

Midnight 1141

Chapter 1141

"...So, are you gonna take me in or what?" Kevin arched an eyebrow, a playful smirk on his face. "I mean, I'm like your mentor here. It'd be pretty cold to leave me out in the cold, right?" Dorothy sighed, exasperation tinged with amusement. "If I dared to snatch you away, I think Everett would literally cry. You're his right-hand man, practically ready to step in as CEO! If I poached you, he'd be devastated."

"Well, now that you mention it, I guess I should ask for a raise when I get back this afternoon! If Mr. Lopez doesn't agree, I'm resigning and waiting for your start-up to launch!"

"He will," Kevin was just joking, but Dorothy took him seriously, "Or maybe I should drop a hint tonight?"

"No, no! Mr. Lopez has been more than fair to me."

As they walked to their car, sliding into the driver's and passenger's seats respectively, Kevin continued, "Honestly, I've been to other companies before. Sure, the CEOs were okay to their staff, but their paranoia made everyone uncomfortable. If I just did my job, they'd think I wasn't ambitious. If I did more, they'd suspect I had ulterior motives."

In the cutthroat business world, everyone seemed to wish they could read minds, always on guard.

"Yeah, it's tough," Dorothy agreed, recalling her own challenging times at Prosperity Consortium.

"But it's different with Mr. Lopez! He doesn't overthink or have the time to doubt us. If I take on more work, he acknowledges it, not with suspicion but with a raise or a bonus. I wouldn't dream of leaving such a great boss," Kevin smiled. "Other companies have tried to lure me away, but I've never been tempted."

Staying with Everett for so long not only spoke volumes of Kevin's skills but also of Everett's leadership.

He had the knack to inspire loyalty and dedication.

Dorothy nodded in agreement, "Everett really does have a human touch as a CEO."

"Exactly! Like this one time, I was

sick, swamped with work, with no

chance to see a doctor. I was pushing through, trying to work overtime, when Mr. Lopez noticed something was off during a meeting. After it ended, he locked my computer and insisted I get treated first." Property © of NôvelDrama.Org.

"That sounds just like something Everett would do," Dorothy wasn't surprised. He was always attentive.

He never played the aloof CEO, indifferent to the well-being of those around him.

"When I returned from the hospital, I found Mr Lopez working late in his office, covering my tasks. He even sent me home to rest when he saw

me

swnv

Such mutual respect and care couldn't be built overnight.

Through thick and thin, they understood each other's true nature.

"I'll treat my employees the same way one day."

Kevin blinked, then suddenly said, "Ms. Sanchez, you know what?

with Mr. Lopez, I actually wondered if he was gay."

When first started working net

"You have to understand! He kept his distance from any women, never had meetings with them or anything!"

After a moment, Dorothy laughed, "And let me guess, you thought Jeffrey was...?"

"They were always in touch! And there wasn't any other man around, so..."

"Does Jeffrey know about this?" Dorothy burst into laughter, imagining the scene.

Chapter 1142

Kevin shook his head urgently. "Just, don't tell Mr. Turner, okay?"

"Oh fine, I'll just spill it to his wife, then."

..Actually, maybe you should just tell Mr. Turner! I've met his other half, and believe me, if she starts on me, I wouldn't stand a chance in a war of words."

Dorothy had genuinely wanted to stand up for her friend Karen, to put in a good word for her.

But then!

As the words came to her lips, she realized she didn't have much to defend!

Karen's sharp tongue was legendary. She could keep hurling insults even when faced with Heather, who was nothing short of a living nightmare. Who could possibly tame her? Together, Kevin and Dorothy's efforts wouldn't even come close.

"Though, she probably won't scold you. She might actually grill Jeffrey seriously, asking if there's anything going on between him and Everett."

Their conversation filled the car ride, and soon, they were back at Bay Residence.

Standing at the doorstep once more, Dorothy couldn't help but reflect.

Entering and leaving the Lopez Corporation three times was akin to her coming and going from this place three times! She hoped this would be the last. Kevin helped her tidy up a bit. Everything was just as Dorothy had left it.

Everett, being a neat freak, always managed to find time to clean the house no matter how busy he was, so Dorothy didn't have to start with cleaning. She was halfway through unpacking when her phone rang.

Who else could it be but Everett?

"I'm free this afternoon."

"Then you can pick up Abigail and Langston."

"It's too early to pick them up now. I'll head back to Bay Residence and help you out first." Everett's voice was gentle, a warm smile in his tone. "Once we're done, it'll be just the right time." Dorothy set down the clothing she was holding and stretched.

"From what you're saying, you're planning to spend these three days in Bay Residence all in one go? You're not planning on leaving tonight, are you?"

His tone clearly indicated he had no intention of leaving.

"...You said at least three days. You didn't specify a maximum."

"Playing word games with me, huh?"

"I wouldn't dare."

Dorothy chuckled, but still hummed in agreement, "If you want to come back, just come back. Bay Residence is your home, your house. Why would you need my permission to come home?"

"Then I'll come back now."

After hanging up, she took a deep breath and got back to work.

When Everett arrived, he found her forehead slightly sweaty, still folding clothes.

He changed into slippers and approached her. "Let me do that."

Dorothy looked up to meet his gaze only then.

Everett's eyes were always

cast, deep and alluring. He cast a shadow, blotting

tall

half the light from the lamp above.

That shadow fell on her like a protective shield.

She was always under his protection.

"Everett, are you sure there's no work back at the company?"

"None at all. You can ask Kevin; he's free this afternoon too."

Only then did Dorothy nod, handing him the clothes, "Then help me with these, and I'll sort out the kitchenware."

She was about to leave when Everett caught her wrist.

"Let's not. I'll handle everything."

"We can do it faster together!"

He smiled, a mischievous glint in his warm eyes.

"You'll need all your strength later tonight. Save it."

"Come

lift a

do."

."

relax. You don't need to.

There's not much

own stroked her hair

gently.

"Or you can supervise, Ms. Sanchez."

Chapter 1143

Dorothy shot Everett a playful glare, "Well, for all my being a director, it pales in comparison to your big shot CEO title, huh? Just a letter's difference, but worlds apart." "What do we do then? Should I step down and let you take the reins as CEO?"

"Don't! I was just kidding."

Despite his words, Everett didn't stop the task he was engaged in.

"I heard from Kevin that you're really serious about starting your own business."

Dorothy had mentioned it before, but Everett had his reservations. He secretly wished Dorothy would stay with Lopez Enterprises, so he could always have her close.

If she ran her own company and got swamped with projects, she'd hardly have time to come home.

Too few projects, though, might dent her confidence.

"Yes! That's what I want."

Everett's fingers paused for a moment before he softly replied, "Okay, then. I'll keep an eye out for a good location for your company."

"No need! I want to do this on my own, without distracting you from your work."

"You're starting a business but won't let me help in the slightest. Who do you want help from then?"

She almost blurted out a name but quickly covered his mouth.

"Can you not act like you're always out of vinegar? Nobody would believe this about you!"

The CEO of Lopez Enterprises, privately green with envy, over something that had absolutely nothing to do with Kenneth!

"Isn't it because he's always lurking around you?"

The thought of Kenneth, ever-watchful, gave Everett a headache!

The man was like a bad penny - always turning up. Always finding an opening.

"Kenneth means well, you know. You don't have to be on his case all the time." Dorothy felt there was no need for this, "Look, there's never been anything between us beyond friendship. You can't be this wary of every friend I have, can you?"

"I can."

Dorothy wanted to keep Kenneth as a friend.

Kenneth had other ideas!

Everett patted his thigh, signaling her to sit on his lap, and wrapped an arm around her waist.

"I have my reasons for being jealous."

"Yes, Mr. Lopez, you're always right!

Now,

you let go of me? I

the many suitcases are still

left to

unpack."

Dorothy finished, but Everett didn't let go.

"You!"

He simply scooped her up and deposited her on the bed.

After a dizzying moment, Dorothy found herself pinned beneath him, unsure of what had just happened.

"Everett!"

"You said you were too restless to rest, which means you must have energy to spare." His lips curved into a sly smile, his Adam's apple bobbing lightly as he spoke, "Since you're so eager, I guess I have no choice but to oblige."

"1

Dorothy struggled a bit, to no avail against his strength.

"What kind of logic is that? I never said that! Get up, we still haven't finished unpacking!"

"Unpacking can wait. I've got you to take care of first."

Everett's kiss was possessive, his hands pressing her closer to him, nearly suffocating her. "Mmm..."

A slight pain mixed with an unusual sensation made Dorothy instinctively tighten her grip on his arm.

"It hurts, it still hurts..."

"My technique isn't great, but I'll get better with practice."

His strength soon coaxed tears from

Dorothy

eyes, her eyelids

tiredness, her bottering?

with delicate

trembling lightly.

Chapter 1144

Dorothy, though finding it hard to relax, made an effort to ease into the moment, unwilling to push Everett away or shrink back. She knew deep down that Everett didn't want to hurt her.

But with Abigail and Langston still out of the loop, Everett didn't dare to overstep, letting her go after only half an hour.

Yet, neither of them moved, still holding each other, listening to the beat of each other's hearts.

After a while, Everett broke the silence.

"Should we take a shower?"

"I can manage on my own."

He lifted his hand, his thumb gently grazing her porcelain-like cheek, "Is this because I didn't exhaust you?"

With a playful huff, Dorothy pushed him slightly, a smile teasing her lips, "Be careful, or I might snap a photo of you like this and leak it to the company intranet! That'll certainly shatter your CEO image."

Mention Everett in public, and you'd hear about his reserved, almost aloof demeanor, sparing words as if each one cost him.

Yet here he was, all his words saved for moments like these.

"Go ahead, if you ever miss me, you can open it up and take a look."

Dorothy paused, then slowly, her hand found its way to his shoulder, "Everett, I don't need a photo, I want the real thing."

"Alright, your wish is my command."

"When Quincy came to me, she mentioned something else."

Instantly, Everett's brows furrowed, his heart racing.

He knew Dorothy's unusual approach meant she had heard something unsettling!

Otherwise, with her stubborn nature, she wouldn't have sought him out so willingly...

"What did she say?"

"She mentioned you commissioned her to treat my illness, and after much research, she finally developed a medicine that could cure me completely."

Everett knew!

That was the ultimate cure!

"Yes, that's true," he confirmed, looking into Dorothy's eyes, "Did she give it to you?"

"She did."

"Have you taken it?"

Dorothy's eyes twinkled with mischief, "What do you think?"

Everett straightened up, pulling her onto his lap, meeting her gaze, "This is no time for jokes, did you take it?"

"Why can't I joke? Is there something else about the medicine? Why are you so anxious?"

Everett frowned, "Quincy's medicine can cure you! You won't have to suffer and be hospitalized anymore!"

Of course, he was worried!

Once everything settled, Dorothy could finally step away from all this.

"So, my illness, Quincy is the only one who can cure it, right? Your closeness with her, your interactions, even the scent of her perfume on you... it was all for the sake of getting this medicine for me?"

"Well..." Everett hesitated, unsure if she had taken the cure, and stumbled over his words.

"Look at me and tell me."

Dorothy cupped his face, forcing their gazes to lock, allowing no room for doubt.

"In the beginning, yes."

"And after? Did you develop feelings for her? Were you planning to break up with me?" Everett pursed his lips, about to nod reluctantly when Dorothy gently slapped his cheek.

"Are you out of your mind! To let Quincy blackmail you for my sake! Now she wants money, wants your help to save the Caldwell family, but what about later? If she demands you marry her for this, would you actually do it?"

"I never intended to marry her from the start."

Chapter 1145

From the get-go, Everett's main goal was simple: to secure the antidote for Dorothy as soon as possible.

Everything else was a smokescreen, a ploy to throw Quincy off the scent, to make her believe he was, perhaps, a tad more flexible about their impending nuptials.

He feared a flat-out refusal, the same unwavering stance as before, might drive Quincy to desperation, putting Dorothy back in her crosshairs.

After witnessing what happened with Heather, he couldn't bear the thought of Dorothy being dragged into their mess once more.

"She's been parading around town as your fiancée, you know." Dorothy quipped, her lips curling into a smirk.

"I can't shut her up, can I?"

"True! First, there was Heather, blabbering about your childhood friendship turning into romance, and now Quincy, going on about how you're about to pop the question! Everett, you're quite the catch, aren't you? Two beauties vying for your affection."

Everett raised an eyebrow, "Jealous?"

"Can't you tell? I'm practically sour."

"Oh." He nodded, unfazed, "Speaking of which... there was Kenneth, still not out of the picture, then came Lane, and wasn't there a Byte 7 at some point? Let me think-"

"Ha, there's a long list!" Dorothy wrapped her arms around his neck, "And let's not forget the CEO of Lopez Corporation, with his 'keep out' face, who's been pining for me since middle school." He chuckled, nodding in agreement, "Indeed."

"Too bad for them, I'm quite the catch, haven't decided who to settle for yet!"

"Kenneth still has a chance?"

"Maybe! Everett, if you don't want him taking your spot, you'd better stay alive."

A flicker in Everett's eyes, a sudden twitch of his eyelids, he sensed something was amiss.

"You haven't taken the antidote?!"

Dorothy leaned in, pressing her lips against his.

"If curing me means you have to suffer in my place, I don't want it."

"... Did Quincy tell you?"

She shook her head, "No, but she slipped up. She mentioned that after taking the medicine, I would affe

experience dizziness or

hallucinations anymore."

That moment, Dorothy pieced it together, thinking of Everett.

The symptoms...

They were exactly like her own when her illness first manifested!

She remembered seeing her mother's ghostly figure everywhere, urging her to avenge her, to jump off buildings, to join her in death!

And now, Everett suddenly falling ill at work, with no diagnosis from the hospital, combined with Quincy's offhand remark, it all clicked for Dorothy. "Did she give you the antidote?"

"Yes."

Everett immediately grasped her wrist, "Take it now. It'll completely neutralize the poison! Quincy said your health is frail, you won't last long."

"And what about you?"

"I'll find a way! The poison's effects can be temporarily alleviated,

strong can outlast Quincy e

You

can't you can't end up in the ER again!"

The death of his mother had struck a devastating blow to Everett.

If Dorothy were to end up the same way, covered with a white sheet, rolled out in front of him, he knew he wouldn't be able to go on.

"You said it yourself, the effects can be temporarily alleviated."

"I'll force Quincy to produce another antidote!"

"Then wait for her to produce another antidote, and give it to me then."

Everett froze, his grip on her wrist tightening.

"What do you mean?"

"I've already given the antidote to you."

Chapter 1146

The thoughts raced through his mind at lightning speed.

"It was that meal! You deliberately made it salty."

"Smart, aren't you? How else were you going to drink water obediently?" Dorothy said with a playful squint in her eyes. "Am I smart or what?"

"Smart my-"

Everett held back his curse with great effort.

"Calm down, hear me out!" Dorothy's gaze on him was earnest, her voice softened, "I don't want, and can't always have you shielding me from everything! Everett, you've done more than enough for me, truly. My life wouldn't be enough to repay you! So, please, don't make me owe you any more. Do you really want to suffocate me with debt?"

"...I didn't want you to know."

He had painstakingly kept it a secret for so long.

"I get it! Actually, if I had known about this from the start, maybe... I might have made some rash decisions, not wanting to see you threatened and led by the nose by Quincy, especially when I was already struggling mentally back then. My thoughts and actions were so narrow-minded. But now, I wouldn't."

She was truly past that phase.

Abigail and Langston were still so young; they needed their mom.

There were friends and Everett in this world who cared about her.

Until things were truly irreparable, she couldn't just give up on her life.

"But Dorothy, you're not as physically strong as I am. You can't bear this!"

Dorothy spread her hands, "The antidote has already been taken by you. Complaining about it now, what's the use?"

"1

"Listen to me, calm down! The antidote would work the same on anyone. Aren't we a team? With my cooperation, things might even go smoother than you planned! And you won't have to keep me in the dark, worrying I might get upset and leave for real."

Everett still wouldn't relax his furrowed brows.

Helplessly, Dorothy reached up to smooth them.

"Can you listen to me this time?"

"Dorothy..." Everett's voice trembled as he spoke, "I'm afraid of losing you."

"You think I'm not?" Dorothy opened

her arms, embracing him tightly, "You once said, if I died, you wouldn't live on alone! If something happened to you, how could I survive?"

"We both need to stay alive, for the kids."

How hard-fought this embrace was, Everett knew better than anyone.

After all the hardships, he had finally made it to this day.

"Don't see me as so fragile. I grew up juggling jobs and school, what hardship haven't I faced? Back then, I felt like one in this world loved me, and couldn't appreciate my mom love until I lost her and regretted our arguments! Now that I have you, I don't want to lose again. People willing to love me in this

world are too few!"

Her sensitivity and aloofness stemmed from her troubled family background.

Many sought her out for her appearance, only to retreat quickly upon sensing her distance.

Only Karen stood by her through thick and thin, and in love, only Everett was willing to do anything for her without keeping score.

Dorothy couldn't stand to lose either.

"You really are..."

Everett opened his mouth, finding himself at a loss for words.

Dorothy simply covered his lips,

have come this far, and

no choice! Let's hold hands

and move forward together! Okay?"

Chapter 1147

Everett gazed at her for a long while before finally nodding slowly. "Alright."

"Our journey ahead is long, and if you have to protect me every time, sacrificing yourself, it would weigh heavily on me. You wouldn't want to see me down all the time, right?"

Everett sighed deeply.

What could he say now?

"Aren't you happy?" Dorothy blinked, "Now you don't have to worry about getting caught or deliberately distancing yourself from me! Just shake off Quincy's spies, and you can sneak back to Bay Residence to be with me! Don't worry, officially I'll still appear as if we've broken up. No one will know."

"If you're ever in trouble, you have to tell me immediately."

Dorothy nodded, "Don't worry, I've already said I'll live well, so of course, I'll tell you! If I died now, wouldn't that just make Quincy's day? She'd marry you in a heartbeat!"

"That day will never come." Everett's voice was low and solemn, "No matter where you are, I'll be there with you."

To live, they would live together.

To die, he would follow her.

"Good! We'll always be together."

The next day, Everett received a text from Quincy.

[Mr. Lopez, I've delivered the antidote to Ms. Sanchez, proving I'm not the villain here, right? Can we... meet up?

Upon seeing the message, Everett didn't respond immediately but set his phone aside.

Kevin knocked on the office door and peeked in, "Mr. Lopez, Quincy is here."

That was quick.

Everett looked up slightly from his paperwork, "Let her wait for a bit. I'll see her at lunch."

"Alright."

Kevin always followed Mr. Lopez's orders without question.

Just as he was about to leave, Everett called out to him, instructing, "Keep Quincy in the dark about Dorothy and me. Make her think our relationship is really on the rocks." "Got it!" Kevin flashed an OK sign.

Exiting the office, he glanced around, straightened his suit, and took the elevator down.

In the lobby of the Lopez Building, Quincy was waiting.

Kevin approached her, his expression slightly irked, "Quincy, you might as well stop waiting. Mr. Lopez is really busy!"

"When will he be free?" Quincy immediately asked.

"How would his secretary, know?" Kevin frowned, "Ah, these days, Ms. Sanchez just had a huge fight with him, making a scene. I'd advise you to come back another day? Mr`

AQUMS

Lopez might not be in the best mood now."

"Ms. Sanchez, Dorothy?"

"Yeah!" Kevin clapped his hands, seemingly exasperated with Dorothy as well "Never thought she'd be this unreasonable. You'd think she was easy to get along with too, right?"

Quincy paused, unsure of what to say next.

"Can you believe it? She actually demanded half of the Lopez Corporation from him! Who could agree to that?"

She immediately frowned, "Did Dorothy really say that?"

"If it was just about money, don't you think Mr. Lopez would have agreed? Who likes being nagged all the time?" Kevin scoffed, "Always using the excuse of the kids being sick to get Mr. Lopez to come over, and he believed her at first. But when he got there, the kids were perfectly fine! Sick? Please."

Chapter 1148

Quincy watched as Kevin spun his tale with such vivid detail it almost seemed plausible.

"Ms. Sanchez didn't seem like that kind of person before."

"Tell me about it! I was shocked too," Kevin waved dismissively. "Goes to show, you can never really know someone. Right, Dr. Quincy?"

Quincy felt Kevin's gaze pierce through him, as if there was a hidden message in his words.

"If you're willing to wait, I'll let Mr. Lopez know. He should be able to see you once he's done with his current meeting," Kevin hinted before making a swift exit, as if concluding a performance. "Alright."

Quincy watched Kevin leave, a flicker of contemplation in his eyes.

The current situation between Dorothy and Everett was indeed strained! Given that Quincy had already provided Dorothy with the antidote, if Everett's intentions were solely to deceive her for it, they should have reconciled by now. Instead, their disdain for each other seemed to intensify.

The only explanation was that Everett wasn't pretending.

Thinking of this, Quincy sighed, reassuring himself.

From now on, Everett's fate was in his hands! He could make Everett do whatever he wanted.

With this thought, Quincy glanced at the imposing Lopez Corporation building and smirked.

Perhaps, the entire building could end up being his.

Ever since learning the full story, Karen was restless and distracted, even while holding her daughter.

Noticing his wife's state, Jeffrey

comforted her, "Stop worrying, yeah?"

Good people have their own luck! Seeing Everett risk his life for
sw novel

Dorothy's safety, as his brother can only choose to support him
end."

the

"It just feels so unfair! Why must all these troubles converge around Dorothy? She's already had a
hard enough life."

Ever since Karen had known Dorothy, she had been scrimping and saving, working tirelessly every
day.

Finally, Dorothy had made it into the Lopez Corporation headquarters and started gaining some
recognition. Before Karen could even rejoice for her, Everett's situation emerged.

Four years had slipped by in the blink of an eye. How many sets of four years does a woman have
in her youth?

If another four years were to pass like this, who could endure it?

"With Everett by her side, you don't need to worry about her."

"But I don't want to see Everett in trouble either!"

After putting her daughter to sleep and handing her over to the nanny, Karen putted Jeffrey out of
the nursery to continue, "Is there no other way we can help them? I'm willing to sacrifice anything
if necessary."

Given Karen's temperament, it was a sign of maturity that she hadn't already confronted Quincy
directly.

"If I could, I would take Everett's place and suffer the poison myself."

Without Everett's assistance, Jeffrey wouldn't have his daughter or be with Karen today. He couldn't
forget such debts.

But in this situation, there was little they could do.

"Doesn't Quincy have any vulnerabilities?"

Karen couldn't believe there weren't any.

"I've looked into it. Her relationship with the Caldwell family isn't great. She has a brother, Simeon,
who's practically at odds with her! Do you think Quincy would care about such a brother, or her
parents who favor sons over daughters?"

"Is Quincy really in love with Everett now?"

Chapter 1149

Jeffrey grimaced, nodding reluctantly, "Sounds about right."

"Everett, he's a real magnet for trouble!" Karen exclaimed, then shot Jeffrey a glare, "Just like you!"

"1

"

He felt unjustly accused.

But with his history of romantic entanglements flashing before his eyes, Jeffrey found himself at a loss for words.

Karen sighed, her gaze softening as she looked at Jeffrey, "Are we just going to stand by and do nothing? Can't we help somehow?"

"What do you suggest?"

He wanted to help, didn't he?

Karen clapped her hands together, suddenly smiling with a mischievous twinkle in her eye.

"I actually have an idea."

"Let's hear it."

"Why don't you go and seduce Quincy? Make her fall for you, and then she'll leave Dorothy and Everett alone."

At that moment, Jeffrey realized he was speechless in his native tongue.

"You're really selfless, pushing your own husband into the fray!"

"If it works, you'd be doing a good deed! Although, I doubt Quincy would even give you a second glance." Karen shrugged, "After all, you've had your fair share of women in the past, not to mention your crush on Heather. Quincy won't be any different!"

That hit a nerve.

It took Jeffrey a while to gather his thoughts.

"Karen, can we not bring up the past?" His heart sank at the mention.

"Just saying, it's not like you're losing a limb!"

"Do you really not care if I sleep around? Do you even love me?"

He couldn't help but notice the lack of emotion when Karen spoke those words. It was as if he wasn't her

d but just some rat

random Joe.

Karen furrowed her brows, "We're supposed to be talking about Everett's situation! Why are you bringing this up now? And Jeffrey remember, who you sleep with or who you're with isn't something I can control. If you're set on cheating, nobody can stop you."

Karen had thought this through, especially marrying someone like Jeffrey.

If he could restrain himself out of love, they could make it work, and she'd be committed to moving forward.

But if Jeffrey ever reverted to his old ways, Karen wouldn't turn a blind eye. Divorce would be inevitable.

"I never thought about cheating! The thing with Heather, I—"

"Alright, alright, my bad. I shouldn't have said that. Happy now?" Karen was clearly irritated, waving her hands dismissively, not wanting to hear any more.

It was just a joke, after all. She hadn't expected Jeffrey to take it to heart.

"You!"

"I've already admitted I was wrong. What more do you want?"

With just one look from Karen, Jeffrey knew he had to swallow his pride.

In her presence, his rights were non-existent.

Everett was intentionally keeping Quincy on a string.

He couldn't let her think that having leverage meant she could control him completely.

Once he felt Quincy's patience wearing thin, Everett finally had Kevin bring her to his office.

"What do you want now?"

His tone was laced with impatience, perfectly aligning with Kevin's earlier comments about his bad mood.

Quincy tried to sound helpful, "I gave Ms. Sanchez the antidote."

Everett looked up slightly, "And?"

"She should be fine now! If you don't believe me, you can have her checked out."

Chapter 1150

"

"Oh."

Everett nodded, still fixated on the documents in his hands, showing no intent of continuing the conversation.

Quincy was starting to feel anxious. "You really don't care?"

"Of course, I care. You've already given it to me, right? What am I supposed to do now?"

"Is there anything else?"

"I mean, I'm not the kind of person you think I am! Mr. Lopez, can't you just forget about the past, turn over a new leaf, and... get to know me again?"

Now Quincy was regretting her choices.

If only she had gone straight to Everett from the start!

Especially since she had genuinely believed that nothing could break Everett and Dorothy apart, leaving no chance for herself but to take things one step at a time.

If she had known they would break up, she definitely wouldn't have done anything to Dorothy! Pretending to be innocent and pure, who couldn't do that?

Men always fall for that act.

"So, you came here today just to say this?"

"I... suppose so."

She wanted to marry Everett, and she wanted him to propose of his own accord.

Having never been in love before, Quincy still harbored some expectations for love, especially facing someone as perfect as Everett. Having seen how tenderly he had cared for Dorothy, she naturally wanted to experience being chosen by Everett.

"I haven't lost my memory. How can we start over?"

Everett seemed intrigued, putting down his documents and leaning back in his chair to look at her.

Quincy bit her lip, "Because of the Caldwell family, I did something terrible to Ms. Sanchez, but it was a means of self-preservation! I hope Mr. Lopez can understand! Now that you have no ties with her, I thought this matter could also be left behind, and from now on, it would just be about you and me."

"Heh," he chuckled, "What relationship do you think we have?"

"Jonathan said he would marry me!"

Everett scoffed, "My father said he'd marry you? Then you should be talking to him, not me."

"...He said he wanted me to enter the Lopez family, to be his daughter-in-law!"

Before him, Quincy couldn't keep her composure. A few exchanges later, she went from being confident to flustered.

"And what, if one day you're unhappy, you'll poison my father too?"

"I've never thought that way!"

"But you have the capability to do so, and that's why can't let you into the Lopez family Everett was all

business now, as if he was

conducting an official meeting,. lacking only a secretary taking

minutes. "If you were to become dissatisfied, wouldn't my father and I be at your mercy? My father's proposal comes from ignorance of the poisoning."

Quincy understood his concerns.

But...

"So, what do you suggest? How can you trust me? I promise, if you marry me, I'd never harm you or your family!"

"If promises worked, the world

wouldn't need police or laws."

Everett paused deliberately, then continued, "You have nothing to lose now, and I have no leverage over you. It's a disadvantageous position for the Lopez family. I cannot marry you under these circumstances, however..."

Quincy immediately asked, "However, what?"

"It's not totally hopeless, depending on whether you're willing to cooperate."

"You're not suggesting you want an antidote as a precaution, are you?"