

Master Odell 2021

Chapter 2021

Although Decker's father had always cared a great deal for him, it did not change the fact that he was a bastard child whose mother was a mistress.

He was grown up despised by people around him and even now, he was devising a scheme to steal away the assets that were to be rightfully inherited by the true son of his father.

Isabel's stomach grew sick at the thought of having a child with this despicable man. It filled her with disgust and disdain.

Decker frowned and said, "He won't end up like me, I'll make sure to make the necessary arrangements so that our child will inherit all of my wealth."

Isabel was at a loss for words. She had never seen someone as shameless as he was. She said without pulling back any punches, "Decker, you better give up, it's never going to happen. I'm never going to be with you, let alone have a child with you."

Upon noticing that she was preparing to leave again, Decker paced up to her again and asked stubbornly, "Have I not given you enough? What else do you want from me?"

Isabel snapped.

"I want you to leave me alone!"

Decker frowned, his face darkened instantly.

"Isabel, there's a limit to my patience," he said darkly.

seemed like Isabel had incited

going

afraid to provoke him at all, she said while

"Isabel..."

"Mr. Rockwell, here you are."

from the end of the corridor. She quickly

into a kind and doting man

sight of him playing at his usual tricks. She shot him a sideways

time, Decker did not

she shot Isabel

all. She

to the banquet

Isabella went up to
arm affectionately and asked, "Mr. Rockwell, why were you with Isabel? Do you two
smiled faintly and spoke, "We
seemed affected by
she made sure to not overreact and only enquire
to Westchester because of

Chapter 2022

It was a very brief banquet that concluded in no time.

Isabel bid farewell to Ramona and Triss before having her driver take her back to her place.

Coincidentally, she chanced into Roland again when she was about to reach her place. He carried a
briefcase in hand and wore a black suit as usual.

Due to his tall and striking figure, it was very easy to spot him walking down the street. His melancholic
figure adorned underneath the streetlights made for a very appealing sight.

Isabel asked her driver to slow down.

Then she leaned out the window to gawk at him for a while.

When they were within earshot, she called out, "Roland!"

Roland turned around.

There was hardly a hint of fright in his eyes, he was cool and composed as usual.

Isabel asked, "It's the weekend today, why are you still at work?"

He stated, "There's still a lot of work that needs to be taken care of."

a

scanned the area to make sure no paparazzi

and got

of the dress she wore, she had to fold it into her hands and carry

up at him again, she noticed that he was eyeing her up

admiring her outfit, perhaps her figure

there was not a hint of pervert about him. She even felt safe enough to let the hem fall and pose for him,
twisting her waist left and

how do

lips and looked away

briefly,
the dress again before starting
take a break from work tomorrow?"
It was Sunday tomorrow.
Roland peered at her.
are you
reason, I was just wondering if you're going
meetings tomorrow as well as several documents that need my signature for
"Okay."
and gently patted
for your
was the idea of an attentive superior encouraging

Chapter 2023

When Isabel looked up again, Roland's figure had disappeared from the looming shadows by the entrance. She suddenly felt strangely lonely.

With a long sigh, she turned around the corner and retreated into her apartment.

A month later.

The serialized drama that Isabel was filming had finally come to a close, and the scenes for the grand finale were wrapped up.

Over the course of the month, she had been with the crew nearly every waking hour to ensure the consistent quality of the final few episodes. She hardly went back to her place to sleep at night.

Now that the show was a wrap, she felt like she had regained her freedom at last.

After having a grand feast with the crew, she left the film set.

Amanda had recovered from her illness and came to pick her up in person.

On the way back home, Isabel sat with Amanda in the rear.

Amanda began going through the upcoming itinerary.

First of all, she was going to start joining the variety show The Wonder as the guest star.

The Legend of the Goddess would also begin filming next week, then there were a few miscellaneous gigs and whatnot tossed in.

All in all, her schedule was packed throughout the rest of the year.

she was passionate about her job, she had to admit
asked, "Amanda, do you think there's a chance I could
her eyes and replied sarcastically, "How does a year off
up with a long

variety shows, but she also recently took on a handful of high-quality scripts as well. I didn't even get a
chance to go through those scripts before her team snatched them up. If you don't step up, she's going
to surpass you and leave you in the dust before you

Isabel seemed unfazed.

she has what it takes to
did not catch up to her. Besides, what else was she
a sideways look before
rest tomorrow and recharge. I'll pick you up

"Alright, you got it."

was when Carla, who was in the passenger seat the entire time, suddenly
bad, something happened
up straight

"What happened to her?"

but it seems like there's a new scandal revolving around
reached for

first keyword on the trending list caught her eye immediately:

and was bombarded with countless blasphemous articles about

side of a certain investor and that's when her career went downhill since her usual fling decided to ditch
her. If it wasn't for that film she shot with Isabel back then, we would have completely forgotten about
her

these last few years isn't because of that web novel-adapted film, but it's because she managed to get
acquainted with a few big names in the business. I know some insiders and

else leaked a photo of Triss sitting on another man's lap. The man's face was blurred out but
people began to call for boycotts and to banish her from the

Isabel was furious.

Chapter 2024

Amanda briefly looked at her feed before asking, "Has Triss made some enemies lately?"

Isabel answered, "I don't think so."

Ever since that one time several years ago when her career was derailed because she refused the advance of a certain businessman, she had been very cautious. Now that her career was finally looking up again, she would not act rashly.

Amanda speculated.

"Then this means that somebody is running a smear campaign on her." Isabel frowned.

The entertainment industry may seem glamorous on the outside, but anyone in the know would tell you that it was very treacherous and one had to watch their back at all times.

Even though Triss was never one to stir conflict, someone must be envious of her success and wanted to ruin her.

"Let her management team deal with it, don't worry about it." Amanda advised kindly.

Isabel did not respond. She went to the chat group between her, Triss, and Ramona.

The group was usually very quiet, so there was not much activity going on most of the time.

a message to the group, "What's with the news I've been seeing online? Triss, no. Velebook have you got into

the message, Ramona showed up as

just saw the trending page as well. Triss, do you know if there's someone

replied, "I don't know what's going on either. I've just been doing the same thing I've always been doing. Most of the time, I'm either filming or I'm resting at home. I haven't even been joining any variety shows lately or

Ramona was furious.

they do this to you? I

asked, "Triss, do you or your management team

they had to get down and dirty to remedy the ongoing

agent helped me contact a PR team and we've contacted a lawyer to issue warnings. The problem is that the picture of me sitting on that man's lap is everywhere on the Internet. I don't think a lawyer's letter is going to stop people from spreading

was at

"What should we do??"

Triss did not respond.

now. She considered for a moment before asking, "Triss, let me

matter of seconds, "I don't mind, but are you sure this won't affect considering how negative the public opinion of her was currently.If Isabel spoke up for Isabel assured her.

won't.Don't worry about gauntlet several times, so she could sleep with went

Chapter 2025

Amanda was exasperated, she took a deep breath.

Isabel patted her on the back to ease her stress, then she continued scrolling through her phone.

Her fans and Triss' fans were all sharing her latest statement.

Within minutes, the post had gained a tremendous amount of traction and had overtaken the previous "Triss Ravine - Casting Couch Regular" trending keyword.

There were many comments from netizens, some of the comments that received the most attention included: "Even Isabel is voicing out about this scumbag, I believe her."

"Triss is friends with Isabel, isn't she? What if Isabel is just helping her?"

"Isn't it natural for friends to help each other? Since she's speaking up for Triss at a time like this, this shows that she's a loyal and empathetic friend.If you ask me, this is further proof that Triss was framed."

"If you take a closer look at that picture, Triss looks like she doesn't want to be there at all.She's even trying to shove the man away."

does seem like Triss was

out better than

there was still a minority that expressed doubts, the majority

and that was when she decided to speak up as well, "I was there as well,

reputation.She was never a part of any scandals

weight and successfully swayed

her name was exonerated.She tagged Isabel and Ramona in their group

was glad to have

welcome, you should thank Isabel.She was the one who spoke

Decker and grew sullen.She replied,

all as Decker was the one behind all this. Still, Triss was very
heaved a sigh of
to be more careful in
Isabel promised half-heartedly.

"Okay, got it!"

Chapter 2026

Isabel played it off with a chuckle.

"Don't worry about it, I just saw someone writing a hateful comment."

Amanda and Carla did not press her for more details after that. It was only then that Isabel realized that the car had stopped outside her apartment already.

After saying goodbye to Amanda and Carla, she got out of the car.

As usual, she went to the lobby and took the elevator to her floor. It was already dark outside, the corridor was dimly lit by overhead ceiling lights. She strode toward her unit and stopped outside the entrance.

Just as she was about to unlock the door, an ominous figure burst out of the shadows and flanked her from behind. She was caught off guard and quickly swung around but it was too late.

A hand latched itself firmly around her throat.

Decker pinned her against the door, one hand around her throat.

The usual tender glow in his eyes was replaced by a menacing glare.

Isabel gasped for air. She clawed desperately at Decker's hand to free herself.

stronger than her and barely budged at all no matter how hard she pummeled at

lowered his head closer toward

repulsion and turned her head to the side, refusing to

chuckled at her futile resistance and growled in her ears, "Isabel, if you dare to bring up even a word about my private life,

did not respond. He

"Did you hear me?"

out of her, she

last but immediately seized her by her chin

what else do you

wretchedly, "Aren't you wondering how I got
as him so this was not the time to taunt him. She asked just like he hoped she would, "How did
lived. I already bought the unit next to yours. We're going to be
thinking about it, "Haven't
was he trying to intrude on her life? "I didn't sleep with her," he stated
by this and stammered, "I don't care what happens between you and her, the point is that
you who left without even bothering to say goodbye five years ago, I never agreed to
her chin
I'm concerned, things were never over between us as you

Chapter 2027

Isabel promptly locked the door after that. Shut outside, Decker was too stunned for words. It took him several seconds to register what had happened. Then, he chuckled slowly and said out loud, "Isabel, you're welcome to come back to me at any time, I live right next door. I'll wait until you figure things out."

She ignored him entirely. She still had not gotten over the shock of suddenly having Decker confront her and choke the breath out of her. It was an invasion of her safety.

This man was far more dangerous than she had imagined.

Although she would not say that she was afraid of him, she still recognized that she was threatened by a man as bold as he was. She sat huddled on the sofa with her phone in her hand. She swiped through her list of contacts, going through each of her family members.

After giving it some thought, she gave up on the idea of going to them for help.

If she had told them about Decker pestering her, it also meant that they would find out about what she was up to during her brief disappearance five years ago.

It was a time of her life that she regarded with shame and remorse. She would rather her family not find out about it.

Perhaps she could employ two bodyguards.

While she was still troubled over how she should approach this delicate problem, she came across Roland's name in her contacts. Something gleamed

"I just stepped off the subway, do you need

could sleep

of there being only a concrete wall separating herself from the treacherous Decker made her frantic. no. velebook Roland's apartment was far more secure and had a dedicated security

replied quickly, "Sure, I'll be downstairs
felt a sense of relief immediately. She told him, "I'll be there in
threw a set of clean clothes inside her bag. Then, she put on a hat and a mask and quietly approached
was entirely vacant and the door of the adjacent unit was
left, then she trotted hastily to the elevator, careful to not produce any
to the ground floor, her heart was still beating
elevator door opened, she saw Roland
suit as always, lugging the same briefcase with him. He stood tall
with indifference, she felt a guzzling sense of relief at the sight
out of the elevator, she gave him a
"Roland, you're the best!"

Chapter 2028

Isabel shot a look at him. "What's with that attitude? You don't want me to sleep over at your place, do you?"

Roland muttered stiffly, "...No."

Isabel eyed him severely. His face was spelled with the same stoical calm, it did not seem like he did not want to help her.

Her expression softened, and she confessed, "It's my ex-boyfriend. Roland's expression shifted for once. "Your ex-boyfriend came to pester you?"

Isabel hugged her bag tightly while she walked on, she answered hesitantly, "Something like that."

"Do you need help chasing him away?" he asked concerningly.

"No, I'll take care of it myself, just focus on your work, don't worry about me."

He had to help her handle affairs at Carter Corporation till dusk every day. She could not possibly trouble him any further. Besides, it was better that she handle her personal affairs on her own. Besides, Decker was no ordinary threat. She doubted even Roland could help.

at her and stopped trying to probe

they stepped

to see Isabel next to Roland, her eyes sparked with joy. "Isabel? Why are you here at this hour? Have you

the spur of the moment. "Hey Aunt Martha. There was a fire at my place so I had to come over here to spend the

want to worry Martha by telling her about her

her strange excuse about there being a fire at her place was enough to send Martha into a flight of worry. She hurried over to Isabel and patted her up and down. "How did a fire break out?

firefighters have put out the fire already but a lot of my things got burned down. It's going to take a few days for them to repair the damage before I can

a sigh of

have you had dinner

haven't had dinner yet,

it's in the kitchen. Both of you, sit down

to serve her when she was showing up unannounced to stay the night! She hurriedly tossed her bag onto

Martha said with a bright smile, "Go on, eat with Roland. I've already eaten

appreciatively. "Okay,

Roland before

Chapter 2029

It seemed like the room was a guest room.

Everything was made ready for the eventual guest. It would appear that she was the first person to ever use this room at all. She went to the bathroom and took a hot shower. She recalled back to the first time she met Roland.

Both he and his mother hailed from Westboro and had been in Westchester for a year by now.

With the respectable position he held in Carter Corporation and his impressive salary, why did they not have any friends or family coming to visit them? Perhaps they did not have any such relations? Roland may seem emotionally distant, but he was not someone who was pompous or the type to hold himself above others.

Martha was as friendly as they come.

Furthermore, she had a refined air about her, one would imagine that she came from an educated and cultured background. It was unlikely that these two did not have friends or relatives.

The more she thought about it, the more curious she became.

Still, she acknowledged that this was their private affair and it was rude of her to intrude as a complete outsider.

The shower cleared her mind.

She stopped thinking about these things that should not concern her.

It was only then that she remembered that the change of clothes she brought with her was inside her bag and that she had tossed her bag on the couch in the living room! She only had a small towel that barely covered her chest and her behind.

a deep breath

around her, she stepped out of the bathroom and went to the closet to open

closet was empty with not a single piece

a choice, she sneakily approached the bedroom door and

It was quiet outside.

a dim night light was left

movements whatsoever

back to her room

have gone back to

and snuck

briskly tip-toed to the

off, and the faint glow of the hallway

on the

she spotted the shape of a figure amid the dark shadows. She

finally recognized that it was indeed

on a chair by the window with a glass of water

than Roland? A

at him and stammered, "Why-why are

matter-of-factly, "I've been here

before she

Isabel was flustered.

Chapter 2030

Isabel turned off the alarm clock on her phone since she had the day off tomorrow and slept until nearly eleven the next morning before she woke up at last.

Remembering that she was at Roland's house, she hurriedly got up out of bed and walked out of the bedroom, just in time to bump into Martha who seemed to have just returned home. She was carrying large bags from her shopping trip. She greeted Isabel with a warm smile, "Isabel, you woke up! Did you sleep well last night?"

Isabel helped her carry the bags into the house and said with an equally bright smile, "I slept great, Aunt Martha."

"That's good to hear,"

Martha continued, "I think it's going to take at least half a month before they get things back in order at your place that just got burned down. I bought a bunch of living essentials for you. You can stay with us for now."

As she said this, she extracted a pair of pink slippers from her bag meant for Isabel to use.

In addition to the slippers, she also bought extra sets of pajamas, common clothes, napkins, towels, and more.

Isabel was touched by the gesture and expressed her gratitude, "That's very kind of you, Aunt Martha."

Martha was very gracious.

"Isabel, you were the one who saved my life. This is the least I can do for you. If you need anything else at all, just say the word."

very

when I

do hope you

a simple life. Apart from her day-to-day housework, she mostly spent her time watching television or reading books. She was a very quiet person. Isabel briefly chatted with her after lunch, and she then went back to her bedroom. She lay on the bed and caught up on the TV shows and variety shows she had

like that, the day had

Knock.

knocked on

"Isabel, are you there?"

open the door and asked, "Hey Martha,

cheerfully, "I asked a friend of mine who attends this yoga class with me to watch a movie. I made some dinner

"Alright, have a

her purse with

for her and Roland. She should at least wait for Roland to come home first. She sent a text to Roland,

"Roland, your mother

"About ten minutes to

not usually work till late? It was followed by another text, "You can eat first if
could handle a ten minute wait. She replied, "I'm not very hungry, we can eat together when you come
back." Just as he said, he
wore the usual black suit, his figure
he came into the house, Isabel went into the kitchen and went to pour the soup out of the
pot was a lot