you might accide ntally blurt them out and become Ms. Larson's next target."

Jessica stuck her tongue out and replied softly, "I just don't like the way she does things. She was only Mr. Scott's assistant when she first joined the company. In less

than a month, she's become the director of design, and it feels unfair to me."

A male colleague cut in. "Jessica, if you have her family and education backgroun d, you'll be able to become a director in such a short time too."

That shut her up.

The morning New by thanks to the slurry of incidents.

Jennifer appeared at the door to the design department. "Amelia, let's go."

Time for the lunch appointment.

"Good, you're all here. I'm joining you today." Carter's voice drifted in.

Jennifer turned her head. "Mr. Scott, you're going as well?"

Carter nodded.

"I thought you're sending me to the lunch appointment because you said you were busy? Why—" Halfway through her sente nce, Jennifer looked at Amelia and understood the situation.

Her expression cooled considerably. "Since Mr. Scott wants to go, you don't need to attend the appointment anymore." This was directed at Amelia.

Carter merely said, "Let's go together. It's good to have two beauties around when we're discussing business."

Jennifer spent the lift ride down fuming with anger.

Carter would drive to the appointment. He invited Amelia to take the front passenger seat, and Jennifer was relegated to the backseat.

Already fuming with anger, Jennifer became even more enraged at the sight of Carter's concern towards Amelia.

"Carter, what is the meaning of this?" Jennifer crossed her arms and asked aggressively.

"There's no other meaning; you're free to think what you like," replied Carter

nonchalantly.

"Carter, when I joined the company, Mrs. Scott made you promise to take good care of me," said Jennifer.

"In barely a month, I've promoted you to the director of design; isn't that pretty good care?"

"If you truly care for me, why do you let this woman work at your company? Don't forget we're to be married in the future; if you're hung up on this woman, can yo u imagine the shame I would face?" Jennifer said pettishly.