

The CEO's Hidden Love Midnight Temptations and Deep Desires #Chapter 351 - Read The CEO's Hidden Love Midnight Temptations and Deep Desires Chapter 351

Chapter 351

"I have a burning question" Jeffrey glanced at his sleeping buddy, Langston. Are you sure that kid Dorothy had is a girl? Not a boy?"

'It's a girl. I've seen her"

"Are you sure? Could it be that he was so pretty that you mistook her for a girl?"

Lane wasn't sure why Jeffrey was asking, but he knew for sure that Dorothy had a girl.

"No way. Do you think I'm an idiot?"

"Oh... well, guess not then"

Jeffrey just wanted to confirm. He figured if Dorothy's child looked like Everett, Lane would have told him by now. Lane knew

Jeffrey was close with Everett, and he had seen him before.

"What are you even talking about? As soon as he heard Dorothy's name, Lane was wide awake.

He was worried that something he said might have given Jeffrey a clue.

"Not much. I just realized that Everett might have a secret child"

Jeffrey's careless remark made Lane's heart skip a beat. "How how could that be? Isn't Mr. Lopez a very disciplined mar? He's never been involved in any scandals in the business world, so where would a secret child come from?"

"I would have said the same before seeing that kid. I know Everett very well.

But after seeing that child, had no doubts that he

was Everetts. The resemblance was uncanny

"Did you see the child?"

"Yes. He is right next to me."

"A boy?"

Jeffrey nodded. 'Definitely a boy. I gave him a bath last night. I'm absolutely sure. That's why I asked you if child was a ginct a boy."

if you were sure that Dorothy's

you

"It's a girl, and she doesn't look like Everett."

"Alright, I must be overthinking."

Lane chuckled, feeling a bit relieved.

From this prospective, it seemed that Everest didn't love Dorothy that much after all. He could still have a secret child, so he

must be quite a player. He was just pretending to be deeply in love.

"You don't need to be shocked. He's a powerful man; there are many women who want to share his bed. He can refuse once or twice, but could he resist every time? If something happens, there's a chance of pregnancy. If a woman gets pregnant, it's like hitting the jackpot she definitely wouldn't have an abortion."

So, that was how the secret child came about.

"You're right, but I'm still surprised that he would you know, with other women... Jeffrey grimaced. "Guess love is a lie. I'll stick to the game of life. I don't understand adult games."

"What's so surprising? Aren't you a man, Jeffrey?"

"Yes, but Everett really loves Dorothy."

"A man's body and heart are separate. They've been divorced for years, so it's normal to have desires. This could mean that

your buddy is gradually mowing on from the past. Isn't that a good thing?"

Jeffrey thought for a moment, then nodded. "I guess it's a good thing. I think he's more shell-shocked by suddenly having a son right now."

"Shell-shocked? Didn't he know who he slept with?"

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"Lane, imagine this. A little boy shows up out of the blue, claiming to be your son. You get a DNA test, and, lo and behold, he's yours. How'd you react?"

Definitely baffled.

He'd been with more women than he could count, some whose names he couldn't even remember. He couldn't be one hundred percent certain that none of them had ulterior motives.

"But hasn't Everett always been a saint? Can he be compared to me?" Lane chuckled. "Who knows? Maybe he's got a wilder side than both of us combined"

"That's impossible! Ever since he broke up with Dorothy, he's practically been living at the office. He's always online on the company. software."

"Does that necessarily mean he couldn't have done it?"

Jeffrey raised his voice. "Hey! Why do I get the feeling you've got a beef with Everett?"

Even this oblivious man, Jeffrey, could sense it

"I'm just stating the facts" Lane smiled. "Alright, let me know if the kid turns out to be his son. I could use a popcorn moment."

"Screw you!" Jeffrey said, then hung up.

He was about to call Everett when Heather started bombarding him with calls, like a woman possessed.

Jeffrey didn't want to answer, but he accidentally did.

Heather's anxious voice came through. "Where are you? L... I think I'm having a heart attack

"What?" Jeffrey was taken aback. "Since when do you have heart disease?"

"Never mind that now. Can you come pick me up and take me to the hospital? Jeffrey wanted to agree, but the kid was still sleeping. Should he wake him up now?

y second.

"Jeffrey... are you going to abandon me too? Heather added. Her voice sounded genuinely distressed, as if she could faint any

"Alright, I'm on my way Send me your location."

Jeffrey was a softie deep down.

He got up and walked over to the sleeping Langston with a small smile tugging at his lips.

After all these years, he could finally see what Everett looked like sleeping. He must look exactly like this kid.

Jeffrey didn't feel comfortable leaving him alone, fearing he'd wake up scared.

So, he called his assistant to come over immediately. and then he left.

He figured that in the half an hour it would take his assistant to arrive, the kid would be fine alone in the room.

Jeffrey drove to the location Heather had sent.

was so remote that he wondered why Heather had chosen to live there.

Not only was it far from the city, it was also quite a distance from the Lopez Corporation

"Why are you living here?" Jeffrey helped her to the car, gently opening the door for her.

"I've been restless lately and unable to sleep. I thought the quiet here might help." Heather looked distressed. She was clutching at her chest the entire time.

Jeffrey glanced around the desolate surroundings and frowned. "You sure know how to pick a spot."

Heather shot him a look. "Stop mocking me. If you don't want to help, you can leave. Let me die here alone!

"I didn't say anything! Jeffrey rolled his eyes, started the engine, and pulled up

the GPS to the nearest hospital.

Before he could even pull out, his phone started ringing.

Suddenly, Heather clutched his arm and said, "Ouch... it hurts so much!"

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Jeffrey had assumed her pain was real and so he'd prioritized driving her to the hospital over answering his ringing phone.

Upon arrival, he'd shouldered Heather into the cardiology ward

After all the hustle and bustle, he was drenched in sweat and only

remembered his ignored calls when he finally took a seat to

rest. He pulled out his phone to see several missed calls from his assistant, followed by a call from Everett

Since he hadn't picked up. Everett had messaged him.

I'm on board and heading back to Eldoria City. Get back to me when you see this]

Just as Jeffrey was about to reply to the message, his assistant called him again.

He wondered if there was a problem with the kid.

"Hello? What's up?"

"Mr. Turner, you asked me to come to the hotel to look after the kid. I'm here, but there's no kid in this mom

Jeffrey shot up from his chair.

"What did you say?"

"There's no kid in this room. I tried calling you, but you didn't pick up. I asked the front desk, and they said they took the kid!"

Jeffrey felt a pit in his stomach

Had he lost Everell's son?

said a man came and

"Quick, go look for him Have them check the surveillance video and find out where that man took him! You must find him!"

"I understand, Mr. Turner"

After hanging up the phone, Jeffrey's hands were shaking.

If he were to tell Everett now that the kid was lost...

He didn't even dare think about the consequences.

"Family of Heather. The nurse called out from the examination room.

He moistened his dry lips and entered the room. "Doctor how is she?"

"She's fine: I've done some tests, and everything is normal. Her issues are probably due to a lack of sleep lately, causing an irregular heartbeat."

"Thank you, doctor"

All Jeffrey could think about now was the missing ch.d; he had no interest in Heather's condition.

After helping her into the car, Jeffrey said, "I'll drop you off at the office, then I have to go."

Heather looked at him. "What's the matter? Can't you drop me home?"

"The kid who looks like Everett is missing! I have to go look for him!"

"What?" Heather was stunned. "What happened? How could you lose a kid?! Come on, take me with you; I'll help you look!"

Jeffrey glanced at her. "You'll help?"

"Yes!" Heather looked determined. "Even though I can't accept the fact that Everett has a kid, he's still just a child! If something

happened, I would be upset too! Jeffrey, do I seem that heartless to you?"

Jeffrey didn't waste any more time and drove straight to the hotel.

The assistant had already pulled up all the available surveillance video footage and was going through it.

"Mr. Tumer."

"Any news?"

The assistant shook his head. "No, and it seems like the person who took him was prepared. The cameras didn't catch a clear shot of his face."

Jeffrey was fuming.

Heather patted his shoulder, trying to comfort him. "Hey, why are you so upset?! It's clear that someone's been looking after the

kid. He snuck out, and now someone's come to collect him. Isn't that normal?"

Jeffrey furrowed his brows. "Evan hasn't even met him yet! And right now, we can't be sure who took him."

What if the person had nefarious intentions?

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Or perhaps they thought the boy looked like Everett and wanted to kidnap him for a ransom.

"You're just too hasty! Use your head for a second, and you'll realize he must have been taken by someone who was looking for

him. Who else could pinpoint his exact location among all the hotels in Eldora City?"

Jeffrey pondered a bit. She seemed to have a point. Her theory seemed plausible.

"But what do we tell Everett when he comes back?"

Everett had specifically returned for the boy.

"What else can you say? If all else fails, tell Everett it was a prank. I can help

keep the folks at the office quiet” Heather was really going out to help.

Jeffrey, however, after some thought, declined her “kindness.”

“I can’t say that. The boy did come. I have to let Everett investigate if he is indeed his son. If he is, then what could the other party’s intentions be?” Jeffrey felt that even if he got scolded, it would be better than the other party scheming something to harm Everett later. Since they had discovered this, they should let Everett investigate. There must be some trail to follow

“What other intention could there be? It’s all about money! The other party probably felt it wasn’t the right time and took the boy back Everett has been so stressed out with work lately, why do you always have to stir up trouble?” Heather sighed helplessly as her eyebrows furrowed in frustration. “I’m not even sure if you’re truly looking out for Everett anymore”

“At a time like this, can you stop with the cold remarks? Jeffrey was in a bad mood

Suddenly, he turned to look at Heather. “You... Is your heart condition not bothering you anymore?”

She was standing here, having a full blown discussion with him.

“Ah... I felt better after seeing the doctor Heather’s face froze for a moment before she feigned innocence. “Why? You think I took the boy? He was with you, not me! I was in the car with you when he disappeared!”

Jeffrey rubbed his temples. I didn’t say it was you

“Whatever! Just think about how you’re going to explain this to Everett. I’m heading back to the office.”

With that, she walked out of the hotel.

Before Jeffrey could even sigh, Everett called.

I’m in Eldoria City. I’m heading back from the airport. Where are you and the boy?”

“I’m at the hotel.”

Sadly, the boy was nowhere to be found.

“Send me the location. I’ll head straight there.”

“Everett... It seems like the boy was taken by his family. I was only gone for a moment, and he disappeared.” Jeffrey shrunk his neck and blurted out the truth.

A prolonged silence followed before Everett spoke

“You’re not joking?”

“I’m really not joking! Jeffrey was on the verge of tears. “I slept in the same room as the boy last night. I bathed him and fed him.

A lot of people at the office saw him, you can ask them. He looks just like you!”

Find him. I want to find this boy” Everett’s emotions were steady, and he didn’t reproach Jeffrey

Tim looking! I’m just worried they’re hiding him.”

Find him no matter what.”

Everett needed to confirm his relationship with the boy now

A boy resembled him so closely. It sounded like a joke.

Even now, Everett doubted if this was a prank.

Because if the boy was his, then he must be Dorothy’s child.

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Otherwise, it was impossible for it to be his child.

He had never been with any other woman in his entire life apart from Dorothy.

There was no one else in the picture.

Upon learning that Everett might have an illegitimate child, no one was happier than Lane,

The news kept him awake all night.

It was still early, and he didn’t want to disturb Dorothy and her daughter so he didn’t immediately call her about it. But as noon

approached, he couldn’t hold back any longer

After a few rings, Dorothy’s voice came through. Perhaps due to anxiety, her voice was a bit hoarse.

“Hello, Lane”

“Has your daughter been found yet?”

Dorothy was about to say no, but after hearing him refer to her daughter, she quickly corrected herself. “Yes, she has been found”

“That’s good” Lane let out a sigh of relief.

“But my daughter is quite attached to me, so I might need some time before I can return to work, can

“No problem! I’m here at the company. If necessary, I will handle everything for you. Just concentrate on being with your

daughter Lane chuckled. “And you don’t have to worry about Everett finding out about your daughter anymore.”

“Hmm?”

Lane purposely steered the conversation towards Everett’s illegitimate child.

He wanted Dorothy to give up and let her know that Everett was not the saint she thought he was.

“According to Jeffrey, he has an illegitimate child who went looking for him at the company. The boy looks so much like Everett that everyone who sees him is convinced he’s Everett’s son.”

As Lane spoke, Dorothy went silent. But this was within Lane’s expectations. It was clear that Dorothy still had feelings for Everett. She surely wouldn’t be able to accept the existence of this illegitimate child.

It was a huge blow, so her silence was understandable

But actually, this was doing Dorothy a favor.

It had to be Langston.

“Dorothy? Are you okay?” Lane feigned concern.

“No, I’m fine! What happened next? Did Everett accept the child?” Dorothy wanted to figure out Langston’s current situation,

It seemed her worst fears had come true

Now she just needed to bring Langston back home quickly so they could leave for abroad and avoid being found by the Lopez family

“With such a striking resemblance, how could he not accept him? Under the public eye, would he deny the child’s identity? I

assume the Lopez family took him in and gave him a proper place in the family.”

“Lane, who told you this?”

“Jeffrey. So, there’s no doubt about it”

“Oh.. could you ask Jeffrey for me? What are Everett’s plans for the child, and does the Lopez family know about this?”

Lane interpreted this as Dorothy refusing to give up on Everett. She still cared about Everett’s decisions.

“Okay, I’ll ask for you. Dorothy, even though you were once married, you’re divorced now. You have to accept that he’s moved on. Everett, with his status, is bound to have a succession of women by his side. Having an illegitimate child is not surprising.”

Lane’s constant reference to the illegitimate child made Dorothy uncomfortable. “Everett just doesn’t know, so it shouldn’t be considered illegitimate, right

“Aren’t all children born out of wedlock considered illegitimate? What’s the difference?”

“That’s not necessarily true. Everett is married, right? it might be his wife’s child.”

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Lane believed that Dorothy just couldn’t stomach the thought of Everett’s

reputation being fainted right now. But she'd come around soon enough

Anyway, he'd done his part. As long as she knew that Everett already had a child, there was no longer any chance for them. He had achieved his goal.

"Well, who knows? Just don't take it too hard and get upset, Dorothy. She wasn't upset right now, she was worried.

The one who went to find Everett had to be Langston. But if Everett had claimed him, she wouldn't be able to get him out even if she charged in there.

Dorothy didn't dare contemplate whether she would ever see her son again if Everett found out about Langston.

After ending the call with Lane.

immediately sought advice from Kenneth and Karen.

They were still discussing how to make a move in Eldoma City to find Langston. Now there was a new development

"You're saying Langston went to find Everett

"Yes, he went to the Lopez Corporation.

Kenneth didn't speak, but she heard Karen exclaim from the other side.

"Kenneth, are you okay?!"

Dorothy quickly showed her concern. Kenneth, what's wrong?"

Karen took over the phone and spoke with a voice filled with worry. "He hasn't slept for days trying to find Langston. He's already fainted once from low blood pressure.

"I'm fine. Don't tell Dorothy about this." Kenneth snatched the phone back once he had recovered.

always giving silently, but when

"Kenneth, if you don't express your feelings, how will Dorothy know how deeply you care for her? You're always will you ever catch up?"

Dorothy furrowed her brow and glanced at Abigail playing nearby. She whispered, "Kenneth, I'll go to Eldoria City. Now that Everett knows about this, the only way to get my child back is if I step in." She had thought about it over and over again. All other methods seemed futile. It was time for her to step in.

"If you do, all our previous efforts will be wasted. Trust me, just this once, I can figure out a way to get Langston out. You're not with him, so you don't know. He didn't go looking for Everett because he wanted a father. He always felt that his father was insupportable.

Kenneth had heard similar remarks several times before. He couldn't confront them directly, he could only gently steer them away by giving Langston all the care he could to fill the gap left by the lack of a father's love

"So you mean, we're betting that Everett doesn't know who Langston's mother is, and then you'll find a way to get Langston out?"

"Yes! I don't think Langston would tell him"

Dorothy furrowed her brows

But the woman who bore Everett's child must've had a relationship with him. He hadn't been with anyone else during that time, had he?

Wouldn't the biggest suspicion still fall on her?

Kenneth had also thought of this, so he reassured her "Don't worry. At Langston's age, as long as he doesn't say how old he is, you can't tell whether he's three or four. After your divorce, he probably wasn't celibate. As long as he was with a woman, there's a chance she could've gotten pregnant. We're not giving up any chance to win until the very end"

really is no other way, then

"But I'm worried about staying here alone. I also go to Eldonia City, but I won't show myself for now if there really is no other way to find Everett."

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Kenneth hesitated for a moment, but understanding Dorothy's predicament, he agreed

"Wright then. I use my driver's license to get you a room, then I'll go crash at a buddy's place. This way, there will be no trace of you."

"Okay, thank you, Kenneth."

"Don't mention it. I don't want to hear about it."

After hanging up, Dorothy stared at her phone, feeling a heavy weight in her heart

She should've set boundaries with Kenneth the moment she decided not to accept his proposal. But now she still needed his help

Sometimes, Dorothy felt guilty. She could not ignore the reproach of her conscience.

Wasn't she just leading him on?

After Everett and Jeffrey met, Jeffrey had already scoured all potential

surveillance cameras in the vicinity.

However, the person who took the child seemed to be prepared. He was fully equipped when he came to the hotel and purposely avoided the surveillance cameras when leaving with the child.

As a result, they ended up with nothing.

“Everett, do you think it’s possible that this person is trying to use the child to blackmail you?” Jeffrey asked.

Everett looked at Jeffrey with his brows furrowed

*No one has contacted me for now.”

“Maybe it’s not time yet.”

“What’s your definition of the right time? Everett shot back. “If the child is as tall as you say, he must be about five or six years old. During that time, I hadn’t divorced Dorothy yet. So, is the child Dorothy’s?”

Jeffrey shook his head with certainty

“No, it’s not hers!” She had a daughter, not a son, so it wasn’t her child

Of course, Jeffrey didn’t dare say the last part.

He had already messed up by losing the kid; he didn’t want to push his luck.

“Except for her, I’ve never been with another woman.” Everett said without any hesitation, and here was no embarrassment or discomfort in his voice.

He believed that being faithful in love was nothing to be ashamed of

“You’ve only ever been with one woman? Just Dorothy?” Jeffrey repeated in disbelief.

“Yes.”

“So, you’ve never gotten drunk and mistaken another woman for Dorothy?”

Jeffrey reasoned

A child doesn’t just appear out of thin air. There must have been a relationship of some sort.

Perhaps Everett was just unaware of it.

Everett looked at him calmly. “When you get drunk, do you really not know who you’ve slept with

Jeffrey was left speechless.

True enough, when a man was completely drunk, he would be incapable of any action. How could he possibly have relations with someone?

The weren’t completely inebriated, he would know what the woman he slept with looked like.

Even if he didn’t consider other factors, he would at least consider whether the woman was clean and what her background was.

“Jeffrey, you’re sure the kid is five or six years old?”
Jeffrey shook his head vigorously.

“No, no, no, I just made a rough estimate. He was very tight-lipped, so I don’t know if he was deliberately keeping it from me or if he really didn’t know. If it’s your child, they would naturally be taller than others at birth, so my estimation could be wrong”

“You’re saying...”

Event’s heart was filled with a hint of anticipation. He was so hopeful for the answer that he couldn’t think too much about it. He was afraid that he would be disappointed.

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Everett lacked Jeffrey in the ere, his voice heavy. “Could it be that the baby is really crathy’s?”

After their divorce, she was pregnant, then secretly gave birth to the child without letting him know.

Jeffrey waved his hand dismissively, his tone as certain as if he was swearing an oath.

“Absolutely not Look, I’ll tell you! When you two were going through the divorce, I coincidentally bumped into Dorothy al the hospital. She was there for a check-up”

Everett was entirely unaware of this. His thick brows furrowed. “Why didn’t you tell me?”

“Why would I to you that? She was all determined to get a divorce! Back then, she went to the hospital because she had trouble getting pregnant. Leven suspected that was why she insisted on divorcing you But it turned out it wasn’t.”

The real reason was because of Heather and Forrett’s parents’ meddling But Jeffrey wouldn’t tell Everett that even though he didn’t agree with Heather’s actions, if he did, it would undoubtedly cause trouble.

How would Everett face his parents then?

There would also be no benefit for Everett and Dorothy to get back together.

After all, what happened had happened. There was

no turning back, and Everett’s mother, Amanda, could actually be pissed!

Jeffrey didn’t want to see that outcome.

“She had trouble getting pregnant?”

“Yes!” Jeffrey nodded heard the doctor telling her to discuss it with her husband!”

“The doctor’s ‘t scussion, are you sure it was about her infertility, and not

pregnancy?"

Jeffrey was taken aback.

Right!

Back then, all he heard was the doctor telling her to discuss something. But as for what that something was, it was what Dorothy

told

him!

Seeing Jeffrey's face turning pale, Everett's heart skipped a beat.

He grabbed Jeffrey's shirt, pulling him close. "You didn't actually hear the doctor say she was infertile, did you?"

"No the doctor didn't say that."

"Which hospital did she go to for the check-up?"

"The hospital where Dorothy's mother was admitted," Jeffrey replied

Everett turned to leave.

Jeffrey hurriedly followed. "What are you going to do?"

Tim going to the hospital to find out if she was pregnant!"

"Everett, can you calm down?" Jeffrey grabbed his shirt. "Yes, I didn't hear the doctor mention her infertility. But that doesn't mean

she

was pregnant and gave birth to the boy! I can help you investigate this. You should go find the boy first

"Don't stop me. I need to know the truth Everett slinck him off, his tone grim to the core. "No matter the result, I will face it."

He knew Jeffrey was trying to stop him mainly because he wasn't prepared if this turned out to be true.

But what Jeffrey didn't know was that Everett would do anything for Dorothy.

Watching Everett's determined departure, Jeffrey felt a headache coming on

The problem between them was not just about a child, but Dorothy's deep-seated resentment for her mother.

And Everett was clueless about all of that

If the child really was Dorothy's, then things would get even worse!

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Everett knew that Dorothy had borne his child, and as a father, he was obligated to take responsibility to marry Dorothy.

But Dorothy, she would never marry him!

Everett's parents' reaction to this news was something Jeffrey didn't dare to think about.

Before, he thought they were just fond of Heather and wanted her to be their daughter in law, as simple as that! But ever since

he suspected them of being the force behind the death of Dorothy's mother, Jeffrey didn't see it that way anymore.

Apparently, anyone standing in their way had to be removed!

Dorothy's child would face a grim fate. Heather would be a terrible stepmother, and Dorothy was not accepted by the Lopez

family. This was a dilemma, and it suddenly loomed before Everett.

Choosing Dorothy would mean Everett's mother could fall ill and pass away at any time, and Everett would lose the woman who had raised him all his life.

But to save his mother, he would have to abandon Dareth

In this situation, all Jeffrey could do was pray that the child really wasn't

Dorothy's, or perhaps the child wasn't Everett's at all! At

least the current balance could be maintained.

Heather hailed a taxi

She first went to the Lopez Corporation, sorted out her files in the office, and clocked in before leaving the company

She got into another car before dialing a virtual number on her phone

"Are you sure you won't be found out?"

"I know what I'm doing don't worry! Don't forget my money The voice on the other end was also synthetic.

Heather scoffed. "You're only interested in money Don't worry, you won't miss a cent. Where's the child now?"

"In a place only I know about"

"Don't let anyone find you I've paid you plenty to keep your mouth shut, so don't make trouble for me" She had already

transferred the money to his account

When it came to these mullers, she always paid promptly, never owing anything!

After a few seconds, the other person replied, "Got it. But this child...are you sure it's not Everett's? Looks just like him."

"Absolutely not his! How could you get Everett's child so easily? That's the future heir of the Lopez Corporation! This impostor is trying to create confusion and blackmail the Lopez family! You must have heard that the chairman of the Lopez Corporation and his wife, Amanda, have always only recognized me as their daughter-in-law, so how could they allow another woman to bear a child for the Lopez family?"

"But I don't want to mess with the Lopez family."

To be precise, no one wanted to mess with the Lopez family

It wasn't a problem that could be resolved with money it was practically asking

for trouble.

“What are you afraid of with me here? Everything of the Lopez family has long been in my grasp. I have been laying low for so

many years, and the things I’ve done for the Lopez family are unmatched”

The man laughed. “When will you be publicly acknowledged by Everett? I heard he..”

“That’s none of your business! He’s busy and doesn’t want to rush the wedding. That’s why there’s been no preparation. But

hasn’t the engagement been announced? He announced it himself?

“So the mysterious bride everyone’s talking about is you?”

“Who else could it be?” Heather retorted.

The man chuckled, ‘Okay, what are you planning to do with the child?’

Heather was silent for a while before she spoke, “How much to get rid of this child?”

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“Do you want him dead? The man on the other end of the line was clearly taken aback.

“Yes.” Heather was done playing nice. I need to eliminate all potential threats.”

She had thought it through. If she let go of the boy, sooner or later, he would seek out Everett

There was no other way. The boy had to disappear from this world.

“You claim he isn’t Everett’s son, yet you see him as your threat” The man was no fool, he instantly picked up the inconsistency.

“You’re trying to get me to cross the Lopez family!!

“You won’t cross them,” Heather assured him. “The child, Everett’s or not, is not someone they would accept I guarantee your safety. Isn’t that enough”

“No.” The man’s refusal was swift and decisive can’t do this job. You have to find someone else.”

Heather frowned. “I can pay you more.”

“It’s not about the money! He’s just a child. I can’t do it”

And the child could be Everett’s!

Wasn’t that like dancing on the devil’s head? There would be no good outcome

“You’ve killed others before Don’t pretend you can’t do it now, Heather scoffed. How much do you want?”

“No amount can make me do this! Send someone to pick the boy up. I can’t handle this.”

Had he known the boy was Everett’s, he wouldn’t have taken the risk for all the money in the world.

“Do you want to back out now? I’ve already given you the money! And don’t think you’re off the hook just because you won’t do it if the boy escapes it will be even more conspicuous. you kill him now quietly, no one will know

Heather had already devised a perfect alibi for herself With Jeffrey around, she wouldn’t be a suspect.

“Ms. Garcia, there’s a line that shouldn’t be crossed.”

“Then should leave a loophole for others to attack me?”

She had lost all reason, Anything and anyone that could come between her and Everett had to be eliminated,

“OK. I’ll think soyut it

Sensing him budge, Heather didn’t press for an immediate answer

After hanging up, she smirked, looking out the car window

The driver glanced at her in the rear–view mirror, nat dangg to say a word, but it was clear he had heard her conversation.

Heather raised an eyebrow, her voice was light but chiling. “Don’t meddle in things that aren’t your business. No one can save you if you bring trouble upen yourself.”

“Ms. Garcia, I heard nothing. Mrs. Lopez told me just to follow your enders.”

Heather patted his shoulder, “Good boy”

Everett drove straight to the hospital where Dorothy had once been treated.

On the way, he instructed Kevin to find the child.

Now that the boy had shown up, whoever look him and for whatever reason, he had to find him!

According to Jeffrey, the boy was likely taken by his own family, but what if? His appearance alone, bearing a sinking resemblance to Everell, would be enough to attract attention, possibly even from danger.

“Kevin, dio, everything and focus on finding the boy”

“Yes, Mr. Loper.”

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Chapter 361

Kevin

was the only person Everett trusted to handle this matter.

Just as Kevin was about to hang up. Everett added one more thing

“Keep an eye on Heather.”

“Heather? Jeffrey just said she was with him when the boy’s missing occurred.”

“She didn’t go doesn’t mean she didn’t send someone else.”

Everett felt that the part Jeffrey mentioned about Heather during the incident was quite strange

Firstly, since when did she move to that far-off place?

Moreover, in all the years he knew Heather, she never had a history of heart disease. Yet, at such a crucial moment, she suddenly fell ill and was quickly rushed to the hospital, only to find out she was fine.

This was suspicious.

“Wright, Mr. Lopez, ill start checking her whereabouts now!

“Don’t alert her. I’m afraid she’ll do something to the kid.”

“Okay”

As he hung up. Everett glanced out of the car window.

They were almost at the hospital. His emotions were a whirlpool of anxiety and fear.

He was scared

Scared that the results wouldn’t be what he hoped for

He hoped that the child was indeed Dorothy and his. That way, even if she had truly moved on, he would still have a child, which was a reason to keep living.

Jeffrey was frantic when the child went missing

He had pulled all his connections to search for the child, almost exhausting all his resources.

Actually, it was not that Jeffrey was particularly afraid of Everett blaming him, but that child was really cute.

Jeffrey, who never had a fondness for children, felt that if the child was his, he would love and cherish him dearly.

His search was so intense that he didn’t even notice when Heather called.

By the time he saw the missed call, almost an hour had passed.

“What is it? I’m busy.”

“Busy? Looking for the child?” Heather feigned surprise, “You still haven’t found him?”

There was no lead at all!

“I told you long ago, it must be the child’s family who took him. With such a vast number of people, where would you even begin to look? Now you’ve upset Everett, and the child is still missing. How can he focus on his work? The Lopez Corporation depends on him!” “Can you stop talking? I’m really stressed out right now Jeffrey’s

voice was fem, his tone harsh, "Everett just said the child might be Dorothy's. It scared the hell out of me. I still don't know if it's Heather was silent for a few seconds, then her voice instant

"What did you say? Dorothy?"

"Yes!"

"But you said she was infertile! You saw it yourself at the hospital!"

"That's why I never thought much about it."

if he had thought harder, he might have realized it sooner.

'Where's Everett now?

"Hes at the hospital checking records to see if Dorothy was really pregnant when they divorced."

He frowned in imitation, took a deep breath, and hurried forward to stop a passerby. "Have you seen this child? He's fair-skinned and has big eyes."

The passerby glanced at him and shook his head. "No"

Jeffrey immediately went to ask another person

He regretted so much going to pick up Heather from the hospital! He should ve woken the child up and taken him along.

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At least the child would still be in sight, and no one could've taken him aw Now Jeffrey was really worried that Langston was not taken away by his family, but by other people with ulterior motives.

People with ulterior motives.

Jeffrey suddenly thought of a possibility: Heather!

Who would least like to see Everett having a child? Who would least like to see Everett meet that child? Who was most active in contacting him before the incident?

It was her!

Jeffrey immediately called her, but Heather didn't pick up. She hung up right away

But every time she hung up. Jeffrey would just keep calling until she answered, sounding extremely displeased.

"Jeffrey I'm waiting for a call! Can you wait?"

"Isn't that how you always call me?" Jeffrey had no patience this time, he got straight to the point, "Heather, I'm asking you did you take the child away?"

Heather laughed after hearing this

"What are you talking about? I've been with you all this sime. How could I take the child away?"

“You must have arranged for someone else to do that! You lured me out of the hotel, and then took the opportunity to take the child away”

“Jeffrey if you’re delusional, go to the hospital! Your story is well made up, but does it make sense? You never told me which hotel you were staying in! How could I know in advance?”

Jeffrey sneered. “Do you really take me for a fool? The Lopez Corporation’s software has a location display, and it’s not difficult to track a phone’s location now! You can easily find out if you want to

“So you mean no matter how much I deny it, you’re determined to pin this on me? How are you any different from Everett back then? He didn’t listen to my explanation about not framing Dorothy and now neither are you! Both you and Everett are my friends! How could you not trust me?”

Heather didn’t expect Jeffrey to point the finger at her so quickly

Mostly, she was surprised that Jeffrey cared so much about the child.

As far as she could remember, Jeffrey hated kids. He even near kids at all avoided being

“Yes, because you’re my friend, I’ve helped you hide so many things! You’ve used me so many times that you’ve probably lost count right? But this time, can you do me a favor? Give me the child and don’t harm him! Don’t do something you’ll regret!”

Regret? The thing Heather most regretted now was not killing Dorothy at any cost earlier!

“I don’t know where the child is, so how can I give him to you?”

“You’re beyond help! I’m going to find Everett right now, and let him investigate you!”

As soon as Jeffrey said this, Heather panicked. “Why are you looking for him? He doesn’t trust me in the first place. If you say this, he’ll definitely investigate me!”

“If you’ve done nothing wrong, why are you afraid of being investigated?”

Heather, I’ve given you a chance. Give me the child,

and I won’t tell Everett anything just say I found the child.”

Heather seemed to hesitate, but in the end, she still said, “I didn’t take the child.”

“Alright, then let’s investigate

“Jeffrey! Are you determined to ruin my relationship with Everett? You’re not trying to destroy me because you can’t have me, are you?”

Jeffrey sneered, his tone dripping wi

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"You think I'm going to destroy you now? I hardly recognize you anymore, Heather! You used to be gentle, understanding and gracious. You were a woman who would go through hell and high water for the Lopez Corporation and a woman who would stand firm in court to protect the company's interests. Look at you now!"

"And why do you think that is, Jeffy? If it was for Dorothy snatching Everett away from me I..."

"Oh, so if Dorothy hadn't come along do you think Everett would've fallen for you? Don't make me laugh! I'm not in the mood for pointless chatter. If you won't admit your faults, then I'll go to Everett myself" As he was about to hang up, Heather broke in. "You can't go, Jeffrey! If you do this, I will never forgive you"

Jeffrey frowned, feeling closer to the truth, "What are you so afraid of?"

"Because your going to Everett with all this will only worsen his impression of me You can dig into my life all you want, but don't let Everett dig into this mess

She knew if Everett got involved, things wouldn't be as simple.

Having planned to quietly deal with the child, Heather never expected Jeffrey wouldn't give up! He seemed even more invested than Everett.

"Heather are you really that stubborn? I've told you before hand over the child now and I won't let Everett know about this, I promise! Just spare the child, for my sake. But if you refuse, don't blame me for what happens next"

Caught in a heated argument Heather suddenly solvered. She sobbed on the other end of the line.

"How do you expect me to prove my innocence? I had nothing to do with the child's disappearance. Do you want me dead? Will you only believe me if I'm dead?"

Jeffrey was speechless.

"*Fine! I'll die! You all despise me anyway considering me a burden. I can't live like this anymore, with every scandal and smear landing on my shoulders might as well die, then you won't have to insult me anymore!"

Her plea made Jeffrey doubt.

-Could he have winged her?

"Swear to me you didn't harm the child."

I swear! If Thawe, may never rest in peace Heather swore without hesitation After all, she never believed in these things,

People say God can provide blessings and retributions, but all the times she prayed during her childhood, hoping for a better life, did God hear her?

No! God never blessed her! The public humiliation and the disdainful glances never ceased.

Since blessings were never given, she believed retributions would be the same

“Fine, I believe you for now” Jeffrey sighed, ending the call.

Maybe he was just too desperate, thus making rash decisions.

Although he disapproved of Heather’s actions, he didn’t want to wrong her

After all, she was the only woman he truly loved. The

old Heather was truly dazzling

At the hospital, the director personally welcomed Everett. He dared not show any negligence.

“Mr Lopez welcome. I didn’t know you were turning In-day, my apologies for not being able to greet you properly.”

Everett glanced at the director, too busy for pleasantries.

I need you to pull up all of Dorothy’s medical records, not a single page missing.

“Okay, I’m on it!”

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The hospital director didn’t dare to ask further. He quickly called his subordinates to get the files

There was no talk of privacy now. After all, if he offended Everett, it was hard to say if this hospital would still be around or not.

Everett sat silently in a chair, the air around him so tense that it seemed to solidify. Nobody in the room dared to even breathe.

The silence was finally broken by the ring of a cell phone.

It was a call from Amanda.

Everett had already hung up on her once, but she had called back.

So he answered on the second ring

“Mother.”

“You remember I’m your mother, do you? Why did you hang up on me?”

Amanda accused. “Now you don’t even want me as your mother, is that it?”

Everett’s eyebrows furrowed, and he had a hunch about what was happening. Only Heather could have brought his mother into this.

“Is there something you need, Mom? I’m busy.”

“Busy? Busy looking for a child that might not even be yours?”

“Right.” Everett saw no need to hide. He admitted outright. “If he looks like

me, he might be my son, and I have to find him.”

Amanda was so angry that she wished she could fly home now.

“The Lopez family does not acknowledge bastards! Don’t give me that nonsense. You really want to piss me off, don’t you?”

“There’s no negotiation on this. If he’s mine, I have to take responsibility”

“Then who’s the mother of this child? Apart from Dorothy, who have you been with?”

Everett pursed his lips, silent.

Amanda, smart as she was, quickly realized, “Only Dorothy? So is the child hers?”

“I don’t know. I haven’t figured it out yet.” Everett suddenly denied it.

He was worried that Amanda might be faster than him, and if she did anything against Dorothy, he wouldn’t be able to intervene in time, and things would get worse.

Moreover another person wanting to harm Dorothy was never good news.

“Don’t you remember who you slept with?”

“No, I’m not quite sure, so I need to investigate.”

“You’re being too unfair to Heather! You’ve already been married twice, have a child, and I don’t even know how to face Heather!

She’s still waiting for you!” Amanda was protective of Heather, as if she were her own daughter. “You were reckless, ran off to marry that Dorothy, and then she dumped you, didn’t she? I let Heather get closer to you, but she said she was afraid you’d hate her, and wanted you to calm down before you two talking. But then you suddenly announced you were marrying someone else!”

After saying all these words, Amanda began to cough violently.

Knowing his mother was in poor health, Everett couldn’t argue. He could only try his best not to involve Dorothy in this.

“Mother, you should see a doctor I can handle things here.”

“Your way of handling things is to hurt Heather! I haven’t even digested the news of your sudden manlage, and now you’re telling me -you have an illegitimate child! How am I supposed to ask Heather to marry you now?”

“Mother, I don’t plan on marrying her, I don’t understand why you insist on me being with her!”

Everett thought that it couldn’t be just about liking Heather to force his own son this much.

But Amanda just paused and didn’t say anything just like her!” she fina
Everett couldn’t pick up on that

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It was clear that Amanda was not willing to understand his perspective.

“And what’s wrong with Heather? What is it that you don’t like about her? Look at her She’s beautiful, talented and capable.

What’s not to love?”

“Her character”

“And Dorothy’s character is better, is it? Let’s not forget, she only agreed to marry you for your money! Can you still say she has a good character when she sold herself for cash?” Amanda had done her homework. She knew that Dorothy had agreed to marry Everett to secure funds for her mother’s medical bills.

It all boiled down to money.

“I think Dorothy’s character is good, and that’s all that matters. I don’t need anyone else’s judgement.”

YOU

“Mom, I won’t marry Heather No matter how many times he had to repeat himself, he did not mind doing it again.

“Then I’m not your mother Infuriated, Amanda hung up the phone.

Everett frowned tightly. He knew upsetting his mother would inevitably lead to sleepless nights and hospital visits for her. There was even a risk of losing her.

He didn’t want that. But he also didn’t want to betray his own heart.

As he put down his phone, a doctor rushed over with some documents in his hand.

“We’ve got the results, Mr. Lopez. We’ve got them!”

Heather didn’t know who else to turn to, so she called Amanda

She knew that having Amanda order Everett to marry her wouldn’t work. But at least she could help Heather get through this difficult period.

“Everett has been bewitched! Don’t worry, I’ll handle this!”

“Thank you. I shouldn’t have burdened you with all of this.”

“Nonsense! You’re doing this for Everett!” Amanda paused, then asked in a hushed tone, “Tell me the truth, do you know where the child

After hesitating for a moment, Heather confessed. “Yes. A friend of mine took him. I just want to bring him back home. Amanda,

Im sorry, I just... I’m afraid Everett will leave me

“I’m not blaming you! You did the right thing! If the child stays with you,

Everett will eventually find out. Give him to me, and I handle this.”

“But what if Everett...”

“He won’t! What’s he going to do, investigate me?”

Heather originally intended to get rid of the child to avoid future trouble. But now that Amanda had stepped in, and she trusted her, she felt she could hand over the child.

It was not that she was scared, but she didn’t want her relationship with Everett to worsen. If it were discovered now, she could say that Amanda had forced her to do it.

She would be absolved of all responsibility, and Everett couldn’t blame her.

“Alright, I have someone bring the child to you.”

“Good. As for the child, you don’t need to know anything or get involved.”

“Okay.”

After hanging u

the phone, Heather was about to call the man who had the child, but he called her first

As soon as Heather answered, she could hear the panic in his voice.

“Bad news! The child escaped”

“What?”

I didn’t expect him to be so smart! He cracked the code I set up! He’s gone!”

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In a twist of fate that Heather could’ve never anticipated, the child managed to escape!

“Go after him now!” She shrieked, her voice shrill with panic. Tim telling you, if this gets out, we’re both finished! Everett won’t let us off the hook

They’ve got people out looking came the reply, the man’s voice steady but strained. “But there’s no word yet. I’ll let you know if we find him:

“No, not if, when!” Heather snapped, her tone threatening.

The thought of Everett discovering her plot to kill the child left Heather cold. It would shatter the image she’d worked so hard to build. And if this man was investigated, every past misdeed could be traced, leaving her totally exposed.

That was something she simply couldn’t allow. If necessary, she would make sure this man and the secret disappear from the world together.

Langston was holding his phone, watching the moving figures about 500 meters away from the secret warehouse. He changed the entrance code to ‘dumbo, erasing all data in the system with a casual

swipe of his finger

How dare they try to attack while he's not fully awake yet!

With that done, Langston checked his messages.

Kenneth had sent him countless messages, but he'd missed them all.

Realizing he'd been gone for a few days now, he decided

to put their minds at ease, puckering his lips and dialing Kenneth's number.

"Kenneth, come pick me up! I'm sending you my location."

After ending the call, Langston plopped down on a patch of grass, watching the fools on his tracker scramble around in search of

him, They thought they could find him with infrared detectors. He chuckled to himself, having already blocked their signals.

Feeling playful, he drew a large tiger on his phone and sent it to their infrared detectors

Soon, a frantic cry echoed not far off, "Shit! There's a large animal nearby, possibly a tiger Run!"

Langston snorted in amusement.

"Why are they scared of a tiger?"

He then drew an even larger dinosaur

If Kenneth hadn't arrived soon, those idiots might've thought they'd stumbled into a zoo, with lions, thinos, and flying creatures all appearing on their infrared detectors.

"Langston, over here!" Kenneth called, waving him over.

Langston reluctantly stopped his mischief and sauntered over, "Kenneth"

Once they were safe in the car and back in the city, Kenneth finally turned to look at the mischievous boy in the backseat. "Are you trying to give your mom a heart attack?"

"No."

"Then why did you disappear without telling me? At least let me know so I can prepare!" Kenneth was both angry and worried.

Langston, however looked calm and composed, sitting there like an adult

"I needed to settle a score with my deadbeat dad. Once that was done, I'd contact you"

Kenneth sighed in exasperation, "And how exactly did you plan on 'settling a score with him?'"

That was Everett, the CEO of the Lopez Corporation, not some playground bully.

Langston raised an eyebrow at Kenneth, "Why not? It's just the Lopez Corporation. I went to their office and implanted their computers with my virus."

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When Langston went to the Lopez Corporation to find Everett, he coincidentally found a computer in the security room. This computer was logged into the Lopez Corporation's software. Although it was a lower version, which didn't allow direct communication with the company's top brass, it didn't stop him from implanting a virus.

Kenneth shook his head in disbelief. "You don't actually think it's that easy to breach the Lopez Corporation's network, do you?"

Even though your computer skills are impressive, the Lopez Corporation has gathered top experts from home and abroad and their interception network must have detected you by now.

But Langston just waved his phone in front of Kenneth "Well, I can control their top-tier accounts now! I'll send you an announcement to prove it!"

He thought for a moment, and then typed a message in the software and sent it out.

"Kenneth, go check it out"

Of course, Kenneth didn't believe him, but he spun his car over and checked the Lopez Corporation's official website on his phone. Right now, the headline banner on the website read: Everett is a total jerk and a puppy.

"Are these the 'ull medical records?"

Everett looked at the sparse words on the paper, his brows furrowed deeply.

"Yes, that must be all of them! We have also pulled her mother's case files, but some parts are missing.

"Why are they missing?"

The hospital director hurriedly explained, "At that time, the computer was malfunctioning, so it didn't save the data! We lost all the records from that period."

Everett scanned the words on the paper again. They were just records of a few fevers.

There was no record of Dorothy being pregnant.

But also there was no mention of her being infertile.

This was inconsistent with what Jeffrey and she had been told.

"Find all the doctors who treated Dorothy"

Since the medical records were hidden, he decided to find the doctors who were involved.

"Mr. Lopez, the doctor resigned a year ago, and we can't contact him now. I can give you his information. The hospital director

looked helpless, as he didn't have the same influence as Everett to pry into others' whereabouts. He had no idea where to look for the resigned doctor!

"Bring it." Everett didn't make it difficult for him. He just left this sentence and got up to leave.

Before he had even left, Kevin called

Everett thought it was about the boy, so he answered immediately.

"Did you find him?"

"No.. Mr. Lopez, please check our official website." Kevin's tone was odd, as if he found the matter hard to discuss

Everett furrowed his brows and opened the Lopez Corporation's official website

"Who wrote this?"

"I don't know! It seems like someone has planted a virus in our software.

Many executive accounts have lost control, and the

account that manages the homepage of the website can be logged in at all

That means this person behind the scenes can post

whatever he wants on the official website."

This was shocking news the business world.

Without a doubt, all the other companies must be watching this unfold.

"Shut down the official website, and close all the servers."

"Okay, I do it right away"

After hanging up the phone, Everett saw Jeffrey calling.

However, the first thing Everett asked when he picked up was, "Did you find the child?"

"No. I called to ask about the official website. Who have you pissed off? That child keeps calling you a deadbeat dad, and now

there's a hacker attacking the company's software, posting such words!"

"What did that child call me?"

"Deadbeat dad!"

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Jeffrey pondered a moment. "Could the hacker be your son?"

"So he should be safe for now."

"Why is your focus always different from others, Everett?"

Everett rubbed his forehead. "He's still young. What if someone kidnapped

him? The official website can be shut down, but what

if something happens to him?"

Everett never cared much for how others perceived him, but he didn't want any harm to come to the child.

Jeffrey chuckled from his side of the phone, "Are you starting to worry about your son?"

"Let's find him first and ensure he's safe. Everett hesitated before saying. I'm mainly worried about Heather. She knows about the child, and I can't guarantee she won't have ill intentions."

Jeffrey wanted to say he had the same concerns, but instead just pursed his lips and remained silent.

"She... she wouldn't, would she? Jeffrey had made Heather cry. She truly seemed wronged.

If she was lying her acting was top-notch.

"Without proof, won't accuse anyone. I just have suspicions, and I hope she's innocent."

Otherwise, he knew Amanda would find a way to protect her!

He could handle Heather on his own, but with his mother involved, the situation would be much more complicated.

Eventually, Jeffrey just sighed. "By the way, how did your hospital investigation go? Is Corothy pregnant or infertile?"

"The hospital records have been erased."

"What? Could Corothy have done it?"

"She doesn't have that kind of influence. Everett knew there was only one person capable of this and who would relish in doing so.

That was Amanda.

Yet, from his mother's reaction, it didn't seem like she knew about Dorothy's pregnancy. Rather, she wanted to erase something else and ended up erasing Dorothy's records by mistake.

Or perhaps, Dorothy didn't use her own ID for treatment.

He had also looked into the people around Dorothy, including Karen, but found nothing. Karen's records were a blank slate.

Suddenly, Everett asked Jeffrey in a serious tone, "Do you know the details of Dorothy's mother's death?"

It took Jeffrey a while to stutter out, "How would I know? I'm not close with Dorothy!"

"All the records related to Dorothy's mother's death are also gone. The hospital records seem to have been entirely wiped out after a certain date."

Dorothy's records were likely accidentally deleted, as her previous records were intact, even those regarding common colds and prescriptions.

"Ah... well, I don't know the

then! Could be a system glitch at
a system glitch at the hospi
hospital”

Everett didn't pursue further, But this had already planted a seed of doubt in
his mind.

“Langston, you need to restore this now!” Kenneth truly believed Langston's
ability now, but he was even more afraid!

Because what Longston did was too conspicuous.

What if Everett found out?

“Why?” Langston knew what Kenneth was worried about and showed him his
IP address, “Don't worry, he won't be able to trace
anything! Even I don't know where my current IP address is. Kenneth, should
bring down the Lopez Corporation?”

Chapter 369

Kenneth was taken aback by Langston's words. It took him a while to regain
his composure.

“Oh, my little rascal, don't go stirring up trouble Your mom is anxiously waiting
for you, so let's go home and see her first.”

At the mention of his mother Langston's face immediately turned sour

“I'm doing this to make my mom happy! They mistreated my mom, so I want
to avenge her”

“As long as you're by your mom's side, shell be happy! You're too young to
understand this now, but if you get caught, they'll

take you away from her Kenneth had no choice but to believe this little rascal
now, especially after he had hacked into the Lopez

Corporation's official website. But he also knew that the Lopez Corporation
wouldn't fold that easily

Langston lowered his head, not saying a word, his little fingers fiddling around
as he frowned,

“The Lopez Corporation has no signs of tax evasion Their finances are clear,
so we can't target them from this angle”

Kenneth was astonished. “You understand all that?”

“I just simply skimmed through some knowledge in that area, not too deep into
it” Langston looked up, his eyes identical to

Everetts, blinking innocently as if to suggest that this was as straightforward
as 1+1 equals 2

“But since there's nothing fishy about their finances, I'll look into their project
viciations. Every company has some irregularities in
their projects, and the Lopez Corporation must have some tou.”

Kenneth could only marvel at Everett's potent genes.

He had such an intelligent child!

“Kenneth,” Langston’s demeanor suddenly shifted from assertive and determined to a pitiful look “when we see my mam, will she blame me?”

Kenneth could only laugh helplessly

After all, Langston was still a child, afraid of his mom’s scolding

“No, she might lecture you, but she won’t genuinely blame you. She’s just terrified of losing you”

Langston was still a child after all, unable to comprehend the complexities of an adult’s emotions.

she still love me then?”

“Of course! She will always, always love you and Abigail. She would give her life for you guys”

“That’s great! As long as mom loves me, I don’t mind if she scolds me

Langston squinted his eyes and giggled, then held up his phone. “Hahaha, look, the Lopez Corporation’s official website is shut down! They must have found out

“How couldn’t they find out after all that?”

1. p. my virus

“It doesn’t matter. Unless they rebuild the app. will stay there. It definitely won’t be removed.

Who would’ve thought that Everett had such a brilliant child? Is this a blessing or a curse?

Dorothy let every moment was excruciating.

Even though Kenneth had teased her saying he had picked up Langston, unless he was standing right in front of her, she couldn’t relax!

Seeing her anxiety, Karen came over to comfort her, “Don’t worry, my brother already said he’s bringing Langston home. Do you think someone will kidnap him on the way?”

“I’m just worried! The people from the Lopez Corporation are scattered all over Eldorado City. Who knows if Langston and Kenneth will be stopped at some corner. Standing on Eldorado City’s land, Dorothy couldn’t relax for a moment.

—

It felt like sitting on pins and needles.

“They won’t! Everett isn’t even sure if he’s his son yet, so he probably won’t launch a full-scale search.”

“I hope so.”

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But Dorothy had an unsettling feeling.

After this incident, she knew that Everett would not rest until he got to the bottom of it that was just the way he was

In the midst of their conversation, Kenneth's car pulled up outside

"Here they are They're back!" Karen called out hurriedly

Dorothy, without even putting on her slippers, ran downstairs.

The moment she saw Langston's little face, she couldn't hold her tears anymore

"Langston you almost gave me a heart attack! Langston

"Mommy, I'm sorry" Langston clearly panicked at the sight of Dorothy's tears.

"It was my fault. I shouldn't have run off like that?"

"No, no...it's me. I haven't been giving you enough love. It's my fault!"

She had been so focused on earning more money, planning when to leave home and when to be with her children, without

considering whether they could accept such arrangements!

Dorothy felt horribly guilty.

Seeing their reunion, Karen couldn't help but shed a few tears as well.

Kenneth walked over and patted her shoulder. "Let's go in

"Alright."

Back at home, Abigail had just opened her eyes to find her big brother standing in front of her

She was astonished!

"Langston?"

"What's with that face? It's really me." Langston walked over and, despite his verbal complaints, sat down beside his little sister.

Abigail, ever the enthusiastic one, hugged her brother and began kissing him all over making Langston squirm in embarrassment.

Watching the two of them laughing and playing together, Dorothy felt a sense of relief and completeness.

She made up her mind then and there that she would never separate from her children again.

Kenneth glanced at Dorothy and quietly pulled her aside "Uh Dorothy, it seems like Langston has stirred up some trouble!"

He recounted the incident to Dorothy, watching as her face gradually turned into a look of shock.

"What? He hacked into the Lopez Corporation's software?"

"Yes..."

"Does Everett know it was him?"

“Langston said he wouldn’t be able to trace it, but I’m not really familiar with cyber stuff”

Dorothy rubbed her forehead, feeling a headache coming on. She glanced at Langston, who was still playing with Abigail, and spoke up. “I’m taking them and leaving Eldoria City right away, in case the news gets out!”

After all, this was Everett’s territory. It was fraught with danger, and she didn’t feel safe at all.

“I’ll go with you” Kenneth had come back to find Langston. If they were leaving, there was no need for him to stay in Eldoria City.

Dorothy looked at him, pursing her lips. “Kenneth, the kids are with me. They’ll be fine! You must be busy with work back home.

You should go back.”

“It’s okay” can take a leave.”

1

“But this favor is too huge. I feel suffocated Dorothy had to voice her thoughts.

“I consider you and Karen family, but when it comes to you and there’s no chance for anything more. So please, stop letting your time trickle away on me.”

“it’s my choice! You’ve rejected me many times. I know that you’ve made your stance very clear. It’s all voluntary on my part. I

have no complaints, nor will force you to be with me or owe me anything”

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Chapter 371

Dorothy’s worst fear was Kenneth’s affectionate persistence. As a result, she insisted on covering all of Langston’s expenses abroad, including a monthly stipend for Kenneth.

If he didn’t agree to this, she wouldn’t allow Kenneth to take care of Langston. Yet, despite all this, she still felt she was holding Kenneth back!

“Kenneth, you need to live your own life; you can’t keep revolving around me.”

Karen, who had overheard the conversation, sighed and walked over,

“Dorothy, let him take care of it. We all know what kind of person he is! Even his parents can’t convince him.”

“Yeah, I feel fulfilled taking care of Langston; it’s kind of my joy! If you don’t let me be with him, I’ll feel like I’ve lost my purpose in life.” Kenneth didn’t know how to express himself.

He had known for years that he and Dorothy would never be together. But sometimes, giving became a habit, and over the years, he had grown accustomed to treating Langston as his own child. Kenneth had even thought that if he had Langston, he wouldn't need his own child.

"Kenneth, you're the only child your parents have. If not for your sake, think about them! What will they do?"

Kenneth had thought about it, but he couldn't convince himself to accept any other woman.

"Forget it, Dorothy, let my brother come with us!"

Dorothy glanced at Karen, "But..."

"I'll talk to him in private." Karen patted her shoulder, indicating that she shouldn't waste time on this and should leave Eldorria

City as soon as possible.

Right now, avoiding Everett was paramount.

"Alright." Dorothy knew that this was not something that could be resolved in a short time, and that only he could come to terms with it.

As Dorothy began to pack, Karen played with the two children.

It was only when it started to get dark that Kenneth drove over in a borrowed car.

"We can go now. The car belongs to a friend of mine, and no one should be able to trace it!"

"Okay." Holding a sleeping Abigail and accompanied by Langston, Dorothy hurriedly got into the car.

Once she confirmed the house was empty, Karen sat in the passenger seat. From the moment he got into the car, Langston had been focusing on his phone.

No one could understand what he was looking at, but he seemed to be engrossed in a bunch of data.

"Langston, what are you looking at?" Dorothy couldn't help but ask.

"It's data from the Lopez Corporation! Mommy, look, this is the project department's recent expenditure, and here's the ROI."

Dorothy only then took a closer look at the numbers on the screen.

"Why are you looking at this, Langston?"

"I want to find a weakness in the Lopez Corporation! I can't believe they don't have a single vulnerability."

Langston had researched countless companies before this, always finding something unusual. He didn't believe that the Lopez Corporation was completely invincible.

“Langston, don’t push against the Lopez Corporation.”
“But they bullied you! Mommy, I need to protect you!”
Just as Dorothy was about to respond, her phone rang.
She looked down.
That number looked familiar.

Chapter 372

Yep, that was Everett’s phone number!
No way in hell would Dorothy ever forget the number.
How did he get her number? And why was he calling her?
“Dorothy, why aren’t you picking up?” Karen, who was sitting in the passenger seat, turned around to see her. Noticing something off, she asked, “You look pale. Who’s calling?”
“It’s Everett...”
Kenneth, who was driving, slammed on the brakes.
“What?! Who?”
“Everett. As she spoke, the phone stopped ringing, the screen showing a missed call.
Kenneth glanced at Dorothy from the rear-view mirror, a tense atmosphere spreading in the car.
“Did he find out something?”
Karen reached out to take the phone. “Give it to me, I’ll answer it. Let’s see what he wants. I can pretend I don’t know who he is.
After all, I don’t know his number and your phone is registered under my name. It’s normal for me to take the call.”
But Dorothy just stared at the screen, not responding.
Until Abigail and Langston, realizing that something was wrong with their mom, started tugging at her clothes.
“Mommy, what’s wrong?” Abigail blinked.
Langston was a bit more astute. After a moment’s thought, he pulled out his own phone. “Mommy, is that guy bullying you again?
I’ll get back at him right now!”
“No.” Dorothy finally spoke. “No, let me calm down for a bit.”
She needed to know why Everett was calling her, at least get a sense of how far his suspicions or investigations had gone.

*Kenneth, you take the kids and go ahead.”
“No way! I can’t leave you alone!” The thought of the people who had once harmed Dorothy’s mother made Kenneth unwilling to leave Dorothy alone in Eldorria City.
If they could strike once, they could strike again!

“I’ll be fine, and I’ll join you guys soon!”

After saying this, Dorothy patted her son and daughter on their shoulders, then got out of the car.

As Kenneth was about to follow her, Karen held him back.

“Bro! It’s perfectly normal for Everett to be suspicious when Langston suddenly appears in the public eye. He might just be routinely checking to see which of the women he’s been with gave birth to his son! If Dorothy refuses to take the call and hides, his suspicions will only grow,”

Kenneth furrowed his brow, his handsome face stern. “He has the nerve to question Dorothy! If it weren’t for him, Dorothy’s mother wouldn’t have died!”

“What’s the use of saying these things now?” Karen moved to the back seat, hugging the two children. “All we need to do is protect these two cubs. That’s the best way we can help Dorothy. Let her handle the rest. If she needs us, she’ll ask.”

“Karen, I...”

“I know what you’re thinking, but Dorothy made clear that she doesn’t want your help. You need to know your limits.”

Kenneth was silent for a long while before starting the car again.

“Yeah, I should know my limits.”

Summer evenings were supposed to be cool and pleasant, but the wind was unusually strong tonight.

Dorothy pulled her coat tighter around her, found a bench under a bus stop and sat down.

Looking at the missed call on her phone screen, she took several deep breaths. Her fingertips were slightly trembling as she dialed back.

Chapter 373

The ringing of the phone at this moment sounded piercingly clear, each note like a hammer striking Dorothy’s heart.

In just a few seconds, she had thought about hanging up and blocking the call multiple times, not wanting to deal with anything related to Everett. Yet, for the sake of shielding her children, she couldn’t evade.

If you’re not upfront about some things, suspicions naturally arise.

When the dialing status on her screen turned into a string of timing digits, she finally heard that familiar voice, laced with a hint of

strangeness.

He didn't say hello, he just said, "Dorothy."

Dorothy felt her heartbeat quicken. The discomfort made her knit her brows.

Yet, she had to keep her voice steady and casual.

"Hi, did you just call me? Sorry, I missed it. Who is this?"

Everett didn't reply immediately, instead he chuckled first. "I can't believe you don't recognize my voice."

His tone was always so certain, so precise.

It wasn't a question, nor was it said in jest, but a statement.

Dorothy didn't know how to respond for a moment.

Because in front of Everett, it felt like all her secrets and everything were laid bare.

Everett didn't wait for her for too long. Seeing that she remained silent, he directly said, "I want to meet you, Dorothy."

"But I don't think I have anything to say to you, so I'll pass."

"I went to the hospital and checked your medical records."

Hearing this, Dorothy froze for a moment; her heartbeat seemed to stop!

She knew if Everett had gone to the hospital, it must be due to the seeds of trouble sown by Jeffrey during their hospital encounter.

Her excuse at the time was indeed not clever; it can even be said to be quite lame! She was just too anxious, and couldn't come up with a better explanation.

If it hadn't been for Langston's sudden appearance, Dorothy felt she might have fooled Jeffrey. But now that Everett had dug it up, it definitely meant Jeffrey had sensed something was off..

"And then?" Dorothy tried to keep her voice as calm as possible, without any fluctuation.

But in reality, she had to cover her chest to calm herself.

It felt like she had been punched there several times, and it was stifling.

"Then, your records were deleted."

Dorothy breathed a sigh of relief. Looks like Heather did quite a clean job, even this was taken care of.

"Your parents want me to completely disappear from your life, so deleting my records is only normal. What are you trying to say?"

"The kid." Everett didn't beat around the bush. "Did you have a boy, Dorothy?"

"I have no idea what you're talking about."

"A boy who looks very much like me came to the Lopez Corporation looking for me, claiming that I'm his father."

“Oh? Congratulations then, Mr. Lopez, you’re a father.” Dorothy chuckled lightly, “But why would you tell me this? As your ex–wife, I’ve long since cut ties with you.”

“Dorothy, you know what I want to ask!”

“I don’t know!” Dorothy shot back. “Mr. Lopez, don’t you think you’re being quite unseemly, hounding me like this? I made things clear during our divorce, and now you’re coming to me with a son out of nowhere. Can I take it that you’re just looking for an excuse to talk to me?”

There was a long silence on Everett’s end.

When he spoke again, his tone was cold once more, “As long as the child isn’t yours, that’s fine. There’s nothing else.”

Chapter 374

And then he abruptly ended the call, as if he was terrified of hearing any more harsh words from Dorothy.

But wasn’t the one who uttered harsh words also suffering?

Dorothy clenched her phone and closed her eyes, only to find that tears had unconsciously trickled down from the corners of her eyes.

She didn’t even know when she had started crying.

The wind at the street corner still blew fiercely. The teardrops either fell on the back of her hand or on the hem of her clothes.

Dorothy didn’t dare to cry out loud.

Hurting Everett was the last thing she wanted to do.

But she had no other choice.

To protect her children from harm, to uncover the truth, she had to lie low and make sacrifices.

When Jeffrey received a call from Everett, he was still searching for the kid.

He genuinely liked that child!

“Hello?”

“Let’s get a drink.”

Jeffrey was taken aback, “Did I hear you right? You said, let’s get a drink?!”

“You coming or not?”

“Sure!”

Without a second thought, he knew that his buddy must have been hurt by Dorothy again! In all the years he’d known him, only matters concerning Dorothy could cause him such emotional turmoil.

After heaving a sigh, he rushed to the bar after handling his affairs.

Because Everett wasn't fond of crowded places, he had reserved the entire bar for the night. The music was still playing, the lights were still on. The drinks were still there, but aside from him sitting on the couch, there was no one else.

Jeffrey strode over and rolled his eyes as he sat down.

"Buddy, you seem to have a misunderstanding about drowning your sorrows in alcohol. You've cleared out all the girls in the bar, then where's the fun in that?"

Everett looked at him and poured him a full glass of whiskey with his slender fingers.

"Drink."

"I can drink, but let me call a few girls over. It's no fun just the two of us."

Jeffrey also hoped that Everett could move on from the past.

Even if he didn't end up with Heather, there were other women, right?

The world wasn't just Dorothy and Heather!

He felt that Everett was just shutting himself out, unwilling to interact with others.

"No." Everett refused with a frown, "They're annoying."

"So if we call Dorothy, it won't be annoying, right?" Jeffrey said, and immediately wished he could slap himself.

Sometimes his brain couldn't keep up with his mouth; he spoke before he thought!

Sure enough, Jeffrey saw the light in Everett's eyes quickly darken.

He scrambled to smooth things over, but in the end, all he could do was sigh,

"Everett, you really should let go! It's over between

you two." Everett picked up the bottle of whiskey on the table, tilted his head back and drained it in one gulp.

"I thought that child was hers."

"I told you before that it's not hers! But you wouldn't believe me." Jeffrey also downed his drink, "You said before, besides

Dorothy, you didn't have any other women, right? So could it be possible, that someone stole your..."

Everett looked up, frowning, "What?"

"Come on! You haven't been with a woman for so many years, and you've never taken care of yourself? I mean masturbation."

Everett was left speechless.

'Of course you have! What if someone with intentions stole your sperm? I've seen cases like this on the news.' After saying this, he flipped out his phone and showed Everett.

Everett wasn't in the mood to look at that.
But it was true, he 'had taken care of himself.
A man always has those needs, but he could only do it while thinking about Dorothy.

Chapter 375

"After you were done, you tossed it into the trash, and someone could've picked it up the next day. It's a possibility!"

Everett didn't want to entertain that thought at all.

Seeing him just downing his drink, Jeffrey sighed, "Other than that, there's no other explanation! It takes two to tango, and they must've gotten a hold of your... you know. You swear that Dorothy was your only woman. The kid couldn't have just popped out of thin air, right?"

"Drink." Everett was already annoyed and didn't want to keep hearing him ramble on.

Jeffrey rolled his eyes, "Hold off on the drinking. Did your people find any lead on the kid?"

"Nothing. They're still searching."

"No news on my end either. Should we broaden the search? The kid might not be in Eldorria City anymore."

"I've already expanded the search." He was even more eager to find the child. Then proceed with a paternity test. Everything would be clear then, no more guessing around.

Jeffrey glanced at the bottles of booze on the table, both amused and annoyed.

His severe OCD had him lining up the bottles neatly in a row. He had already chugged down seven or eight of them.

"Sure you don't want me to call over some ladies? Get your eyes on someone else!" He scrolled through several photos of gorgeous women on his phone.

But Everett didn't even glance up.

Jeffrey couldn't help but roll his eyes. "You're even harder to persuade than Lane! You're as stubborn as a mule."

When he mentioned Lane, Everett's hand noticeably stilled.

Jeffrey caught that immediately!

"Still bothered by someone pursuing Dorothy? Don't tell me you see Lane as a rival! He's just after your ex-wife, ex!"

"Shut up."

Everett poured himself another drink, clearly not wanting to listen.

Jeffrey sighed, "I'd love to snap a photo of you and show people how heartbroken the CEO of the Lopez Corporation could be over a woman."

*Still no sign of him, and my guys even got played by him!"

Hearing this, Heather wanted to strangle the man on the spot.

Incompetent and full of excuses.

"He's just a kid! And you guys can't find him?"

"This kid is a genius, managed to crack codes and hide his tracks so we couldn't detect him!" The man was also speechless. If this situation blew up, he knew he'd be dealing with Everett. "You're talking as if I won't be implicated!"

"I told you ages ago to off him, but you hesitated. Now look at the mess we're in! If you had just finished him off, we'd only have to worry about where to bury him!"

Heather was as restless as a cat on a hot tin roof.

Knowing that Everett returned to Eldorria City, she didn't dare to show her face or make her presence known.

Currently, she had no idea how the situation would unfold, so she had to make sure that her deeds wouldn't be exposed.

"That's Everett's son! You wanted me to kill him? Why didn't you do it yourself? You're just thinking of using me as a scapegoat if things go south!" He wasn't a fool. What's the point of making money if he didn't live to spend it?

Heather rubbed her temples, "I don't have time to argue with you. Keep searching. I'll think of another plan!"

After hanging up, she hesitated for a long time before deciding to tell Amanda about the situation. The only person who could help her right now was Amanda.

"How did the kid go missing?"

"Amanda, I never intended to hold him captive. After all, he's Everett's son, and I didn't have the heart to keep a constant watch on him, so he escaped!"

"You're too soft! We, the Lopez family, don't recognize a child of unknown origin."

Chapter 376

Heather figned worry, sighing heavily as she tried to consince Amanda, "Amanda, no matter heart just to take my side! I don't want to cause any suite between you and your son because of ima he's Everett's child. You can break Everell's

“But look at him! Fast, he was involved with Dorphy, and now he’s married to God knows who, without even telling me! Now to top hat off, a child has shown up claiming to be his Amanda’s fury grew with each word, causing the attending doctor to quickly calm her down

“Amanda, your health is the most important thing! I’m not upset, as long as can be by Everett’s side in the end. Even if...even if I never have proper title, I would be content”

“No, Love you the ice of the Lopez family’s young lady I must give it to you As for the child don’t worry about anything. If Everett ever blames you just push it all onto me and say I forced you to do it!”

This was exactly what Heather wanted to hear She was genuinely worried about Amanda’s well being. Currently, Heather had a place in the Lopez family thanks to Everett’s parents. If they were done, it would be a different story

Backed by Amanda, Heather could proceed as nothing happened.

After all even if Everett found out, she could just say that his mother forced her to do it. His mother admitted it, so they couldn’t blame her, right?

However, she had to put on a good front

“Amanda I’m really afraid he will be angry with you. Maybe I should sell him the truth ”

“No! He’s been angry with me since I stopped him from being with Dorothy What more could he do to me? But if you tell the truth, wouldn’t

Amanda still believe that her son was just too young and indecisive to realize others worth yet. But given time, he would understand

” handia everything hack you up and keep those little vaens at bay! They dare to dream of becoming my daughter–n–law Dream on.”

“Thank you in advance, Amanda!”

That night Everett got uncharacteristically blackout drunk.

If it weren’t for Kevin’s timely arrival, he and Jeffrey would probably have had to sleep in the bar.

But that would be the worst thing. They had rented the place for the night, after all

When Kevin arrived he called Jeffrey’s assistant to take him home Kevin then helped Mr. Lopez into the car

Drunk Everett was unusually quiet the

The Lack seat, staring out the window.open

ering and closing his eyes periodically.

Kevin watched him carefully through the rear view mirror, ready to rush him to the hospital if necessary.

Since Everett was silent, Kevin, as his secretary, knew his boss was upset. No words of comfort would help, so he decided to stay

silent and let Everett work through his feelings

Sometimes, too much advice can be overwhelming

He used to console himself, but the moment he heard about Dorothy, he couldn't help but chase her

They didn't stop until they reached Bay Residence.

Kevin got out of the car and opened the back door. Everett managed to step out of the car and walk with him to the front door.

Standing at the entrance, Kevin heard Mr. Lopez heave a small sigh, his voice barely audible.

Chapter 377

"Dear Dorothy, I can't help but reminisce about every minute we spent in this house."

Those words, if not for the courage of liquor, he might never utter.

He had to admit, in this battle with Dorothy, he had lost, lost utterly and entirely with no hope of standing again.

Kevin felt his complex emotions in every word.

The kind of desolation, the kind of helplessness really tugged at one's heartstrings!

"Mr. Lopez, stop thinking about it"

"Okay, I won't think about it anymore." Everett obediently nodded, a bitter smile curling up on his thin lips. "I won't think about it anymore."

Kevin let out a sigh. "Let's go back to rest. You're drunk, and we have work tomorrow"

"Okay"

"What's your door code? I'll unlock it for you, then you can change it tomorrow"

He could see from Mr. Lopez's current state that he was in no condition to remember the code.

Everett, tall and wavering, said. "The password is the day we first shared a desk – August 25th, 0825"

Kevin didn't know whether to say that Mr. Lopez was too infatuated or too obstinate.

After unlocking the door successfully, he turned to help Everett, only to find him already sitting on the steps of the villa.

His shadow, elongated by the moonlight, seemed even more desolate and

lonely

“Mr. Lopez...”

“Kevin, I have a thought”

“Go ahead”

“If I threatened Dorothy with my life, would she come back to me?”

“Im not sure. I don't know how Ms Sanchez would react to your idea”

“What if I did everything in my power to keep her by my side?” After saying this, Exerett laughed at himself, “I don't want to be a gentleman anymore, I just want her”

Being a gentleman was too tiring he didnt want to be moral gentleman anymore, and he didn't care if Dorothy loved him or not.

He was really losing control, he just wanted to get Dorothy back

Meanwhile, late into the night

Dorothy remained seated on the bench at the bus stop, unmoving

As if saying those words had taken all her strength so she couldn't take another step

She knew Everett would be devastated.

She knew her words were like daggers to his heart

But they were divorced, she was carrying the vengeance for her mother, and he had just announced his engagement. She

couldnt give him any hope

Her phone rang again and again. Finally, when it was nearly out of battery, Dorothy answered.

The voice on the other end was frantic, Dorothy, why haven't you been answering your phone? I'm worried about your

“Kenneth, I'm okay”

“Did Everett say something to you? Did he find out anything?”

“No, I said a lot of harsh words to him, then he hung up. He probably didn't suspect anything”

Kenneth sighed, “You are regretting the harsh words, aren't you? Dorothy, I want you to be happy. I believe your mom would want the same. So why dont you just

“Theres no such option, Kenneth. I can't ask him to send his parents to prison for the murder, for my saku

“Alright, let's not think about it anymore. Abigail and Langston is waiting for you”

Dorothy wiped her tears, “Okay Tinight not be able to go back tonight, I'll go back tomorrow!!

“Silly girl, you think I’d really leave you alone in Eldoma City? Kenneth laughed, “Dorothy, look to your night.”

Chapter 378

Dorothy instinctively glanced in the direction he pointed

Sure enough, Kenneth stood not far away phone in hand, smiling at her. “Over here”

Seeing Kenneths figure, Dorothy’s heart it would be able to say she was rible emotions.

but this kind of emotion felt more like familial affection, unrelated to romance

Many times. Dorothy had thought if she had met Everett first, but had been paired up with Kenneth through Karens

matchmaking, she’d most likely be

these assumptions were based

the condition that Everett didnt exist.

Dorothy stood up slowly walking towards him, “Kenneth, why havent you left?

I just couldn’t bear the thought of you being alone in Eldoma City, so I had my friend take Karen and the kids and leave first! You

don’t have to worry,

who is arving them is an old classmate of mine they be safe and he wont betray us.”

Dorothy wasn’t concerned about that, but

“You just stood here waiting?”

I stayed primarily to be w you” Kenneth spoke without a hint of complaint, his voice gentle and warm, “Are you done now? Let’s

go.”

Dorothy nodded, following Kenne

The wind was getting stronger, and rain seemed imminent, specially in the summer, when rain came without notice.

“Shall we find a place to stay first and continue our journey tomorrow morning?” Dorothy suggested.

Kenneth paused, then turned around smiling, “Sounds good! You don’t seem to be in the best mood today, it would be perfect to

find a hotel take a nice bath get a good sleep, and then we can hit the road when you wake up naturally! And don’t worry about

the kids, they love Karen and will be obedient.”

Dorothy merely nodded, managing a forced smile

From her sudden urge to leave to her change of heart to wait till tomorrow, Kenneth could probably guess what was going on.

But he also felt he had no right to say anything
And more importantly, truth be told, he genuinely hoped Dorothy would be
happy. Nothing else mattered.

Kenneth led Dorothy to a high-end hotel, then booked two adjacent rooms
This hotel has very comfortable beds, I've stayed here before on business
trips. Rest well, and just give me a shout when you're
ready to leave tomorrow."

Dorothy nodded. "Thank you"

"No need for thanks! Now off you go

Kenneth watched Dorothy enter her room, then entered his and stood by the
door

Sure enough, after a few minutes, he heard the neighboring door open.

It must've been Dorothy leaving again

Kenneth's thin lips twitched into a bitter smile.

Dorothy had gone to find Everest.

More accurately, she went to visit Bay Residence.

That place held all their cherished memories, and was where she first felt truly
valued and treasured.

Growing up, her mother loved her, but her love was always extreme, more
about control! She never considered whether her
daughter could handle it, only wanting to prevent her from going down the
same path she did.

Karen loved her, but that was a friendship. Karen had her own family to love
her own life, her social circle, and wouldn't prioritize
her best friend above all else.

Only Everett, he truly took the time to get to know her and cared for her with
extreme caution, afraid of any slight oversight

Chapter 379

And Everett wasn't like the others, the kind of suitor that had to make a big,
public spectacle of things, the kind that only
succeeded in making her look like a fool

He was the type to put her feelings first, to consider how she felt, and then
decide how to proceed.

His love was solid, subtle, but omnipresent.

Dorothy thought, perhaps many girls never experienced such pure love in
their entire lives.

And yet, she, a woman who had spent her life in the mud, had once
possessed it wholly

Once more, Dorothy found herself standing underneath the towering structure

of Bay Residence, gazing up at the lit living room windows.

He was probably working, right?

At this time, as a CFO, he must have a slew of international meetings to attend.

Many people saw Everett as a golden boy born with a silver spoon, but only those who really knew him understood that his hard work was beyond ordinary measures.

He had an insatiable desire to be hands-on with everything in the company never shirking his responsibilities just because of his title.

This was why he was able to maintain a strong foothold in the business world with the Lopez Corporation, not just because of good luck, but because he was truly working hard.

Dorothy stood there, lost in thought, until raindrops began to fall on her. It was raining.

She knew the rain was coming, but she also knew that once she left Eldornia City, she would likely never return, so she came to revisit this place that held her most cherished memories.

As time ticked away the rain grew heavier.

Suddenly the living room lights went off.

Dorothy assumed he had gone to bed, so she dared to step out from the shelter of the trees and stand in front of the door.

But the next moment, caught off guard, the door swung open!

Dorothy turned to run, but the other side spoke first.

“Ms. Sanchez?!”

She had been caught.

Seeing her freeze, Kevin quickly closed the distance between them, “It really is you!”

But his facial expression quickly turned serious and displeased, “What are you doing here?”

“Just passing by Dorothy couldn’t think of a better excuse on the spot.

Kevin laughed, “Passing by Bay Residence? That’s a tricky path to take.

Where are you going?”

Caught in her lie, Dorothy had no choice but to listen.

“Ms. Sanchez, I really can’t understand you! You were the one who was so ruthless. Our CEO has tried multiple times to reconcile, lowering himself to the dust, and you wouldn’t budge an inch. Now, what are you doing here? Admiring your masterpiece?”

“Kevin Dorothy felt no unger at his scolding, because she knew how protective Kevin was of Everett, and from his perspective, she had indeed been too harsh 1 have my reasons.”

“Turasons? What cant Mr. Lopez help you solve?! Kevin had considered that Dorothy might have had a compelling reason to leave Mr Lopez, but what could that possibly be?

The Lopez Corporation was a powerhouse that held sway over many areas, and Mr. Lopez was always resolute, never backing down. What problem couldn't they overcome together?

Dorothy looked down her lips twitching, “Can he kill his mother for me?”

Kewn was dumblunded

“Kevin, you really care about him, don't tell him about our conversation today, or that I was here!

Chapter 380

Kevin just watched her as if trying to discem the truth in her words.

But the fact that she had shown up today meant she still cared about Everett.

Moreover, from their past interactions, Kevin beleved she wasn't heartless.

“So, you're suggesting that Mr. Lopez's mother has been..!

“Kevin, without evidence, I can't say anything, and you shouldn't ask further!

After I leave Eldornia City early tomorrow, I'll be

leaving the country and never coming back. You don't have to worry about me causing any more trouble. Whether you believe it or not, all I want is for him to be happy”

Considering how eamest Everett was about love, he deserved a full fledged relationship and happiness

After saying that. Dorothy turned to leave

Watching her retreating figure, Kevin suddenly shouted ‘Ms. Sanchez

Dorothy paused and tumed around, asking “What's wrong?”

Kevin jogged to catch up with her, “Mr. Lopez got crunk today. I've been taking care of him.”

“He was drinking?”

“Yes, I've never seen Mr. Lopez so drunk that he couldnt even stand up straight.”

Upon hearing that he was drunk, Dorothy had only one thought in her mind.

“Kevin, I..”

“The door code is C225, off you go. I may not know what's going on between you two, but I still believe you're not a bad person.

Perhaps you're just in a dilemma,”

Kevin could see the love in Dorothy's eyes, which was something she couldn't

fake

If they couldn't be together, then these fleeting moments of companionship were valuable for them

Dorothy reddened her eyes instantly. She didn't want to cry in front of others, so she quickly wiped her tears and said. "Thank you! ... ust take a prek, I wert let him know"

"Ah, I'm not worried about him finding out. I'm worried that when he wakes up from this dream he be even more upset" Kevin sched, then turned back to his car Ms Sanchez, Mr. Lopez truly loves you. As a fellow man, I can't promise Id love someone as passionately as he does"

"I know"

She knew it al

That's why it was so painful

Watching Kevin's car leave. Dorothy slowly made her way to the door of Bay Residence.

With every press of the door code, her tears fell uncontrollably.

This must be her last time entering his world

Dorothy didn't dare make a sound, so she tiptoed in barefoot.

The house was the same as before, clean and neat with a simple style.

Carefully making her way to Everett's bedroom, she opened the door and saw a pair of black slippers on the floor.

The man on the bed was asleep, but his eyebrows were knitted together and his lips were tightly pursed. It seemed this dream was not a pleasant one.

Dorothy walked over, softly touched his forehead, stroked his hair

"I'm sorry, I shouldn't have said those harsh words. I'm sorry"

As if hearing someone speak, Everett stirred turning from lying flat on his back to his ride.

His silk pajamas sipped from his shoulder, revealing a patch of skin.

Dorothy instinctively locked over. The area that used to be marked with numbers had now healed and showed no sign of a tatton, but next to it there were a few barely noticeable bite marks.

They must have been there for some time, but sill visble. They were deep bites that had taken a while to fade.

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Chapter 381

At the sight of those bite marks, Dorothy felt a pang of jealousy and envy for the first time in her life. As someone who had sex before, she knew exactly what they represented And it must have been quite an intense fing.

Her heart seemed to be opped open, with the wind rushing in, leaving her momentarily dumbstruck.

As reason came to her mind. she jerked her hand back out of the blue, quickly distancing herself from Everett's bed.

How could she forget that he was a manied man! It was perfectly normal to sleep with his wife wasn't it?

Even if he hadn't let go of her, could she cross that boundary?

What was she doing now? Intruding into another mamed husband's house, touching another woman's husband!

Dorothy quickly timed to leave, but suddenly heard Everett stir behind her, whispering her name saltly

'Dorothy...'

He was calling her,

But Dorothy couldn't stay any longer. She made a hasty exit from the Bay Residence, fleeing like a fugitive.

On the way back to her hotel she couldn't stop herself from thinking about the bite marks on Everett's shoulder.

She seemed to be choked almost feeling impossible to breathe.

Her heart was in such pain that she had to gasp fer air just to stay alive!

But he got rid of the tattoo and had a new lover by his side. Wasn't that what she wanted?

She told him to forget her and move on, didnt she?

She had nought to feel this pain now!

Dorothy didn't even know how she managed to return to the hotel, walking like a zombie.

Kenneth who had been up all night heard her footsteps and immediately opened the door, only to find her in this disheveled state.

"Dorothy, what happened to you?"

Dorothy lifted her head whose tear-stained eyes stunned Kenneth.

"Kenneth, he...he's moved on."

"What did you see?" Kenneth quickly went over to steady her shaking body

"He's moved on, and I should be happy for him, right?"

Kenneth pressed his lips together, "What exactly did you see?"

"Im just asking you, am I right? Shouldn't be celebrating his happiness,

instead of getting a heartbreak?"

Kenneth wasn't a fool and he could guess what had happened, "Did you see him with another woman?"

Dorothy lowered her head, "They must be very happy together."

"Ah. Dorothy, he's a man and needs accompany. Kenneth didn't know what to say next.

Because he too was experiencing the same pain, day and night

At the sight of Dorothy in pain, crying, he felt no different.

"I'm fine. I just need a good night's sleep." Dorothy opened the door to her room.

Kenneth couldn't just let her go, fearing she might do something rash, so he grabbed her arm,

"Dorothy, do you want some drinks? There is a great restaurant in Eldoria City with amazing food! I've been so busy today

without eating anything and I'm starving now, will you come with me?"

Dorothy wasn't in the mood to eat, she lowered her eyes. "Kenneth, I...

"Please, come with me!" Kenneth gave her a faint smile, "You know, there's nothing a good meal can't solve!

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Seeing that Dorothy remained silent, Kenneth resorted to his final trick,

"Ah, I've got this stomachache, you know! The doctor said I can't go hungry."

With him saying that, Dorothy had to accept his invitation.

Even if she knew these were all excuses, Kenneth just wanted to get out of the house, rather than stewing alone in his room.

"Thank you, Kenneth"

"I should be thanking you for gracing me with your company for dinner, let's go."

At night, everything outside was quiet.

Suddenly, a light flickered on in a room that was previously dark!

Abigail, who was still sleeping, was startled, rubbing her bleary eyes. She saw her brother sitting at the table doing something

She stretched, then shuffled over in her slippers, "Hm, what are you doing?"

Langston glanced at her, smacking his forehead. "Forgot you were still in here! I'm sending some data to my mentor."

He then showed Abigail what was in his hand.

But she didn't understand all she saw was a mess of data

"Who's your mentor?"

"My mentor is really something!" Langston lit up his eyes at the mention of his mentor, "He's the best in the hacking world!"

"Wow!" Abigail clapped, full of admiration in her face. "Can I meet him?"

“No, he doesn’t meet people.” Langston continued to tinker with his stuff. Abigail was no longer sleepy and pulled up a chair to sit next to him. It was rare to have her big brother around, so Abigail didn’t want to sleep. She clutched at the hem of his shirt, afraid he’d leave.

“Why did you suddenly come, Bro?”

Langston paused and scoffed, “Came to find our deadbeat dad”
‘Deadbeat dad?’

“The guy who fathered us, but didn’t care for us!”

Abigail tried to understand the relationship because she didn’t get his brother. But it didn’t prevent her from siding with her brother.

“I don’t like anyone my brother doesn’t like.”

“Hey, Abigail, have you seen him?” Langston suddenly turned to her.

Abigail shook her head. “No.”

How could she have seen him? She didn’t even know who he was talking about.

“I’ll find you a picture!”

Langston swiped across t

he screen a few times and Everett’s picture came up.

After showing it to Abigail for a few seconds, she suddenly screamed out, “Ah! This is, this is the man who cheated me out of five dollars!”

“You’ve seen him?”

Langston nodded vigorously, “Yes! He took my five dollars and promised to buy me candy. Then mom called me back, and he never gave me my money!”

“He even cheated a kid out of five dollars. What a deadbeat dad!”

Abigail suddenly understood. “So that’s what a deadbeat dad is! Bro, do you know where he is? Can you get my five dollars back?”

That was money she had taken a lot of effort to get!

“Don’t worry, I’ll stand up for you! I’m currently searching his company’s data, looking for something to defeat him”

Abigail didn’t understand the data, but she understood what ‘defeat’:

So late at night, while Langston was looking for flaws, Abigail was by his side cheering him on

Until dawn was about to break, Langston still came up with nothing

He was not willing to give up, thinking about some other clues.

Chapter 382

Abigail had long since fallen asleep in her chair, even drooling! But even so,

she didn't ask to leave Langston.

Langston glanced at his sister sighing helplessly.

He originally wanted to take her for revenge. Right now, it seemed too troublesome to bring her along! Better to forget it.

Chapter 383

"Beep-"

His iPhone chimed and a message had just come through.

Byte 7: [Are you serious to take revenge on your father?]

Langston snorted, testing back quickly. [Yeah, you gonna back me up, right?]

Byte 7: [Boy, you really know how to stir the pot, dont you? Dropped the whole Lopez Corporation issue right on my lap! If it weren't for you, I'd be charging at least 50 million for this job]

[Well, aren't your favorite apprentice?] Langston added a tongue-out emoji for good measure

Byte 7 abruptly ended the conversation. But Langston knew this was his mentor's way of saying yes. The man was as elusive as they came, he never hesitated to lend a hand when Langston needed cre hut

With Kenneth around, Dorothy finally felt safe enough to let loose and get properly crunk. Worried she'd have no one to look after her, Kenneth had refrained from drinking. Only Dorothy kept non-stop drinking

He didn't held her back this time.

Everyone deserves to get a little tipsy once in a while, right? Why not let her down her screws just this once?

"Why am I so upset, huh? What gives me the right to feel this way?!"

On their way back to the hotel, Dorothy clung to Kenneths shirt, questioning him relentlessly.

"You're human, aren't you?" Kenneth replied. "And you certainly have the right. After all, you're the woman who bore Everett's children."

He didn't voice the last part, though. Watching Dorothy confess herself, he found himself less worried about her.

Once they reached the hotel, Kenneth tried to help her inside, but she gently pushed his hand away.

"I don't want to go back to that dark room. I want to sit out here for a while."

"Alright, I stay with you." Kenneth fetched two chairs from inside the hotel "Sit down, youll catch a cold on the ground."

Dorothy nodded obediently, looking like a little girl

Kenneth didn't say much, just listened and quietly wiped her tears away when they fell

"We're over. We've been over for a long time."

"I made my choice when I filed for divorce! Isn't this what I wanted?"

"But it hurts." Dorothy clutched at her chest, choking on her words. "I can't truly wish him happiness with another woman. I thought I could!"

Kenneth sighed softly. "Time heals all wounds. Give it time."

"Really?" Dorothy looked at him, her eyes wide with hope. "Can I really forget about Everett?"

"You can. You just have to keep moving forward"

"I can't," Dorothy looked at him. "I have too much weighing me down. I don't think I'm drunk enough I can still think clearly."

She wanted to get blackout drunk, to not feel any pain to just fall asleep

Kenneth hesitated: "Do you want me to get more alcohol?"

"Sure, let's drink some more" Dorothy nodded.

Otherwise, she'd be in for a sleepless night

Kenneth went off to a nearby convenience store while Dorothy stayed behind, watching the city lights dim and the occasional passerby.

Her phone suddenly rang. It was Lane.

Why would he be calling at this hour?

She hesitated but eventually picked up.

"Dorothy, are you in Eldoria City?!"

"How'd you know?"

"*Jeffrey said he saw you while he was driving by. He saw you and some guy getting cozy before entering a hotel!"

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Dorothy was startled and seemed to sober up a bit

She was too busy being upset that she forgot she was in Eldoria City, a place where she was bound to run into people she knew.

"I'm here on some business and will be leaving tomorrow,"

Lane raised his voice, "My concern isn't when you're leaving but who's the guy you checked into the hotel with?"

His tone was reminiscent of a husband catching his wife in an act of infidelity. Furrowing her eyebrows, Dorothy didn't owe him an explanation and she didn't have the time for this either. Hence, she said,

"That's too much to drink, a friend's brother was just escorting me back to the hotel."

“Really?”

“Why would I lie to you, you’re my boss, and I’m on vacation.”

Dorothy’s response muted Lane, I’m just concerned about you! Don’t trouble your friend’s brother anymore. I have a friend in Eldenria City: her come to take care of you. It’s more convenient, she’s a girl.”

“No need.”

Dorothy’s refusal was too blunt, leaving Lane feeling slighted

But Dorothy wasn’t in the mood to care about that at the moment.

“Dorothy, I’m just trying to look out for you! Besides, you said you’re not ready to think about relationships right now, and I

haven’t pressured you. But you turn around and check into a hotel with another man, Don’t even have the right to ask?”

He thought he was unique for Dorothy

After all, he made many efforts to pursue her

Wasn’t she moved at all?

“I have explained what you asked. Any other thing is my personal business, Lane, don’t cross the line.”

After that, Dorothy felt a pang in her heart.

She was telling others not to cross the line, but what about her?

She was no better, unable to control herself

“Fine, I won’t cross the line. Pretend I never called” Lane hung up abruptly, probably upset.

But Dorothy didn’t bother to worry about his feelings now.

She was still dealing with her heartache.

Soon, Kenneth returned, not only with more liquor, but also with a hangover remedy and a light blanket.

“It’s chilly in the wee hours, cover up.”

“Thank you.”

“Dorothy, from now on, just consider me your brother like Karen does. No need to think about anything else. We’re family”

Dorothy looked up at him and gave a slight nod.

When she had been crying earlier, Kenneth had a sudden realization

Rather than having a romantic relationship with all its ups and downs, it would be better to have a familial relationship.

He could be by her side for a long time. At least when she was feeling down, she could think of him.

Jeffrey called Everett as soon as he saw Dorothy. But there was no answer, so he told Lane.

It wasn’t until he arrived at the Lopez Building the next morning that he received a callback from Everett.

“What were you up to? I made so many calls, and you’re only seeing them now?”

“I got drunk.”

Jeffrey laughed. “You’re not so tough either! When I got home, I threw up a lot, sobered up, then went out again when a girl invited me.”

Everett, who had just woken up, had a slightly hoarse voice.

“Haven’t had a drink in a while, I have dropped my drinking capacity.”

“I can see that! Hey, guess who I saw when I went out in the middle of the night?”

“Just tell me.” Everett wasn’t a fan of guessing games

“I saw Dorothy! She and Kenneth went into a hotel together I saw it with my eyes, they were very close!

Chapter 385

The moment Dorothy was mentioned, Everett seemed to put himself on mute. Jeffrey rolled his eyes. “You don’t believe me, do you? I took photos just in case you wouldn’t believe me! I’ll send them to you right now!”

“No need” Everett finally said, “They are together and it’s normal for them to do so. Is there anything else?”

Everett’s sudden calmness and his placid way of speaking slightly surprised Jeffrey!

He mistook that Everett would rush to confront her

But that wasn’t a scene he wanted to witness.

“No, nothing else”

“There’s a morning meeting soon, and don’t be late. With that. Everett hung up.

Jeffrey clicked his tongue, tossing his phone aside.

Driving to the office, he walked in to see Heather discussing something with their team.

Jeffrey intended to act as if he hadn’t seen her but Heather had other plans

“Wait up”

Failing his escape attempt, Jeffrey had no choice but to stop. “What is it?”

“Of course there’s something! I’m asking about that child. Heather mentioned this first, surprising Jeffrey a bit.

He crossed his arms, looking at her, “I haven’t found him yet. Do you have any news?”

Heather furrowed her brow slightly. “Where would I get any news? I just show some of my concerns. Everett’s parents are very

womed about this, so we can't just give up because of difficulties for the time being"

"You told his parents, didn't you?" Jeffrey wasn't a fool. Only Heather would be the one to tell them.

"Yes." Heather didn't deny it, 'Since the child belongs to Everett, he should be taken back by the Lopez family sooner or later, so

I had to prepar his parents mentaly! Look, Amanda isn't getting better, and she can't handle any more stress!"

"They havent even had a DNA test yet. No one can say if he's Everetts, so why do you tell them in haste?"

Heather just smiled. She had to be proactive about it.

The less she cared and evaded, the less people would suspect her!

She hadn't thought things through when she framed Dorothy before, resulting in a strained relationship with Everett, She couldn't afford to make any mistakes this time.

"I've seen the surveillance, and there's no doubt that he's Everett's."

"Wait." Jeffrey suddenly interrupted, "How come you seem so willing to accept this child's existence overnight? Weren't you making a fuss before?"

Heather paused, then sighed deeply.

"I was unable to accept it at first, which is understandable. After thinking it over since it's already happened and the child is here.

I have no choice but to accept it! We cant just make the child disappear."

Jeffrey listened to her explanation, which made sense but sounded weird.

"Alright, you don't need to overthink it. If you find out anything about the child, just let me know! it's not me asking, it's Everett's parents"

With that, Heather waved her hand and left

Jeffrey stood there and watched her leave, tugging at the comer of his mouth. Something's not right

He was about to head to his office when his phone suddenly rang

Looking down, he found an unfamiliar number,

A virtual number.

He answered it. A young and childish voice was heard on the other end

"Hello, this is Langston."

"Langston?! Where are you now?"

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Upon receiving the call, Jeffrey was taken aback, almost thinking he was hallucinating

Because these past few days, he had been racking his brains day and night, trying to find out his whereabouts!

“I got kidnapped, but I managed to escape! Can you send someone to pick me up?”

Upon hearing this, Jeffrey immediately frowned. “Kidnapped?”

“Yes! I was sleeping that day, and when I woke up, I was taken to a pitch black place.”

Honestly, the moment he heard this, Heather’s name popped up in Jeffrey’s mind

But now, that was not the point

“Where are you? I’m coming to get your

“Okay

After hanging up, Jeffrey immediately sent someone to the location Langston had sent.

“Go pick up a boy from this address. I don’t want any mistakes!”

He called over two male assistants to go, hoping there wouldn’t be any issues. Just as the assistants were leaving Jeffrey rushed after them, “Wait! I’ll go myself.

It was his carelessness last time that led to the child’s kidnapping. Although he had no idea how the boy had escaped, he couldn’t bear the thought of it happening again.

Just to be safe, Jeffrey decided to bring the two assistants along. Once they were in the car, he called Everett

Everett seemed reluctant to pick up, and it took a while before Jeffrey heard his voice

“If you’re going to talk about something not related to work, I don’t have time to listen.”

“Although it’s still not about work, your son just contacted me! I’m on my way to pick him up!”

Everett was stunned upon hearing the word ‘son

But he quickly regained his composure and immediately said, “Give me the location, I’m coming too.”

“Okay!”

After sending the location to Everett, Jeffrey hesitated for a moment before speaking up. “The kid said he was kidnapped, you might want to look. Into... Heather.”

After hanging up, Jeffrey’s gaze fell on the window, and he let out a cold sigh. If Heather was really behind this, she must be insane. If he kept covering up for her, what’s the difference between that and being her accomplice?

He could only hope she hadn't lied to him and it really had nothing to do with her.

Later, Kenneth bought some more liquor finally managing to satisfy Dorothy's taste.

Kenneth had to carry her back to the room, as she was completely blacked out and drunk

In the morning. Kenneth went out to buy a hangover soup. It wasn't until the soup had cooled down that she woke up.

"Headache?"

Seeing Dorothy furrow her beautiful brows, Kenneth quickly brought over the freshly heated soup

"Thanks "Dorothy accepted it and rubbed her temples, "I haven't been this drunk in a long time."

Kenneth chuckled, "Did it make you feel a bit better?"

Dorothy was stunned, managing a forced smile, "Yeah, I've come to terms with it"

"That's good "Although he knew she was lying

Dorothy took a sip of the hangover cure, and then suddenly remembered

something, quickly putting down the soup, "Oh,

Kenneth, did you get in touch with Byte 77 I want to inquire about how much it would cost to restore the previous videos. I've

saved up some money now, but i dont know if it's enough"

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"Tve been trying to get ahold of this guy for you, but he's like a ghost. No one knows where he's at or even what he looks like!

The only thing I can do is reach out to the folks he's dealt with in the past and see if they can get a response out of him."

Dorothy nodded, understanding that Kenneth would have exhausted all his resources. She didn't need to push him.

"I guess I'm just banking on this guy now."

Kenneth hesitated before suggesting. "After this incident, I realized that Langston has a knack for computer stuff. Shell we let him have a go?"

Dorothy shook her head. "No, whether Langston is capable or not is not the point. Even if he is, I don't want him to see that."

Langston was sensitive, not as naive and innocent as Abigail. If he was to recover the video, he would inevitably be the first to see it, which would be detrimental to his growth.

That was about a murder!

Langston would harbor even deeper hatred for the Lopez family.

Kenneth understood Dorothy's maternal concerns and nodded in agreement. "I guess I oversimplified things."

"Kenneth, I know you mean well and I appreciate it."

"Enough with the thank-yous," Kenneth laughed, glancing at his watch. "How about we grab some grub and then hit the road?"

The kids are waiting for you."

"Alright

Dorothy quickly gathered her belongings and left the room with Kenneth.

They found a local diner and sat down. She wasn't hungry and just thought it would be unfair to let Kenneth go without a meal after all his help.

As soon as the eggs and bacon arrived, Kenneth kept piling them onto her plate,

"I can't eat that much."

"You need to eat more: you've lost weight" Kenneth's tone was like that of someone coaxing a child, but it shifted in the next moment. "Dorothy, there's something I've been meaning to tell you."

Dorothy put down her fork. "Go ahead"

"Now that Langston has been discovered, Everett must know he has a son.

He just doesn't know it's yours. Langston also knows

he has a father. When he grows up, he might come back for Everett."

Some things were simply beyond their control

Their fated reunion as father and son was inevitable.

Just like how Langston found out about Everett, even though Kenneth never told him!

So he wanted Dorothy to be prepared, to decide whether to go with the flow or resist.

Dorothy lowered her eyes. "Kenneth, I've been thinking these past few days.

Am I being too selfish? I'm depriving my children of their father's love

Because of Everett knew he had two children in this world, his love for them would be no less than hers.

If it weren't for her fear of how Everett's parents would treat the children, she would never have kept them a secret!

"Don't talk like that. The Lopez family is complicated, even Everett couldn't protect your family. You can't expect two little kids to fend for themselves in that!"

"But Abigail and Langston still want a father." Even if they didn't say it, Dorothy knew.

Because it was a child's nature!

“When they grow up, they’ll understand your concerns. And situations change all the time. Maybe by then, Everett’s parents won’t be around anymore! Then Abigail and Langston can be reunited with Everett.”

Chapter 388

Dorothy was amused by his sense of humor

“That’s a bit morbid, don’t you think?”

“It’s not morbid. They got what they deserved. They will have their comeuppance.”

A faint smile played around Dorothy’s face because of this sensitive topic,

“Besides. Everett has already remarried. Suddenly with two kids out of nowhere, it’s not fair to his current wife”

Ever since she saw the bite mark on Everett’s shoulder, Dorothy had been plagued with guilt.

She never imagined that she would covet another woman’s husband! But the fact was, she did, and even acted on it at Everett’s home!

If she put herself in the shoes of Everett’s current wife, how would she feel when she found out?

She shouldn’t have done what she did!

“Stop overthinking it. You’re ready to leave anyway. Let the past be the past

“Yeah, you’re right. Once I leave, time will heal everything”

She sincerely hoped that Everett could let go of his emotional burden with her departure.

Only then could he truly love his wife just as he loved her.

As they were talking Dorothy’s phone suddenly buzzed!

She glanced down and saw a text message.

Mommy, it’s Langston! There are some things I need to deal with. Don’t worry about me. I’ll come find you and sister once I’m done!

Dorothy immediately dialed the number from which the text was sent, but it was a virtual number and she couldn’t get through.

“What’s wrong?” Kenneth noticed her worried expression.

Langston must have left again! Quick, contact Karen and see if we can bring him back.”

“Okay!”

Langston’s return this time had a purpose! He wasn’t willing to leave without finding a loophole in the Lopez Corporation

He couldn’t believe that such a large and profitable company had no issues.

He was sure he just hadn't found them yet.

her a string of

But this time, Langston specially informed his mam to dispel her womnes. In case his sister woke up and couldn't find him, he left her a numbers that could reach him directly.

After he had everything sorted out, he called Jeffrey

He wasted at the designated location for a long time before Jeffrey's car arrived

Seeing Langston safe and sound, Jeffrey felt a sudden paternal surge of relief!

He quickly got out of the car and rushed over to hug Langston.

"I finally see you again! Do you know how many people I've sent looking for you these past few days?"

He had even dreamed of finding Langston,

"They took me to a warehouse in the suburbs. How could you find me?"

Langston was remarkably calm, even taking out his phone to show him

the location

"Here?"

"Yes"

Jeffrey immediately called his men. "Check out this place. Let me know as soon as you find anything"

"Yes, Mr. Turner"

Langston watched him instruct his men and smiled, "Mr. Turner, what do you want to find out? You could just ask me

"Of course, I want to know who took you! You have no idea how hard it was to find you"

After finding Langston, Jeffrey was almost in tears!

"The warehouse is owned by a guy named Kyle, but the password starts with an L, so i guess the actual user of this warehouse in't Kyle. I intercepted a phone signal in the area and found a phone number*

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Jeffrey was dumbfounded by his statement.

Was he... actually communicating with a little kid?

"You intercepted the number?"

"Yup! Waiting for you guys to rescue me was taking too long Langston's response was remarkably nonchalant, devoid of any boastful sentiment.

I was as though he was discussing something as mundane as the weather.

This made Jeffrey a country bumpkin!

“Then you should give me the number*”

Langston glanced at him and suddenly shook his head, “I can’t just give it to you. You couldn’t even find me. I had to come out myself”

Jeffrey was left speechless.

“We can make a trade.” Langston squinted, grinning in a way that was a mirror image of Everett. The only difference was that Everett hardly ever smiled. “I want to use your work computer, is that okay?” Jeffrey didn’t understand what Langston intended to do, but considering his extraordinary abilities, he decided to stay on guard.

“There are a lot of important things on my computer; it’s not a toy.”

“I’m not asking for it. We’re trading! You want the number, and I want your computer.”

Jeffrey was shocked by the proposition.

There seemed to be some logic in the boy’s argument!

Then tell me, what are you planning to do with my computer?”

“What can I do? Of course, I want to contact my family.” Langston knew that Jeffrey was not easily fooled, so he decided to play his trump card. He blinked innocently, posing a question in a naive voice, “What did you think I was going to do? Did you think I would steal your computer?”

“No, no, the computer isn’t worth much. I could even give it to your

“Really? Well, thank you. Mi. Tumer!”

Jeffrey rolled his eyes, sensing that something was off about the conversation, but he couldn’t quite put his finger on it.

Just as they were talking Everett’s car pulled up.

After receiving the call he had immediately set off towards them.

Langston’s gaze shifted towards the vehicle, his eyes widening unconsciously as he watched the man stepping out

No wonder Langston’s mom had been hesitant to let him return home country. They really did look alike!

Upon laying eyes on Langston, Everett felt as though he was dreaming

Could there really be a child that looked just like him?

He stood there stunned for a while until Jeffrey broke the silence. He then walked over, contemplating what his first words to the boy should be. Unexpectedly, Langston beat him to it.

“You’re Everett?”

Langston scrutinized him from head to toe, then furrowed his brows. “My mentor told the truth that all the good for nothing guys

are handsome.”

Everett, who had no experience dealing with children, stood frozen, unsure of how to respond.

Jeffrey, on the other hand, burst into laughter.

“Everett, now you know the power of your son! I was literally left speechless!”

Everett stared at the little man before him, scrutinizing him intensely.

He attempted to discern something from Langston’s face.

Perhaps, a trace of someone else.

But Langston resembled Everett so closely. Perhaps due to his youth, Everett couldn’t see any traces of Dorothy.

“Did your mom ever tell you that I’m your father? Everett asked cautiously.

Langston snorted, “No”

“What’s your mom’s name?”

Again, the same question.

Langston scrunched up his face in annoyance, “Does it matter? All you need to know is that I’m your son and you need to take me back to your place

Chapter 390

He was bound to figure out what was wrong with his business in Everett’s home!

Just as Everett was about to speak, Jeffrey, anxious to avoid a clash between father and son at their first meeting, quickly

intervened, “Um.... Everett, it’s your first meeting. Of course, he’s going to be a bit wary! Take him home and ask him step by step later! Let’s go eat now I’m starving. and he must be too!”

With that, Jeffrey gave Langston an intentional look.

Upon receiving the hint, Langston reluctantly nodded, “Yeah, I’m hungry

“Alright” Everett, faced with this sudden son, felt somewhat helpless.

Luckily, Jeffrey was there to ease the awkwardness.

When they arrived at the restaurant, Everett ordered a table full of dishes, not knowing what the kid liked to eat

Watching Langston eat in silence, Jeffrey leaned over to Everett and whispered, “I tell you your son is a whiz kid

Everett cast him a glance, “I’ve noticed”

“The software collapse at Lopez Corporation was probably his doing”

Only then did Jeffrey connect the dots. I wouldn’t have guessed if you hadn’t mentioned it! Well, you have some good genes.

Everett shot him a look. “If you want a kid, go have your own”

“Tsk! My son might not be so smart Jeffrey chuckled, “Your son is too cute,

like a little adult. You have no experience with kids, why not give him to me?"

Jeffrey wanted to take back his previous statement about disliking kids!

He loved kids! Loved them to pieces!

"No." Everett's refusal was simple and direct

"Why

not? You don't know how to take care of a kid and you're busy with work! But I have plenty of time to spare."

Everett softened his gaze as he looked at Langston carefully chewing his food. Their bond seemed to be suddenly connected.

"I'll learn how to get along well with the kid"

"You don't even know who his mother is. Are you willing to devote time to him?"

"He's my son. It's my duty." Everett was solemn and serious in histone

Failing his plan, Jeffrey felt deflated

"I wish I hadn't told you! I should we secretly taken him in!"

He nudged Langston, "Kid, I agree to your deal. Give me that number."

Langston made an OK sign, "Give me your laptop, and Ill send it to you."

Everett was confused, "What deal?"

"Thats our secret!

Everett watched them chattering away with a strange sensation,

Upon reflection, was he a tad jealous?

"Langston, if you want a computer, I can get you the most advanced one in the world." Everett's offer was as casual as buying a toy for a kid.

Sure enough, Langston's eyes sparkled at the offer.

"Really?"

"Of course"

Upon hearing this, Jeffrey was immediately indignant, "Everett, that's not fair!

You can't bribe a kid with money!"

"My son just wants a computer"

"You havent done a DNA test yet! What if he's not? Jelhey's only hope was this.

Everett imply raised an eyebrow, "You think there's any doubt?"

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Chapter 391

How could Jeffrey not know? It's as clear as day – a done deal. If Langston wasn't Everett's child, it would be a cold day in hell!

But...

"Have you considered how to look into the child's mother?"

The Lopez family couldn't just take in a child with an unknown origin! Besides, the appearance of this child would stir up many things; it wasn't just about the child.

Everett, of course wasn't going to let it slide. He intended to investigate but didn't want to rush into it.

"This kid seems to have some hostility towards me. I think instead of prying, it's better to let him tell me straight"

Jeffrey pointed at Langston, "Ha? He doesn't know anything. What could he tell you?"

"Do you actually believe that he doesn't know anything?"

Of course not.

Jeffrey even suspected that the child's IQ might be higher than his own! Not knowing anything was just an excuse for not wanting to speak.

After taking Langston back, Jeffrey escorted them to their house in Bay Residence before reluctantly parting ways.

Of course, Langston didn't forget about the computer and promptly provided Jeffrey with the promised number.

Once back at the Lopez Corporation, Jeffrey intended to handle company affairs first, but his mind wasn't on his work. He pushed his keyboard aside and wrote down the number on a piece of paper! This number was new to him..

Jeffrey had input it into his phone, but there was no match.

As soon as he received the number, he immediately compared it to Heather's. Upon realizing it wasn't her number, he breathed a sigh of relief.

He hoped it wasn't Heather, he didn't want to admit that he had once been infatuated with such a ruthless woman.

"Knock knock...."

Suddenly, someone knocked on the office door.

Jeffrey looked up to see one of the people he had sent out to find Langston.

"Mr. Turner, should we continue the search?"

"No need, the kid's been found." Jeffrey paused, then handed the number to him, "Look into this number for me to find out who's

using

“Understood, Mr. Tumer.”

With a new task, the man got up and was ready to left.

Jeffrey leaned back in his chair, looking at the number. Suddenly, he had an idea!

He called his assistant in, “Lend me your personal phone.”

Jeffrey used that phone to dial the number, and to his surprise, the call went through!

After a few rings with no answer, it hung up automatically.

This was within Jeffrey’s expectations, so he didn’t think much of it. However, soon after, a text message come from the other side.

“Is this your new number?”

an

Jeffrey was surprised to see a reply! He quickly responded, “Yes, I have something to tell you, answer your phone.”

After sending the message, before he could dial again, the call came in.

As soon as Jeffrey answered, a familiar voice came through.

“Any updates?”

It was unmistakably Heather’s voice.

It was her!

Jeffrey couldn’t be mistaken!

“What kind of update are you expecting?”

Heather was startled as soon as Jefferey’s voice rang out.

“It’s you! How did you get this number?!”

“Does it matter? Heather, you lied to me again!”

He had thought... he had thought that this time Heather was really being wronged! He thought Heather wouldn’t stoop so low as to harm a child!

Chapter 392

Heather, across the table, was more flustered than him, but she pulled herself together faster than Jeffrey.

“So, you claim to trust me, yet you’re digging into me?” She was no fool and instantly grasped the situation, “If you truly trusted me, you would’ve dialed this number with your own cell, not some random one! Aren’t you just afraid that if it’s me, I’d recognize your number?”

Jeffrey was at a loss for words.

Indeed, he hesitated at the last moment and opted to dial using his assistant’s

private number, just to avoid that!

But was that the crux of the matter?

“Heather, have you lost your mind? Do you really intend to harm Everett’s child? He’s just a boy, how could you do such a thing!”

“I haven’t done anything to him; it’s just that Everett’s parents wanted to see the kid, so I had him taken away!” Heather had already prepared her cover story in case things went south, readily throwing Amanda under the bus.

But Jeffrey wasn’t a fool he just didn’t want to think too much about it!

“if his parents really wanted to see the kid, you wouldn’t have taken him to some remote warehouse, you would’ve handed him directly to his parents!”

“I just...”

“Stop making up excuses. I won’t be fooled by you again! I’m going to see Everett right now

He hung up, leaving Heather genuinely scared

Before Jeffrey could leave his office, Heather rushed over from the legal department.

She looked downright disheveled, a far cry from her usual grace and poise

“You can’t go to Everett! He must not find out about this?”

“And then what? Do you want me to help you keep hiding this? Heather, I just regret not telling Everett sooner that you even laid a hand on Dorothy’s mother!”

He really thought that Heather, after driving Dorothy away, would stop.

He really thought that there were other men between Dorothy and Everett, which led to their divorce

But the more he understood Heather, the more he realized that the truth was far from what he had imagined; it was even more terrifying.

“I didn’t! It was all Everett’s parents! Jeffrey, how could I have done all that? I was just following his parents’ orders. You must

believe me!” Heather was so scared that she tried to grab Jeffrey’s hand.

She couldn’t let everything collapse! Before marrying Everett, before giving birth to his child, the truth had to be kept a secret!

She had to secure her position as the lady of the Lopez Corporation; she needed to have an unbreakable connection with Everett!

“Get lost, I don’t want to talk to a liar

Jeffrey brushed off Heather and was about to leave.

But Heather blocked him with all her might, even using her body to stop

Jeffrey's pushes.

"Jeffrey, listen to me! You can ask Everett's parents; I was just following their orders!"

"I won't listen, you can explain to Everett! I won't be an accomplice anymore!"

With that cold statement

Jeffrey pushed Heather aside and entered the elevator

Seeing that Jeffrey was probably heading to Bay Residence by car, as Everett wasn't at the office, Heather realized this might be her only chance!

She clenched her fists, steeling her resolve.

Since things had gotten to this point

"Jeffrey, if you insist on this, don't blame me for being ruthless

Chapter 393

In the Bay Residence, Everett had cleared his schedule, canceling several meetings to spend some quality time with his newly discovered son.

It was quite a surprise to suddenly have a son, and in Langston's presence, Everett couldn't help but feel a bit out of his element, tinged with a touch of awkwardness

"What would you like to eat?" he asked.

Langston looked at him and slumped onto the couch, "Didn't we just have lunch?"

*Then, something to drink, or snacks? I can send someone to buy whatever you like Everett was not particularly adept at catering to children, but he was trying his best to figure out what kids usually enjoy.

However, his son was far from an average child. Langston's first request was, "Where's the laptop you promised me? I want to play on the computer

Everett immediately ordered Kevin to bring the laptop.

But before that, he had a question to ask, "Was it you who messed with the Lopez Corporation's software?"

Langston didn't bother to conceal anything and simply nodded. "Because you had it coming"

"Did your mother tell you that I'm a jerk?" Everett was trying to glean some information about his son's mother from their conversation.

But Langston was no fool, He looked up at Everett and smirked.

"Don't treat me like a kid! I know what you're thinking, but you don't know what I'm thinking!"

In the spacious living room, the two faces bearing a 99% resemblance locked eyes, their gazes meeting

After a while, a hint of a smile finally appeared on Everett's handsome face
"Who says I don't know? You're here for revenge, aren't you? You moved in here to gather evidence against
st me, right?" Everett wasn't

bom yesterday.

Although this kid was clever, he was still just that – a kid.

Especially the fact that he insisted on using Jeffrey's laptop and didn't resist coming home with him, it was clear what his

intentions

were

What puzzled him was why the mother of his child harbored such resentment towards him,

His only love in life was Dorothy, and he was always a man of integrity. He was cautious even when dealing with women at work,

so how could there be someone who hated him so much?

"Correct!" Langston admitted, "I'm here to find your weaknesses. If you're scared, just kick me out!"

Then he could go around telling everyone that his father Everett, refused to acknowledge his son and kicked him out!

That would certainly be a scandal for the Lopez Corporation!

"This is your home; there's no kicking you out." Not only did Everett not argue with him, but he also thought that if Langston could

find any loopholes, it might be beneficial for the Lopez Corporation.

"Fine, but don't say I didn't warn you." Langston had both his bases covered.

He had already made up his mind before coming here; in short, he wouldn't return home until he avenged his mother and sister

A smile tugged at the corner of Everett's lips, just as he was about to reach out and ruffle his son's hair his phone suddenly rang.

He presumed it was Kevin calling to provide work update at the usual time.

To his surprise, the caller ID revealed Jefferey!

What could he want? Probably worried about how he was getting along with the kid.

Everett, in a rare good mood, answered Jeffrey's call.

However, Jefferey's tone was urgent.

"Everell, are y

you still at the Bay Residence? I need to talk to you about something!"

"I'm here, are you on your way?"

“Yeah, wait for me! I need to talk to you about Heather...

Before Jeffrey could finish, there was a sudden loud noise on the other end of the line!

Chapter 394

The piercing sound of car alarms left Everett’s ears throbbing.

“Jeffrey, Jeffrey!”

Everett called out, but received only silence in response.

Something was wrong.

Everett hastily dialed Kevin’s number, instructing him to find out where an accident had occurred on the route to Bay Residence.

Langston, sitting next to him, was already a step ahead. He pointed to his phone screen, “It’s likely on Labor Avenue; there’s a massive traffic jam there.”

Everett glanced at him, nodding without hesitation. “Stay at home. I’ll give you access to the Lopez Corporation systems. Don’t leave until I’m back.”

Langston nodded. This wasn’t the time to cause trouble. “Alright.”

By the time Everett arrived on the scene, Jeffrey had already been rushed to the hospital.

Everett headed straight for the hospital, where he found Heather standing outside the emergency room. Her makeup was smeared from crying, and she seemed unable to stand without the support of the wall.

“Everett...you’re finally here! How could something like this happen to Jeffrey?”

Everett’s gaze first landed on the glaring red light of the emergency room before shifting to Heather.

“Who called to inform you?”

Jeffrey was on the phone with him when the accident occurred. There’s no way he could’ve contacted Heather!

Caught off guard by his question, Heather momentarily forgot to continue crying. But she was a seasoned liar quick on her feet.

“The hospital called me. They must’ve thought I was a relative since my number was on top of his contact list”

Everett narrowed his eyes. He didn’t believe a word Heather said.

Seeing his silence, Heather felt a pang of guilt and quickly changed the subject. “Everett, do you think something bad will happen to Jeffrey? He was just working at the office, then suddenly, he’s in an accident! I was so shocked when I got the call!”

“Get in touch with his parents.” Everett cut her off, not interested in her theatrics

“Right...I forgot in all the panic! I’ll call them now!”

Heather turned away, heading towards a corner.

Everett watched her swiping his phone screen a few times.

Before long, Heather returned, a look of worry on her face. “Jeffrey’s parents aren’t answering their phones! What should we do?”

As she spoke, she looked up to see Jeffrey’s father’s number displayed on Everett’s phone, clearly in a call.

Everett calmly relayed the situation to Jeffrey’s father, then turned to Heather “You are involved in Jefferey’s accident.”

“What...how could that be? Jeffrey has been so kind to me, so I would never harm him! We’re friends!

“Then why did you choose not to notify the Turners? You didn’t even try to call his parents.”

If she had, his coll should’ve gone to voicemail, not connected.

Heather hadn’t expected Everett to trap her at every turn. “... I just dialed the wrong number in my panic!”

“Tye already, called the police. You can explain to them.”

He had no desire to engage with her any longer.

Heather stepped forward, trying to touch his arm, but Everett stepped away.

Her fists clenched, then suddenly relaxed. She laughed softly. “Do you despise me this much? Well, let me tell you something!

Weren’t you searching everywhere to find out who that little boy’s parents are? I’ll reveal it to you—he’s our child!”

Chapter 395

“What?!”

“While we were at the office earlier, Jeffrey found out about this, and he urgently wanted to inform you. He must’ve been so rushed that he didn’t pay attention to the traffic, leading to the accident! L.. I was afraid that the Tumers would blame me, so I didn’t dare to tell them.”

Typically, Everett wouldn’t trust any of this, but then he recalled Jeffrey’s final words during their phone call.

It seemed like Jeffrey did want to tell him something about Heather.

But the claim that the child was hers seemed absurd!

“Heather, the only reason I chose not to interfere with you is because of my mother he retorted, trying to brush off any suggestion of affection on his part.

At this point, Heather had no choice but to grit her teeth and double down, Tim not lying: you can do a DNA test if you want! This was your parents idea. They were worried you'd never accept me, and that the Lopez family wouldn't have an heir, so they took our DNA and used a surrogate."

With Jeffrey unable to speak for himself and only a handful of people who were in contact with Langston, she had free rein to craft her story.

Everett furrowed his eyebrows and stayed silent.

Seeing this, Heather decided to go all in, "You don't think that baby is Dorothy's, do you? You're not still hung up on her, are you?"

She's off making beautiful music with Kenneth. Why would she want to have your child? I'm the only one, sucker enough to give up everything for you, even when your heart isn't with me, I still love you!"

"Enough" Everett cut her off, not willing to buy into her narrative, "You better think about how you're going to explain this to the Tumers."

Seeing him turn away from her, Heather felt a mix of frustration and anxiety. Her only option now was to ask Amanda for help. After all, this monstrous lie could only be sold to Everett if his parents got involved.

She didn't plan for the lie to escalate to this extent, but having already said it, she had no choice but to cover it up with more lies.

I wasn't until the next morning that Jeffrey's surgery was completed.

The Turners' parents were on vacation abroad and had not yet arrived, so Everett stayed by the door, waiting.

Exiting the room, the doctor removed this mask and sighed before saying.

"The surgery was a success, and his life is no longer at risk. However, whether he wakes up is in his hands."

"You mean, he may end up in a vegetative state?!"

The doctor nodded, "Yes, brace yourself."

Everett took a deep breath, his brow furrowed.

He knew the injuries would be severe, but he hadn't expected it to be this bad!

Worried that Langston would be scared alone at home, Everett decided to go back to the Bay Residence after confirming with the doctor that he couldn't visit Jeffrey in the ICU just yet.

Expecting Langston to be asleep, Everett opened the door only to discover Langston standing in the hallway, gazing at him.

"Mr. Turner, is he okay?"

Everett was hit hard by the question. He gritted his teeth, trying to control his emotions, unwilling to face his son's teary eyes.

Jeffrey had been his friend for many years, and although he could be a bit offbeat at times, he had always been there for the Lopez Corporation and for him.

"He's fine just sleeping."

"Really?" Langston sensed that something was all. He pondered for a moment before stepping forward and grabbing Everett's hand, "My mom used to say that when she was feeling down, holding my hand would make everything better. So, hold my hand more, and Mr. Turner will get better."

Chapter 396

Everett was taken aback by his son's sudden affection. It took a few seconds before he gathered himself and held the boy's small hand tightly in his own.

"Mr. Turner will be okay. Once he wakes up, I take you to the hospital to see him, he said.

Langston nodded, looking somewhat surprised at Everett's formality.

"Why... don't you insist that I call you dad?" Langston asked. He had imagined all sorts of scenarios before coming back to the country. He thought Everett might force him to call him 'dad', or that Everett might despise him, or even deny his paternity. He had seen it all in TV dramas.

But none of his predictions had come true.

Everett, this so-called 'deadbeat dad, had not pressured him into doing anything he didn't want to do, nor had he questioned his identity. Instead, he welcomed him home and provided excellent care.

"When you feel comfortable calling me that, you will, Everett said. He disliked anything forced, as it wouldn't be genuine.

Even though he had manipulated Dorothy in the past, he had still left the final decision up to her. If she hadn't sought him out, he wouldn't have used his money and power to coerce her.

"Aren't you afraid I'm trying to swindle you? Or that I'm not your kid at all?" Langston asked, tilting his head, pouring out all his doubts.

Everett squatted down, bringing his eyes level with Langston's. He reached out and pinched the boy's cheek. "If you managed to get into the Lopez Corporation's servers, then you should know that money isn't a big deal to me

As for the second question, all he had to do was look at Langston's face and

he had his answer.

Everett didn't have a twin brother or anything of the sort. The mere fact that Langston bore such a striking resemblance to him provided the answer. Even in the unlikely scenario that Langston wasn't his biological child, their resemblance seemed like a twist of fate in its own right.

However, he suddenly remembered something Heather had said to him. She had claimed that Langston was her child.

It sounded absurd, but given his mother's favoritism towards Heather, it wasn't entirely impossible..

"Langston, would you be willing to tell me something about your mom?"

Everett asked cautiously. He was afraid of provoking the boy's resentment.

Sure enough, the moment he mentioned it, Langston's defenses went up.

"No! Mommy said I can't!"

Everett realized that a direct approach wasn't going to work.

He thought for a moment, then smiled. "How about this, you can ask me one question, and I promise not to lie. Anything you want to ask. Then you tell me what your mom's last name is."

Langston shook his head. "No!"

Everett shrugged. "Alright then,"

He was about to get up when Langston suddenly grabbed him. "I can't tell you my mom's last name, but I can tell you the second letter in it."

"That works!" Everett agreed immediately and squatted back down. "Ask your question."

Langston thought hard, then in a serious tone asked, "Why did you have me and then not take responsibility?"

Everett paused, then answered solemnly, "I swear, I didn't know you existed."

Langston was clearly not expecting that answer.

"Now can you tell me, what's the second letter in your mom's last name?"

Langston pouted. "It's 'a'"

Everett froze. "Your mom's last name wouldn't happen to be Sanchez, would it?"

Chapter 397

Langston hadn't expected him to guess so quickly, and he inwardly cursed at the possible trouble he had stirred up.

He quickly denied it, "It's not Sanchez!"

"Are you sure?" Everett's eyes were locked on him.

Langston immediately put on an innocent face, "Of course."

He didn't realize what his words implied

Everett's handsome face visibly stiffened, even his thin lips trembled uncontrollably.

But to Langston, these were all signs of disbelief.

Langston quickly brainstormed to fabricate a last name, and right then, he heard Everett's voice.

"So, is it Garcia?"

Seeing that Everett gave him an out, Langston quickly waved his hand vaguely. "Hey, you said you'd only guess a letter, how can you cheat like that! Is it right to trick kids?"

"Fine, I won't ask anymore."

Everett felt that he needed to have a serious conversation with his parents about this matter

Regardless of whether this matter was true or not, he felt he couldn't allow his mother to have her way any longer!

In the past, he only found it irksome and incomprehensible, so he decided to keep his distance to avoid upsetting her and to spare himself the constant disturbance.

But after Heather's antics, he knew he couldn't turn a blind eye anymore.

She was so audacious simply because she relied on the support from his mother.

Heather, unfortunately, didn't know how to restrain herself, leading to the current situation! Now, Everett even suspected that

Jeffrey's issues were related to her

Dorothy knew that Langston was in Eldora City, so, naturally, she couldn't leave

Although she couldn't directly go to Everett to get her child, she also worried that Langston might be hurt by the Lopez family.

Hence, she had to stay here, looking for opportunities to take Langston away.

Both Kenneth and Karen advised her to leave first

Especially Kenneth, "With Everett's men all around, you are easily exposed!

Dorothy, as long as I'm in Eldoria City, I find a way to get close to Everett and take Langston away!"

"No, Kenneth, I have to take my child with me."

"But you can't do much here in Eldoria City!" Kenneth tried to reason with her,

"Plus, if Everett observes that you never leave, he

will naturally link you to the child! At that point, you won't stand a chance to take Langston away"

"Now that Everett knows the child is his, the only thing he doesn't know is that I'm the child's mother. The Lopez family must know it too; I'm worried that Heather will harm my child!"

In fact, Dorothy's first concern wasn't Everett's parents. After all, there was blood relation, they wouldn't be as ruthless as they were with Bella! But Heather would show no mercy.

Wasn't all this chaos caused by her?

"I'm trying to contact Langston, Dorothy. I think Langston knows what he's doing! He said he wants to take revenge, and I reckon after causing a commotion, he'll get in touch with me! By then, we can leave the country as planned!" Kenneth thought it was too risky to stay in Eldoma City.

Now that Everett knew about the child, the first person he would suspect was Dorothy

If he found out about Dorothy's abnormalities, wouldn't that be an affirmation of everything?

Chapter 398

"Given the circumstances, I can't afford to consider much" Dorothy has braced herself for the worst. "If there's truly no other option, I'll have to take the final step! I go to Heather."

Heather wasn't entirely fearless

Heather knows that if she reveals the suspicions about her mother's death to Everett now, he will surely initiate an investigation into her immediately!

Perhaps this could be used as a card to threaten Heather, to keep her from harming Langston

"Dorothy, you're usually so smart, why are you so flustered now? Doing this will only force Heather to take extreme measures, and it won't change anything!"

"I can't just sit here and wait for Langston to come back!"

Dorothy looked at Kenneth, her face was etched with exhaustion. She was on the verge of going mad!

All her plans had been thrown into disarray, leaving her helpless

"I've told you have faith in me. I handle this for you! I promise Langston won't be harmed. Resume your normal work and daily routine to avoid arousing any suspicion from Everett Once locate Langston, I'll bring him to you right away, and then we'll leave."

"Bun..

“Dorothy! You must have realized by now that if Langston doesn’t fulfill his objective, he’ll try every possible way to leave you and find Everett again! It’s better to let him accomplish what he wants. I believe he will come knocking for me”

Dorothy had a million worries, which stuck in her throat and unable to voice them.”

But she also knew that there was little she could do now.

“Go now, leave the rest to me.” Kenneth walked over, patting her on the shoulder. “Abigail is waiting for you.”

Dorothy remained silent, neither agreeing nor refusing

She was confused and needed time to think.

In the hospital Jeffrey was still in the ICU, and visits were not allowed.

Everyone who came could only wait at the door, including Jeffrey’s parents. Everett had sent someone to the airport to pick them up and brought them directly to the hospital.

“What the hell happened, Everett? What did the doctor say about my son’s condition?” Jeffrey’s mother, Paloma, was crying so

hard her eyes were swollen, her hand trembling as she clung to Everett’s Jeffrey was the only child of the Turner family!

I’ve already arranged for renowned doctors from abroad to come for a consultation. We’ll do everything we can to cure him,”

Everett said, opting for actions over words, uncertain of how to provide comfort

Jeffrey’s father, Huxley Turner, seemed a bit more composed, his face grim as he stood quietly at the ICU door

Soon after, Heather arrived.

Seeing Paloma there, she cried even louder than her.

“Huxley, Paloma, I’m sorry!”

Heather stepped forward in her high heels, and before she could say anything else, she promptly knelt down before them.

This move shocked the elder Turners

“What are you doing?” Paloma tried to help her up, but Heather stubbornly remained on her knees

“I can’t deny my involvement with Jeffrey’s accident! Because because of my disagreement with Everett, he came to mediate

We had a quarrel and Jeffrey left to find Everett He was probably too emotional and didn’t pay attention to the traffic, so...”

Although Paloma was somewhat confused, she got the gist of it

She glanced at Everett, and her brows furrowed “You two argued? My dear

Jeffrey was too much of a good Samaritan, thinking of you as true friends!”

Chapter 399

In between the lines, there was a hint of resentment.

After all, in Paloma’s eyes, the young couple had a quarrel, and in the end, her own son ended up in the ICU due to a car accident! That would be uneasy for anyone.

“Everett, is that so?” Huxley didn’t allow Heather’s words to mislead him, nor did the help her up. Instead, he addressed Everett directly. Huxley disliked Heather, thinking she was too cunning! He would rather believe Everett’s words

“Heather, are you suggesting that Jeffrey’s accident happened because he didn’t notice the oncoming traffic?” Everett didn’t answer Huxley directly; instead, he questioned Heather. “But after reviewing the surveillance footage, it’s clear that a car recklessly crashed into him, leading to the accident. You are twisting the facts here.”

“L... I didn’t! I wasn’t aware of the details, and I didn’t see the surveillance footage, so I just assumed it was because he just didn’t pay attention to other cars!”

Everett tightened his lips, his eyes fixed on her with a stern gaze.

“You’re just trying to clear your name, to make his parents think you didn’t know.”

Her lie punctured Heather was a bit flustered, but still pretended to be calm.

“Everett, what are you implying? Are you suggesting that I caused Jeffrey’s accident?”

“There will be an investigation, no need for your theatrics here.”

Huxley and Paloma heard every word of their conversation. While Huxley remained composed, Paloma was visibly shocked.

“You two...aren’t you married? Why are you talking to each other like this?”

“I have nothing to do with Heather Everett bluntly clarified, showing no intention of saving dignity for Heather, “As for Jeffrey’s case, I will investigate thoroughly. I’ll keep communicating with the doctors, and once he wakes up, the truth will be revealed.”

Paloma nodded, then looked at Heather who was still kneeling, her gaze filled with doubt.

“Girl, you can get up! If you’re not involved in this, you don’t need to do this. We, the Turners, won’t blame an innocent person for no reason.” Of course, this was on the condition that she wasn’t involved.

What Heather had originally planned was completely different from what was happening, leaving her awkwardly stuck.

Neither standing up nor continuing to kneel seemed right

Luckily, it was soon time to visit the ICU. The Turner parents were preoccupied with seeing their son, and they didn't pay any further attention to her.

After they left. Everett walked over to Heather and whispered, "You've overplayed your part."

"I was genuinely apologizing! Never mind, it doesn't matter if you don't believe me."

* only believe in facts." Everett strode away, but after a few steps, he suddenly stopped, turned around and looked at her, "And one more thing! Heather, you'd better pray that your claim about Langston being your child isn't true."

At his words, Heather immediately looked up at him.

When she met Everett's icy gaze, she instinctively shrank back.

"..... I've always followed the instructions of your parents. You can't blame me!"

"If it's true, I won't let anyone involved off the hook, including my parents."

"They are your parents; what can you possibly do?"

Everett tightened his lips, "Regardless, things won't go the way you think! As I've stated, I could never marry someone who has hurt Dorothy."

Chapter 400

Heather had never heard Everett say such words before. She believed that, given they were the parents who had raised him, Everett would surely display boundless tolerance.

But at this moment, his voice w

She was scared.

was too cold, as if he was prepared to turn his back on his own blood

She also realized that her les were piling up, becoming more and more outrageous. It seemed that even Everett's parents couldn't protect her anymore.

Everett left the hospital and got into the car

Kevin glanced at Everett through the rear view mirror and said in a low voice, "Mr. Lopez, there has been some progress regarding Langston's disappearance from the hospital last time. Our people have found this address."

He sent a location to Everett.

“Check everyone related to this place, by any means necessary.”

Kevin nodded, his tone slightly hesitant, as if he had debated whether to speak up repeatedly before finally saying, “Mr. Lopez, there’s something I’m not sure if I should say.”

Everett, on the other hand, was opening his laptop. He hummed lightly, indicating that Kevin could go on

“You... could actually consider having a DNA test done for Langston and Heather. That way, you could find out the truth?”

When Heather had said this. Kevin had been at the hospital too.

Although what Heather said sounded absurd, it was not impossible! After all, Mr. Lopez’s parents had indeed always indulged

Heather in whatever she wanted to do

But it was easy to verify the truth of this statement. All they needed was a paternity test

But Kevin could see that Everett seemed uninterested in getting one done.

Everett paused in the act of opening a file, then looked up at Kevin. “If you were Langston, who just returned and doesn’t have a good impression of me, how would you feel if I just went ahead and ordered a paternity test, regardless of whether you wanted it or not?”

Kevin clearly hadn’t considered it from Langston’s perspective.

“I never thought about getting a paternity test with Langston because he is my son, regardless of who his biological mother is. I

don’t want him to have any psychological trauma. The point is, I don’t believe Heather’s words”

Kevin instantly understood. He could imagine Everett’s protective instinct as a father. Moreover, there was really no need to confirm something he didn’t believe in his heart.

The car started, and Kevin was about to step on the gas

Everett suddenly spoke. “By the way, go ahead and acquire East Star Enterprises”

“Huh?” The instruction was so abrupt that Kevin was taken aback. “East Star Enterprises?”

Kevin wanted to ask, was in the same East Star Enterprises where Ms. Sanchez worked?

“Yes, after the acquisition, none of their employees are allowed to leave.”

“Mr Lopez, are you planning to...”

“Lane, the person in charge of East Star Enterprises, is pursuing Dorothy.”

Everett’s voice was very calm, as if he was just talking about the weather. “I don’t like it.”

Kevin blinked almost thinking he had heard wrong
Was Mr. Loper going to acquire a large investment company just because he didn't like something?!

"Is there a problem?" Everett looked at him.

Kevin immediately shook his head. "No, no!"

After thinking for a moment, he ventured to ask, "So after the acquisition, some of the employees of East Star Enterprises, ahem...I mean, those who are good at their jobs and are capable, do you want to incorporate them into the Lopez Corporation?"

Everett's eyebrows raised slightly, and his lips moved slightly. "Duh"
Kevin immediately made an OK sign with his hand, then started laughing "Mr Lopez, have you finally come around?"

"I'm discussing work"

"Yes yes, I understand!"