

## I Love You, Miss Genius ( Bonnie Shepard )

### Chapter 1047 - 1078

#### Chapter 1047

Ivor did not deny it. "Yes, don't you think their behavior was strange? Like they were hiding something?"

After seeing the professors, he had a nagging feeling that Bonnie hadn't been in the research institute while he was away. But where could she have gone if she wasn't at the institute?

"I noticed it too, but I can't figure out their motive," Floyd replied, frowning and confused.

Ivor remained silent for a moment before saying, "Let's go back."

Floyd was taken aback, not fully understanding Ivor's intent. "Just go back? We're not going to wait here?"

"Wait?" Ivor glanced at him coolly. "Wait for what?"

Floyd was momentarily speechless.

Indeed, what were they waiting for? Though they sensed something odd about the professors, they had no concrete evidence that they were covering for Bonnie. And even if they waited, they wouldn't necessarily get a definitive answer. It would be better to head back.

Noticing Floyd was still in a daze, Ivor's tone hardened. "Drive. Let's go."

Floyd snapped back to reality and quickly replied, "Yes, Mr. Ivor, I'm driving now."

Upon returning, Ivor continued supervising the preparations.

Meanwhile, Bonnie was in a deep sleep when the piercing ring of her phone startled her awake. The relentless ringing made it impossible for her to go back to sleep. She groped for her phone, answered the call groggily, and asked, "Hello, who is this?"

"Ms. Bonita, it's me, Toby!" Relieved that she finally answered, Toby quickly recounted how Ivor had come to the lab looking for her.

"Ivor went to the lab to find me?" Bonnie sat up abruptly, glancing at the time and feeling shocked. "I slept from yesterday afternoon until today? And I missed so many calls!"

She never used to sleep so deeply; it must have been due to her exhaustion over the past few days.

Toby didn't know how to respond upon hearing this. "Ms. Bonita, I've told you everything I needed to. Handle it as you see fit. I'm not sure how else I can help with your situation with Mr. Ivor."

"It's fine. Thank you for informing me." Bonnie thought, grateful she had briefed Toby before sleeping; otherwise, her situation could have been much more awkward.

Bonnie then freshened up, put on some light makeup, and changed into a dress. She then drove to the Knight Residence alone. She knew today's events would surely make Ivor suspicious, but she was confident she could smooth things over with a bit of sweet talk.

As she thought about seeing the man she hadn't seen in days, she smiled helplessly. She stepped on the gas, speeding towards her destination.

Ivor was busy instructing the servants on the preparations when Alfred rushed in at the Knight Residence.

"Mr. Ivor, Mrs. Bonnie is here. She's at the gate, but we haven't finished the preparations. What should we do?"

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## Chapter 1048

"Bonnie? She's here so soon?" Ivor glanced around the hall. "The rest of the arrangements are almost done. You all keep working on them; I'll go see Bonnie."

"Yes, Mr. Ivor," the butler immediately responded.

Ivor stood up from the sofa and walked briskly toward the door. Just before reaching the doorway, he slowed his pace. It had been a whole week since he last saw Bonnie.

'Did she miss me? What will our reunion be like?'

Various emotions flooded his mind, causing him to quicken his pace once again. Regardless of his feelings or impressions, nothing could surpass his urgent desire to see Bonnie.

When he arrived at the door, he saw Bonnie wearing a black dress with her long hair flowing. He felt as if everything around them had lost its color, leaving only Bonnie before his eyes.

Caught in Ivor's intense gaze, Bonnie blushed, which made her cheeks turn slightly red.

"Why are you looking at me like that? Is there something on my face?" His gaze was so direct, as if he wanted to devour her whole.

Ivor replied, "Yes."

Bonnie didn't immediately grasp his meaning. "Yes? Yes, what?"

Before she could react, Ivor reached out and lifted her off the ground. "There's something on your face—my favorite expression."

With her body suddenly suspended in the air, Bonnie was momentarily stunned. Then she heard what he said and felt her cheeks burn even hotter. "It's been a week, and you're still so smooth with your words."

Ivor smirked and carried Bonnie inside. "It's not being smooth; it's..."

"Telling the truth," Bonnie interjected. "You always use the same phrases. Can't you change it up a bit?"

Ivor's lips curled into a pleased smile. "Then what do you want to hear? Should I go learn something new and tell you when I come back?"

"Aren't you already self-taught? What else is there to learn?" Bonnie wrapped her arms around his neck and glanced around. She noticed that he had brought her to the backyard, raising her eyebrows in surprise.

"Why are we here in the backyard? Shouldn't we go to the front hall?"

Ivor blinked mysteriously. "Guess."

Seeing through his little scheme, Bonnie teased, "I guess... your surprise for me isn't ready yet."

"You've guessed it?" Ivor chuckled. "My clever honey. Let's stay in the backyard for a while. We'll go over it once the staff finishes the preparations."

Bonnie raised an eyebrow playfully. "It's not a special day today. Is it necessary to make it so grand?"

Ivor pretended to sigh helplessly. "You don't even know what day it is? That disappoints me a little."

Bonnie pondered for a moment but couldn't recall anything significant about the day. "Are you implying that today marks a week since we last met?"

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## Chapter 1049

She laughed helplessly as she spoke. Wasn't the excuse of preparing a surprise a bit far-fetched?

"Not only that," Ivor said, lowering his head to look at Bonnie. His gaze was intense, as if containing vast galaxies. "Today is also the one-week anniversary of our marriage."

Bonnie's smile became even more pronounced. "I've only heard of one-year anniversaries, not one-week anniversaries. You went to such lengths just to prepare a surprise for me."

Ivor smiled. "I thought I would use today, our one-week anniversary, as an excuse to want to spend some romantic time with you. We were only married for a short time and had to be apart for work. I didn't expect you to tease me like this."

With that, Ivor pretended to sigh despondently.

Bonnie knew Ivor was pretending, but she still had to coax him. Cradling his face, she smiled and said, "I was just teasing you. I'm really happy that you prepared a surprise for me."

Ivor didn't respond but chuckled softly and carried Bonnie into the backyard.

In an instant, Bonnie was greeted with the fragrance of flowers enveloping them. She saw roses all over the courtyard.

Bonnie patted Ivor's arm. "Can you put me down? I want to take a look at the flowers in the yard."

"Sure." Ivor complied and set Bonnie down.

Bonnie ran into the flower bushes. Her skirt swayed elegantly with her movements, like an elf dancing among the flowers, appearing exceptionally beautiful.

Ivor looked like he was in a trance as he watched Bonnie. If she were a flower, he would willingly be her nourishment, allowing her to bloom beautifully.

Bonnie gently touched the petals, then looked at Ivor with joy. "When were these flowers planted in the backyard? Why didn't I know about it?"

She had planned to use this fertile land to grow herbs but had been too busy with her research to till the soil. She hadn't expected that in such a short time, the place would be filled with roses, all in full bloom.

"These were planted before we got married." Ivor slowly approached Bonnie from behind.

He wrapped his arm around her slender waist. "Originally, I wanted to surprise you on our wedding day, but the flowers grew too slowly. I couldn't surprise you on that day. It's only now that these flowers are in full bloom."

Bonnie hadn't expected that Ivor had quietly done so much for her behind her back.

"Did you plant all the roses in the courtyard?"

"Yes, I planted them together with the staff from the old house," Ivor said as he tightened his grip around Bonnie's waist. "Do you like them?"

"Of course, how could I not like flowers planted by you?" Bonnie's eyes were bright. Seizing the opportunity when Ivor wasn't paying attention, she leaned over and planted a kiss on his lips.

"Ivor, thank you."

Ivor was initially taken aback. He then squeezed Bonnie's chin and gave her a passionate kiss after realizing what was going on.

Bonnie's eyelids trembled slightly, feeling the man's fierce strength and action. However, she didn't evade but instead wrapped her arms around the man's neck and returned the kiss.

The two kissed in the backyard, filled with the fragrance of roses. Rose petals fluttered in the breeze and made ripples.

Ivor looked at Bonnie's slightly flushed cheeks and sighed, "Honey, you're so beautiful."

Waiting for the warmth to fade from her face, Bonnie raised her eyebrows and asked teasingly, "Are you implying that I'm not beautiful on ordinary days?"

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## Chapter 1050

"Normally, you're beautiful, but you're even more beautiful like this, to the point where I can't take my eyes off you." While saying this, Ivor stared straight into Bonnie's eyes, his gaze filled with deep affection.

Bonnie awkwardly shifted her gaze away, and a blush spread across her cheeks. "I don't want to hear your smooth-talk anymore," she said.

Ivor was about to say something when the phone in his pocket vibrated.

He took out his phone and glanced at it. It was a message from Alfred.

"Mr. Ivor, everything is ready. You can bring Ms. Bonnie over now."

After reading it, Ivor put the phone back, took Bonnie's hand, and headed toward the hall. "Let's go to the front hall."

Bonnie turned her head to ask him, "Is everything ready?"

"Yes, it's all set, but the timing was a bit rushed. I don't know if it will be surprising enough for you."

Ivor's voice contained a hint of nervousness. It was clear that he was trying his best to make things perfect, but the time constraints were challenging.

"My standards aren't that high," Bonnie said, looping her arm through Ivor's. "The garden full of roses you planted for me was already enough to surprise me."

"No, it's not enough," Ivor said as they arrived at the front gate, seeming even more nervous than Bonnie. He took a deep breath. "Are you ready, honey?"

Bonnie laughed. "What's there to prepare for? Are you going to scare me?"

"Whether it's a surprise or a scare, it's up to you to decide. But I wouldn't prepare a scare for you," Ivor said, pushing the gate open with force.

A burst of light flooded Bonnie's eyes. It took her a moment to adjust to the sudden brightness, and she instinctively raised her hand to shield her eyes. After a few seconds, she slowly lowered her hand.

What she saw made her serene eyes ripple with emotion.

The entire villa was covered in colorful lights, and various delicate ornaments were placed in every corner, making it look like a dreamy and beautiful castle. Bonnie loved these peculiar little ornaments, and seeing so many of them all at once made her smile uncontrollably.

She walked over, picked up one of the ornaments from the table, and played with it lovingly.

Seeing her smile, Ivor smiled, too. "I knew you'd like these. Every time I went on a business trip abroad or to a place you hadn't been to, I'd take the time to collect these little things. It's taken me until now to gather so many. Do you like them?"

There was no need to ask. He already had his answer from Bonnie's smile, but he still wanted to hear Bonnie's evaluation of the gift he had prepared for her.

"I love them," Bonnie said casually, but each item she picked up touched her heart deeply. It was evident how much effort Ivor had put into preparing this gift for her.

"Good to hear. It wasn't in vain for me to collect them for so long." Ivor said as he walked over and gently wrapped his arm around Bonnie's shoulder. "Come on, let's go see what's in the dining room."

Bonnie raised an eyebrow playfully. "Another surprise?"

"It's not exactly a surprise. You'll see when you get there," Ivor said, holding Bonnie's hand as they walked toward the dining room.

Just as they reached the entrance, they heard a "click" as the lights were turned off, leaving only the candles on the table burning gently, casting a dim and intimate light.

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## Chapter 1051

Bonnie asked, "Is your last surprise for me a candlelight dinner?"

"Yeah, it is," he said smilingly. "I cooked all the dishes you see. Make sure to eat them all, okay?"

Before she could say anything, he added, "I should've started with dinner. It's been a while since I cooked, so you can't complain if some dishes taste funny."

"Why would I do something like that?" Bonnie pulled out a chair and sat down. "Let's dig in and see if your cooking skills are as good as they once were."

"All right." Ivor sat down and put a piece of cut steak on her plate.

Bonnie wasted no time and ate the steak. However, Ivor feared he did not cook it well enough, so he asked, "How is it?"

She met his nervous gaze and deliberately kept him on the hook. "Well, I—"

As expected, his body stiffened. Bonnie's eyes sparkled with joy as she said, "It melted in my mouth, and you seasoned it perfectly."

Ivor sighed in relief when he realized she was teasing him. He could not help but chuckle and say, "Jeez, Bonnie. I can't believe you made fun of me when you know how much I care about your opinions."

"Hey, you've always done the same to me. I didn't know you couldn't take a joke," Bonnie retorted before eating more of her steak.



Ivor was delighted to receive her approval regarding his cooking skills. He noticed how much she enjoyed the steak and dug into his meal. Of course, he remembered to offer her more throughout dinner.

The couple created a heartwarming and romantic atmosphere. Soon after, Ivor uncorked a bottle of red wine and poured some of it into his wife. He said, "I took this wine from the cellar. It had plenty of time to mature, so it tastes best now. Here, have some."

Bonnie swirled her wine glass and said, "I remember how potent this wine is. Are you trying to get me drunk? That must be why you chose this one."

Ivor grinned. "I seem to recall you being a good drinker. How can I make you drunk with just a bottle of wine? The timing just feels right for this wine, that's all."

"Are you sure about that?" Bonnie knew what he was trying to do but did not say it aloud.

"Of course I am. Do you think I have an ulterior motive?" Ivor raised his glass and clinked it with hers. "Cheers."

"Cheers, Ivor." Bonnie clinked her glass with his and downed her wine.

Ivor was stunned when he saw that. "Why'd you drink it all?"

She looked at him, puzzled. "You said cheers, didn't you?"

He facepalmed. "It's just a saying. I didn't think you'd down the whole glass. You can be so weird sometimes, honey."

She rolled her eyes. "Are you sure I'm the weird one here, or is it another of your tricks?"

A moment later, she massaged her brows and felt her temperature rising. She even felt a little dizzy as she said, "You said I was a good drinker earlier, but just one glass made me a little drunk."

Ivor rose from his chair and went to check on Bonnie. "You wouldn't feel like this if you hadn't downed it."

He grew worried when he saw his wife's pink cheeks. "How do you feel? Should I move you somewhere to rest?"

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## Chapter 1052

"Th-that's okay. I can walk just fine." Bonnie felt dizzy, and her body was burning up. She tried to stand but involuntarily staggered and fell instead.

Ivor quickly caught her to prevent her from falling. "Stop acting tough. You're drunk. Come on, I'll help you to the bedroom so you can rest."

"Burp!"

The scent of red wine mixed with Bonnie's natural fragrance, creating a seductive sensation. "Fine, but you must carry me, or I'll have to walk to the bedroom myself. That's too troublesome."

Ivor looked at her lovingly when he saw her hazy eyes and blushing cheeks. "Sure, I can carry you if you don't want to walk."

Bonnie wagged her finger at him and said, "Come here."

He did as she said. "All right, I'm here. What is it?"

Suddenly, she wrapped her arms around his neck. "All right, that's good enough. Now, I won't fall. Let's go."

She was not as calm and collected as she usually was because she was drunk. Instead, she behaved like a helpless girl.

Ivor grinned before carrying her. "Come on, I'll take you to the bedroom to rest."

Meanwhile, Alfred, hiding in the corner, saw everything. He gestured at the housekeepers.

As Ivor carried Bonnie upstairs, he was so close to her that he could feel her warm breath on his neck. He could also smell the red wine from her breath. Although he did not drink much, he was also a little drunk.

On the other hand, Bonnie sensed something before gently touching his cheeks. "Why do you feel hot? Do you have a fever?"

"I don't have a fever." Ivor lowered his gaze and stared at her profoundly. "Do you want to guess why I'm hot?"

Bonnie lifted her chin and thought about something. She was about to answer him, but her drunkenness made her forget. She could not keep a clear mind, causing her to shake her head before responding, "I don't know. Why can't you just tell me?"

He chuckled and tapped her nose lovingly. "You made me like this, silly."

"Huh?" Bonnie glanced at him. Suddenly, she understood what he meant when she realized she was still in his arms. "I get it now. You're hot because you carried me upstairs. You can put me down now. I can walk by myself."

Ivor scoffed. "Do you think I'll let you go now?"

She was still in a daze, asking, "Hmm? What do you mean?"

He grinned and carried her to the bed before setting her down. Before Bonnie knew it, Ivor pinned her to the bed. He looked at her blushing cheeks and said charmingly, "Do you get my drift now?"

Bonnie was stunned as she met his profound gaze. Her eyes became misty, too. "Oh, I get it. You're trying to—"

Before she could finish, he pressed down on her and asked, "Tell me, what am I trying to do to you?"

She scoffed and blushed even more before turning away.

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## **Chapter 1053**

Bonnie said lowly, "Save it. I know you're trying to make me say something embarrassing. Well, I refuse to fall for that."

Ivor chuckled. "We're so close with each other now. We should be able to say whatever we want without feeling embarrassed."

She rolled her eyes and asked, "Do you think everyone's as shameless as you?"

He cupped her face and smiled as he stared into her eyes affectionately. "It looks like you know what I mean. I guess there's no point pretending anymore."

A moment later, Ivor lowered his head and kissed Bonnie's lips. Then, he pressed his body on hers. "Can we do it?"

She blushed and grumbled, "I can't believe you're asking me that. You're just doing it on—"

Before she could finish, he kissed her again. This time, it was more intense than before. Bonnie felt like Ivor could suck her breath away. Her legs weakened as she tried to push him away, but it was futile.

He continued to kiss her intensely while caressing her body.

"Mmm..." She could not help but moan as she gripped his collar.

Thud, thud.

Their clothes fell to the floor, piece by piece. The moon's gentle beams shined through the windows momentarily before the clouds floated by.

...

Ivor's phone rang the next day, causing Bonnie to wake up.

Buzz! Buzz, buzz!

'Ugh, that's annoying!'

Bonnie's brows furrowed as she reached for Ivor's shoulder. She intended to pat his arm to wake him, but her hand fell on the bed instead. 'Wait, he's not here. Where'd he go?'

She propped up her sore body and reached for his phone. She wanted to silence it, but she saw that it was a call from Yale. Bonnie had just returned from Yale, but she thought it was just a coincidence that they were calling.

Then, Ivor entered with a breakfast tray. He realized Bonnie was awake and in a trance, so he asked, "Why do you look so out of it? Is something bothering you?"

She shook her head and returned to his senses before handing the phone to Ivor. "There's a call for you. It's from Yale."

"Yale?" He frowned.

'Is it news about Falcon?"

Ivor's expression changed so abruptly that it roused Bonnie's suspicion. She asked, "Yeah, why did you react that way? Is your branch company facing some issues?"

He realized he was so anxious that he had forgotten to hide his emotions. However, it was too late because Bonnie had seen through him.

Ivor composed himself and responded calmly, "I was just a little surprised, that's all. I don't know why anyone from Yale would call me. It's probably a prank call. You can reject the call for me."

Initially, Bonnie was suspicious of the call, but his calm demeanor made her dismiss it. She said, "I think you should answer it. What if it's urgent?"

Ivor kept up his act and nodded. "All right, I'll answer it. Here, have your breakfast while I'm at it."

She waved at him. "Okay, bye!"

Ivor took his phone and answered the call on the balcony. Meanwhile, Bonnie looked at him through the window and frowned.

'Why does it look like he's hiding something from me?"

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## Chapter 1054

The man on the phone said, "We found where Falcon is in District Nine. There are plenty of big and powerful organizations there. It won't be easy to catch him there."

Ivor frowned menacingly. "Falcon's one cunning bastard. I can't believe he ran to District Nine. Keep an eye on him, but don't do anything rash. I contact the Nidhogs' leader and discuss our next move with him."

The man on the phone responded respectfully, "Understood, Mr. Ivor."

Simultaneously, Bonnie received a call from Collin. She glanced at the balcony to ensure Ivor was still there before tiptoeing to the bathroom. Then, she closed and locked the door before answering the call. "What's up, Collin?"

"We found Falcon."

She frowned. "Where is he?"

"He's in District Nine," he replied solemnly, "Still, we only know his general location and not his exact one. I'm confident a significant organization is helping to cover his tracks. That's the only reason we can't pinpoint Falcon's location despite our best efforts."

"Collin, don't bother stating the obvious. Falcon has the chip. Of course, countless organizations would want to protect him. I knew this would happen. It's not news to me." Bonnie frowned and rubbed her chin thoughtfully.

She added, "Don't be rash. I'll contact the Dark Knights' leader and see if he knows what we know. If he doesn't, I'll share our information with him. That'll allow me to form a plan with him."

Collin asked, puzzled, "Why don't we move in on Falcon ourselves, Chief? We tracked him down first, after all Why must you inform the Dark Knights about it? Their leader is wicked and does nothing but drool over our chip."

Bonnie explained, "He might be desperate for our chip, but we can't deny that he's one of our most capable allies. Most of District Nine's organizations are influential and prestigious. The good, the bad, and the ugly are there.

"Although we're no pushovers, we'll be in their territory. If we barge into District Nine thoughtlessly, they might wipe us out. Things will be vastly different with the Dark Knights on our side.

"The minor organizations will be wary of us and think twice before helping the major organizations to take us down. That's why telling the Dark Knights what we know will benefit us."

Finally, Collin understood the reason behind Bonnie's actions. "Wow, you've thought of everything, Chief let my emotions get the better of me. Fortunately, I have you to pull me out, or I would've endangered our men."

"It's okay. Just stick to me and learn how I handle situations like these. You'll pick up soon enough," Bonnie said casually.

'It's a good thing Collin is loyal. That's why I kept him beside me and made him my assistant. He has never disappointed me and has done an excellent job overseeing my organization over the past several years.'

Although Collin sometimes let his emotions lead him, his strengths compensated for that insignificant shortcoming.

"You got it, Chief. I'll stick beside you and learn everything I can."

Suddenly, Bonnie heard Ivor knocking on the bathroom door. "Bonnie, are you in there? What's taking you so long? Does your stomach hurt?"

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## Chapter 1055

Ivor twisted the door handle but realized Bonnie had locked it.

'That's odd. I know Bonnie never locks the door in her own place. Why'd she lock it this time? Is she on the phone with someone? Still, she wouldn't need to lock the door. Is she discussing something she doesn't want me to know about?'

Bonnie's heart raced as she strained her voice, making herself sound uncomfortable. "Um, my tummy hurts. Don't come in here, Ivor. It, uh, stinks in here."

Ivor grew suspicious, not wholly believing her claims. He asked, "Should I get you some medicine?"

"I'll be okay! I just need to stay in here for a little longer. You can do what you need to do. I'll just be here until the smell clears." Bonnie faked a groan, trying to make herself sound more uncomfortable.

Ivor did not pry. Instead, he said, "Okay, I'll wait for you out here. You can come out whenever you're ready."

Bonnie observed the frosted glass door and saw his shadow disappear. Only then did she sigh in relief. She was glad he did not insist on coming inside, or he would have seen through her lies.

Meanwhile, Collin overheard their conversation through the phone. He could not help but ask, "Is Mr. Ivor gone, Chief?"

She responded, "Yeah, he's gone. That should be it for now. Go ahead and make the preparations. We'll head to Yale again in a few days. We'll catch that son of a bitch this time."

"Understood," he responded respectfully before hanging up.

Bonnie wanted to make her tummy ache look more genuine, so she clutched her belly as she exited the bathroom. She even said, "I'm not sure if it's because I downed the wine last night, but my stomach is upset.

"I just ate breakfast, and my stomachache was unbearable. My feet even fell asleep because I took such a long time sitting on the can."

Ivor noticed her cheeks had paled, even though they had been rosy. His suspicions disappeared when he saw that. He felt worried instead, asking, "Is it that bad? Should I take you to the emergency room?"

Bonnie shook her head. "Must I remind you that I'm a doctor? I know what's happening to my body. It's just a minor tummy ache. I just need to avoid eating spicy and oily foods for now."

Ivor approached and helped her to the bed. "I'll rub your feet. That should make you feel better."

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## Chapter 1056

Bonnie shook her head, saying, "It's okay. I just need a minute."

When Collin called, she told Ivor a bald-faced lie. Although it was not too severe, she felt guilty and did not deserve a foot rub.



"I have to rub your feet, or they might cramp up. You said they fell asleep because you were on the can for too long, right?"

Before Bonnie could reject him again, he lay her on the bed and gave her a foot rub. He was gentle yet firm, relieving her exhaustion from the strenuous activities they shared last night. She felt so comfortable that she decided not to fight it. Instead, she let her husband do whatever he wanted.

The couple had done unspeakable things to each other into the night. Bonnie felt overworked, but Ivor helped her relax with his foot rub. She fought to keep her eyes open as she lay her head on the pillow. Even so, she soon fell asleep.

"Okay, honey. That should do it. You haven't finished your breakfast, so you should eat. If your stomach still aches after that, I'll give you another-" Ivor looked up and noticed her eyes were closed, and her breathing was even.

'It's my fault for indulging in my lust too much last night. I'll have to control myself next time. Bonnie can't keep going through this.'

Ivor collected his thoughts and tucked her in. After kissing her forehead, he stood up and cleaned the breakfast tray.

'It looks like she'll be asleep for a long time. I should clean the dishes and make her some food again when she's awake.'

As he cleaned, he accidentally touched her phone and woke the screen. He saw that she had received a text from an unknown sender but could not see its contents because of Bonnie's privacy settings.

Then, Ivor remembered Bonnie locking herself in the restroom. He took her phone, trembling as he motioned to unlock the phone to see if she was keeping a secret from him. However, he froze.

Ultimately, he did not unlock her phone and put it back on the table instead. After all, Bonnie told him that trust was essential in a relationship. Even if she hid something from him, he was sure she had her reasons. Otherwise, she would have told him about it.

'Bonnie won't hurt me, so why should I bother with unnecessary thoughts?'

With that in mind, Ivor felt more cheerful. He removed the breakfast tray from the room and discarded his thoughts about checking her phone.

When he left, Bonnie abruptly woke up and turned to look at her phone. She sighed in relief when she realized no one had touched it. She took the phone and deleted Collin's text before encrypting her phone. Only then did Bonnie feel safe enough to continue sleeping.

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## Chapter 1057

Bonnie slept until the afternoon. She yawned as she went downstairs. Then, she saw Sydney and Gunnar sitting on the couch chatting with Sigmund. The trio laughed as they talked, creating a wholesome atmosphere.

However, Sydney and Gunnar's expressions stiffened when they saw Bonnie. It shattered the trio's harmonious moment.

Sigmund noticed the duo's expressions and realized something was amiss. When he turned and saw Bonnie, his expression softened and turned tender. "Bonnie, you're up! Are you hungry? I'll tell the chef to prepare some food for you."

She smiled and shook her head. "That's okay. Grandpa. I slept for so long that I lost my appetite. I just need to rest for a while more. I'll join you for dinner, though."

"Hey, you can't just starve yourself," Sigmund said before yelling toward the back, "Alfred! Tell the chef to prepare some spaghetti for Bonnie! We need to put some food in her belly!"

Alfred peered out from a corner and immediately responded, "Right away. Mr. Sigmund."

He was about to head to the kitchen when Sigmund added, "Wait, Bonnie says she doesn't have much appetite. Tell the chef to make something light. Don't make the food too oily."

"Understood, sir. I'll tell the chef." Alfred said before striding toward the kitchen.

Since Sigmund had said so, Bonnie did not argue. Instead, she sat beside him and snacked on some fruit slices.

Meanwhile, Sydney and Gunnar grew upset when they saw how much Sigmund doted on Bonnie.

Sydney was already furious when she saw Bonnie coming down the stairs. The former felt much more rageful as she watched Bonnie enjoy the fruits.

"Dad, have you met anyone with a daughter-in-law who sleeps until the afternoon? vor works hard daily, yet she doesn't even consider helping She's a sloth, so why did you tell the chef to prepare food for her? In my opinion, you should let her starve. That'll teach her to sleep in."

Sydney sounded like an annoying aunt lecturing her niece. Her hateful tone was unmistakable.

At that moment, Bonnie glared at Sydney and said sarcastically, "What, you've never slept in once because you felt sick? Did Gunnar punish you by starving you to death if you did? That must be why you're veriting your frustrations on me. You must want me to suffer the same mistreatment you did."

"Why would my husband do anything like that?!" Sydney retorted, "Also, are you sick? You look fit as a fiddle with your rosy cheeks, you little brat." Bonnie scoffed. "I didn't know you're capable of telling whether or not someone's sick based on their looks alone. You're making the miracle doctor look like a chump."

Sydney's face reddened, and her breathing became unstable.

Gunnar noticed the fury in his wife's eyes and patted her hand to comfort her. He said, "Dad, you shouldn't dote on Bonnie so much. She might start acting like a spoiled brat before you know it. I'm Ivor's uncle and am upset on his behalf for marrying someone like her. I'm sure he's frustrated, too."

Suddenly, Ivor's voice sounded behind, "Feel free to get upset, Uncle Gunnar, but that's your opinion. I've never regretted marrying Bonnie. Instead, I'm delighted to dote on my wife. I'd give her the world if I could.

\*Please never speak for me again, Uncle Gunnar. I'd hate for you to drive a wedge between me and my wife."

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## Chapter 1058

After Ivor said his piece, Bonnie stood beside him to show he protected her.

Gunnar knew how much Ivor doted on Bonnie. The former said those things earlier because he thought his nephew was not around. Gunnar never expected Ivor to rebuke him so blatantly.

Sydney's expression grew cold as she said, "Ivor, we're your aunt and uncle. Gunnar said that with your best interest in mind. It's only a matter of time before you regret doting on Bonnie."

Ivor held his wife's shoulder and smiled. "I appreciate your kind reminder, Aunt Sydney, but I have no use for it. Bonnie and I know how to handle our marriage. Although you might be my aunt and uncle, that doesn't mean you can intervene in our relationship."

Sydney was furious when he twisted her good intentions. She wanted to retort but could not find the words.

Gunnar knew his wife would only get angrier if they stayed. So, he said, "That's it, Dad. We'll be leaving now. We'll see if we can visit you tomorrow."

Sigmund waved at him and said, "See you soon."

When the older couple left, Sigmund looked at Bonnie and said apologetically. "Those two have the wrong idea about you, Bonnie. They're decent people. You just have to brush off what they said about you."

Bonnie giggled. "I'm not that petty, Grandpa. That's the worst they can do to me. They've never done anything too severe, so I get what you're saying."

Gunnar and Sydney could badmouth her all they wanted, but they would never benefit. Since that was the case, Bonnie did not care about them. Sigmund felt relieved. "That's the spirit. I'm old and only want to see my family be peaceful. The last thing I want is for you to hate each other."

Before Bonnie could respond, Ivor held her hand and chuckled, saying, "She knows, Grandpa. You don't have to tell her twice."

Sigmund nodded. "That's great."

Although he did not say much, he was figuring out how to help Bonnie, Gunnar and Sydney get along. After all, the older couple was family-it would not be good if they had bad blood with Bonnie.

Ivor finished breakfast the following day and told Bonnie, "I have to work today. I won't be able to accompany you, okay?"

She waved. "That's okay. I'll play some chess or admire the flowers with Grandpa."

"I want to stay with you, but my workload has piled up a lot during my time overseas." He looked at his wife longingly. "Come over here for a second."

Bonnie followed her husband's instructions and looked at him. Puzzled, she asked, "What is it?"

He held her waist and kissed her intensely. "Wait for me, and I'll be home before you know it."

She blushed and pushed at his chest, saying, "Jeez, there's a time and place for everything. The housekeepers are just over there. They could've seen that. Don't you feel shy?"

Ivor motioned to leave for work, intending to let Bonnie deal with the housekeepers' suggestive looks alone.

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## Chapter 1059

Bonnie felt awkward just thinking about it. Before Ivor left, he kissed her cheek and said, "We're married. It's normal for us to do these things, right? Okay, I need to leave now. Wait for me to get home."

Bonnie blushed and rolled her eyes at him. "Okay, you can go now. Stop embarrassing me."

Ivor hugged her tightly before finally leaving. She grumbled as she watched, "He's just going off to work but has to be so dramatic. He made it sound like he's going off to war. I don't know what else to say about him."

Soon after, Bonnie turned away and went to look for Sigmund to play chess with him. "Grandpa, it's been a while since we've played chess together. How about a match?"

He waved smilingly. "No, thank you! I refuse to play against you since you're much better than me. It won't do my pride any favors."

"That's not true. Don't you think you're a good chess player, too?" she asked. Then, she realized he was adamant about not playing and asked again, "Are you sure you won't play with me, Grandpa?"

He shook his head. "No way in hell. I meant what I said."

He knew he was not her match. Moreover, he had made other plans. With that in mind, he checked the time and wondered where Sydney was.

Bonnie stopped insisting since the older man genuinely did not want to play. "Should we do something else then? Do you want to go fishing or admin the flowers?"

Sigmund was about to respond when he saw Sydney. She said, "Gunnar's busy with work today. He told me to come and accompany you."

Then, she frowned when she saw Bonnie.

Sigmund knew Sydney cared about him. Otherwise, she would not have visited frequently and chatted with him whenever Ivor and Bonnie were not around. Sydney and Gunnar's shaky relationship with Bonnie bothered Sigmund greatly.

"I'd love it if they got along better."

He gestured for Sydney to come nearer, saying, "It's perfectly fine for you and Bonnie to chat with me. It's a good thing you're here, Sydney. Come sit here-I have something to tell you."

It was rare for Sigmund to look so solemn, so Sydney could not help but do as he said. She sat down and asked, "What is it, Dad?"

He asked, "You're having a tea party this afternoon, right?"

She nodded, puzzled. "Yeah, that's right. What about it? Is there something wrong with the tea party?"

"No, not at all, Sydney," Sigmund said before turning to Bonnie, "I want you to take Bonnie along to expand her social circle. She can make some friends there. Otherwise, she'll get bored if she stays home alone."

That was the last thing Sydney expected her father-in-law to ask. She frowned and said, "But Bonnie's so nasty. Who would want to befriend her?"

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## Chapter 1060

Bonnie glared daggers at Sydney. "You think I'm nasty? Did I do something to offend you or make your life miserable?"

Sydney was furious but did not know what to say.

'It's true that Bonnie has never done anything to make my life miserable. However, she turned my son against me and my husband. That said, I can't mention that in front of my father-in-law. I can only bear with her and hold it in.'

Meanwhile, the coldness in Bonnie's eyes intensified. "Go ahead, Sydney. Why aren't you saying anything?"

There was one more reason Sydney did not want to take Bonnie with her. The former feared she would not be able to handle the young lady. Sydney did not have what it took to clean up after Bonnie if she made a mess at the party.

"That doesn't matter. I'm still not taking you with me."

Sigmund frowned and looked at Sydney in disapproval. He said, "You and Bonnie have married into my family. That makes you two family. Don't you think you're crossing the line by defying me, Sydney?"

Her brows furrowed as she said, "I'm sorry, Dad, but I must insist. You know Bonnie and I have bad blood. Why are you making me take her to the party? Aren't you worried we might fight?"

"We're family. Why would you hold any grudges against her?" Sigmund frowned solemnly.

He was about to continue, but Bonnie said, "It's okay, Grandpa. If she doesn't want to take me, I'll drive myself there."

Bonnie knew what Sigmund was trying to do, and she had no intention of making things difficult for him. Either way, she was bored.

'It's just a tea party. What's the big deal?'

Sigmund was surprised. "Wh-what did you say? You're willing to go there by yourself?"

Given the situation and the duo's characters, he thought Bonnie would skip the party altogether. He never thought she would drive herself there.

Bonnie said smilingly, "There's nothing wrong with that, right, Grandpa? I can take care of myself, afterall. Are you worried about me going there alone?"

"N-Not really, but..." Sigmund glanced at Sydney, saying, "Since Bonnie said she's willing to drive herself, you won't have to take her along. That said, she rarely goes to such parties. Look after her while you're there, and don't let anyone pick on her."

The last part of his sentence made Sydney speechless. She grumbled under her breath, "She's ruthless when arguing. What makes you think anyone can pick on her?"

'Still, I might make Dad upset if I reject him again.'

Ultimately, Sydney could only agree. She said through gritted teeth, "I understand, Dad. Don't worry about it. I'll look after her the best I can!" Bonnie glanced sidelong at her and waved. "I'll manage. I don't need you to look out for me. On the contrary, you might need my help instead, right?"

Sydney bolted from her seat and glared at Bonnie. "If you can manage, I can, too! Stay away from me at the party. Otherwise, you'll just get in my way."

Immediately after, she turned and left.

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## Chapter 1061



Sigmund looked at Bonnie helplessly. "Sydney's just a hothead. Don't let her get to you, Bonnie."

"It's okay. I'm used to her tantrums." Bonnie waved and checked the time. "There's still some time until the tea party. Should we play a round of chess to kill some time, Grandpa?"

This time, Sigmund quickly agreed. "All right, let's go. Otherwise, it'll start to get boring."

Bonnie realized why he kept turning her down when she asked him to play earlier. Apparently, he was waiting for Sydney to arrive and wanted to ask her to take Bonnie to the party. Even so, Bonnie did not expose Sigmund.

Bonnie turned to the butler and said, "Alfred, could you get us the rosewood chess set?"

"Right away, Ms. Bonnie." Alfred left to do as she asked.

Meanwhile, Sigmund rolled his sleeves and said, "I need to prepare myself mentally to play against you."

Bonnie could not help but giggle. "Do you have to be so dramatic, Grandpa?"

"I know I'm no match for you in chess, but I'm hopeful. After all, I might just get lucky and win a match."

A moment later, Alfred arrived with the rosewood chess set. Sigmund chose black pieces, leaving Bonnie with white ones. "Let's begin, Bonnie."

He looked so severe that she could not help but smile and comfort him, "We're just playing for fun. You don't need to be so nervous."

He laughed heartily. "Hahaha! You don't have to comfort me. I'm happy to play chess with you, even if it means I'll lose."

She decided to drop the subject and move a piece. Occasionally, Sigmund would ask Bonnie for pointers, and she would patiently guide him. The duo had an excellent time playing chess.

Later, afternoon arrived, and it was time for the tea party. Sigmund arranged for the chauffeur to take Bonnie there. When she reached the entrance, she saw Sydney looking left, and right. The latter frowned and approached when she saw Bonnie.

"What took you so long, Bonnie? You're late!"

Bonnie did not expect Sydney to wait for her outside. The former checked her watch and said, "Grandpa told me the party's at three. I'm three minutes early."

Sydney was stumped but said sarcastically. "You just love using Ivor and Dad to throw your weight around. Do you think having them as your support makes you special?"

Bonnie shrugged. "That was never my intention. I can't help it if that's your perspective."

Those words ficked Sydney off. She was about to retort, but Bonnie added, "That said, I think having a strong support system does make me special. Did you point that @ut because you're jealous that yor and Grandpa dote on me?"

"I said nothing about being jealous! Please stop with your bullshit!" Sydney was so furious that she instinctively raised her voice.

Some women passing by turned and looked at her strangely. Sydney blushed when she noticed them. She tried pinning it on Bonnie, saying refuse to waste any more time on you. Come inside now. Don't just stand there while people laugh at you."

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## Chapter 1062

"I wasn't the one yelling, Sydney. I have nothing to worry about." Bonnie slowly opened the door and lowered her voice, "You're the one who should be worried about them staring at you."

Sydney could not believe Bonnie got one over her. The former turned red with rage and was about to refute Bonnie. However, more people arrived at the entrance to go to the tea party, so Sydney could only suppress her anger and glare at Bonnie before marching into the hall.

Meanwhile, Bonnie strolled after her calmly. She saw an empty area before the reception when she reached the hall. She also saw uniformed staff members going back and forth while decorating the area.

'It looks like they're setting up an auction of some sort. It's my first time here. I'm surprised they included an auction in a tea party. Still, I could be wrong to assume that. I should ask one of the staff members.'

"Excuse me, is there an auction here? Is that why you're setting things up?"

Bonnie had attended plenty of auctions. Judging by the setup, she knew she had most likely guessed it correctly. The staff replied, "That's right, miss. Our mistress wants to host an auction to make the tea party livelier."

Bonnie nodded understandingly. "Ah, I see. Okay, then, I'll leave you to it."

"Certainly." The staff lowered her head before going to the backstage to continue working.

Soon after, Bonnie sat in the corner and leisurely sipped her tea, waiting for the auction to begin. All the women here came from the high society circle. They had always seen the same bunch of people for every tea party or social gathering.

Hence, they could not resist talking about Bonnie when they saw her.

"I wonder who she is and which family she comes from. Although her outfit looks ordinary, she has an unusual air."

"You're right. That girl looks elegant

and gorgeous. My son likes girls like her. I wonder if she has a boyfriend. I'll talk to her for my son if she doesn't."

"If that's what you want, you should approach her and ask her about it. That'll make you look more sincere, too."

"You have a point. I guess I'll—"

Before she could finish, Sydney interjected, "Save yourself the trouble. Your son can't score with her because she's married to my nephew."

She might not like Bonnie, but she could not stand the idea of anyone else trying to get Bonnie.

'Hmph! These women come from minor families. How dare they even consider taking Bonnie from the Knights?! They should know their place!'

The women were stunned, staring at Sydney with utter disbelief. One of them asked, "That girl is married to your nephew? She's the one who became Ivor's bride recently right, Sydney?"

"We've never seen her in any of our social gatherings. I never expected her to show up now. Did you bring her to get her accustomed to our circle, Sydney? You're a wonderful aunt for doing that."

After learning who Bonnie was, the woman who wanted to talk to Bonnie about her son stepped forward to apologize to Sydney.

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## Chapter 1063

Chapter 1063

"Forgive me for saying such inappropriate things, Sydney. I didn't know that girl is married to your nephew."

The woman knew the Knights were the most prestigious family in Pyralis. Sydney was in a different league since she was Gunnar's wife.

The woman said she intended to introduce her son to Bonnie, so she feared people would misunderstand her and think she was trying to steal Bonnie from the Knights. Even so, the woman did not know who Bonnie was.

After finding out, she immediately apologized. Otherwise, she would have been in deep trouble if the Knights held her accountable.

Sydney relaxed once the woman apologized. The former said, "It's okay. I forgive your ignorance. Still, you'll have to be more careful next time. Although I might not reprimand you, Ivor wouldn't be so kind if he had heard your intentions."

The woman wiped the sweat from her forehead and gulped. "Y-You're right, Sydney. I'll be more mindful about my words next time."

Sydney responded dryly, "Good."

Meanwhile, Bonnie heard everything. She could not help but glance at Sydney in shock.

'Sydney has always hated me. I'm amazed she defended me when I wasn't around.'

At that moment, the staff members finished setting up the auction. Then, the host went on stage and explained the rules. Everyone in the hall had never seen an auction during the tea party. They appreciated the novelty and anticipated what items would be up for bid.

Bonnie was just as curious as everyone else. She wanted to see if there was anything worth bidding for.

Once the host finished introducing the auction and explaining the rules, a staff member brought an item to the stage. On the tray was a pair of exquisite lavender jade bracelets. The jewelry captivated the women's hearts.

Countless women bid on them as soon as the host announced the starting bid. When Bonnie saw the bracelets, she immediately thought of Avril.

'Those bracelets' colors are unique. They look cheerful and elegant. They're an accurate reflection of Avril's character. Since the New Year is coming soon, they'll make perfect gifts for her.'

With that in mind, Bonnie raised her auction paddle to bid on the bracelets. The highest bid at that moment was over a hundred grand. Bonnie considered raising it to a price where no one could compete with her.

"Six hundred thousand dollars!"

Immediately after, everyone in the hall looked at Bonnie.

"Who is she? Why would she be so reckless? There's no way she bid six hundred grand. It's wasteful to buy those bracelets at such a high price."

"I overheard Sydney saying that girl is married to Ivor."

"Wait, that girl is Ivor's wife? No wonder she didn't even blink when she bid that much."

"Forget that. We're not as wealthy as the Knights. We should give up bidding on those bracelets and let

her have them. We'll just bid on something else."

Even so, Bonnie continued to surprise them. No matter what the host put up for bid, she proceeded to bid and left no chance for the others to purchase anything.

Initially, everyone let her have her way because she was a member of the Knight family. However, they began to compete with her later in the auction. Since no one was as rich as Bonnie, they grew resentful toward her.

A woman sitting beside Sydney said sarcastically, "I know your nephew's wealthy, but he won't be for much longer if that girl keeps spending his money like this. You're his aunt, right? Aren't you going to say something?"

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## Chapter 1064

### Chapter 1064

Sydney knew the woman was trying to stir up trouble, so she stared at the latter and asked, "How does it concern you? Ivor's more than happy to let her spend his money. We don't lack money, after all."

The woman did expect to fail at driving a wedge between Sydney and Bonnie, not to mention Sydney had criticized her. The woman was furious as Sydney looked at her coldly. The latter questioned, "What's wrong? Do you have something else to say?"

"N-Not at all, Sydney." Although the woman was furious, she could only suppress her anger. She stood up and added, "I'm going to the restroom."

Sydney knew the woman was upset and excused herself. The former did not even glance at the woman when she said, "Sure,"

The woman's expression turned solemn as she bit her lip and stood up, exasperated. Since Bonnie was not sitting too far from them, she heard how Sydney had defended her. The former raised a brow and looked at Sydney.

Suddenly, the latter no longer looked despicable to Bonnie. Instead, Sydney began to look a little likable. Sydney sensed something and looked at Bonnie.

When they looked at each other, Sydney moved to sit closer to Bonnie. After looking around, Sydney asked, "What are you looking at? Don't go thinking I'm defending you. I said all that because you're married to Ivor, which makes you one of us.

"Since I'm also your aunt now, it'd be outrageous of me to take that woman's side instead of yours."

Bonnie sipped her tea and said, "I didn't think you were defending me. Why are you in such a hurry to clarify it?"

Sydney rolled her eyes, exasperated. "Ugh, I shouldn't waste any more time on you. Although I might've defended you, that doesn't mean I approve of your actions during this auction. Ivor works hard to earn his money, so you better control yourself.

"Otherwise, you'll drain his hard-earned money because you're spending faster than he can make!"

Bonnie casually sipped her tea again and said, "What makes you think I'm spending his money?"

Although Ivor had given Bonnie his black bank card and told her to spend his money to her heart's content, she did not do it.

Sydney glanced at her suspiciously. "Are you trying to tell me you're using your own money to buy all this? Are you aware you've already spent forty-one million dollars? Also, you're just a student. You can't possibly earn that much."

Bonnie raised her brow and said absentmindedly, "It's just forty-one million dollars. Big deal."

"What?!" Sydney rolled her eyes when she heard how casual Bonnie sounded. The former added, "I know you're not the breadwinner. You don't know how hard it is to support a family. Why did Ivor marry someone as wasteful as you?"

Bonnie ate a piece of cake and said, "Whatever."

Then, she glanced at Sydney's desserts and said, "These aren't bad at all, Sydney. You should try some." Sydney glared at Bonnie, exasperated. "No thanks! I lost my appetite talking to you."

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## Chapter 1065

### Chapter 1065

Bonnie shrugged innocently, saying, "You should just say you don't want any. Why do you have to blame me? I never said anything to upset you."

"Just shut it, Bonnie. I can't be bothered to argue with you anymore." Sydney did not want to get angry, so she chose to stop arguing.

Under normal circumstances, Bonnie would not have listened to Sydney. The more the latter wanted to silence Bonnie, the more the latter would talk. However, Bonnie cared more about the auction now.

The women continued to purchase the items for bid as time went by. Before long, the auction was down to its best item of the day—a precious diamond necklace. The women were in awe when the staff member brought it onto the stage.

The gleaming diamond's luster was unmatched under the chandelier. Everyone knew it was one of the best diamond necklaces they had ever seen at a glance. Even Sydney was in awe of the necklace. There was even a subtle excitement in her eyes.

"I can't believe it's the diamond necklace! I wonder what the starting bid will cost. I wish I could have it."

Angela, sitting beside Sydney and Bonnie, heard Sydney's words. Angela could not help but giggle arrogantly. Sydney turned toward the voice and saw Angela. Immediately after, Sydney questioned, "What are you laughing at?"

"Sydney, you're married to one of the Knight family members. Why would you care about the bidding price? Just buy it," Angela responded while showing off her diamond ring. "Well, I'm about to bid on that bracelet, too. Let's see who wins."

"I guess we'll find out. I'm not afraid of you, by the way." Sydney glared daggers at Angela.

Angela smirked again, looking like she did not consider Sydney a threat. The latter repaid Angela with a smirk and a scoff. Then, Sydney turned away, looking resentful and disgusted.



Bonnie raised her brows when she saw their interaction.

"They look like rivals. They look like they detest each other."

Bonnie said nothing. Instead, she silently watched them and decided to see how things played out. Meanwhile, the host smiled and spoke into the microphone, "I'm sure those with keen eyes can tell this diamond necklace has the finest diamond on the market.

"That's why its starting bid is considerably higher than the previous items. The bidding price is seven million dollars. Don't miss it if you like it, ladies!"

Sydney could not help but grumble, "Seven million, huh? That's a steep start."

'I might be wealthy, but Gunnar works hard to earn money. Seven million is too much to spend.' Angela rubbed her gilded bracelet and taunted her, "Sydney, why aren't you raising your paddle? Are you scared of the price? Is your husband doing that poorly now? I pity you. Things are different for me now.

"My husband secured a massive project and gave me his card. He told me to spend it however I wanted and even said I couldn't go home without emptying it. That's why I can buy such things. I only need to lift a finger.

"You should watch your husband and tell him to make more money for you once you get home. Otherwise, you'll never be able to spend like me."

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## Chapter 1066

Chapter 1066

"My husband's income doesn't concern you." Sydney was so angry that she raised her paddle out of spite. "Eight million!"

Angela sneered and followed suit, "Nine million!"

Sydney glanced at her coldly and gritted her teeth before raising her bid, "Eleven million!"

Angela looked at her tauntingly and shouted, "Thirteen million dollars!"

Sydney gasped, thinking, 'Angela's about to outbid me, but I must defend my pride and honor.'

She gritted her teeth again and yelled, "Fifteen million!"

She was not as bold as Angela and could only raise the bid by a little. Sydney dared not raise her bid more than she already did. Although she wanted to defend her pride, she had to watch her spending.

Angela sneered again. She would not let Sydney fight back anymore. "Twenty million dollars!"

Sydney's eyes widened as her lips quivered. However, she could say nothing.

'Angela must know that I can't afford to compete with her. She did that on purpose just to make me look bad. Bah! I'm pissed, but I can't do anything about it!'

Angela saw the frustration in Sydney's eyes. The former smiled triumphantly and asked, "Why aren't you bidding anymore? Are you all out of money? If that's the best you can do, the necklace will belong to me."

Sydney wanted to retort, but no words came to her. After all, she had run out of money.

'I could scrape twenty-eight million dollars together if I wanted to, but that's too much just to spite Angela. After all, Gunnar isn't the head of the family and only owns some of the family's shares.'

'Forget it. I'll just bear with Angela. The worst she can do to me is make more sarcastic remarks. I only need to wait until the tea party ends, and I can leave.'

Suddenly, Bonnie asked, "Is Angela your rival or something, Sydney?"

'I didn't want to get involved, but Sydney is right-we're family. We can bicker behind closed doors but must stand together against our enemies out here. Angela's oozing with superiority now, so I need to help Sydney.'

Sydney glanced at Bonnie and thought, "This has nothing to do with her since she's just like Angela. They're just upsetting me. That said, I guess Bonnie is slightly different. At least she's family.'

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## Chapter 1067

### Chapter 1067

Ultimately, Sydney stopped hiding things from Bonnie. Instead, the former poured her heart out, "We're not just rivals. We're wealthy ones! We grew up in the same neighborhood but were so different that we kept butting heads.

"Everyone thought we'd grow out of it once we grew up, but the opposite proved true. The older we got, the more intense our rivalry became. I once ran for class representative in high school, but she just had to get in my way.

"Whenever I tried to buy ice cream, she would buy all the ones I liked. Also, I fell for a guy in college, and Angela was much prettier than me. She also had a way with people and took him away from me. There's more, but..."

Sydney could talk about her hateful history with Angela for days and would not even be half done.

'Angela is despicable and has outdone me in every aspect of my life. I can still remember everything she has done to me. It's been forever, but I still can't let those memories go!'

Bonnie did not think Angela would bully Sydney to this extent. Deep down, Bonnie sympathized with Sydney.

'Frankly, Sydney's rather forthright and wears her heart on her sleeves. She has no intentions to hide her feelings and can't be bothered to resort to dirty tricks. Ironically, that must be why Angela has been able to outdo her constantly.'

Sydney continued, "The point is, Angela has taken everything I loved. Worse, she has always outdone me. Now, she's married to the Hardings' eldest son. They're from one of the neighboring cities, so she's better than I am in that aspect.

"That's not all. Angela has two daughters and a son, all of whom are hugely successful. Her son is one of the best businessmen, and her daughters are immensely talented in various things."

The more Sydney spoke, the more bitter and jealous she became of Angela.

"Also, Angela wasn't just boasting about her husband earlier. I've met him before, and he dotes on her with all the money and love in the world. You can say he gives her everything she asks for. Gunnar treats me well, but it's a far cry from how Angela's husband dotes on her."

Sydney had much to say about Angela and her husband, making it hard for Bonnie to ignore Sydney's hatred for Angela. Then, Bonnie looked at Angela, who was practically oozing with a sense of superiority.

After some thought, Bonnie told Sydney, "I'll give you a hand with this."

Sydney grinned bitterly. "This isn't a time for jokes, Bonnie."

'Not even I can outbid Angela on the diamond necklace. I've already humiliated myself enough. I only want to leave as soon as possible. I have no intentions of facing further humiliation.'

"I wasn't joking." Bonnie raised her brow. "You've defended me twice, so I'll return the favor at least once. Just wait. I'll speak up for you."

"You shouldn't underestimate Angela. Keep yourself out of trouble." Sydney would much rather suffer the humiliation herself than drag Bonnie into it.

'Bonnie always ends up messing things up. I must stop her before she escalates things.'

Meanwhile, Bonnie was perfectly aware of Sydney's concerns. That said, the former had decided to help Sydney and would consider things cautiously before making any moves.

The host realized Sydney had stopped bidding, so the former stood in the center of the stage and said, "Is anyone else going to bid?"

She gazed across the hall and noticed no one wanted to speak up. She added, "Twenty-eight million going once! Going Twice! Sold-"

"Forty-one million dollars!"

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## Chapter 1068

## Chapter 1068

Everyone turned to stare at Bonnie when she made her bid. Immediately after, they began to mutter amongst themselves.

"Ivor's wife is so reckless with money. The times she bid for have already amounted to forty-one million dollars. Now, she's bidding on that diamond necklace for that amount. She's so wealthy and spends money like it's nothing. No one can compete with her."

"I heard Ivor dotes on his wife. It looks like the rumors are true. He wouldn't have let her spend his money like this if he didn't."

"We're just here for the show. Let's keep our heads down and see how things turn out."

Even Sydney was startled when she heard Bonnie's bid. "Wh-what do you think you're doing?! You can't afford to act this recklessly, Bonnie,"

She did not believe it when Bonnie said she would help. The former did not even think Bonnie would do it so quickly.

'I didn't expect Bonnie to try to outdo Angela regarding wealth. Bonnie's being so wasteful. I can't say I agree with her actions.'

Bonnie glanced at Sydney and casually said, "You don't have to tell me what to do. Just sit back and enjoy the show."

On the other hand, Angela thought she would crush Sydney's pride again by bidding twenty-eight million dollars. Angela never expected Bonnie to get involved. However, what surprised her was Bonnie raising the bid by thirteen million more.

'My husband makes a fortune, but I can't spend his money like this.'

Suddenly, Angela was furious with Bonnie. The former glanced at Sydney and mocked, "Your nephew's wife is reckless. I guess it's expected since Ivor is the family head. You're much better than someone who's stingy and calculative."

Bonnie frowned and looked at Angela coldly.

'That Angela woman is wicked, all right. She's flustered that I took her down a notch, but she refuses to go down alone. Instead, she dragged Sydney down by upsetting her. It's obvious Angela's trying to sow discord between me and Sydney.'

'I wonder if Sydney realized that. Will she let Angela's toxic behavior affect her?'

Sydney glared at Angela, saying, "Do you think I'll fall for your shitty tricks? You're trying to make me fight with my in-law. You might not know it, but Bonnie and I have a terrible relationship. Still, that's our business, and you don't have the right to worsen it."

"Why, you little "

Angela was about to retort when Bonnie casually interrupted, "Are you going to bid on the necklace? What, are you out of money? If that's the best you can do, the necklace will belong to me."

Bonnie threw Angela's words back to the latter, which greatly affected Angela's pride.

It was Sydney's first time seeing Angela at a loss for words. Suddenly, Sydney's lifetime grudge slowly dissipated.

'No one has ever humbled Angela like this. It's exhilarating!' Meanwhile, Angela clenched her fists and glared at Bonnie.

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## Chapter 1069

Chapter 1069

Angela said, "The Hardings and Knights used to have an excellent relationship. However, my husband and his family moved to one of the neighboring cities, which caused our families to grow distant.

"From that perspective, I'm something of an aunt to you, Bonnie. Are you sure you want to compete with me?"

She could guess Bonnie and Sydney had a rocky relationship. Angela only said those things to sow discord between the two, intending to see them bicker before mocking Sydney for it. However, Angela did not expect Sydney to be wiser than her.

The former thought, 'I can tell Bonnie's a tough nut to crack. I need to prevent her from humiliating me.'

Meanwhile, Bonnie knew Angela was trying to gaslight her. The former grinned and said, "The highest bidder gets the item. That's how it has always worked in auctions. If you want the necklace, why don't you bid on it instead of telling me all that crap?"

"Is it because you don't have enough money to challenge my bid? That must be why you're trying to coerce me into giving up the necklace by saying you're something of an aunt to me."

Sydney laughed heartily, "Hahaha! Just admit that you can't afford to challenge my niece, Angela. My family is way wealthier and more powerful than yours. Also, Ivor has more than enough money to spend. He's pleased to let his wife spend it all. Don't feel bad about losing to Bonnie."

"Damn you!" Angela was outraged as she pointed at Sydney tremblingly.

On the other hand, Sydney was thrilled.

'Angela has trumped me for too long. I can finally raise my head and look her in the eyes. I admit Bonnie's the best when it comes to riling people up. I should've let her handle Angela much earlier. Now, Angela will think twice before crossing me again.'

The other women witnessed their exchange and began to discuss it.

"Angela has always looked down on us because her husband dotes on her. Now, she got her ass handed to her by Ivor's wife,"

"I agree that Angela's too cocky and prideful. I'm sure she can't take the humiliation of being outbid by a young lady."

"Well, Angela shouldn't have been so full of herself. Finally, someone here can teach her a lesson. We're in for a show, ladies,"

Angela overheard the others muttering about her. She balled her fists and thought, 'Everyone wants to watch my downfall. I refuse to let Bonnie outbid me!'

With that in mind, Angela gritted her teeth and bid again, "Forty-two million dollars!"

'I've always been above these other women. If I let Bonnie outbid me, they'll never fear me again. I can't let anyone humiliate me like this! I must preserve my pride, even if it means being careful with my spending after this.'

Bonnie looked at Angela and said sarcastically, "Did you only raise it by a million? You must be kidding. You should've raised it even higher."

Angela reddened with rage and roared, "Stop trying to trick me! I'm sticking to my guns! If you don't want to bid, shut up!"

'Bonnie has spent quite a bit earlier. I refuse to believe she can afford to spend more.'

Bonnie chuckled and stared into Angela's eyes. Then, the former slowly uttered, "One hundred and thirty- eight million dollars."

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## Chapter 1070

Chapter 1070

'A hundred and thirty-eight million dollars?!'

Angela's eyes widened in shock as she shot up from her chair. "Are you out of your mind?!"

She was confident Bonnie could not afford to spend much more and was shocked that the latter would raise the bid so drastically.

Even Sydney, sitting beside Bonnie, thought the latter was insane. Since Angela had outdone Sydney for many years, Sydney could not help but feel exhilarated to see her rival so astounded.

'Angela has always had her way and thought she could do and say anything. Now that Bonnie has taken her down a peg, let's see her do that! It's finally Angela's turn to know what it feels like to be inferior!'

The more Sydney thought about it, the more excited she felt. She lifted her chin and looked at Angela triumphantly.

"You can't bid on the diamond necklace, Angela. You shouldn't have said Bonnie's insane. Also, didn't you tell me your husband secured a big project? So, why'd you raise the bid by a mere million dollars?"



"You should learn from Bonnie. She was unfazed when she made her bid. It looks like you'll have to pressure your husband to make more money, or you'll never be able to outbid my niece-in-law."

Although Sydney was slightly heartbroken that Bonnie had to bid so much on the necklace, the former felt much better when Bonnie let Angela have it. After all, Sydney had lived under Angela's shadow for several decades. Since Bonnie had humbled Angela, Sydney felt like she was walking on cloud nine.

Meanwhile, Angela's expression grew grim. She clenched her fists and glared at Sydney. As they stared each other down, Bonnie casually said, "I heard your wealthy husband dotes on you, Angela. I only bid a hundred and thirty-eight million. Are you seriously quitting already?"

Angela had to quit because she could not afford to raise the bid. She was sure her husband would not mind, but that was too high a price to pay for a necklace.

Moreover, Bonnie and Sydney made countless sarcastic remarks at Angela, causing a fiery fury to burn in her chest. Even so, she could only stand there, looking like a buffoon with no moves left.

The host realized no one else was willing to challenge Bonnie's bid. The former said, "A hundred and thirty -eight million going once! Going twice! Sold to the young lady from the Knight family!"

Immediately after, the staff member put the diamond necklace into an exquisite sandalwood gift box and gave it to Bonnie.

Sydney leisurely rose from her chair and told Angela, "I thought you were tough, but that amount of money was all it took to stump you. It looks like you're nothing special, after all."

Angela sneered. "It doesn't matter whether or not I won the bid since you didn't get the necklace either. What are you boasting about? You're still living in my shadow."

The disdain in her eyes grew as she continued, "You're aware you didn't beat me, right? You merely clung to someone much more capable than you. You can't even compete with your niece-in-law in this auction.

"You relied on her to defend your pride. I would've cried if I were you. I couldn't boast about it like you're doing now." There's no way she'll give you the necklace she spent so much on. What makes you think you can talk down to me?"

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## Chapter 1071

Chapter 1071

Sydney bit her lip, worried she would lose control and slap Angela. The former was overwhelmed with rage and wanted to retort but failed.

'Angela's right. My pride is still intact, thanks to Bonnie. Although we married into the same family, I told Angela that Bonnie and I have a sour relationship. I did it to dig at Angela, but she turned it against me.'

Angela realized she had mocked Sydney into being speechless. The former felt she had defended her pride and said triumphantly, "You'll always be a loser who lives in my shadow, Sydney. You will never be successful, even "

Before she could finish insulting Sydney, Bonnie approached and interjected, "You do have a higher status than my aunt. I'll also admit the Hardings are prestigious in their city. However, don't think you can take the Knights' name in vain.

"Don't overdo it, or you might burn bridges. I hope you take my advice and learn when to quit." Bonnie glared at Angela while speaking, sending chills down the latter's spine.

Angela instinctively stepped back before returning to her senses and staring at Bonnie.

'I've dealt with plenty of young ladies like her, but none were this imposing. Who on earth is this girl?'

At that moment, she saw Bonnie approaching Sydney with the sandalwood box and handing it to the latter. "Here, I want you to have this, Sydney."

Sydney's eyes widened in shock, thinking she had misheard Bonnie. "Wh-what did you say? You're giving me the necklace?"

'Bonnie just spent a hundred and thirty-eight million on this. Why would she give it to me?!?'

Angela was just as stunned as Sydney.

The former thought, 'I just said she wouldn't give Sydney the necklace, but she's doing just that. Just how generous is this young lady? I always thought I was generous, but I can't hold a candle to Ivor's wife.'

"Yeah, I want you to have it." Bonnie smiled and put the box in Sydney's hands. "Take it."

The box felt heavy to Sydney, but it was not the weight of the box or the necklace. Instead, she could feel Bonnie's sincerity in it. Sydney was dumbfounded. After all, she had been nothing but nasty to Bonnie.

"Wh-why are you giving this to me, Bonnie?"

Bonnie responded, "Do you remember asking why I bid on so many things earlier? I bought them as gifts for my friends and family for New Year's."

Then, she glanced at the box she handed to Sydney and added, "Since you're my in-law, I'm giving you this diamond necklace as a New Year's gift."

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## Chapter 1072

### Chapter 1072

Sydney was at a loss for words. She only managed to find her voice moments later. She said tremblingly, "B-But this is too expensive!"

She did not expect Bonnie to buy her the necklace. After all, Sydney could never afford to pay that much for anything. She had to admit she saw a side of Bonnie she never knew was there. To say Sydney was surprised was an understatement.

"What's wrong with that? It's a gift, and the value doesn't matter. It's the thought that counts, after all," Bonnie smiled as she spoke, accentuating her sincerity, "I'm married to your nephew, which makes me your family. It's only right that I buy you something nice."

Sydney finally realized she had made a grave error in misjudging Bonnie. Although the former was Bonnie's aunt, Bonnie was much more mature.

Sydney stared at Bonnie guiltily and said, "I owe you an apology. I shouldn't have been so nasty toward you."

The former realized she had treated Bonnie too harshly, even though Bonnie had never done anything to hurt her. Sydney finally realized she was the narrow-minded and petty woman between them.

"It's okay. Like I said, we're family. What kind of in-law would I be if I held a grudge over every little thing?"

Sydney thought Bonnie made an excellent point. The former regretted pitting herself against Bonnie. After all, Bonnie was an elegant young lady, and they would have gotten along famously if they had no bad blood between them.

'I finally understand why Flynn kept speaking so highly of Bonnie. Just her bearing is something most can only hope to have. Flynn must be impressed with her charisma. That's why he keeps praising her.'

Bonnie could tell from Sydney's expression that the latter had realized her mistakes. That alone told Bonnie she did the right thing in helping Sydney win against Angela.

Bonnie saw Angela from the corner of her eyes. The latter was still standing beside Sydney, looking dazed. A moment later, Bonnie's expression turned cold as she questioned, "Angela, why are you still here? Are you looking for a chance to mock my aunt again?"

Angela was furious but knew she was no match for Bonnie. The former could only swallow her pride and shake her head, saying, "Th-that's not what I'm doing!"

"You better not," Bonnie scoffed and added, "I hope you remember what I said, or I'll have to tell my husband what happened today."

Although Angela loved boasting about her status to Sydney, she could only do that to those at the tea party. She wouldn't dare be as reckless if anyone threatened to affect her husband or his family's business.

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## Chapter 1073

## Chapter 1073

Angela was intelligent enough to know she could not afford to cross Bonnie. The former could only swallow her anger and say, "All right, I understand."

Bonnie was satisfied with Angela's response. Bonnie waved and said, "Since you understand, please leave. I can't chat with my aunt if you're around."

Angela was furious but could only suppress her frustrations. She glared at Sydney before finally leaving.

Sydney's eyes sparkled as she watched Angela leave. "My rivalry with Angela has continued for decades, but this is my first time seeing her so annoyed. You're fantastic, Bonnie. You even taught someone as nasty as her a lesson."

'Bonnie's so proficient in dealing with people. If she handled Angela that easily, she could have toppled me. It's just that she has never tried to.'

"It's fine since you defended me earlier. It's only right that I return the favor." Bonnie did not think it was a big deal.

A moment later, Sydney looked at the sandalwood box she had received. Then, she bit her lip and glanced at Bonnie hesitantly. Ultimately, Sydney said, "I'm sorry for everything, Bonnie. You treat me like family, even though I'm the fool who treated you harshly."

"I told you it's okay, Sydney," Bonnie kept up her smile, saying, "You don't need to keep apologizing to me. What kind of family would we be if we can't overcome minor grudges and resentment?"

Sydney felt much better after hearing that. Her wrongful thinking and conflicts with Bonnie began to melt away. Then, the former did her best to consider Bonnie a family member.

With that in mind, Sydney looked around before removing her bracelet and giving it to Bonnie. "Although I'm your aunt, I never gave you a wedding present. My mom gave me this bracelet when I married Gunnar. I know it's nothing compared to the necklace's value, but it's still a lovely bracelet. I'll give it to you to compensate for what I didn't give you at your wedding. I hope you like it."

The bracelet was incomparable to the diamond necklace, but Sydney had to give something to Bonnie. Otherwise, the former would not feel good about accepting Bonnie's gift.

"I'm delighted you're giving me a gift. Why wouldn't I like it?" Bonnie accepted the bracelet and put it on, saying, "Thank you, Sydney."

'It looks like Sydney and I can finally put our differences aside.'

"What's with the formalities? I didn't even have a chance to thank you," Sydney said. She appreciated it when Bonnie immediately put on the bracelet. It meant that Bonnie cherished it a lot.

With that in mind, Sydney looked at the sandalwood box again. "Thank you for giving me something so expensive and meaningful, Bonnie."

"It's no problem at all." Bonnie took the box and asked, "Would you like to try it on? I can help you with

it,"

Sydney would love that, but it was such an expensive gift that she could not bear to wear it. "Oh, that's okay. I don't think this is a place to wear something so meaningful. I'll wait for an important occasion to wear it."

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## Chapter 1074

Chapter 1074

Bonnie stopped trying to convince Sydney. Instead, the former smiled and said, "Oh, I see. That's fine."

Sydney left the place with Bonnie and waited for the latter's chauffeur to bring the car around. After glancing at Bonnie several times, she asked, "Do you want to return with me?"

"That's okay," Bonnie said, "Grandpa got me a ride back to the villa. Also, isn't your house far from his? It'll be troublesome for you to give me a ride back."

Sydney realized how thoughtful Bonnie was and could not help but like her even more. The former said, " Okay, then. It's pretty late now, so you should text me when you're back at the villa to let me know you're safe."

Bonnie responded, "You got it."

When Sydney got home, she saw Flynn and Gunnar chatting on the couch. Flynn caught a glimpse of his mother and thought of something before asking, "Did Grandpa ask you to bring Bonnie along for the tea party? Did you two bicker the whole time?"

She pursed her lips and tightened her grip on the sandalwood box. She sighed helplessly as a trace of guilt arose in her chest as she recalled everything she had done to Bonnie and how gracious the latter had been at the tea party.

However, that only made Sydney feel even guiltier.

'I'm her aunt, yet I can't deal with things as well as she does.'

Gunnar noticed his wife's expression and thought she had bickered with Bonnie. He tried to comfort Sydney, saying, "That's Bonnie for you. She's stubborn, shameful, and doesn't respect her elders.

"Don't take her words and actions to heart. Whatever nasty things she said about you don't matter. We'll teach her a lesson when we have a chance."

Sydney's heart dropped as she glared at her husband. "What are you talking about, honey? Bonnie's our in-law, but you're talking about teaching her a lesson? Are you sure you're her uncle?"

Gunnar was stunned as he looked at his wife. He thought he had misheard her. "H-Honey, are you defending Bonnie?!"

'Wait, Sydney has always agreed with me whenever I speak poorly of Bonnie, but she's defending her now? I wonder what happened between them at the tea party.'

Even Flynn looked at his mother strangely.

'I had always hoped Mom could get along with Bonnie. Then, I wouldn't have to keep getting between them. Still, Mom has changed too abruptly, too soon. Something's wrong here.'

"We're family. Of course, I'll defend Bonnie. Why do you two look so shocked?" Sydney noticed her husband and son's inquisitive gazes before looking away uneasily.

Meanwhile, Gunnar wondered what made his wife change so drastically. He tried to guess, but nothing came to mind, so he decided to drop the matter. Instead, he gazed at the sandalwood box and asked, "Did you get that at the tea party auction? It looks heavy and aged. Open it, and show us what you bought." Sydney opened it and said, "Here, see for yourself."

Gunnar's eyes widened as he glanced at the necklace. "Th-that's a diamond necklace! It's been years since

I've seen something so exquisite. Just look at its luster! No ordinary diamonds can compare to those." Flynn leaned in to look, too. "The auction must've saved the best for last. It looks like it costs a fortune." He observed the necklace and then looked at his mother, asking, "How much did you spend on it, Mom?"

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## Chapter 1075

### Chapter 1075

Sydney felt embarrassed, not wanting to tell her son and husband how much the diamond necklace cost. Instead, she said, "How about you guys guess?"

Gunna and Flynn exchanged glances. Then, the former said, "Six million dollars?"

Sydney shook her head. "That's too low."

'My wife has never been wasteful-six million is a lot of money for her. I can't believe she bought this for more than that.'

After some thought, Gunnar made a bolder guess, "Is it between twenty to forty million?"

He was worried about his funds when he said that. However, he thought about it from another perspective, 'Well, at least I'm spending my money on my wife and not someone else. If she did end up spending that much, so be it. I'll just make more money. What matters is her happiness.'



To his surprise, Sydney shook her head. "Still not close enough."

"It's more than forty million?!" Gunnar's eyes widened in shock. "Don't tell me you spent seventy million on it."

She shook her head again before finally revealing the answer, "It costs a hundred and thirty-eight million dollars."

"Wh-what?!" Gunnar and Flynn were flabbergasted. The latter was sipping his tea when he heard what his mom said. He spat it out immediately after.

"Pfft! Cough, cough, cough!"

Meanwhile, Gunnar was so shocked that he froze. A moment later, he said, "H-Honey, the necklace looks terrific, but it's not worth that much. Also, we don't have that kind of money lying around. Where'd you find the money to bid on something like that?"

"Did someone set you up or something? Is that why you bid on it with such a ridiculous figure? Was it Bonnie? I'll go to Dad's villa right now if she's behind this!"

"What, no!" Sydney glared at Gunnar. "I wouldn't have gotten this necklace if it weren't for her, not to mention stand up to Angela!"

Gunnar gradually realized what had happened. "Are you telling me Bonnie helped you at the tea party? Does that mean she "

Sydney timidly finished his sentence, "She bought me the necklace as a gift."

"Gosh, Bonnie's just awesome! That's so generous of her!" Flynn immediately praised Bonnie.

Meanwhile, Gunnar was still in disbelief. "Why would she buy you that necklace so suddenly? She must have an ulterior motive."

Sydney could no longer stand anyone badmouthing Bonnie. The former defended Bonnie, "She spent her money to get me this gift. Why would you say she has an ulterior motive? Will you please stop assuming the worst of her?"

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## Chapter 1076

Chapter 1076

"I guess you're right..." Gunnar said.

Then, he looked at the sandalwood gift box in her hands.

"I think we gravely misunderstood her, honey. It looks like she's quite nice."

Sydney nodded in approval. "Yeah. After what happened today, I also think she's a decent lady."

Both of them were talking when they suddenly heard Flynn's voice say, "I told you. Bonnie is the most awesome person in the world. You guys didn't believe me and kept pitting yourself against her. Do you regret your actions now?"

Flynn thought to himself, 'Bonnie charmed Mom with her sheer charisma. I have yet to tell them that she's none other than the world-renowned Ms. Bonita! They will be shocked and wracked with such intense guilt.'

"I do. I regretted the fact that I used to treat her that harshly." Sydney sighed lightly. "She's so generous and forgiving. I have a lot to learn from her."

Gunnar patted her hand, trying to comfort her.

"If she's willing to give you the million-dollar necklace, it means she has moved on from the past. We both know that we've misunderstood her. So, let's wipe the slate clean and make it up to her in the future." Sydney sighed again. "I guess that's the best thing we can do."

Back in the Knight Villa, Bonnie had just finished taking a bath when she received a call from Collin.

"Our men have narrowed down Falcon's movements and the places he frequents. When do you plan on going to Yale's District Nine to capture him?"

"I'll make some arrangements. It'll be within this couple of days. Once I've finalized the details, I'll keep in touch with you." She hung up the phone and frowned slightly.

'It'll be difficult to stay at Yale for a short period this time. After all, I was only able to take advantage of it because Ivor had to go on a work trip. Now that he's in Pyralis, I can no longer use my research institute as an excuse.

'I'd love to use other excuses, but I'm also worried they might find out about it.'

She was still distressed when Ivor opened the door and came in. He saw her furrowed brow.

"What's the matter, Bonnie? Are you upset because of the tea party?"

She shook her head and responded, "It's not about the tea party. My research got stuck, and I can't seem to make a breakthrough. So, I'm trying to figure out a solution for it. That's all."

"So, that's what this is. I know that Grandpa made Sydney take you to the tea party. I thought you were frowning because someone picked on you over there." Ivor said somewhat playfully.

"Someone picked on me?" She lifted her chin proudly. "I'm the one who picks on people, not the other around."

Embracing her, he smiled and praised her, "Alright. Okay. You're the toughest lady around here, Bonnie. There's simply no need for me to worry about you."

She rolled her eyes at him. "That's enough. Stop being such a smart-mouth. You're tired from your work the whole day. Hurry up and take a bath so you can get some rest."

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## Chapter 1077

Chapter 1077

"I know it. You're the one who loves and cares about me the most." His lips curled into a big smile. Obviously, Ivor was exhilarated.

"Take a bath, now." Bonnie nagged at him again.

"Gotcha." He walked into the bathroom with a smile.

Half an hour later, he came outside and blew dry his hair briefly. Then, he slipped underneath the blanket and held her in his arms.

Smelling the sweet fragrance from her hair, he felt as if the exhaustion had been lifted off from his

shoulder.

'Sometimes, all I want is to stare at her quietly while I hold her. We don't even have to do anything. Simple moments like these are more than enough for me.'

Meanwhile, she browsed her phone and let him hold her.

He held a strand of her hair and twirled it with his finger, feeling the serene and soothing sensation she brought for him.

Then, something popped into his mind and the sparkle in his eyes grew slightly dimmer.

Moments later, he turned her head around and stared into her eyes. "I have to tell you something, Bonnie."

"Lay it on me." She then yawned. Obviously, she was tired.

"Well. My work at one of the neighboring countries isn't done. I'm afraid I'll have to go over there and deal with it again." He had to say it because Floyd managed to make a breakthrough in the investigation.

'I'd love to stay at home and keep her company. Heaven knows how reluctant I am to leave her alone. However, I have to travel to Yale again for the sake of the 1.6 billion dollars as well as the chip. I have to catch Falcon.'

That stunned her. "Are you trying to say that you have to travel to the same country and stay there for a good while again?"

'If that's true, then thank the sweet Heavens! I'll take advantage of his work trip and travel to Yale. That way, he won't be suspicious of me.'

On the other hand, he thought he had upset her. So, he explained hastily,

"I know I spent a long time away from you. Please, don't be mad at me. I'm going to do my best to wrap up my job early, so I can come back home and be with you as soon as possible. It's a promise."

She couldn't help but laugh. "You're going off to work, not for a holiday. Why should I be mad at you? Do you think I'm that petty?"

"Of course not. You're the most beautiful and generous lady I know." He cupped her face and planted a kiss on her cheeks. "I'm just worried that I'm not good enough for you."

She wrapped her hands around his neck and said, "You're already doing wonderfully, Ivor. Stop giving yourself such a hard time. What matters is that we understand each other's needs. I couldn't ask for more than that."

"You're right." He pulled her into his arms. "I think we're going to be apart for several days again, Bonnie."

"It's okay. Work takes precedence over everything." In her mind, she was already planning to travel to Yale the moment Ivor was out the door. She needed to plant some traps for Falcon.

That was why she didn't even notice Ivor's eager, lustful eyes. He could eat her up right then.

"Do you honestly have no idea what I'm hinting at? Or, are you just playing dumb?" He pressed his body against hers as he spoke.

All of a sudden, she felt something prodding her down there and blushed, her face bright red.

"Hey... What are you doing, you big pervert?"

"We're married, Bonnie. So, this is just a normal interaction between husband and wife. I'm not a pervert," he said as he started fondling her.

Her cheeks looked like they were covered with a layer of rouge, making them look exquisite. He couldn't help but lower his head and nibbled on her cheeks.

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## **Chapter 1078**

Chapter 1078

Bonnie didn't feel any pain when Ivor nibbled on her cheeks. However, it made her ticklish.

She wanted to shove him away, but she just couldn't summon any strength and ended up halfheartedly pushing him.

Then, she moaned, "Mmm..."

The room was filled with a sensual, tantalizing air.

The next morning, Floyd came over to look for Ivor. He thought he'd have to wait for a long time. To his surprise, Ivor came out of the room the moment Floyd arrived at the study.

He was stunned for a moment before coming back to his senses. "We still have a couple of hours before we have to go, Mr. Ivor. Aren't you going to keep Ms. Bonnie company in the meantime?"

He shook his head. "That's fine. She doesn't know that I'm leaving today."

"Why? Don't you want her to send you to the airport?" Floyd was puzzled.

"I do, but she's tired from last night. I'd rather she gets some rest than disturb her sleep just so she could send me to the airport."

For a moment there, Floyd didn't know what to say. So, he resorted to following Ivor wordlessly.

Once Ivor had gone through all of his accumulated documents, he was prepared to leave. Before he did that, he opened the bedroom door gently and tiptoed inside.

Approaching the bed, he bent down and planted a kiss on Bonnie's rosy cheeks. Just as he was about to leave, a pair of slender arms wrapped around his neck.

"Are you going on your work trip today?"

That stunned him. Lowering his gaze, he found himself staring into her gleaming eyes.

"Was I too loud and woke you up?"

She frowned slightly. "Stop trying to divert the topic. Answer me. Are you leaving today?"

Sighing lightly, he said, "Yeah."

Reaching out, he brushed the loose strands of hair on her forehead aside.

"I didn't want to disturb your sleep, but I guess I ended up waking you instead."

They had barely seen each other, but had to part ways again. Staring at the man before her, she felt a strong sense of reluctance rising within her chest.

Rising, she leaned closer and pecked him on the lips. "Safe travels."

A hint of affection and longing flashed in his eyes. "You got it."

Both of them remained in the embrace for over 10 minutes. Then, they heard it.

Knock knock knock!

They heard Floyd's hushed voice next.

"Are you ready, Mr. Ivor? We have to go now."

"Alright," Ivor responded dryly. Loosening his grip on her waist, he said, "I have to leave now, Bonnie."

"Okay." She responded, her eyes fixed on him.

At the next moment, he held her tightly again before lowering his head and kissing her intensely.

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