

# **Marriage Beyond Redemption by Lesley Harte**

## **Chapter 141-150**

### **Chapter 141 Being Coquettish**

The ashtray was heavy. Peyton found it a bit difficult to hold it with one hand.

She even wondered if she smashed Nolan with this ashtray, would the blood flowing from his head splash onto her face.

When she realized she had such thoughts, Peyton was startled.

At that moment, Nolan turned around and looked at her. Their eyes met.

Before he could speak, Peyton quickly said, "Why did you smoke so much?"

The moment Nolan saw her, his first thought was that Peyton wanted to hit him with an ashtray. It wasn't until he heard her speak that he dispelled his doubts.

He had a calm face and a cold expression as he said, "Does this concern you?"

His cold tone was filled with disdain. Peyton put down the ashtray and thought that if she had to take action next time, she would need to grab something sharper.

She suppressed her discomfort and reached out to tug on Nolan's sleeve, whispering, "Um...I said something really mean this morning. I'm sorry."

Nolan's gaze fell on Peyton's face. Her already fair skin looked a bit pale under the cold light. Her face was not made up.

Although Peyton was pretty, she didn't have much energy.

But Peyton looked undoubtedly adorable.

Nolan couldn't stand it when Peyton used to tug at his clothes and act cute in the past. Whenever she did that, he would agree to any of her requests.

"Where's the food?" His words finally eased the tension.

"I'm here." Peyton quickly placed the food in front of him.

She prepared simple home-cooked dishes, but they were exactly to his taste.

Nolan hadn't eaten the food she cooked for a long time, and her gaze lingered on them for a while.

He remembered the first time she cooked for him in the kitchen. She was clumsy, but she had a serious look on her face.

That day, her hand was burned and had a few blisters, but she didn't care. After finishing the plating, she smiled and put the food in front of him, "Here you go. I made this. Even if you think they don't taste good, you still have to bear with it."

Back then, she was always smiling. Unlike now, even when she stood by his side, there was no confidence on her face, only caution and prudence.

Noticing that Nolan remained silent, Peyton cautiously asked, "The food was kept warm. They haven't cooled down. Try it."

She handed the chopsticks to Nolan. He didn't refuse.

Nolan tasted the long-lost flavor. The taste could easily take one back to the familiar past.

"Was it delicious?" she asked nervously.

Nolan was very unhappy. Since when did she become so meek and submissive?

"Didn't you scold me vigorously this morning?" he looked up at her.

Peyton pursed her lips and said, "I'm sorry, I was a little out of control at the time."

"Have you eaten?"

Peyton thought of himself eating in the kitchen until he hiccuped, and said faintly with drooping eyelids, "Not yet. I'm afraid the food will get cold."

Nolan pulled her onto his lap and said, "Let's eat together."

Peyton pretended to be at a loss, "But..."

Nolan put a spoonful of soup to her mouth. Peyton drank the stuck out her tongue, "It's hot..."

soup and

Looking at her pitiful face, Nolan blew on the soup before feeding it to her. "It's not hot anymore."

"Oh." She obediently drank the soup, thinking to herself that she must not burp after being full.

She had just thought about it when a sound escaped uncontrollably from her throat.

"Burp."

## Chapter 142 **You Still Owe Me A Wedding**

In the quiet room, Peyton's hiccup broke the silence, and the air seemed to freeze. Suddenly, she was slapped in the face.

Peyton looked awkwardly at Nolan and said, "Um, listen to me."

In a moment of desperation, she blurted out her true feelings, which only made the atmosphere even worse.

She looked cautiously at Nolan and found that he was not displeased. Instead, he seemed very concerned about her.

She couldn't believe her eyes. Didn't Nolan hate her? How could he possibly care for her?

"If you were hungry, just eat more," Nolan scooped a spoonful and stuffed it in to her mouth.

Peyton blinked and thought to herself, “Does he think I hiccuped because I was hungry?”

She clearly came to bring him food, but in the end, she was fed.

“I ate enough. I was really full,” Peyton felt like she was going to vomit.

Nolan frowned unhappily, “You’ve become so thin. Why are you only eating so little?”

He grumbled as he spooned some food into Peyton’s mouth. Her cheeks were puffed up. She looked like a little squirrel.

The door was pushed open at that moment. A woman wearing formal

attire and glasses stood at the doorway. “Mr. Dalton, this document needs...” she said.

The woman was surprised to see Nolan, who had always been serious and avoided women, holding and feeding Peyton. She was stunned on the spot.

Peyton struggled to swallow her food, she had been eating too quickly and choked. Her face turned bright red and she gasped, “Water...”

Nolan complained while handing her the water, “You’re not a child anymore. How can you still choke while eating?”

Peyton wrapped her hands around his neck and rubbed her little face against his, with a coquettish tone, “I was scared.”

Her coquettish voice was the same as before. Nolan shuddered and felt a tickle in his heart.

Nolan heard Peyton’s breath in his ear. He turned his face to the shocked woman and said, “Who let you in? Get out!”

“I’m... I’m sorry, Mr. Dalton,” the woman quickly closed the door and retreated.

Although Peyton had her arms around Nolan’s neck, her peripheral vision remained fixed on the secretary.

For her, anyone around Nolan was suspected.

Since the mastermind behind the scenes aimed to drive a wedge between Peyton and Nolan, they naturally wouldn't be happy to see her getting so close to him. Unfortunately, she didn't see any other emotions on that woman's face.

The moment the door closed, Peyton let go of her hand and said, "Your secretary has a lot of nerve. She didn't even need to **let** you

**know** when she entered your office."

Her voice had a hint of jealousy. Somehow, Nolan felt much happier instead.

"Acting according to circumstances. When busy, I didn't pay much attention."

Peyton jumped down from his thigh and said, "I'm full. You can eat."

She was like a player.

Peyton stood in front of the huge floor-to-ceiling window, appearing even smaller.

Nolan gazed at her back, feeling complicated.

Peyton looked at the lights outside, but she realized that none of them belonged to her.

Nolan put down his chopsticks and walked behind her, asking in a deep voice, "What are you thinking about?"

Peyton spoke calmly, "I was thinking about your engagement party with Helena. I heard she chose Cherry Blossom Field. The scene must have been very beautiful when the cherry blossoms were in full bloom."

She turned around slowly and looked up at Nolan. "By the way, you still owe me a wedding," she said.

Chapter 143 **Her Forever Only Lasted A Few Months**

When she was saying these words, Peyton went through all the sad things that had happened in her life. That's why she looked at him with tears in her eyes.

She knew she couldn't confront Nolan head-on anymore. After all, they used to be married. She knew his temperament better than anyone else. Being gentle was the best strategy.

Her voice was calm, without any complaints or questioning, and her eyes were filled with tears.

Tears can make people disgusted, but when used properly, they can also become a weapon.

For example, at that time, Nolan felt his throat was a little dry and felt guilty.

"I knew," Nolan said, hanging his head with a look of pity in his eyes.

He put his hands on Peyton's shoulders, licked his lips and said, "I know too much has happened between us. We can't go back to the past. Paula's matter is now settled. Stay with me. I will take good care of you in the future."

This was a big concession on his part.

Peyton sneered inwardly. How could everything be just forgotten after he had hurt her like that?

In order not to affect her plans, Peyton looked sad and leaned gently in Nolan's arms.

**Nolan** felt unprecedentedly nervous about her proactive approach.

After all, this woman was angrily pointing at his head in the morning. But in the evening, she suddenly became so gentle.

Their relationship was strained over the course of two years. Such tender moments were rare.

He even tensed his body and waited silently for Peyton to speak.

"Nolan."

Upon hearing this title, Nolan felt his heart being scratched. He responded with a nod.

“Let’s talk things over.”

“You said.”

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Peyton wrapped her hands around his waist. Just like before, she told him about what happened on the island in a gentle voice, as if she was still being playful with him.

“At first, I was only trying to save Chris. Later on, I truly fell in love with that place where no one hurt me. Every person on the island was very kind. I really wanted to help them.”

She carefully lifted her head to observe Nolan’s expression. After confirming that Nolan’s face was not cold, she continued to speak, “Eric is a lively child, Rene has great artistic talent, and Mrs. Manley only had one set of warm underwear, but she gave it to Chris to use as a diaper.”

“What do you want me to do?” Surprisingly, Nolan was very easy to talk to.

Peyton felt a little happy. Then, she explained her plan.

“**I knew it.**”

She looked at him expectantly, “So, what about you...”

“I could develop the small island, but there was one condition.”

Peyton’s black pupils were flickering.

“You said.”

In front of the clean and bright French windows, Nolan leaned slightly and whispered to Peyton’s ear, “I want you to stay by my side forever. You are not allowed to leave.”

Peyton’s body trembled slightly.

He was the one who proposed the divorce in the first place, but now he is still the one who wants her to stay

She felt that she couldn't understand Nolan at all.

Thinking that she only had a few months left, she nodded without hesitation.

“Okay.”

Her forever only lasted a few months.

Nolan felt uneasy, possibly because she answered too quickly.

He had intended to ask a few more questions, but he was afraid that if he brought up the topic from earlier in the morning, they would both feel uncomfortable.

He tightened his hands around the ring on Peyton's waist. “If you dare to leave again, I will burn that island. You know I'm not joking with **you**.”

His body was burning hot, but his voice was incredibly cold.

Peyton gently tugged at the clothes around his waist and calmly said, “Nolan, I have one more request.”

## **Chapter 144 Personal Assistant**

It was rare for Peyton to take the initiative to show goodwill to Nolan. Naturally, Nolan would agree.

“Hmm?” His voice unconsciously rose. His mood had improved a lot compared to before.

Peyton said seriously, “I didn't want to be trapped at home like a waste. I gave up my studies before and only focused on being sad for the past two years. I want to start over.”

“Tell me about your thoughts.”

Nolan was in a good mood at the moment, so he was also very patient.

Peyton said word by word, “I wanted to stay and work by your side.”



In the past, she was completely immersed in his love and contentedly became a housewife.

She couldn't stand the light, but she didn't know Nolan's circle, or even who she had offended. She was just too much of a failure.

If she never stepped out of her comfort zone, she would have been controlled by that person forever.

Peyton had never been as clear-headed as she was now. Someone had been secretly pushing things forward for the past two years.

**For** example, regarding her relationship with Nolan, at first she thought it was only because of Helena.

Looking back now, it wasn't like that. That person forced them to

divorce and further worsened the relationship between Paula and **Nolan** by destroying her tombstone, leading them to where they are today step by step.

Last month, the photos that Peyton received also added fuel to the fire. Peyton almost killed Chris because of it.

If she hadn't stopped herself that day, it would have been over between her and Nolan for good. He would have killed her.

What a vicious plan!

Having figured everything out, Peyton began to retract the sharp thorns on her body.

She needed Nolan's help to find the mastermind behind the scenes. In order not to alert the enemy, she couldn't tell Nolan about her plan.

Nolan pondered, staring at her face, as if he wanted to know what she was really thinking.

Peyton looked straight at him. "You didn't trust me. Keeping me under your nose is the best way I can think of. I want to learn some useful experience to revive the Schmitt family. Who else is more suitable than you?"

This was a good excuse, and Nolan wouldn't suspect.

"If you have really made up your mind, I have no objections."

She was right. Compared to her flirting outside every day, she couldn't stir up trouble under his nose.

Peyton didn't know what she was thinking and pouted. "The only thing I'm worried about is the Chase family. Considering our current relationship, I'm afraid she won't let me go."

After all, Nolan used to always stand unconditionally on Helena's side. In the past, whenever Helena cried or made a scene, Peyton's plan would fail.

Nolan reached out and touched her head, his eyes flashing with coldness. "It's not up to her."

His voice was firm. "I only speak when I mean it."

Peyton nuzzled against him. "Nolan, you were so kind."

Nolan lowered his gaze and looked at the woman in his arms. He felt that something was off, but he couldn't figure out what it was.

Peyton seemed to have changed overnight.

Was this sudden change due to her having figured things out or did she have ulterior motives?

Well, even if she had other intentions, what could she do under Nolan's watchful eye?

"Can I come to work tomorrow?" Peyton raised her head, looking serious.

"What position do you want?" Nolan asked.

He didn't mind giving Peyton everything she wanted.

Peyton licked her soft lips. "Your personal assistant."

**Chapter 145 Life Assistant**

Nolan's black pupils stared directly into Peyton's clear eyes. He attempted to read her thoughts from her face.

"What did you really want?"

Nolan thought, "Peyton is really unusual. I don't know what she's plotting."

Peyton has become well-behaved now, but Nolan is somewhat uneasy about it.

"I have already said it. I wanted to start a new life, I didn't want to be a nobody for the rest of my life."

Peyton gently tugged at Nolan's sleeve. A muffled voice came from Nolan's arms, "Can I?"

"Is this all you wanted?" At that moment, Nolan didn't know what he should say.

"Of course. Or are you willing to let me live in another city?"

Nolan pinched Peyton's waist and said in a cold voice, "Don't even think about it."

Peyton smiled bitterly in Nolan's arms and thought, "Nolan had already said that even if I were to die, I could only die by his side."

Peyton closed her eyes.

Peyton thought, "Then I will do as you wish."

"Then I will do as you

Wish."

Peyton's thoughts aligned with Nolan's **voice**.

Peyton looked up and smiled at Nolan. She said, "Have you eaten enough? Would you like some more?"

"I was fine. You go ahead and busy yourself."

Breaking free from Nolan's embrace, Peyton said seriously, "What? Soon I will be your secretary. I need to learn how to work with you in advance."

Nolan looked deeply at Peyton. Peyton looked very serious, making it difficult for Nolan to detect any problems.

"Whatever."

After finishing speaking, Nolan returned to his position. Peyton was tidying up the food box on the side.

From the corner of her eye, Peyton saw Nolan make a phone call. Soon, Lucian entered and stood respectfully by the side.

"Mr. Dalton, Mrs. Dalton."

"From now on, she was my assistant. Make arrangements regarding this."

Looking at Lucian's astonished face, Peyton smiled slightly and said, "Lucian, please keep my identity a secret."

"Yes, Mrs. Dalton."

"I'm afraid you had to change your way of addressing."

Lucian and Nolan looked at each other. Then, Nolan nodded toward Lucian.

"Okay. No offerişe, Peytie, come with me."

Peyton immediately followed Lucian. Nolan stared at Peyton's back for a while. Nolan thought, "No matter what Peyton is planning, I believe that keeping her under my surveillance, she won't be able to escape."

Afterward, Nolan resumed his work. For some reason, he felt much better than before.

Peyton followed Lucian into the hallway. After making sure there was no one else around, Lucian said, "So... are you sure?"

"Rather than being locked up for a lifetime, I would prefer to work. At least I can get some fresh air."

Peyton shrugged helplessly. Then, she said, "Take care."

"I could."

After Lucian finished speaking, he took Peyton to the secretary's office and briefly introduced him to everyone.

People were somewhat surprised to see this directly assigned life assistant, but they all accepted Peyton friendly.

"Tomorrow I will tell you where your workstation is. Today, try to get acquainted with other people."

"Okay."

After Lucian left, all six people in the office looked at her. However, since she was **with** Nolan after all, they didn't ask even though they wanted to know.

"Peytie, I will briefly explain Mr. Dalton's habits to you later," said Ronald Kearney. When Lucian is not around, the office **is** fully under Ronald's responsibility.

Holding a stack of documents, Ronald stood with a straight back. He didn't look like someone who worked in an office. He looked like a soldier.

"Thank you, Ronald."

Ronald continued, "This is Quinton Kearney, Jarred Campbell, and Eden Campbell."

Before Peyton arrived, she already knew that Quinton and Ronald were brothers, and that Jarred and Eden were relatives.

Ronald's hand fell on the shoulders of the two remaining female assistants and said, "This is Ariella Blackwell, and this is Jaylah Mcpherson."

"Hello everyone, my name is Peyton. Nice to meet you all."

When Peyton confidently introduced herself, she closely observed the expressions on everyone's faces.

Chapter **146 Not Late**

If the mastermind is indeed hiding behind Nolan, his secretaries are the biggest problem.

Peyton expected to find some clues from Jaylah and Ariella's faces, however, both Jaylah and Ariella appeared indifferent and decisive. After a brief greeting, they went straight to work.

Peyton touched her wrist and thought, "Could it be that I guessed wrong?"

Peyton was not in a hurry. He wanted to approach Nolan's secretary, Ariella, who had just come in. Peyton moved closer to Ariella.

Ariella's attitude towards Peyton was neither warm nor dismissive. Peyton investigated among those people for nearly two hours, but she did not find anything suspicious.

After working overtime until nine o'clock, Lucian finally let them go home.

After work, Jaylah's stern face instantly broke into a smile. She

pounded her waist while making a phone call to her friend, seemingly indicating that she was going to the bars. She was asking someone to reserve a booth for her.

Seeing Peyton looking at her, Jaylah raised her chin slightly and asked, "Are you going to the newly opened bar? There are so many handsome guys there. Let us welcome you."

Peyton didn't expect Jaylah to be so easy to get along with. Peyton waved his hand and said, "No, thank you. I still have some materials to organize, and I haven't even memorized Mr. Dalton's preferences yet."

Jaylah looked away from Peyton's face and said, "Okay, let's schedule it for another day."

When they were talking, Jaylah had already pushed the door and left. Ronald rubbed his forehead and then explained to Peyton, "Stay away from her. Jaylah always flirts with guys. You have to be careful."

Peyton smirked and looked at Ariella.

Ariella had a relatively ordinary face. Her appearance was completely different from Jaylah's enchanting features.

She was like a well-behaved child wearing glasses in class. She seemed average in appearance, but her academic performance was always in the top ten.

Ariella was tidying up her things at a normal pace. The documents on her desk were neatly arranged. She seemed to have a touch of OCD, so every piece of her information had to be placed perfectly in order.

Noticing Peyton's gaze, Ariella looked up. When Ariella's eyes behind the lenses met Peyton's, she emotionlessly asked, "Is there something else?"

Ariella's voice was very normal. She seemed like an expressionless robot.

Ariella's voice had no fluctuations, but Peyton felt scared.

Peyton had an innocent smile on her face. She said, "Ariella, I think your earrings are really nice. So I looked at them a little longer. Where did you buy them?"

Earrings were the only accessories on Ariella's body. They were small. The earrings were in the shape of a rose, with a sparkling diamond in the center.

"**This** was the year-end bonus that Mr. Dalton had custom-made two years ago," Ariella replied calmly.

"Really? Then I will also work hard and strive to get the year-end bonus this year," Peyton raised his fist.

Ariella glanced at Peyton. Then she turned around and left with her bag. Ronald added, "Don't think too much. She has always been indifferent."

Peyton gently asked, "So Ariella has always been like this?"

"Yes. Ever since she joined, I rarely saw her smile. Although she was cold, her work efficiency was good."

After a few more words, Peyton left the office. She was the last one to leave the office.

Peyton didn't go far. She was waiting in the underground parking lot.

Nolan rolled down the car window and said in a cold voice, "Get in."

Peyton and Nolan returned to the Dalton's mansion together. It was an experience they had never had before, despite knowing each other for many years.

Along the way, Peyton's mind was filled with various thoughts. The few individuals in the secretary's office had different personalities. They all seemed to have some sort of issue.

"Regretting it?" Nolan had been tapping on his notebook since he got in the car. At this moment, he looked up and asked Peyton proactively.

Nolan pushed the silver-framed glasses on his nose and said, "It's not too late if you regret it now."

## Chapter 147 **The Strategist**

Peyton raised the notebook in their hand, which recorded all of Nolan's preferences.

"I haven't finished memorizing yet. Mr. Dalton used to put three cubes of sugar in his coffee, liked his steak medium rare, and enjoyed cherries and blueberries..."

Peyton closed the notebook and looked at Nolan seriously, saying, "I remember that these are the fruits you dislike the most. You only eat steak medium rare, and as for coffee, you never add sugar."

If it weren't for Ronald's serious instructions to Peyton not to make any mistakes, Peyton would have thought someone was trying to sabotage her career.

This preference form was completely opposite to Nolan's habits.

Nolan took the notebook from Peyton's hand and said, "You don't need to pay attention to the contents inside."

Nolan's preferences were inscrutable. Except for Peyton, no one knew Nolan's true likes.

Nolan said, "You just need to follow the instructions."



The light emitted from the computer screen in the carriage fell on Nolan's face . Nolan's facial features appeared even colder.

Peyton suddenly felt that she had never truly seen the man she shared a bed with.

Nolan was undoubtedly a stranger to Peyton in the workplace.

Peyton nodded and said, "I would get used to it."

**Nolan** frowned, looking at Peyton's serious little face. Nolan thought, "Does Peyton really intend to be my secretary?"

Nolan wondered what happened to Peyton in just one day and why Peyton's transformation was so significant.

In the past, Nolan had a pile of work affairs due to the disappearance of Chris and Peyton. Even after returning home, Nolan was either having video meetings or reading emails.

After Peyton took a shower, she sat on the bed holding her laptop, relieved that the confinement on her body had temporarily been lifted.

Peyton quickly searched on the computer. While in the office, Peyton specifically looked at Nolan's itinerary on the day of the car accident at Kason.

It was Nolan and Paula's birthday that day, so theoretically Nolan wouldn't have any plans that day.

But the G20 Chamber of Commerce was held on that day, so Nolan, as the president, had to attend and give a speech.

Whether from the company or from the Dalton's mansion, Nolan would not pass through the road where the car accident occurred.

Either this was all planned by Nolan. Nolan wanted to witness Kason's death firsthand at the scene of the accident.

Another possibility is that Nolan had to take that path.

On the day when Kason had an accident, there were several other car accidents, so it was not difficult to search for relevant information.

Peyton quickly found reports about the accident scene. In these reports,

Peyton saw two other accidents on Castle Peak Road.

Although these two car accidents were not as severe as Kason's, they still caused traffic congestion.

Coincidentally, one of the short videos captured Nolan's car.

Even with just one shot of Nolan's car, Peyton still managed to capture it quickly. The short video was posted half an hour before Kason had a car accident.

And this road was the optimal route to the scene. Nolan's presence here indicated that he had originally intended to go to the G20 Chamber of Commerce.

Nolan changed his route at the last minute due to a car accident, which is why he ended up at the scene of Kason's accident.

By this point, Peyton's back had already turned cold.

Peyton's reasoning before has turned into reality. There really was a hand that had been setting up since two years ago.

And Peyton and Nolan became pieces on each other's chessboard.

Even Peyton's father's car accident was caused by that person and he wanted to blame Nolan for it.

The person wanted to use Peyton's anger towards the child to seek revenge on Nolan, thus causing a complete rupture in Peyton and Nolan's relationship.

If Peyton hadn't changed his mind at the last minute, Chris would have died.

What a cruel person.

The door opened at that moment, and Nolan appeared by the door. Nolan gave Peyton a cold glance and said, "Did you see a ghost? Why do you have that expression on your face?"

## **Chapter 148 | Disdained To Do So**

As soon as Nolan entered the door, he saw Peyton's face drained of color, revealing a pale and sickly appearance.

Nolan noticed that Peyton's hand was shaking a little. He frowned and strode quickly towards Peyton.

Nolan asked, "What were you looking at?"

Peyton didn't cover up. Nolan saw the gruesome car accident scene at a glance. The scene was bloody, no wonder Peyton looked so bad.

"What's there to see in these things?" Nolan thought it was a video that Peyton stumbled upon accidentally. Nolan was about to close the video when he realized something was off. Nolan discovered that it wasn't a recent car accident.

Peyton turned off her phone and casually asked, "Were you at the scene when my dad had the car accident?"

Nolan didn't know that Peyton had wanted to go after Chris for this reason. When Peyton suddenly brought it up, Nolan lowered his gaze and met Peyton's eyes, answering, "Yes."

That day, I was supposed to go to the G20 Chamber of Commerce, but I had a car accident on the way, so I changed my route. I didn't expect to come across your father's car accident scene.

Just as Peyton had expected, everything was being manipulated by someone behind the scenes, and Peyton almost fell for it.

The incident with the tombstone caused Nolan to misunderstand Peyton, and the accident caused Peyton to misunderstand Nolan.

**Wasn't** Peyton and Nolan pushed step by step to get to where they are **today**?

That person was so cruel!

Seeing Peyton's silence and even more unpleasant expression, Nolan also felt that something was wrong. Nolan said, "You don't think I planned everything, do you?"

Nolan grabbed Peyton's shoulder and said very seriously, "Peyton, stop your unrealistic

daydreaming. If I wanted to kill Kason, he would have died ten thousand times already.”

Nolan said in a cold tone, “Even if I were to take action, I would never involve innocent people or take someone else’s life to cover up the truth. If I wanted to, I have a hundred or even a thousand ways to kill without leaving a trace...”

Nolan had not finished speaking when Peyton suddenly rushed into his arms. Peyton hugged Nolan’s waist with both hands and said, “I believe.”

Nolan reached out and grabbed Peyton’s chin, forcing her gaze to meet his. He stared at her coldly, like an angry beast.

“I didn’t know what you were thinking. I admit our breakup wasn’t dignified, and I haven’t been very good to you these past two years. You hate me, blame me, and I understand. Peyton, I also know we can’t go back to the past.”

Nolan tightly grasped Peyton’s hand and said, “Even if there is a deep-seated hatred between us, or if there are obstacles in our path, I cannot let you go, nor do I plan to. Because of you, no matter how much I despise and hate your father, I would never want him dead.”

Peyton’s wrist was painfully gripped by Nolan, and his gaze was like a torch, making Peyton’s cheeks flush and heart race.

**Nolan** spoke his heart out, “Because I knew one thing for sure. If Kason died, it would cut off all the connections between us. So I wouldn’t let Kason die. On the day of the car accident, I was the first one to call 120.”

Peyton was greatly shocked and seemed not to have expected Nolan to do such a thing.

At this point, Nolan took a deep breath and said, “Whether it was in the past or now, I never wanted to kill Kason. So put away the thoughts in your head, I wouldn’t and I’m not interested in doing that.”

If it had been before, Peyton would not have believed what Nolan said, but now Peyton understands everything. Even if Nolan didn’t say it, Peyton knew it in his heart.

Peyton opened her mouth. At that moment, she had an impulse to say everything out loud.

## Chapter 149 **Nobody Believed**

The thought flashed through Peyton's mind. Soon, Nolan's disdainful expression appeared in Peyton's mind.

You should know that Nolan had mocked Peyton countless times for his tricks. If Peyton said it now, he would likely face Nolan's contempt for thinking that Peyton was trying to clear Kason's guilt.

Not to mention that Peyton had not yet uncovered the truth. If Peyton were to rashly tell Nolan everything, it would likely attract the attention of the mastermind behind the scenes and cause things to change.

So Peyton swallowed this thought again.

Whether there was a real culprit behind the scenes or not, it couldn't affect the relationship between Peyton and Nolan, because Nolan's infidelity was a fact.

Peyton was much more steady compared to before. Peyton responded with a dull sound.

Having received the answer she wanted, Peyton's thoughts became clearer.

Peyton clung tightly to Nolan's clothes. Finding out the truth became Peyton's only thought to survive.

"Thank you for calling 120."

"The things that have passed don't need to be looked at again. Let's sleep."

Nolan thought Peyton was scared, so he held her and fell asleep deeply.

Strangely, Peyton never mentioned Helena in front of Nolan again. Peyton and Nolan seemed to have gone back to the past.

But it was only a superficial harmony. After Nolan fell asleep, Peyton, who was sleeping obediently in Nolan's arms, sudd

only opened her eyes, moved her body away, and almost moved to the edge of the bed. Peyton didn't want any physical contact with Nolan.

Nolan was quite reliable. The next morning, Peyton heard a familiar voice, "Wow, what a beautiful house. Rene, can you paint it with your brush?"

Réne timidly pulled Eric aside and said, "You should be more restrained on someone else's turf. Don't forget how scary that person is."

Peyton heard a voice before she went downstairs, so she immediately ran down. Rene and Eric's bright faces appeared in front of Peyton.

"Peyton!"

Peyton quickly ran downstairs, looking both surprised and happy, and said, "How did you guys come?"

"Yesterday, many people came to the island. Some were measuring, some were wandering around, and some brought us a lot of supplies. We were picked up early this morning. Peyton, didn't you ask someone to do this?"

Peyton didn't expect Nolan to be so efficient. Peyton nodded busily. At this moment, Nolan's voice came from around the corner, "Are you happy now?"

**Rene and Eric** instinctively blocked Peyton behind them. They didn't expect to run into Nolan here.

Peyton said, "Don't be afraid, he won't harm me."

Peyton had already seen the coldness in Nolan's eyes. She took the initiative to link her arm with Nolan's and said, "Why did you bring them here?"

"Weren't you concerned about these two boys?" Nolan pointed to Rene and said, "I have taken care of their enrollment procedures. Since Rene has a talent for painting, he will go to a professional college for further study."

"As for Eric, the troublemaker, the Armed Police Academy was very suitable for him."

Peyton didn't know what cost Nolan had paid to send Rene and Eric to school. Nolan could tell, but Peyton was still very happy.

“Thank you,” said Peyton from the bottom of their heart.

Nolan straightened his cuffs and said, “I have submitted your job application to the HR department. Be sure to come to work on time in three days.”

After speaking, Nolan left without even having breakfast. It seemed like Nolan deliberately left time for Peyton, Rene, and Eric.

Peyton noticed that Nolan seemed different. Nolan had returned back to his state in the past.

After Nolan left, Rene and Eric chatted with Peyton for a long time.

When no one was around, Rene and Eric secretly passed a note to Peyton with a phone number written on it.

After Peyton dialed the number, a familiar male voice answered, “It’s me.”

“Are you okay?”

“Hmm.” Phillip’s voice remained indifferent.

Peyton told Phillip about the situation on the island. Phillip was not surprised and said, “I knew you would keep your word.”

Peyton bit her lip and expressed her concerns, “Phillip, can you do something for me? Right now, no one believes me except for you.”

## Chapter 149 **Nobody Believed**

The thought flashed through Peyton’s mind. Soon, Nolan’s disdainful expression appeared in Peyton’s mind.

You should know that Nolan had mocked Peyton countless times for his tricks. If Peyton said it now, he would likely face Nolan’s contempt for thinking that Peyton was trying to clear Kason’s guilt.

Not to mention that Peyton had not yet uncovered the truth. If Peyton were to rashly tell Nolan everything, it

would likely attract the attention of the mastermind behind the scenes and cause things to change.

So Peyton swallowed this thought again.

Whether there was a real culprit behind the scenes or not, it couldn't affect the relationship between Peyton and Nolan, because Nolan's infidelity was a fact.

Peyton was much more steady compared to before. Peyton responded with a dull sound.

Having received the answer she wanted, Peyton's thoughts became clearer.

Peyton clung tightly to Nolan's clothes. Finding out the truth became Peyton's only thought to survive.

"Thank you for calling 120."

"The things that have passed don't need to be looked at again. Let's sleep.

Nolan thought Peyton was scared, so he held her and fell asleep deeply.

Strangely, Peyton never mentioned Helena in front of Nolan again. Peyton and Nolan seemed to have gone back to the past.

But it was only a superficial harmony. After Nolan fell asleep, Peyton, who was sleeping obediently in Nolan's arms, suddenly opened her eyes, moved her body away, and almost moved to the edge of the bed. Peyton didn't want any physical contact with Nolan.

Nolan was quite reliable. The next morning, Peyton heard a familiar voice, "Wow, what a beautiful house. Rene, can you paint it with your brush?"

Réne timidly pulled Eric aside and said, "You should be more restrained on someone else's turf. Don't forget how scary that person is."

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## Chapter 150 **She Once Studied Under Aditya**

Phillip readily agreed to Peyton.

Eric, Rene, and Peyton talked for a long time. "Peyton, after you left, Phillip also left the island. Phillip should have arrived in Aelford City. If you need Phillip's help, you can contact him privately," they said.

"Do you know where Phillip came from?" Peyton found Phillip to be quite mysterious. Phillip was a man who had a lot of weapons, but even now Peyton didn't know what he looked like.

What Bruce found was limited, but it wasn't the case for Phillip. Maybe Phillip had special channels to find more.

Moreover, Phillip's identity was mysterious enough that the mastermind behind the scenes was unaware of his existence.

"Phillip drifted to our island a few years ago along the water current. When Phillip arrived, he was on the brink of death, and it was Mrs. Manley who saved him. Phillip seemed to have no family, so he settled on our island. However, I think Phillip must be a very skilled person. His marksmanship is spot on."

Eric scratched his head awkwardly and said, "Peyton, I was too nervous that day and almost hit you by accident. But your ex-husband was pretty good to you. He almost reflexively came to protect you."

Eric was bold and daring. Although he disliked Nolan, Eric still generously praised him.

Peyton didn't want to bring up the topic. He reached out and touched Eric's head, saying, "You had to take a special path to get to school. **You** need to study hard in the future so that you can succeed and make

Mrs. Manley proud."

"I knew, Peyton."

Because she had not started her job yet, Peyton took Eric and Rene to a famous local art exhibition. It was Rene's first time experiencing this type of artwork up close.

Rene was greatly shocked and didn't know where to look with his eyes.

Eric couldn't understand Rene's emotions. He shrugged and said, "Everyone is addicted to reading, but Rene is addicted to looking at paintings. What's so good about these broken paintings? Has Rene become unable to walk on the road?"

Peyton chuckled and said to Eric, "You don't like painting, so of course you can't understand this subtle feeling."

With Eric and Rene, Peyton temporarily forgot about her hatred. It seemed like Peyton had returned to the carefree days on the island.

Rene stood in front of a painting for a long time. Peyton walked over and asked, "What are you looking at? Your eyes haven't blinked once."

Rene came to his senses. His eyes were filled with joy, like the stars twinkling in the sky. Rene said, "Peyton, this painting is really cleverly done, don't you think?"

Peyton looked up and stood there stunned, "This painting..."

That was a picture of sunrise in the mountains. The sun had just risen, and its golden light spread out, covering everything with a layer of gold.

The green mountains were covered with lush trees, birds were spreading their wings, and a squirrel was sitting on a branch holding a pinecone. Smoke was rising from a distant wooden house, and water **was** flowing down the cliffs of the mountain stream.

The picture seemed to encompass everything. A vibrant scene immersed one in the beauty of life.

“Peyton, do you know who painted this? The person who painted this must have had a broad vision and a heart full of hope.”

Peyton murmured with red lips, “This is...painted by me.”

“What? Did you paint this?” Rene asked, having seen Peyton’s current style of painting which was completely different from this artwork.

Peyton almost forgot that she had once studied under the master of painting, Aditya Sadler.

Children from wealthy families received a good education from a young age. Peyton happened to have talent in everything. Peyton was Aditya’s last student.

This painting was created by Peyton when she was thirteen years old. Peyton never expected that this painting would be included in the art exhibition.

In the past, Peyton’s impressive achievements were far from the current downfall.

All of this was actually because of a man, which is quite ridiculous. when you think about it.

As the words fell, Peyton heard a commotion from beside him, as if some important person had arrived.

Eric was biting a lollipop and pointing to a nearby place, saying, "Peyton, isn't that Chris over there?"

Peyton looked up and saw a familiar figure.

Nolan and his family arrived. Helena was holding their child in her arms. She linked her arm with Nolan's and smiled brightly.