

I Love You, Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard)

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From Lauren's perspective, young people liked throwing money at problems and fooling their parents.

Flynn chuckled as he approached and said, "Did you just say Bonnie hired him? Do you even know who he is? No amount of money can make him show up unless he wants to be here."

Aya bolted from her seat and stammered, "M-Mr. Flynn! H-How long have you been there?"

Unlike Ivor, Flynn disliked keeping a low profile. The latter enjoyed flaunting his status as a Knight family member. Moreover, Flynn was a regular at the cafe, and Aya naturally knew who he was.

"I've been here since the blind date started. Just so you know, Ivor is my cousin, and Bonnie's his fiancée." Flynn purposely glanced at Bonnie as he spoke.

Aya was shocked, thinking, "That means the man sitting beside Bonnie is the CEO of the Knight Group!"

Meanwhile, Lauren was clueless about what was happening. She pointed at Flynn and asked, "Aya, who is

he?"

"H-He's Gunnar Knight's son-Flynn Knight." Aya was still trying to process this huge revelation.

Even Lauren was dumbfounded as she gawked at Flynn. Then, something occurred to her, and she looked at Bonnie and Ivor. A moment later, she regained her thoughts and said, "B-Bonnie, is he the head of the

Knight family?”

Since the situation had escalated to this point, hiding things was useless. Hence, Bonnie nodded and

said, “Yeah, that’s right.”

Lauren gasped and slumped into her seat as she pinched herself to see if she was dreaming.

She thought, ‘I never thought Bonnie would be the fiancée to the wealthiest man in all of Pyralis! She has elevated herself to an entirely different level now. I’ll have to butter Welma up when I return to the

countryside!’

Ivor looked at Bonnie affectionately and said, we should get going.”

“Okay.” Bonnie nodded.

Suddenly, Tatum yelled, “Wait a minute!”

Bonnie turned and asked, “What is it?”

“I—I would like to...” He wanted to fight for her however he could.

‘I’ve never seen anyone as beautiful and elegant as Bonnie. It will be my biggest regret if I miss out on her today’

He gritted his teeth and decided to confess his love to her, “I love-”

As he uttered those two words, Ivor glared at him. Tanum continued, “I—I love the idea that you’ll have adorable babies together.”

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Tanum burst into tears as he thought, ‘Mom, I **know** I’m a coward, but it’s not my fault! That man is too scary, and I think he might kill me if I confess my love to Bonnie in his presence!’*

Soon after, Ivor, Bonnie, and Flynn left and went to their car. Flynn could not help but laugh, saying, Hahaha! I bet Tanum wanted to confess his love for you, Bonnie. That was hilarious!”

“Ivor’s such a badass. He only needed to glare at Tanum to scare him.”

Meanwhile, Ivor did not care about Tanum. Bonnie was the only thing Ivor cared about. Even so, he did not know what to say as he stared at her. He feared she would tell him to shut up as soon as he opened

his mouth.

Bonnie and Ivor’s silence made Flynn feel suffocated as they sat in the car. Flynn, who offered to drive earlier, regretted his decision. A moment later, Bonnie looked at Ivor’s head and asked, “Has the swelling

lessened?”

Finally, someone broke the silence. Moreover, Bonnie took the initiative, which made Ivor feel joyful. He

said, “I don’t think so.”

“Here, let me take a look.”

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“Sure.” Ivor leaned toward Bonnie and lowered his head to let her see it better. Although it startled her a little, she felt that inexplicable feeling again. She could do nothing to get rid of it, either.

Bonnie felt around his head and found the swelling in less than a second. She asked, “Why didn’t it go away? Didn’t you apply any ointment?”

“It was a memento you left me, and I didn’t want to use anything to make it go away.”

“You must have a screw loose or something.” Bonnie rolled her eyes at him,

“Not really! Something is wrong with my **head**, and it’s pretty severe. It’s worsened over the past few days because of your absence. I couldn’t eat or sleep, so I drowned myself in work. Still, I couldn’t stop

thinking about you.

“Since you’re the miracle doctor, what do you think is wrong with me?” Ivor stared at Bonnie with so much affection that they seemed to have enveloped her.

Bonnie could tell Ivor only had eyes for her. Her reflection in his eyes was so apparent that she thought he had burned her appearance into his soul. Bonnie had always been calm and collected, but she could not

help but feel her heart stir.

It took her a long while to return to her senses before **she** finally said, “That sounds serious. I’ll take you to the hospital and get you checked.”

“Okay.”

I’ll massage your head for now.”

“Sure, thanks.” Ivor leaned closer to make her job more manageable. Simultaneously, it gave him an

excuse to get even closer to her.

Flynn looked at the rearview mirror. He could not explain it, but Ivor looked like a little puppy, making

Flynn envious. “Ivor, you two can do that ey dovey nonsense when you’re home. Please don’t do that

‘while I’m around.’”

Ivor squinted at him and asked, “What are you doing here again?”

Flynn felt speechless. Who else is going to drive you home, genius?”

“Has he been here the whole time?” Bonnie asked. Evidently, she did not notice Flynn, either.

The latter did not know what else to say.

I see how it is. I'm just a third-wheeler."

"It's okay, you two. We'll pretend we're in a smart car that drives itself." Flynn realized the duo was not listening to him at all.

Bonnie asked Ivor, "Does it hurt when I do this?"

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It hurts a little. Be gentle, Bonnie."

"Okay."

Flynn wanted nothing more to do with them. Suddenly, he had an idea and smirked as he turned the steering wheel.

Screech!

Due to the force, Bonnie fell into Ivor's embrace. The latter noticed it and held her tightly as Flynn said, Damn! I think I saw a wild cat or something in front of the car. Thank goodness I'm an excellent driver! Otherwise, I might've hit that thing."

Flynn looked back and saw how tightly Ivor held Bonnie.

"Hehe, I'll ask him for a big reward when they get married."

"Watch it!" Ivor barked and then looked in the rearview mirror, nodding in approval. At that moment, Bonnie could feel Ivor holding the back of her head. He pressed her head against his chest so firmly that she could feel his heartbeat.

"You can let go of me now."

"Oh, right," Ivor responded but remained motionless.

"I can't breathe if you keep holding me like this," Bonnie said, exasperated.

Ivor could only let her go, but he did it longingly.

Screech!

The car swerved fiercely again.

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Flynn swerved the car in the opposite direction this time, causing Ivor to fall onto Bonnie. Still, he protected the back of her head with her hand.

Flynn screamed dramatically, "That damn cat is back again!"

Ivor looked into the rearview mirror and nodded in approval again. He warmly reminded his cousin, "Go slower. You have to watch out for these critters."

"Okay, I'll be more careful."

Bonnie's lips twitched as she lay underneath Ivor. Soon after, the trio reached the hospital, and Bonnie personally checked on Ivor. "Everything looks good. With that said, you must monitor yourself. You don't want it to worsen, after all. I suggest you hire a nurse to massage your head daily."

Ivor said smilingly, "Why would I need to hire someone else when I have you?"

I

"I have college and work to attend to. Unfortunately, I don't have time to help you out."

"If you're not going to massage my head for me, I won't let anyone else do it."

Bonnie frowned and said, "You're acting like a child again."

"That's not it. You know a man shouldn't allow anyone to touch his head unless they're someone he wants to spend the rest of his life with." Ivor looked at Bonnie lovingly

The latter felt ensnared whenever Ivor stared at her like that. She said, "Well, you'll have to visit my place

every night."

Suddenly, Ivor swooped her up and spun in circles, exclaiming, "I knew it! You're the best, Bonnie! You can't bear to watch me suffer!"

Bonnie blushed and stammered, "P-Put me down! People are watching!"

"Oh, let them watch. Just focus on us."

Bonnie's stare gave him no choice but to stop. "Okay, fine."

She thought Ivor would put her down, but they somehow ended up in a secluded area where no one could see them. Ivor said, "We have our privacy now."

Bonnie did not know how to respond. She blushed with embarrassment while Ivor leaned closer and

pecked her forehead.

Thump, thump! Thump, thump!

Bonnie could feel her heart racing as her face grew redder—even her ears and neck reddened. Meanwhile, Ivor felt like a thirsty traveler who had finally come across water. He gulped as his thirst grew.

He lowered his head to kiss her lips.

It seemed like Bonnie had forgotten to push him away. Instead, she only stared as Ivor's lips approached.

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Ultimately, she closed her eyes while Ivor felt his blood begin to rush.

Suddenly, Bonnie's phone vibrated and interrupted the incredible moment.

Ivor frowned and said, "Ignore it."

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However, the phone continued to buzz, rousing Bonnie from her daze as she pushed him away, saying, "It's my mom. I have to take it."

Ivor pursed his lips and looked at Bonnie resentfully. Looking back at him, she could not decide whether to laugh or cry. Then, she answered the phone.

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“Hey, Mom, what’s up?”

“Bonnie, what’s happening? I—I heard that Ivor is the wealthiest man in Pyralis!”

Bonnie glanced at Ivor and said, “I’m **sorry** I didn’t tell you sooner, Mom. I just didn’t want you to worry about me. After all, plenty of convoluted stories surround the rich and powerful.”

“So, you knew I’d be worried,” Welma said, sounding like she was scolding her daughter. Still, she was more concerned about Bonnie’s well-being. “Are you two serious about your relationship?”

Ivor suddenly took Bonnie’s phone and said, “Mother, Bonnie is more important to me than my life. Losing her means losing my will to continue living. Don’t worry about it, Mother. What’s mine is hers, and I will dote on her to make her the happiest woman in the world.”

Anyone else would have sounded cheesy saying that. However, Ivor’s tone carried significance. It sounded like he made a solemn oath.

Bonnie stared at him in a daze. That familiar, inexplicable feeling arose within her again, growing increasingly potent.

Meanwhile, Welma held onto her phone motionlessly. Since her phone was on loudspeaker, **Gerald** heard the whole conversation. The older couple exchanged glances and smiled gratefully.

Gerald took his wife’s phone and said, “Hey, the summer solstice is coming soon. Would you like to visit us with Bonnie then?”

“Sure thing, Father!” Ivor smiled and looked at Bonnie, saying, “Father invited us to have dinner with them during the summer solstice.”

“Why are you calling my dad ‘father’ as if it’s second nature?”

You have a point. He's not my dad, but our **dad**."

"Fine, I can't argue with you now. Let's just go **home and** get some sleep."

"Whatever you say, honey."

As they left the hospital, Bonnie suddenly stopped. Ivor asked, puzzled, "What's wrong?"

She frowned and looked around while Ivor asked again, "Did you forget something?"

"I think someone's been following us."

Ivor grew vigilant. He could not afford to take her safety lightly. However, he observed his surroundings and saw nothing suspicious.

Bonnie frowned and said, "Maybe I'm imagining things."

"No, that's not necessarily true. Considering your capability to fight, I believe you have sharper senses than ordinary people. Although you **could** be wrong, it pays to trust your senses," Ivor said as he called

Floyd, "**Send a few more men to** keep Bonnie safe. I suspect **someone's** following her."

Bonnie **did** not like it when others protected her. She said, "Call It off, Ivor. I just made an honest mistake. **There** are only **a few** who can hurt **me**, after all."

Ivor knew her very well. After some thought, he said, "Okay, I won't send people to help **you**. They might intrude on your personal space. Still, I want you to tell me if you sense danger again.

"You should take care of yourself. There's no need to worry about me. If anything goes wrong, I can call-" Bonnie stopped abruptly. She wanted to say she could call Jim. However, considering his identity, she could not rely on him to immediately **react** to her distress calls.

"Who can you call? Ivor squinted with an apparent sense of gloominess in his eyes. "I'm your fiance. Why would you call anyone else besides me?"

'He's just impossible! Is he jealous again?"

"I just don't want to keep troubling you." Bonnie quickly changed the topic, "Our agreement for the one- month engagement had expired long ago. You're no longer my fiance, Ivor."

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"I guess we'll have to get engaged again."

Bonnie raised her brow with a hint of humor as she poked his chest and said, "That depends on how you

treat me."

She then turned and left with a smile.

Ivor's eyes lit up with excitement as he watched her leave. At that **moment**, his heart overflowed with love. After some time, he gathered his thoughts and ran over to hug her from behind. He rested his chin on her neck and felt a sense of longing.

He loved her so much that he wished to become one with her. That way, **she** would belong to only him for eternity. Ivor's chest pressed against Bonnie's back, and she could feel his heartbeat. It showed her how

much he loved her.

Bonnie smiled and was in a cheerful mood. She said, "Come on, let's go to the greenhouse at your place. I'll make you dinner."

"I appreciate it, honey." Ivor could not stop smiling at her.

"Off, that's cheesy."

Meanwhile, a man hiding in a corner spoke into his phone, "Bonnie is at the hospital, Mr. Josiah. However, a man is with her. I can't do it yet."

Josiah's brows furrowed as he asked, "Is the man Master Jim, by any chance?"

"No, it's a handsome young man. I think it's her boyfriend."

“That’s fine.” Josiah sighed in relief. “Keep following them until you get a chance. You know what to do.”

Ten minutes later, the man called Josiah again “That man is still with her. They’re driving to the countryside, so there won’t be many people here. It’s the perfect spot to do it.”

“Send me the location.”

“Got it. Check your phone, Mr. Josiah.”

Josiah read the map and noticed a villa in the vicinity. He asked curiously, “What are they doing at the Knights’ territory? Their villa is right there.”

The man guessed, “Are they trying to find a good spot on the hills to fight?”

Josiah’s lips twitched. “Do you always do this?”

The man cleared his throat embarrassedly. “Should we do it now, Mr. Josiah? My men are nearby. I didn’t want anyone to see them, so I told them to hang back a little. If you give the order, I’ll tell them to catch up to me now.”

After some thought, Josiah said, “Do it. People don’t usually pass by this area since it belongs to the

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Knights. No one will know what you did. Remember to cover your tracks. I don’t want people tracing it back to you guys.

“Also, make Bonnie suffer instead of giving her a quick death. She was cocky when she was at my place last time. It’ll be too **kind** to kill her right away.”

“How about my men and I have some fun with her before we kill her?” The man licked his lips. His eyes brimmed with lust as he gazed at the car before him.

“Fine, but you can’t let the Knights catch you!”

“Don’t worry, Mr. Josiah. It isn’t our first rodeo. I’ll gag her and prevent her from calling for help.”

Josiah viciously said, “As for the young man, I want you to break his limbs before Bonnie’s eyes. I want her to suffer physically and mentally.”

“Okay. Consider it done.”

At that moment, Bonnie looked in the rearview mirror.

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“Ivor, do you notice the car behind us? It’s been following us the whole time.”

Ivor turned and glanced at it. He asked, “Do you think it’s the same guy you thought was watching us at

the hospital?”

“Most probably.” Bonnie guessed.

Ivor took his phone and made a call. A few minutes later, several more cars appeared behind them. Bonnie said, “Those are probably his men.”

Immediately after, one of the cars sped up and overtook Ivor’s car, preventing them from driving further. Soon after, Ivor and Bonnie **were** surrounded. The couple opened their doors and glanced at the vehicles. They counted more than twenty of them.

The men wore masks and brandished deadly weapons. It was evident they were wanted criminals.

Bonnie asked indifferently, “Who sent you?”

“Jeez, little lady. I can’t believe how composed you **are**. I bet it’s just an act. So, are you secretly scared and want to pee yourself? There’s nothing to fear. We’re all here to show you some love. You’ll be begging for more before you know it. Hahaha! The leader laughed lewdly.

The rest followed suit, eyeing Bonnie with filthy thoughts. Ivor squinted at them menacingly and uttered, ”

You’ll die.”

Immediately after, he charged at the leader and kicked him. The latter flew and slammed into a tree. Ugh! Cough, cough!”

The leader coughed blood after suffering Ivor’s devastating kick. Bonnie frowned and said, “You still have

your

head injury. You don’t have to go so hard.”

You’re my fiancée. Do you think I’ll stand aside and do nothing while they look at **you** like that?” Ivor’s voice was frigid.

Bonnie could tell Ivor was furious. Still, she had never seen him so enraged, which softened her heart. Suddenly, the leader roared, “What are you idiots waiting for?! Chop off his **limbs!** Make sure he lives. I want him to watch me have fun with his girlfriend!”

Ivor grew **even** more furious when he heard that. He disregarded his head injury and the criminals’ deadly weapons. He dealt with anyone who charged at him as he approached the leader.

None of the men could stop Ivor from advancing. As he approached the leader, he resembled the Grim Reaper.

Meanwhile, Bonnie **stood** still **and** watched as Ivor dealt with every opponent. She smiled and dashed to his side, making quick work of **the** criminals alongside him. Even so, it was no easy feat as they all carried deadly weapons.

Fortunately, Floyd arrived with backup and wiped the floor with the criminals.

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Floyd glared at the leader, who was pinned to the floor. “Who hired you to attack the head of the Knight

family?!”

1—I didn’t know who he was! I wouldn’t have taken the job if I did!”

Judging from his tears and snot, Bonnie did not think he was lying. After some thought, she asked, “Were you guys after me?”

The leader said through gritted teeth, “I’m sorry, Ms. Bonnie! Someone paid us to attack you. I—it was nothing personal. Please spare me and my men!”

Ivor asked coldly. “Someone paid you? Who was it?”

“Th—that’s how it works. I can’t tell you my employer’s-” Ivor stomped on the leader’s face before he could finish.

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“Understood, Mr. Ivor.”

Shiloh was shocked and grew pale as she slumped to the **floor**.

Ivor added, “Also, remove the Church family from Pyralis.”

“You got it!”

On Monday, Bonnie read foreign books during lectures as usual. The first thing Natalee did when coming in was bow and nod at Bonnie. The former looked so respectful toward Bonnie that their classmates. were shocked.

Bonnie continued reading when Avril nudged her and said, “Hey, Bonnie. Look at that beggar. Isn’t he the little boy we saw at the hotel?”

Bonnie looked out the window and saw the beggar standing pretty far away. Even so, she could make out his face. As Avril said, he was the little boy they had once seen at the hotel. However, he wore all black today and looked like he had just gone to a funeral.

‘Did his grandfather pass away or something?’

Suddenly, she saw the boy pass out.

“Shit!” Bonnie put down her book and ran out of the lecture hall.

“Did he pass out?!” Avril chased after Bonnie.

Soon after, they reached the campus entrance, and Bonnie carried the little boy. Avril asked worriedly, "How's he doing?"

Bonnie felt his forehead and grew solemn, saying, "He's burning up He has a high fever."

"Let's take him to the hospital now!"

"Yeah, let's go."

After receiving treatment, the boy's temperature improved significantly. He woke up soon after and recognized Bonnie. "I-It's you."

Bonnie responded smilingly, "Rest as much as possible for now. I'll send you home later. You were unconscious for quite some time. Your grandpa will be worried about you."

At that moment, tears streamed down the boy's face.

"What's wrong? Do you feel any discomfort?"

"G-Grandpa's gone... Sob sob sob..."

Bonnie's heart sank when she saw how heartbroken the little boy was. Even Avril was wiping her tears

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away. After giving the boy time to calm himself, Bonnie asked, "Do you have other family members to

take **care** of you?"

The boy shook his head with sorrow and anguish in his eyes.

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Bonnie nodded and said, "My house is big, and I live alone now. Why don't you come and live with me for

a while?"

The boy's eyes sparkled. "A-Are you sure?"

“Of course! It can get boring living alone. I don’t mind sharing my house with you if you want.” Fearing he would reject her offer out of shyness, she added, “I won’t force you if you don’t want to.”

“Th—that’s not it. I’m just worried that-

“Perfect! It seems you like the idea and don’t mind staying with me. It’s settled! You’ll come home with me later.” Bonnie was so tender and kind-hearted that the boy could not help but gratefully agree.

“My name’s Bonnie. What’s your name?”

“I’m Vince,” he replied.

As evening approached, Bonnie brought Vince back to her villa in Lenfield Resort. The latter stared at the villa and wondered if he was dreaming.

Bonnie turned to him and asked, “Why aren’t you coming in?”

Vince looked at his clothes and felt dispirited, saying, “My clothes are filthy.”

Bonnie giggled and said, “Come inside. I’ll get you some fresh clothes.”

As she took her phone to call Jim, she received a call from Ivor. He asked, “Are you at home?”

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The leader grimaced as blood leaked from his lips.

“It’s fine if you refuse to talk. Floyd, send this guy to the mines in Afrikara and ensure he never **returns** to Arvandor. Put him in the most treacherous part of the mine, too,” Ivor ordered.

“N–No! I’ll talk!” The leader was terrified. “It was the Churches. Josiah Church hired us!”

“Josiah?” Bonnie was initially surprised but realized it was plausible. She then told Ivor everything that happened in the Church family’s house.

She added, “He’s probably resentful and wants revenge on me. It’s surprising since he’s the head of the Church family. Still, he’s ruthless and wicked.”

“What do you want to do about it?” Ivor asked after considering Bonnie and Nancy’s friendship. That was why he could not make the call, Otherwise, he would have killed Josiah and ensured the Church family would never recover.

“Hmm…” Bonnie frowned. “I want to avoid telling Nancy about it if I can. However, I shouldn’t keep it from her since I consider her one of my best friends.”

Ultimately, Bonnie called Nancy and told her everything. The latter did not know what to say.

“Nancy? Are you still-”

“I’m so sorry, Bonnie! You almost got hurt because of me!” Nancy sobbed.

“It’s not your fault at all. Don’t feel bad.”

Nancy sighed **and** said determinedly, “My dad started showing his true colors when he kicked my mom out. He never showed me an ounce of love. He even disowned me and tried to force **me** into marrying an old coot to benefit his company.

rejected him, but he ordered his men to lock me up. Then, he did nothing when Shiloh insulted and humiliated me. He doesn’t deserve to be a father As for my family—no, they’re no longer my family. Josiah and his **family** no longer mean anything to me.”

Nancy smiled with a hint of relief in her eyes. She continued, “Bonnie, you mean more to me than them. That’s why I want you to do whatever is necessary to deal with them. You don’t have to go easy on them. They’re vile snakes who’ll stab anyone in the back if you spare them.

“Perfect.” Bonnie was delighted to hear that. Considering Nancy’s words, Bonnie knew a heavy burden had been lifted from Nancy’s shoulders. It was reminiscent of what Bonnie **had** gone through. Previously,

Bonnie had also severed her ties with her family when they disowned her.

“Congratulations, **Nancy**.”

Nancy knew what Bonnie meant by that. The former said, "It might be too late, but I still want to congratulate you, too, Bonnie."

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Meanwhile, Josiah, Julia, and Shiloh waited for the good news on the couch. Shiloh said, "That's weird. Why hasn't that guy updated us on the progress yet? What's taking them so long? Dad, maybe you should

call them."

She recalled when Bonnie whipped her and grew furious. She could just rip Bonnie to pieces.

Josiah leisurely sipped his tea **and** said, "Simmer down. We hired wanted criminals, and they're exceptional regarding fights. They're probably busy torturing Bonnie as we speak."

"That better be the case. No, I know those guys are torturing her!" Shiloh imagined the criminals ravaging

Bonnie. The former could not help but feel excited.

Bang!

The door flew open, and one of their bodyguards ran toward the trio before stumbling to the floor. Shiloh

was shocked **and** stood up. Then, the trio looked toward the door.

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Before the Churches knew it, more than a hundred men surrounded them. Josiah was shocked but maintained **his** composure and barked, "Who are you guys?!"

Floyd pointed at Josiah and said, "Mr. Ivor, that's Josiah Church."

Ivor glared daggers at Josiah, making chills run down the latter's spine. Josiah asked, "Excuse me, but who are you?"

"Ivor Knight." He responded coldly.

"You're one of the Knights?!" Josiah exclaimed when he realized it, "I'm sorry, but what's your status in the

Knight family?"

Floyd stepped forward, preparing to defend his boss if Josiah tried to hurt Ivor. Floyd answered, "He's the head of the family."

Josiah gasped and trembled as he stared at Ivor. "A—Are you really the head of the family?!"

"How dare you try to harm my fiancée, Josiah?!" Ivor's words made Josiah tremble harder.

"Th—there must be a misunderstanding, sir. I would never dare endanger your fiancée. I don't even know who—" Josiah suddenly stopped. After some thought, he asked, "1—Is your wife Bonnie?"

Shiloh and Julia froze, especially the latter. She glanced at Ivor and considered **his** status as the head of

the Knight family.

"I can't believe Bonnie's his wife! How is that fair?!"

Josiah recalled the criminals' leader telling him about a young man with Bonnie. It turned out the young

man was Ivor.

Thud!

Josiah fell to his knees **and** begged, "Please spare us, Mr. Ivor!"

Julia followed suit, trembling uncontrollably.

Meanwhile, Shiloh rolled her eyes and began pulling her clothes off her shoulder. She purposely pulled it low to show off her curvy figure. "I know **we** were wrong to harm your fiancée, Mr. Ivor. Let me **redeem** my family. You can do anything you want to me."

“Shiloh-“Josiah was about to say something *but* swallowed his words.

“If she can sleep with Ivor, we’ll avoid this disaster. We’ll also connect with the most influential family in Pyralis and elevate our status. That’s my wise and cunning girl. She’ll do anything to get what she wants.

‘Shiloh isn’t good for nothing like Nancy. I only asked Nancy to marry a rich guy, but she couldn’t

that. From my perspective, Nancy won’t achieve much in life.”

even do

Josiah was amidst his thoughts when he heard Ivor’s mocking voice, “You can’t compare to Bonnie. Do

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you think I’ll give up an angel for a piece of trash like you?”

Shiloh’s eyes reddened as she inwardly cursed Bonnie.

“Are you cursing Bonnie right now? I can’t tolerate people thinking poorly of my fiancée!” Ivor was furious. “Floyd, I’ll let you handle them. However, send Shiloh to the poverty-stricken part of Afrikara. She’ll become everyone’s plaything there.”

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 418

Chapter 418

“Yeah, I just got home,” Bonnie answered.

“I’m sorry. I got held up at work and couldn’t pick you up from school.”

“You don’t have to apologize. You’re not my driver or anything.”

“But I am your driver,” Ivor’s charming voice was full of love.

Bonnie sighed and replied, “Knock it off. If you’re coming to my place, bring some guy clothes for me.”

Ivor’s expression grew cold. “Huh? Did you bring a man home? Are the clothes for that guy? I love you more than anything, but I refuse to give ground regarding these things.”

“I can’t take Ivor anymore.” Bonnie rubbed her forehead.

She said, “Get your mind out of the gutter. He’s younger than me.”

“I knew it! You like younger guys!”

Bonnie’s lips twitched. She then switched to video call and pointed her phone at Vince. “Look, he’s only

six!”

“Oh, he’s a kid.”

Beep!

Bonnie hung up the phone.

Buzz!

Bonnie received a text from Ivor, “I’m coming now.”

A second later, she received another text, “I’ll bring some clothes for the boy, too.”

Bonnie chuckled helplessly.

When Ivor arrived, the first thing he did was stare at Vince, Bonnie noticed it and **warned**, “He’s just a kid. I’ll kick you out if you keep this up, Ivor.”

Ivor handed Vince the clothes and said smilingly, “Bonnie, **you’re** being too sensitive. I consider this kid

my little brother.”

Bonnie chuckled and thought, ‘I’ve seen how shameless you can be.

She looked at Vince and asked, “Can you shower alone? I can help you if you can’t.”

Ivor's expression darkened. "He might be a kid, but boys and girls shouldn't bathe together. After all, he might feel shy. Perhaps I should help him."

"Excuse me?" Bonnie was shocked.

"Everyone knows Ivor is a clean freak. How's he going to bathe a little boy he barely knows? Maisie would

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be shocked if she heard what he just said."

"I—It's okay. I can bathe myself," Vince said, accepting the fresh clothes, "Where's the bathroom?"

Bonnie pointed. "We have them on the ground and second **floors**."

라고.

"All right. I'll be right back." Vince did not want to stay a second longer and ran to one of the bathrooms.

When he came out about twenty minutes later, Ivor uttered in puzzlement, "Huh?"

"What's wrong?" Bonnie asked.

Ivor looked at Vince from head to toe and said, "It's nothing. I just thought he looked familiar."

"Have you guys met before?" she asked again.

"I don't think so, but I can't help wondering why he looks so familiar." No matter how hard Ivor tried, he could not figure out who the boy resembled.

Bonnie asked Vince, "Have you seen him before?"

Vince shook his head and said, "I don't think I could forget **him** if I've seen him before. After all, he's the most handsome man I've met."

His words pleased Ivor. The little boy had done well to praise Ivor in Bonnie's presence. Suddenly, Ivor's phone rang. He checked it and unwittingly rubbed his head.

"I think the punk is back in Arvador."

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 419

Chapter 419

“Who’s the punk you’re talking about?” Bonnie asked, curious. After all, she rarely saw Ivor react that way.

He replied, “A childhood friend of mine.”

“Why do you look so troubled if he’s your friend?” Bonnie became even more confused, thinking there was more to it than she suspected.

“You have no idea how handsome he is.”

I remember Ged talking about someone named Thaddeus. Supposedly, he has the same taste in women as Ivor. Also, Ged was confident that Thaddeus had chosen to remain single for a long time because he had yet to meet someone outstanding enough to be his match.’

Ivor’s phone rang for a **long** time before he finally answered. Another voice echoed from the phone, “Ivor,

why did it take you so long to answer? Are you still working at this hour?”

I was enjoying some time with my lovely fiancée. We were, uh, kissing!” Ivor **said** matter-of-factly.

Bonnie was about to enter the kitchen when she heard the last part of his sentence. Exasperated, she

stopped and turned to look at him.

“Jeez, I didn’t need to know that.” Thaddeus said, feeling goosebumps, “Ged warned me about this. He

called you a madman who’s overly doting toward his fiancée. I didn’t believe it at first, but now I do.

“Anyway, I’m curious about something. We grew up together, and I know no ordinary woman could have melted that iceberg you call a heart. That’s why I concluded that your fiancée must be an extraordinary

woman with multiple talents.”

Ivor’s expression stiffened as he said, “She’s mine!”

“Hahaha!” Thaddeus burst into laughter. “Judging by your tone, you’re a little insecure and unconfident. It also sounds like Bonnie has yet to give herself fully to you. That means I have a chance with her.”

That’s it! We’re no longer friends,” Ivor retorted firmly

“That just piques my interest even more, Ivor. I wonder how extraordinary she is since you’re trying to hide her from me.” Thaddeus burst into laughter again. “Fine, I’ll stop messing with you.

“Loyalty is something I consider most vital. Also, no woman is more important than my childhood friend. You matter more to me than some chick, Ivor. I’d never take your fiancée from you.”

“I disagree with your sentiment,” Ivor responded dryly.

“Huh?” Thaddeus was stunned.

Ivor looked at Bonnie, who was busy preparing dinner. He smiled affectionately and said, “I know people say no woman is more important than friendship, but my fiancée is more important to me than my life.”

“Gross.” Thaddeus could not take it anymore. He had to rub his shoulders to get rid of the goosebumps he felt. “It looks like Ged exaggerated your obsession with your fiancée. You’re even crazier than I

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thought.”

Ivor chuckled and said, “I think you’d be the same as me when you finally find the love of your life.”

“Who knows, that might just happen.” Thaddeus shrugged. “With that said, I have my eyes set on

someone.”

“Who’s the lucky lady?” Ivor asked, curious.

I don’t know what she looks like, but I know that the chef at Jade Horizon Hotel admires her the most. He also said she’s gorgeous and elegant. Also, her cooking skills are unmatched. Not even he can hold a candle to her.” Thaddeus grew increasingly eager to meet her as he spoke.

He continued, “The chef agreed to help me make something happen with the lady, so it won’t be long before I finally meet her.”

Ivor felt relieved, saying, “Well, I hope you **find** what you’re looking for.”

‘I don’t care who it is as long as it isn’t Bonnie.’

Simultaneously, Bonnie received a call from the chef at Jade Horizon Hotel. “Are you asking me to come by the hotel tomorrow? How come?”

“W–Well,” the chef stammered, “I–I developed a new recipe and would like you to try it.”

“Is it really about a new recipe, or is there something else?” Bonnie asked, raising her brow.

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 420

Chapter 420

The chef awkwardly said, “There’s no hiding anything from you!”

“**Spill** it. What’s the real reason you’re inviting me over?”

“A friend of mine is eager to meet you.”

Bonnie was puzzled, asking, “Wait, why?”

I

"It's kind of my fault for being a blabbermouth. I told him how your culinary skills outshine mine by miles. Coincidentally, he has loved studying culinary stuff since childhood. He started bugging me to set up a meeting with you." The more the chef spoke, the more embarrassed he felt.

Bonnie recalled how well the chef always treated her whenever she went to the Jade Horizon Hotel. She sighed and agreed to the meetup, "I'll come over next Saturday afternoon."

"Perfect!" The chef was thrilled and lost his composure. After all, he did not expect her to agree so

quickly.

Soon after, Bonnie finished preparing dinner and served them on the dining table. Vince stared at the food emotionally. His eyes reddened as he said, "You're so kind, Bonnie! You're the best person in the

whole world!

"Thank you for taking me in. I promise to do everything I can to help you out. I'll do the laundry, clean the house, and even help prepare meals."

Bonnie patted his head and said, "You're just a kid. I won't allow you to do all that. I'm not fond of child

labor, y'know."

"I know, but I can't just be a freeloader."

Vince, I'll send you to school, okay?" Bonnie had already chosen a suitable school for him.

The boy was shocked. "S-School?! I don't have to do chores, and I get to attend school?! That makes me a genuine freeloader. Bonnie, I can't let you Waste so much money on me."

"That's all the more reason you'll have to do well in school and grow to be someone who can contribute to society. That way, I wouldn't have wasted a cent on you, right?"

Vince could not help but burst into tears. "I-I'll study real hard, and then... Th-then I'll repay you when I

grow up!"

Ivor playfully flicked the boy's forehead and said, "She's my fiancée. You won't have a chance to repay her kindness with money."

After a brief awkward silence, Bonnie burst into laughter, "Hahaha!"

Vince looked at the jealous Ivor and laughed heartily. The dining room was full of harmony and warmth. After dinner, Ivor entered Bonnie's room. She pushed him and said, "What are you doing in here? Get out."

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Ivor grabbed her arms and placed them on his chest. He asked, "I have a question. Do you love kids that

much?"

"I don't understand your question." Bonnie could not withdraw her hand, no matter how hard she tried..

"It's evident you like Vince a lot. We can have children if you like kids this much. I'm sure our children will be more adorable than he is."

Bonnie rolled her eyes at him. "I think our kids might grow up shameless like you."

"That works. If we have a son, he can find an excellent wife if he's shameless."

"I didn't take you for an old-fashioned father. You like boys more than girls," Bonnie said sarcastically.

Ivor sensed a landmine and said, "Why would I? It'll be perfect if we have a girl. That way, she can be as multi-talented as you are. It'd be best to have twins—one of each gender. Now, that's a whole package."

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 421

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Bonnie chuckled, and Ivor said, “What’s wrong? Aren’t you content with twins? Do you want to make eight -no, ten babies with me? I’d love that, but I don’t want you to push yourself.”

He looked at her belly worriedly.

Bonnie giggled and said, “You have a wild imagination. Okay, that’s enough of that. I need to sleep, and you need to leave.”

She pushed him out of her room. She then patted her head and thought, ‘Why did I let him trick me into having a conversation about having babies? Jeez, we even discussed how many babies we’ll have.’

When Saturday arrived, Bonnie **went** to the Jade Horizon Hotel as promised. When she opened the private room door, her eyes sparkled as she looked at the stunning man. He was almost as dashing **as**

Ivor, but his demeanor differed.

Bonnie stared at the man and felt a strange feeling well inside her. She felt like she had seen this person before. More accurately, she seemed to recognize his eyes and lips the most.

She and the man observed each other for a while. The latter’s eyes widened with astonishment as he thought, ‘The chef told me she’s beautiful, but I underestimated just how gorgeous she is.’

“Hello, there. I’m Thaddeus Sherman. It’s nice to meet you.”

“Likewise, Thaddeus. I’m Bonnie.”

“Bonnie?” Thaddeus repeated.

“Is there something wrong with my name?”

“Not **at** all. It rolls off the tongue..

Nuh–uh. I think it’s nice. It rolls off the tongue quite smoothly. Its etymology means ‘pretty’ **and** ‘beautiful. It’s just that it sounds familiar, but I can’t remember where I heard it.” He could not remember, no matter

how hard he tried.

Bonnie did not overthink it and sat down, saying, “Perhaps it’s a common name.”

She did not tell him her name was trending on Twitter because of the incident regarding the Shepards and Orpheus. It was only expected that Thaddeus had heard about her.

He said, “It’s not common at all. I think it’s a pretty unique name. Perhaps I made an honest mistake. I heard you like wine, so I brought you an imported bottle of 1982 Chateau Lafite. Try some and tell me if you like it.”

As he poured Bonnie a glass, she thought, ‘I’ve drunk that wine. I remember how smooth it was to drink.’

She said, “You wouldn’t have brought me this wine for no good reason, right? So, tell me what your

intentions are.”

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I like that you get to the point, Bonnie. You’re just like me in that aspect. I don’t like beating around the bush, but I held back because I didn’t want to make you uncomfortable.” Then, Thaddeus noticed her getting slightly impatient. After all, he was a perceptive man.

He hurriedly added, “I’ve always wanted to learn about culinary arts. The chef here told me about your unrivaled skills, so I would love to become your apprentice.”

Bonnie sipped her wine and put her glass down, saying, “Didn’t the chef tell you I don’t have time to teach anyone? He used to **ask** me the same thing, too, but I always rejected him.”

Thaddeus **knew** it would turn out this way and had prepared for it. He stood up and looked at her thoughtfully. He said, “I mean it, Bonnie. I’ve had an immense Interest in culinary arts since childhood. However, I’ve never been honored to meet someone with actual skills.

“Besides that, my parents gave me one last warning. If I can’t learn culinary arts and make something of myself, I’ll have to return home and take over the family business. I’m not cut out for a corporate life and the furthest thing from a company CEO.”

That was also why Thaddeus needed to find an extraordinarily talented wife. That way, he could let his wife take over the family business.

Bonnie noticed his sincerity and felt his passion for cooking. Moreover, he looked so familiar that she could not help but feel closer to him. Hence, she faltered slightly.

Thaddeus noticed it and seized the opportunity to try again, I swear I'll learn with everything I have. If you turn me down, I'll wait at your doorstep daily

I'll be there, no matter the weather."

Bonnie's lips twitched when she heard that.

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 422

Chapter 422

Bonnie remarked, "You're as bold and shameless **as** someone I know."

"Oh? Who is this person? What's your relationship with them?" Thaddeus had a hunch she was referring to someone who could steal her from him.

"You probably don't know him," Bonnie said dryly, "Fine, I can see how sincere you are. **I'll** take you in as my apprentice, but you'll have to-

Before she could finish, Thaddeus held up his wine glass and proposed a toast, "Let's drink to you, Ms. Bonnie."

He was so pragmatic and opportunistic that he reminded Bonnie **of** Ivor. She downed her wine and officially took in Thaddeus as her apprentice.

He asked, "How old are you, Ms. Bonnie?"

"I'm twenty."

"You're only twenty?!" He was shocked.

Bonnie raised her brow and asked, "What's wrong? Do I look older than that?"

Thaddeus hastily explained, “Th—that’s not it! You have such silky skin and an exquisite face. How does that make you look old? I was just surprised because you mastered culinary

arts at only twenty.”

Bonnie said, “Speaking of which, I’ll make a few dishes for you to taste. After all, I’m your

teacher now.”

”}

Thaddeus was thrilled. “That’s wonderful!”

Soon after, Bonnie entered the hotel’s kitchen. The chefs and the one who knew Bonnie

huddled around her to watch her cook.

“Her knife skills are spectacular. Before I knew it, she already cut the vegetables into thin

strips.”

“Forget that. Look at how thinly she sliced the carrots so evenly.”

“What a divine fragrance! I think her fillet is done. Just the smell makes my mouth water!”

Even Thaddeus, who had tasted various delicacies worldwide, could not help but gulp. Although the chefs at this hotel praised and boasted about how great her cooking was, he never knew she was this good.

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An hour later, Bonnie completed eight dishes. “All done! Have a taste.”

“**You** don’t **have to** tell me twice!” Thaddeus hastily picked up a fork and knife. He could not **wait to taste** these exquisite dishes. **He** cut into a piece of trout fillet and ate it. Bonnie had rinsed the trout with the freshest, sweetest broth **he** had ever tasted.

It gave the dish another layer of refreshing flavor. It tasted so heavenly that Thaddeus felt like he had been transported to another realm.

Bonnie asked, “So, how is it? Not bad, huh?”

He gave her a thumbs–up and said, “Not bad? It’s nothing short of divine, Ms. Bonnie! It almost feels like a dish meant for Gods and **not** us mortal beings!”

‘That’s it! I’ll make Bonnie my wife!’

When he returned home, he called Ivor and bragged about the glorious woman he met. “I’m telling you, Ivor, her culinary skills are incomparable! I’ll even say no one can compare to her cooking!”

‘No one makes a better dish than Bonnie,’. Ivor thought, ‘Still, I won’t tell him that. What’ll I do if he starts having funny ideas about her?’

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 423

Chapter **423**

“Congratulations,” Ivor said indifferently.

“It’s too early for that. Although she’s not my girlfriend or anything yet, I became her apprentice. She promised to let me visit her place and learn how to cook every Saturday. Now, **all** I need is time. With my capabilities, I’m confident I can win her heart.”

person.

Ivor said truthfully, “I hope you get what you want. Either way, she sounds like a good

I think many people have tried hitting on her. Did you ask if she has a boyfriend?”

“I didn’t ask.” Thaddeus shrugged. “I don’t see the point. What matters is if she’s married or engaged. I can never tear a family apart, but there’s nothing wrong with hitting on her if she only has a boyfriend.

“Don’t you think I can still try to win her heart even if she has a boyfriend? What matters is if a guy can get his girlfriend to marry him.”

“You have a point there,” Ivor agreed wholeheartedly. That was the same principle he worked with when he first fell in love with Bonnie. It did not matter who loved her or if she

had feelings for anyone else.

He would have kept trying to win her heart until he succeeded or died trying.

Friday arrived in the blink of an eye. Everyone in the lecture hall intensely discussed shares

and stocks.

“Did you hear, Bonnie? The class representative bought some shares and profited from flipping them! Everyone’s studying shares now. Do you want to give it a whirl?” Avril checked the stock app on her phone while speaking.

Bonnie put down her book and said, “If you’re interested, I recommend you buy some of the Tang Fusion Studios’ shares or focus on the technology sectors.”

Avril was merely striking up a conversation and did not expect Bonnie to be interested. After all, the latter owned Tang Fusion Studios. Hence, Avril wondered why Bonnie wanted to rake

in more money.

Still, Avril could sense Bonnie’s confidence by how the latter talked. Avril asked in puzzlement, “Why just those two? Do you have insider information or something?”

Before Bonnie could respond, they heard a sarcastic voice, “Bonnie’s just bluffing. Do you think she knows anything about shares? She’s just mouthing off.”

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The person speaking was a young man named Frankde, who adored Natalee. He tried to humiliate Bonnie in front of everyone to avenge Natalee in any way he could.

Bonnie looked at him disdainfully and said, “What’s it to you? Why are you mouthing off?”

“Good one, Bonnie!” Avril cheered her friend on.

Frankie was furious. When he saw Natalee entering the lecture hall, he wanted to show her how masculine he was. He raised his voice and retorted, “I know you had a perfect score on the SATS and won the Best Scholar Award, but that doesn’t make you special, Bonnie!”

She countered, “I don’t know if that makes me special, but I know that anyone who didn’t get into Pyralis University with a full SAT score needs to shut their mouths.”

“Hahaha!” Her words amused all her classmates.

Frankie’s fury grew. “I heard what you said earlier. You said we can buy Tang Fusion Studios

shares or focus on the technology sectors. I looked into it and found that buying them would bring nothing.

“Let’s make a bet if you dare. I’ll apologize if you win, but you’ll have to apologize to me and Natalee if you lose. What do you think?”

Natalee heard him and ran toward them. Frankie was thrilled and thought he had made her fall in love with him. However, she suddenly slapped his face and said, “You can bug Bonnie all you want, but don’t drag me into it!”

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 424

Chapter 424

Natalee was so pissed off that her chest was rising and falling rapidly. Her eyes were filled with burning fury when she looked at Frankie.

The lecture hall was so quiet that they could hear a pin drop.

Frankie was covering his face as his jaws dropped. He was startled by her reaction. “I— I’m doing this for you, Natalee! She was so mean to you. On top of that, she almost got you expelled from the university. Don’t you want to get back at her after what she did to you?”

“Who told you have to do anything for me? Also, why would I want to get back at Bonnie? I was the one who started a fight with her and got myself into the mess. So, how is that her fault? If anything, it’s my fault. She’s just a victim of my unreasonable behaviors.

“On top of that, I would’ve wasted my time at the university if Bonnie hadn’t said what she said and given me a wake-up call. You might just see her as my classmate, but I think of her as one of the most important people in my life. I owe her a big deal!”

The next moment, she bowed to Bonnie in front of everybody to show her gratitude. Everyone was stunned by the sight. Even Avril, who knew the unbridled truth about Natalee’s incident, was so shocked by what she saw that she was at a loss for words.

Natalee averted her gaze and looked at Frankie. She said coldly, “Stop messing around if you know what’s good for you. I don’t want anything to do with you in the future.”

With that, she brushed past him, walked to the seat behind Bonnie, and started reading a

book

His face still felt searing from where Natalee slapped him. He also realized everyone was giving him dirty, mocking looks and their judgmental mutterings. In the blink of an eye, his resentment for Bonnie skyrocketed.

“This is all Bonnie’s fault! She’s the reason I’m humiliated this way. I don’t care what Natalee said. I’m going to make her pay!”

Bonnie ignored his hateful glares and was about to continue reading her book, but Russell’s

assistant called her.

“This is bad, Bonnie! Mr. **Russell** had fallen ill. He’s in the hospital and said he needs to see **you** now!”

She frowned and said, “Alright. I’m **on** my way

now!”

Just as she hung up the phone, the bell from the clock tower rang, indicating the

1

2/2

commencement of classes.

Professor Reece had just entered the class when he saw Bonnie, who was walking out of the

Frankie seized the opportunity and yelled, "Look at her, Professor Reece. She doesn't respect the class at all. She left without asking you so much. She downright disrespects your authority!"

Everyone at Puralis University knew that Reece was extremely strict and hated tardy students. He didn't care who the student was, too. Status and powers meant nothing to him.

That was also why none of his students had ever been tardy or played games with him.

You're in for it now, Bonnie!

"Hold it, Bonnie!" Reece's face turned red from anger. "Go back to your seat now! Otherwise, I'm going to flunk you for this subject."

Turning around, she explained to the professor, "The university president is ill. He wanted to see me."

"Pfft... Hahaha!" Frankie held his belly and laughed. "Did you hear her, everyone? What nonsense is she saying? Did she just say the university president had fallen ill and wanted to see her immediately?"

"Who does she think she is? Do you fancy yourself the president's granddaughter?"

"Not really. I'm just...."

"Listen to yourself! You just admitted that you're not the university president's granddaughter. Then, why would he ask for you if he's ill?"

"Come on. You could've devised a better excuse if you wanted to skip the class. Do you think Professor Reece is an idiot, or are you playing him for a fiddle because you think you're brilliant?" He continued, trying to complicate the situation further.

Bonnie grew impatient. She needed to get to Russell as soon as possible. So, her tone turned cold when she spoke.

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 425

Chapter 425

“You’re the only one insinuating that Professor Reece is an idiot. Don’t make it my problem. Also, it’s none of your business who I’m visiting at the hospital, and it’s none of your concern how the professor will punish me.

“I don’t need you fanning the flames here. Anyone who could get into this university can think for themselves. You’re a fool if you think Professor Reece can’t tell you’re trying to stir up trouble here.”

Reece heard what she said and regarded Frankie coldly. However, that didn’t mean he would let Bonnie do whatever she pleased.

“My stand remains the same, Bonnie. If you take a step out of this door, I’m going to flunk you. I’ll make it impossible for you to graduate from this university!”

She cast a nonchalant glance at him. Then, she left the lecture hall without any hesitation.

Reece was so pissed off that he almost passed out. Taking a blackboard eraser, he hammered it on the podium. “I’ve been a professor for a long time, but I’ve never seen anyone as insolent as her!”

Frankie almost couldn’t stop himself from sneering when he saw how pissed off the professor was.

‘It won’t be long now. Bonnie’s going to get her comeuppance.

‘As far as I’m concerned, the university president wasn’t involved in Natalee’s incident. Bonnie must’ve pulled some wicked tricks and got a hold of

Natalee hadn’t acted like herself for the past few de

der. That should explain why

On the other side, Bonnie arrived at the hospital. She looked at Russell's medical report, and

her delicate brows furrowed.

"Don't worry about it, Bonnie. It's not that serious." Russell's face smiled.

pale, but he still

"You know I have medical knowledge, Russell. I know what's happening with you, and it doesn't look good." She checked his pulse.

It was **so** weak that she could barely feel it.

"You shouldn't worry about **the** university for the time being. Instead, you need to rest."

"You're right." The older man smiled warmly. "I'm leaving the university in your care from here on out. I believe **it'll** grow stronger with you at its helm. Pyralis University will be able

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to mold more students into bright minds!"

2/2

Raising her hand, she rubbed her eyebrow helplessly. She knew he'd thrust his task to her before she came to the hospital.

"You can't turn it down, Bonnie! If you do, I'll have to return to work."

She knew he was trying to win her sympathy, but that didn't mean she could let him go to the university in his current state.

back

"I can promise that **I'll** help run the university for now. As for the position of the university president..." Before she could finish, he sighed and cut her off.

"I know you don't care about titles and fame, Bonnie. You might've thrown yourself into the scientific research, but you didn't do it for praise from the general public or the country.

“You did it because you love it. It’s meaningful to you. Although you put on a calm face every time you manage to develop something, I know, deep down, you’re more than thrilled about it.”

Lowering her gaze, she remained quiet. What Russell said hit home.

“However, university education is equally meaningful, especially at Pyralis University. All sorts of highly talented people have gathered here. Once they succeed in their fields, I have no doubt they will become pillars of our country!

“Just take a look at your classmate, Natalee. At first, she was so proud that she got into the university that she became sloppy. She hasn’t received any outstanding scores since she

arrived.

“I looked into her background a little. She used to be the best student in high school, getting the highest score in every single subject. She sacrificed a lot to achieve what she achieved.

“Natalee was one of the talents willing to commit herself to her study. If you hadn’t confronted her and made her see the error of her ways, she would’ve ruined the rest of her life. Are you going to tell me what you did there is meaningless?” Russell tried his best to persuade her.

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Bonnie had to give it to Russell. He was making a lot of sense.

He noticed her faltering and continued, “Don’t you want more students to get the same wake -up call as Natalee? That way, they wouldn’t waste their time in the university.”

“You say that, but my work at the research institute is already taking up most of my time. I will fail at both ends **if I** try to do everything. Moreover, it’s what you used to tell

me, too. We have to focus on our goals. Otherwise, we're going to make a mess of everything."

Bonnie said.

"Yeah. I must admit I did say that. I believe a lot of older adults told you the same thing. However, things are different when it comes to you! You're not even a human... Ahem..."

'Geez! Look at me. I almost blurted out my inner thoughts.'

Bonnie was staring at him. So, he said stubbornly, "What I'm trying to say is that your talents are out of this world. Yeah! That's what I meant to say!"

She didn't believe him. He decided to drop it and change the topic. "Well. Take a look at yourself. You thrive at everything you do. That alone tells me you're exceptionally talented."

"Are you sure? I think I've only excelled in my scientific research. The others are just hobbies." She said sincerely.

Russell's jaws dropped a little before he patted himself in the chest.

He was the university president of the top university in Pyralis. Naturally, he was also highly talented in many areas. He was renowned for his skill sets, character, and wisdom. At this moment, however, what she said made him feel pathetic and inferior.

"Your talent in piano is good enough for you to be the president of the Pyralian Pianists Association. Are you honestly telling me it was just a hobby for you? I'm not even talking about your other talents."

"Exactly. **I** picked it up as a hobby because I was bored. There's an important reason behind it. Playing piano inspires me to make a breakthrough in my scientific research."

"Um..." Russell gulped. "How about you treat my position as a hobby, too? Don't worry. I won't ask you to do much. After all, you're the science prodigy. It wouldn't do for me just to plop the position of university president on your shoulder. That'd be wasting your talent.

"Instead, you'll be the type of president who could go about your life without caring about what happens at the university unless something emergency happens. Then, **you'll** show up

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and deal **with** it. What say you?"

'I will turn the entire Pyralis upside down if my word ever **got** out to the public. The president of Pyralis University is a highly respected position! Here I am, saying I'd be wasting her talent if I entrust the position to her.'

Bonnie gave it some thought and made up her mind soon.

"I'm just going to take over your position for now. I will step down again once you start getting better and recover completely."

"Alrighty! You call the shot! I'll take over again as soon as I recover fully!"

He grinned from ear to ear.

'I've finally convinced you to become the university president. I'm not going to recover, ever, so to speak.'

2/2

"Head back to the university. I'll ask my assistant to inform the top management, and we'll get the ceremony going."

Frowning, she said, "I just want to be an ordinary student at the university. I'd like to keep a low profile."

"Fine, then. We'll just inform the top management personnel and hold a simple meeting. We'll let them know you're the new university president behind closed doors. Is that good enough for you?"

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1/2

Before Bonnie could reject, Russell added, "After all, you're their new leader. You're the new president of Pyralis University. Are you honestly going to ask me to keep your identity hidden when you're the new head? How does that even make sense?"

She thought about it and found that he had a point. "Alright, then. We'll do it your way."

He was thrilled to see that she had given way to his wishes. It felt as if he had primarily recovered from his illness. He whipped his head and looked at his assistant. He said excitedly, "Do it, now! Inform the top management personnel that we will have the meeting tomorrow!"

His assistant reminded him. "Tomorrow's Saturday, Mr. Russell."

"Geez. Look at me and my dummy brain! Gah! Why does it have to be a Saturday tomorrow?" Russell was so worked up that he worried she might change her mind after a few days.

"Calm down, Mr. Russell. We can have the meeting next Monday!"

"How am I supposed to calm down? We're talking about three days here! I have to work my butt to finally trick Bonnie into taking the position.

"What will I do if she regrets her decision after a few days? Will you find another worthy person to take over my position?" Russell growled.

His assistant's jaw dropped. Then, he gave the president a look.

Russell came back to his senses and looked at her immediately. "Don't get me wrong, Bonnie. I don't mean that. I didn't try to trick you. I wanted you to be the university president! I'm honestly doing what's best for my students. I..."

"It's okay, Russell." She smiled hopelessly. "It doesn't matter if you're tricking me. The fact is, I gave you my word, and I intend to keep it. Don't worry about it. I'll be there in the meeting on Monday."

Russell let out a sigh of relief. He could finally rest easy now.

Bonnie returned to her villa and caught a delicious odor from the kitchen. She entered it and was pleasantly surprised to see Ivor making dinner.

"You're home. Wash your hands. Dinner's about to be ready." The affection in his voice was unmistakable, and she liked it.

Walking over to his side, she saw that he had finished several dishes. They looked delicious,

too.

“When did you learn to cook?”

“I’ve seen you done it a few times. So, I secretly remembered the steps.”

h, so that’s how it is. You stole my culinary skills. You have to know that this is a serious offense. Tell me, what will you do about it?” she said deliberately.

Taking off the apron, he unbuttoned his shirt.

“W–What do you think you’re doing?” She took a step back.

“Didn’t you just ask me to do something about it? Well, it’s not like you need money. So, I have no choice but to offer you my excellent body.” He said it in the most gentlemanly tone.

She couldn’t help but roll her eyes at him. Then, she changed the topic immediately. “Let’s eat. I want to taste your cooking.”

He stopped in his tracks. He had unbuttoned a couple of his buttons. If only she had gone along with him, he would’ve done it all through.

Not long after, he served all the dishes on the dining table.

“Dinner’s ready, Vince. Come on down,” she shouted at the little boy upstairs.

“Alright. I’m coming.” The little boy raced down the stairs.

Ivor stared at Vince. The longer he stared at the latter, the more he thought the little boy looked familiar. For his life, he couldn’t place it.

She sat at the dining table and realized Ivor made her favorite dishes. She couldn’t help but feel moved by this gesture.

Stabbing a piece of Jamaican jerk pork ribs, she took a bite. Then, her eyes sparkled.

“Not bad at all. It’s rich and savory, not too greasy. Also, I can taste the hint of sweetness without it overpowering the meat’s flavor. I didn’t think you could do this well on a first try.”

“Why, of course. You have to know just how awesome I am by now.” Ivor said, thrilled.

“It’s not his first ribs, though. He spent the whole day in the kitchen. He even burnt his hand.” Vince noticed how he hid his hands under the table.

Suddenly, she put down her cutlery and walked over to Ivor. Then, she took his hands swiftly and examined them.

There were a lot of blisters on the back of his hands.

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Chapter 428

Bonnie's brows knitted tightly. "Why couldn't you have been more careful?"

It might've sounded like she was scolding him, but the deep affection in her tone was unmistakable.

Ivor's lips curled into a smile. 'It's great that my hands got burnt. Otherwise, I wouldn't know how much she cared about me.'

"It's okay. These are but small injuries. It'll recover by itself after a few days."

Turning around, she climbed the stairs and brought her medkit down. "I'm going to pierce the blisters and apply some ointment. You'll have to bear with it."

"It's okay, I mean it. You should go back to dinner. You must've been exhausted after an entire day of classes."

"Stop moving!" One phrase. That was all it took for Ivor to stop in his tracks.

Ged had just come in when he saw this moment. 'What a bad timing.'

"I came here for a free meal. Why do I have to suffer this lovey-dovey moment?"

Then, he walked over to their side and saw the blisters on Ivor's hands.

"What's going on with your hands, Ivor?"

Vince responded, "Ivor was burnt when he tried to cook."

That stunned Ged. “D—Did the boy just say you’re trying to cook, Ivor?” Then, he looked at the sky and said, “I wonder if the sun’s going to come out from the west tomorrow.’

Averting his gaze from the sky, he watched Bonnie apply the ointment for Ivor. He pursed his lips. It didn’t take a genius to figure out why Ivor was cooking.

“Let’s see. How does your cooking taste?”

He randomly picked a dish and popped it into his mouth.

“Mmm! It tastes great! I didn’t think you’d be able to cook this well!”

Ivor looked at her with humor in his eyes. “That’s because I have a wonderful fiancé.”

Suddenly, Ged didn’t think his dishes were as delicious as they were a second ago. “Tsk tsk tsk! It’s salty. It tastes very salty! Did you pour a whole bottle of salt into your dishes?”

Vince proceeded to eat several more mouthfuls. Then, he said, bewildered, “It isn’t sour,

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though. They’re delicious if you ask me.”

2/2

“You’re just a kid. You won’t get it.” Ged looked at the little boy’s delicate face. At the next moment, he said puzzlingly.

“Huh? Don’t you find the little boy’s mug a little familiar? Why do I get the feeling I’ve seen

him before?”

Ivor and Bonnie glance at Vince. Truthfully, they feel the same way.

Later, she packed up her medkit and told Ivor, “Tomorrow’s Saturday. You should take a good rest at home. You don’t have to drop by,”

‘If he comes here and sees me teaching Thaddeus how to cook, he’s just going to be jealous.’

“Tomorrow is an off day, yet you asked me to stay away. Are you planning on bringing someone here?”

What he said made her feel a little on edge.

‘Geez. He knows me well.’

“You’re reading too much into it. Weren’t you very busy for the past week? Also, your hands are burnt. You need to take it easy.”

Ivor was eyeing her sharply. Then, an idea came to her, and she said, “To be honest, I’m exhausted too. I’m going to sleep in and let myself relax tomorrow. Once I’m well-rested, I’ll go to your place and make you dinner.”

He relaxed a little and said, “Okay. I’ll be waiting.”

On their way back, Ged realized that his friend was always sporting a sour face.

“Why are you still this annoyed? She didn’t want you to go to her place tomorrow because she didn’t want you to tire yourself out. Moreover, she said she’s going to make you dinner.” “When has she pampered me like that?” Ivor squinted and said coldly.

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 429

Chapter 429

Ged was stunned. “What are you trying to say here? Do you think Bonnie was trying to keep you away? Really? Why would she do something like that?”

“I guess we’ll find out tomorrow.”

Is it fine for you to be doing something like that? If Bonnie sees **it**, she might...”

“Well, then. I’ll just have to make sure she doesn’t see us.” Ivor had made up his mind. He was going to

drop by her place without her knowing it.

Shrugging, Ged said. "Alright. I guess I'll go with you as well. The things I do for you."

"Aren't you just doing it because you're nosy and want to see what happens?" He responded, exasperated.

"Hehehe. You know me well, old friend..."

The next day, Thaddeus drove to Bonnie's place early in the morning.

"I **didn't** count **on you** staying **in** Lenfield Resort! What's more, you're staying in the best villa in the neighborhood! My family also tried getting their hands on this villa when the project was first announced.

"**In** the end, they told us they reserved it for someone. That piqued my interest! Everyone knows that Tang

Fusion Studios developed the Lenfield Resort. For them to reserve it for someone, that person has to be

one of the company's employees.

"That begs the question. How are you related to Tang Fusion Studios? How did you get your hands on this

villa?"

She was suffering a slight headache from his questions. "Are you here to learn culinary skills, or are you

here to bombard me with irrelevant questions? Look, you're free to leave if you're not going to learn about

cooking. I can go back to my sleep."

"Don't get upset, master. I'm **just** curious. That's all. I'm going to stop asking about it now. I'll shut my

trap." He said as he made a gesture **to zip** his mouth.

She pointed at the shoe cabinet and said, "There's some slippers there. Help yourself."

"Oh, sure." He opened the cabinet door and realized there were slippers for kids and a pair for

guys.

From the looks of **it**, somebody wore it.

It occurred to her that Ivor was a neat freak. **So**, she stopped and said, "Don't wear that pair of slippers. **You** can take a new one down there. **It's** still sealed in plastic."

Judging by her look and words, he mulled it over for a couple of seconds before he asked quietly, "Is the slipper's owner a neat freak?"

"**You're kind of smart.**"

"Why, of course! I might look like **an** ordinary guy, but I used to **get** second place in every single **subject**

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back when I was a student!"

That piqued her interest. "**Well**, then. Who took the first **place**?"

"**Uh...**" He parted his **lips**. "**You don't know** him."

She raised her delicate brows, but she didn't press anymore.

"I'm curious. Who's the guy who wore the slipper? Is he trying to hit on you?" He asked.

2/2

After a few seconds of silence, she decided she didn't have to hide **the** truth. "Yeah. You can say that."

Thaddeus maintained his smile. There was a hint of gloominess in his eyes now, but he didn't let it bother **him** too much.

'Well, Bonnie is an excellent lady. **It'll** be weird if no one else tries to win her heart. With that said, I didn't

think that one of them managed to gain entry to her place. I'll have to act faster and make her fall in love

with me.'

"How does he look? Who's more handsome? Me or **him**?"

"I guess you guys are evenly matched in the looks department. I have to say that I like his mug more than yours." She said truthfully.

Thaddeus **couldn't** help but feel that a considerable threat was looming in the future after he heard what

she said.

“Do you love him?”

Her patience had run out. “Are you here to hone your culinary skills?”

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Chapter **430**

“Of course I am.” Thaddeus put on indoor slippers and went into the kitchen with Bonnie.

“What are we going to cook today?”

She opened the fridge. “I’ve prepared the ingredients. I will teach you how to make blackened catfish and Jamaican jerk pork ribs. Hmm... Let’s add cheeseburger sliders to the list. Kids love that.

“You might think sliders are typical food, and you could easily make it. That’s not the case here. Culinary art isn’t all about the ingredients. If your skills are subpar, then even the best and most expensive ingredients would’ve been wasted.

“It takes an excellent cook to make the most common food ever.”

“I agree with you wholeheartedly.” He nodded. Then, he couldn’t stop himself from asking it. “Speaking of,

I noticed a pair of slippers for kids in the cabinet earlier. A minute ago, you talked about making a dish

that kids love.

“Who’s the kid to you? Is he your little brother?”

“I guess you can say that.” She responded.

“Does that mean he’s, in fact, not your little brother?” He sensed that there was more to the story.

She slammed the catfish onto the cutting board and gave him a sidelong glance, giving him a hint.

He immediately made another gesture and zipped his mouth shut.

At that moment, a black Maybach quietly pulled over outside her villa. Ged pointed at the luxurious car parked on the porch and asked, “Why does that car look a little familiar?”

Ivor also noticed the white Bentley.

“Why does that look so much like Thaddeus’s car?” The more he looked at it, the more he thought he was right. “It can’t be, though.”

Then, he cast his mind back to what his childhood friend told him a few days ago.

‘Thaddeus told me he became an apprentice to a lady with excellent culinary skills. He also said she was

glorious.

‘Wait a minute. That reminds me. The chef at Jade Horizon Hotel served us food every time I went there with Bonnie. He was very respectful toward her, too.

‘Could it be...?’

At the thought of that, he quickly opened the car door and got out. Once he opened the villa door, he saw

a pair of male leather shoes at the entrance.

Ged was surprised to see it. “Do you think Bonnie wanted to keep you away because she’s seeing someone behind your back?”

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2/2

As soon as he said it, he covered his mouth and looked at his best friend. "Um... I'm just thinking out loud, Ivor. Perhaps Benedict is here. As for the car..."

Before he could finish, Ivor had already entered the living room. He heard a commotion in the kitchen and

dashed over.

He was approaching the door when he heard a man's voice.

"seriously have no idea how to cut the vegetables, master. Could you take my hand and show me how

it's done?"

'Wait a minute. That voice...'

Ged's eyes widened in shock as he looked at Ivor.

The latter said, "Perhaps I should show you how it's done. I'll even hold your hand."

Thaddeus was stunned when he heard the voice. Then, he turned around sharply and finally saw his

childhood friend. He stared at Ivor so hard that his eyes would pop out.

"I—Ivor? What are you doing here?"

Squinting, Ivor said blankly, "That's my line. What are you doing in my fiancé's place?"

"What?! She's your... You guys are... Is she the fiancée your grandpa made you get engaged to?!"

Thaddeus's jaw dropped as he repeatedly shifted his shocked gaze between Bonnie and Ivor.

Instead of answering him, Ivor walked over to her side. Reaching out, he pulled her into his embrace and showed her his childhood friend, the boss, around here.

Ged walked over to Thaddeus and held him by the shoulder. He spoke as if he weren't part of the problem, "What a good show! It turns out your master is Ivor's fiancé. That means Ivor is your master, by extension, too. Hahaha!"

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Ivor looked at Thaddeus and said, "Let me hear it. Also, calling me 'master' isn't going to **cut** it. You'll

have to make a toast in my name too."

Thaddeus's lips twitched. The sight of Ivor and Bonnie standing together stung him so much.

"The truth is, you don't look good together, Ivor."

Ivor released his grip on Bonnie's waist and said gently to her, "Go ahead and prepare dinner. The two of

us are going to talk outside."

"Do whatever you want." Bonnie knew what they planned to do, but she was unbothered.

Not long after, she heard the sounds of fighting coming from outside.

'That's weird. They're fighting so fiercely, and they're not exactly being discreet. So, why didn't Vince show up? He should've been up by now.' She then decided, 'I have to go upstairs and check on him.'

She stepped out of the kitchen and saw Ivor throw Thaddeus over his shoulder before flinging him across

the room.

"Motherfucker! Do you have to take it this far, Ivor? I mean it. You guys don't look good together. Can't a guy tell the truth?"

" E F 5F

“I suppose you think you look good with her, then?”

“Heh! This is the first thing you’ve said that makes sense today.”

“You asked for it!” Ivor charged at him again.

Ged was eating a bucket of popcorn and cheering them on. “Go get him, Ivor! Teach him a lesson!”

“Come on, Thaddeus. You’re not a punching bag. Fight back, for heaven’s sake! Don’t worry about it. Just aim for his pretty face! Once you ruin his good looks, Bonnie won’t even look at him!”

She simply couldn’t be bothered with these men. She hastened upstairs and went inside Vince’s room.

That was when she realized the little boy was lying on the bed. There were rashes all over his body.

“What’s the matter, Vince?!”

The little boy opened his eyes weakly and said, “H–Hi, Bonnie. D–Don’t worry about it. I–I’m...”

He couldn’t even finish his sentence before he slipped into unconsciousness.

“Vince!”

Grabbing his arm quickly, she checked his pulse.

and

Ivor heard her voice from downstairs. He abandoned his fight with Thaddeus and ran off to Vince’s room.

“What came over him?” Thaddeus asked, completely stunned.

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Tossing the popcorn bucket aside, Ged responded, “I think something happened to Vince.”

“Who’s Vince?” Thaddeus asked before he remembered about the pair of kid slippers.

“You mean

Bonnie’s little brother.”

“There’s no time to explain. We have to check on him now.”

Thaddeus watched as Ged rushed to the stairs and followed after him.

The first thing he saw when he entered the room was Bonnie checking a little boy’s pulse.

“Huh? Does she know what she’s doing?” He asked as he shook Ged’s shoulder.

Ged didn’t see a reason to keep anything from him. “Will you believe me if I tell you she’s a world-

renowned miracle doctor?”

“It’s been a long time since we last met. It seems you’re getting better at making up stories.”

Realizing that Thaddeus didn’t believe him, Ged couldn’t be bothered to explain further.

“Huh?” Thaddeus took brisk steps toward the bed. He reached out and touched Vince’s face.

2

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Chapter 432

Bonnie stopped him and asked, “What are you doing?”

“I—I think this is a food allergy reaction.” Thaddeus’s hand, which was still touching Vince’s face, started

trembling.

“How did you know about that?” She didn’t know about it herself until after she checked the little boy’s pulse.

He took a deep breath before he looked at her solemnly. “Did you give him the cheeseburger sliders? Were there tomatoes in them?”

She was stunned. “How do you know about that?”

“I knew it! I knew it!” Thaddeus was overjoyed.

He looked at Vince’s face, which was covered with rashes. However, Vince’s features gave Thaddeus enough information to know he was right.

Bonnie and the rest did not have the foggiest idea of what he was getting at.

“What on earth has gotten over you, Thaddeus? Why do you look so happy?” Ged asked.

He pointed at Vince’s face before pointing at his own.

“Don’t you guys think he looks familiar?”

Now that he pointed it out, they finally understood.

“Dang! I—Is he your long lost brother?” Ged was so shocked that he almost bit his tongue.

“It’s highly possible.”

“We live in a big world. Sometimes we meet strangers who look exactly like someone we know. Also, what are the freaking odds?”

Thaddeus pointed at the rashes on the little boy’s face. “I also have an allergy to tomatoes. Once, I almost died because I ate some of it.”

Everyone fell silent immediately.

Standing up, she said, “Let’s put this aside for now. Vince is in a dire situation, and I don’t have the necessary medical equipment here. We have to send him to the hospital for an IV drip.”

“Okay!” Thaddeus quickly carried the little boy in his arms to the ground floor.

The Shermans stopped everything they were doing and rushed to the hospital as soon as they got news

about Vince.

“Are you sure the little boy’s your brother, Thaddeus?” Dominick was so overwhelmed that his hands couldn’t stop shaking.

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2/2

Thaddeus’s mother, Willow Sherman, was also very excited. Her eyes were completely red. Evidently, she

cried on her way here.

“He looks exactly like me, and he had an allergic reaction because he ate some tomatoes. We’ll have to run some DNA tests to know for sure, though,” he answered.

However, he was pretty convinced that Vince was his younger brother.

Dominick and Willow held each other and said, “Heavens, please let the little boy be our son!”

Not long after, the door to the emergency room swung open. Bonnie rolled the hospital bed out.

Now that they had a chance to look at Vince, whose eyes were shut, both of them were pretty sure that they had found their long–lost son.

“How’s he doing, Bonnie?”

She took off her mask. “I just ran a thorough body checkup for him and gave him the relevant treatment. We can be sure he had an allergy to tomatoes. He’s stabilized now.”

“Wonderful! That’s great. Thank the heavens!”

She frowned slightly. “I’m sorry. This was my fault. I made him the sliders with tomatoes in them yesterday.”

“Why would anyone blame you? You didn’t know about it, after all,” Ivor said, feeling heartbroken.

“Exactly! This isn’t your fault at all. We made the same mistake with Thaddeus, back when he was very young. We didn’t know he was allergic to tomatoes, and he was bedridden for days.”

Willow had nothing but gratitude for Bonnie.

Dominick said, "Ivor told us about what you did for Vince. If you hadn't taken him in and sent him to school, he might still be homeless somewhere.

"Thank you, Bonnie. I mean it. I appreciate what you did for him!" Dominick's eyes were filled with tears as

he spoke.

"Oh. That reminds me," Bonnie said. "I had them run a DNA test using samples of Vince and Thaddeus's blood. The result should be out anytime now."

The next moment, a young nurse holding the result walked toward her.

"This is the DNA test result you asked for, Ms. Bonnie."

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 433

Chapter 433

"What do the results say?!" Dominick and his family asked at the same time.

Bonnie took the report and flipped through it. Her lips curled into a smile as she said, "Good news. Your long lost son has finally returned to your side."

A

"This is fantastic! Thank the merciful heavens! I've found my youngest son, at last!" Dominick, who was

six feet tall, burst into tears.

Willow and Thaddeus were crying their eyes out too.

Half an hour later, Vince woke up, and Bonnie told him everything.

His lips trembled as he asked, “A—Are you making a joke, Bonnie? D—Do you mean it when you say they are my family?”

Nodding, she said, “We did the DNA test. You guys are family.

“I’m sorry, my boy! It’s our fault that you suffered so much alone out there!” Dominick pulled the little boy

into his embrace as he spoke.

Willow and Thaddeus also came over and hugged them.

Bonnie felt a lump in her throat when she witnessed this moment. “What are you waiting for, Vince? Greet

your mom and dad.”

The little boy’s eyes were completely red. It took him a long time to finally say, “Mom... Dad...”

“Oh, my sweet boy!”

Vince was so overwhelmed that he could no longer control himself. He finally cried like a child his age

would.

It took the Shermans a good while before they regained their composure.

Wiping his tears away, Dominick approached Bonnie and said gratefully, “We had a slim chance of ever reuniting with Vince if it wasn’t for you, Bonnie. I owe you a great debt.

“So, please, let us know if you need any help. I swear, the entire Sherman family will do our level best to

repay you!”

“There’s no need for that, Dominick. I wasn’t expecting anything in return when I helped Vince. I merely did it because I pitied him and found him quite mature. I truly liked him.”

‘What a lady. I see why Ivor loves her this much,’ he thought. Then he said, “What a shame. I sincerely hoped my other **son** could’ve won the heart of someone like you.”

The next thing he knew, Ivor showed up and took her away.

Thaddeus just kept sighing. "What can I say except that I was too late? Otherwise, I'm sure my shamelessness would've worn her down."

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Chapter 433

2/2

"That's enough. Saying these won't do you any good. Keep it up and find another lady. I'm counting on you to make me an adorable grandchild."

Thaddeus sighed heavily. "Now that I met someone as wonderful as Bonnie, I don't think I'll ever find another lady. After all, she raised the bar pretty damn high. I don't think anyone could ever stir my heart."

"What do you mean by that, you punk? Are you going to let the Sherman bloodline end?" Dominick was so angry that his face turned red.

Thaddeus turned around and glanced at Vince. "Well, you found your other son. Perhaps you entrust this hugely important task to him."

Dominick and Willow's eyes sparkled as they looked at Vince.

Their stares made the hair on the back of Vince's neck stand up. He might have no idea what they were talking about, but he had a strong suspicion that big trouble had found him.

In the blink of an eye, it was Monday.

Bonnie checked the time. It was just 8 a.m. The meeting wasn't going to start for an hour. So, she might as well read a book in the lecture hall.

"Did you guys hear? The university president was seriously ill, and he suggested that a new person take over." Frankie's words caused a big commotion in the hall.

"Where did you get the news? Is this really happening?"

"Of course! The truth is, my dad works at this university. He told me about it," he said proudly.

"Well. It has to be true, then. Do you know who's the new president? Is it a famous person? Come on, tell

us."

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 434

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Frankie shook his head. "I don't know the specifics. All my dad said was that the new university president

is already on campus."

hey the

Avril overheard this. Leaning closer to Bonnie, she whispered, "Tell me the truth, Bonnie. Are you the new

president?"

Bonnie nodded. "I didn't want the position, but I couldn't bear to turn Russell down."

"Phew..." Avril let out a deep breath. She thought, 'I know Bonnie and the president were quite close, but

this is still shocking.'

"When are you going to take over? Are they going to do some kind of ceremony?" Avril asked excitedly. She was already imagining Bonnie standing on stage and giving a speech to everyone on campus.

She glanced at Frankie and thought. 'Look at him, feeling so proud of himself. He's going to look like a chump when he sees that Bonnie is the new president.'

"I'm going to attend the meeting soon, but we're not going to announce anything publicly. So, mum's the

word." Bonnie said, worried.

“Huh? Why, though? You’re going to be the new president. Why wouldn’t you announce it? It’s such an honorable feat!” Avril couldn’t help but feel disappointed.

Frowning, Bonnie responded, “I won’t know peace if I do that. Everyone’s going to hound me relentlessly. Moreover, I wouldn’t have kept my identity as Bonita under wraps if I cared about being popular.”

Then, it finally hit Avril. ‘She’s right! Being the university president is an incredible feat, but it doesn’t hold a candle to her identity as Bonita! Ugh. I can’t stand it anymore. I have to share this news with someone.’

Pulling out her phone, she sent Daken a text. “The university has a new president, Dad.”

Daken replied to her, “Who’s that?”

“Bonnie.”

“Huh?!”

She felt much better when she saw her dad’s reply.

It’d be 9 a.m. in ten minutes. So Bonnie rose and walked out of the lecture hall.

“Hold it, Bonnie!” Frankie stopped her. “Class is about to start soon. Where do you think you’re going?”

Turning around, she said dryly, “Mind your **own** business.”

Then she went away to attend the meeting without so much as a glance at him.

He was so angered by her reaction that his neck turned red.

‘Keep acting cocky while you can. I’m going to tell Dad about your blatant disregard for the campus rules as soon as the new university president is here.’

Chapter 434

2/2

‘The new president has just taken over. I’ll bet he can’t wait to exercise his authority and make himself look good in the process!’

All of the top management personnel had gathered in the conference room.

“Do you think the new university president is competent? Mr. Russell might’ve complimented her nonstop, but we won’t know for sure until we see her in action.”

“Hear, hear. Needless to say, Mr. Russell commands our respect, but I’m going to rise and rebel if the new one doesn’t have what it takes to do the job. What’s your take on this, Reece?”

Reece wore an irritated expression on his face. “It doesn’t matter what we think. We’re going to have a new university president. It’s decided. All I want is to ask her to expel a particular student who blatantly went against the rules.”

“Who could that be? Look at you. You’re practically steaming.” Adan asked.

“You know her too. You used to give lectures to her.”

“Who in the world are you talking about? I don’t seem to recall any student going against the rules.”

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Chapter 435

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“Bonnie’s the only student who never focused during lectures. She even skipped classes regularly.”

“Bonnie?” Adan was stunned. He didn’t think Reece was trying to expel her.

“Exactly! Are you going to tell me that she’s never skipped your class?”

“Well, she did. However, her talents are miles ahead of everyone else! I’m not exaggerating here, but her gifts and skills in computer science were far above mine. I’ve got nothing to teach her. **In fact**, she could

show me a pointer or two.”

Reece replied, "How could you say such a thing? She's just a student. You're supposed to be teaching her,

not the other way around!"

Adan wasn't fazed by it at all.

"Being a student doesn't make her inferior, nor does being a teacher mean we're better than her. Proficiency in scientific research doesn't come with age.

"Take a look at Ms. Bonita. We might not know what she looks like, but we do know that she's young. Are you going to pretend you know everything in front of her just because she's a young lady?"

"That's quite enough, Adan!" Reece roared, "You've got some nerve to take Ms. Bonita's name in vain. How dare you compare her with that good-for-nothing? Do you know what would happen if people from her research institute or Ms. Bonita herself overheard what you said?"

The other professors and the top management personnel couldn't take their bickering anymore and tried

to defuse the situation.

"Stop it, both of you. The new president is going to be here soon. What's she going to think about us when she sees you guys fighting over a student?"

"As for that Bonnie character, you guys can bring it up for discussion when she's here. She'll decide if it's necessary to expel this student."

The next thing they knew, Russell's assistant came into the conference room.

"The new president is here. Please rise, everyone."

Everyone was brimming with curiosity.

'Who's the new president? As far as I heard, it's someone from the campus itself. However, every reputable figure in the university is already here. So, who in the world took over Russell's place?'

Everyone was staring **at** the door with anticipation when Bonnie slowly appeared before them.

The top management personnel gaped at her, especially Reece and Adan. Never had they thought that Bonnie could be the new president. For heaven's sake, they were her professors.

“Greetings, I’m the new university president. My name’s Bonnie.” She stood at the head of the table and introduced herself calmly.

Chapter 435

2/2

Silence hung over the conference room.

It was so quiet that they could’ve heard a pin drop. None of them could believe what they were seeing. Some of them even subtly pinched their own thighs.

“Please be seated, everyone,” she said before she pulled the chair out and sat down.

Then she realized everyone was frozen to their spot. None of them moved a muscle.

“Are you guys going to stand there until the meeting adjourns?”

Her words brought everyone back to their senses. All of them proceeded to take their seats, although

they moved stiffly.

‘How could this be? Why is she the new president?’ Reece stared at her. The longer he looked at her, the

harder it was for him to accept the truth.

She noticed his stare and said, “You’re giving me a funny look, Professor Reece. Is there anything you

want to say?”

He wrestled with himself for several seconds. Then, he couldn’t stop himself anymore.

“Why are you

taking over Mr. Russell’s position?”

This was what everyone was wondering about.

“This was Russell’s decision. I can’t help it,” she responded.

“Heh! Why do you make it sound like you don’t want the position? Do you know what you’re doing now? You’re acting coy after you got the offer everyone dreams of!”

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Chapter 436

Bonnie looked at Reece nonchalantly. “Do you not agree with me becoming the new president?”

“What makes you think you have what it takes to command my respect?” Reece asked her in turn.

Russell’s assistant couldn’t stand it anymore. “Watch your tone, Reece! She’s the president!”

He swept his eyes across everyone in the conference room and realized that none of them were happy with Russell’s decision.

“This is Pyralis University we’re talking about here. Do you think Mr. Russell could just assign someone to take over his position on a whim?”

At the next moment, he placed a document on the conference table.

“This is the official approval from the government. See for yourself.”

Reece w

was the first one to act. The more he flipped through the pages, the wider his eyes became. His face was contorted with rage when he saw the government seals on the pages.

The other professors saw his reaction and were very curious about its contents. After he was finished with it, they took their turns reading it.

The conference room was filled with the sound of the turning page and gasps. They spoke amongst

themselves.

“He’s right that Pyralis University is one of the best universities in Arvandor. Russell simply doesn’t have the authority to assign the next president all by himself.”

“Bonnie must’ve possessed some extraordinary talent. Otherwise, the government wouldn’t approve of her being the new president.”

“But, why? Obviously, Bonnie won the Best Scholar Award, but that’s not a strong enough reason for her to be president of the prestigious Pyralis University!”

“Is it possible that she has some incredible identity?”

Adan whispered to Reece, “How are you going to expel Bonnie now?”

“Hmph!” The latter was so mad that his face turned red.

Adan did his best to stifle his laughter. Turning his head sideways, he looked at Bonnie. “Bonnie... Ahem! I mean, Ms. Bonnie. A–Aren’t you just a student? How were you promoted to be the president?”

She swept her eyes across the room and said, “I believe that all of you **are** curious about it. However, I don’t wish to reveal the specifics. I’ve also asked Russell to keep a secret about it.

pas

“Here you are, acting all mysterious. If I didn’t know any better, I would’ve thought you’re some kind of big shot.” Reece simply wasn’t happy that Bonnie was the president now.

“Watch your tone, Reece! She’s the president!” Adan retorted.

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“**You** surprise me, Adan. I’ve always thought of you as a serious, upstanding **guy**. Who knew **you’re** this much of a suck–up?”

“What do you mean by suck–up? There’s no reason to be this harsh, Reece. The government has given their approval. That means she has the skill set to master the position of president.”

“Skillset? Pray, tell. What skillset does she have? If she’s as good as what you claim to be, then she’s going to have to show us some results. Drungend University was insignificant ten years ago. Now, however, they’re collaborating with the Arjun Research Institute.

“They’ve been growing by leaps and bounds ever since. They’re about to overtake us. Meanwhile, we’re still growing at our usual pace. At this rate, they’re going to dethrone us and become the most prestigious

university in Pyralis!

“Again, if she’s this tough, then she’ll figure out a way to get us out of this debacle. I’ll show her some respect, then!”

What Reece said made everyone grow silent. It was true. Pyralis University was on the cusp of being replaced as the city’s number–one university.

Bonnie was confused. She looked at Russell’s assistant and asked, “How have I not heard of this Arjun

Research Institute?”

“Arjun Research Institute is the fourth most eminent research institute in Arvador, Ms. Bonnie.” He responded.

Reece couldn’t help but roll his eyes at her. “Come on. Even a school kid knows about the Arjun Research Institute. How could you not know about it?! You know nothing about the world. How are you supposed to be leading the university to a better tomorrow?

“**You** know what? Forget about a better tomorrow. I don’t even think you can lead us to resolve the

imminent crisis. I’d even go so far as to say we’re lucky if you don’t run this fine establishment into the ground.”

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Chapter **437**

The other personnel and professors grew worried as well.

“Arjun Research Institute is **the** fourth most eminent research institute in Arvador. It’s fine if a commoner doesn’t know about it, but every self-respecting student in a prestigious university would know about it. Moreover, she’s the president.”

Everyone was muttering and whispering to each other when they heard Bonnie’s cold voice.

“I don’t know about Arjun Research Institute because I only recognize the top three research institutes in Arvador. I don’t think there’s a need to know about them if they’re not in the top three.”

“How cocky! Fine, I’ll play along! You **said** you knew the top three research institutes. Name them now!” Reece was so ready to see her humiliate herself. He was going to mock her if she couldn’t name them.

She responded leisurely. “Deshawn Research Institute at Adagate holds third place. Ten years ago, their research concluded that the LKM current was decisively beneficial to the treatment of the human brain.

“Hauser Research Institute holds second place. Eight years ago, they disregarded the general public’s dissent and the rebukes from experts in their industry. They developed a new weapon for the nation, which further bolstered our nation’s defenses.

“In fact, they became the most eminent research institute back then. However, it didn’t last long. Seven years ago, Bonita Research Institute seemingly rose from nowhere and **took** the world by storm.

“They managed to develop a series of groundbreaking scientific projects that shocked not just the entire Arvador, but the globe. That was how they quickly ascended in the ranks and became the most eminent research institute in Arvador.

“Needless to say, Hauser Research Institute was demoted to second place and the Deshawn Research Institute to third place.”

“Recently, they even successfully developed the latest nanomaterial, which only serves to solidify its number one standing among the research institutes. To this day, no one could even come close to dethroning them.

“The research institutes that aren’t in the top three ranks didn’t make any groundbreaking scientific research. I might not remember their names, but that’s a far cry from being ignorant.”

What she said shut everyone up effectively, especially Reece. Her words were so on-point that he didn’t know what he could say at that moment.

“I can see where you guys are coming from. I’ve decided that I’m going to do something to make you and Russell feel at ease. I’m going to solidify Pyralis University’s status as the most prestigious university in Pyralis.”

She knew this would happen before she came. However, she didn’t expect the pushback to be this strong.

“What are you going to do? In fact, what can you do?” Reece refused to believe that a tardy, undisciplined student could make a difference.

“Didn’t you say that Drungend University collaborated with the Arctic... Wait a minute, in It Arctic or Arjun Research Institute? Forget about it. It doesn’t matter. Didn’t these two collaborate on scientific research?”

“Well, two can play at that game. We’ll organize a scientific research competition. The winner will get 10.

million dollars.”

Everyone was shocked to the core by what she said.

“10 million dollars?! That’s a huge figure. I know you’re the president, but do you think you could just decide on something like this? Do you think the school board would agree to something like this? Heck, would the top management approve of this?”

“It would’ve been a different story if you’re building a facility on the campus. You might be able to get the approvals. However, you’re asking for 10 million dollars to reward a student. Heh heh heh...” It was

obvious he was mocking her.

Reece wasn’t alone in this. Even Adan, who was on Bonnie’s side, also thought the university would never

fork out this kind of money to reward a single student.

Raising her delicate brows, she said, “I’ll sponsor the reward.”

‘What? She said she’d sponsor it! Are my ears deceiving me? This is 10 million dollars we’re talking about

here!’

However, she wasn’t done speaking. “10 million dollars is just one of the rewards. I’ve got another reward.

in store.

“The winner will also get an internship at Bonita Research Institute. If the winner excels at it and wishes to work for the institute, then they are welcome to join them.”

Everyone was gripped with shock at what she said.

Reece stammered, “T–The Bonita Research Institute?”

“Mm–hmm.” She nodded in response.

“Is it some sort of joke? The Bonita Research Institute is the top research institute in Arvador. What makes you think they’d want to collaborate with us? Why would they take in one of our students?”

“You’ve just shown me how ignorant you are about the Bonita Research Institute’s standing in the nation. Not even the most prominent professors could get in there. They have to undergo a series of complicated procedures before they can be accepted as an intern.”

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 438

Chapter 438

Reece refused to believe Bonnie could perform such an incredible feat. In fact, no one in the conference

room had that kind of faith in her.

“He’s right! Most of us aren’t happy that a student was promoted to president. However, Mr. Russell was the one who made the decision, and he obtained approval from the government. So, we have no choice

but to accept it.

“However, she’s making a blatant lie to **consolidate** her position. That’s something I can’t get behind.”

“It’d be wise if none of us spoke of this to outsiders. It’d be most mortifying if the public learned that our new president is so out of touch with reality.”

Everyone was still discussing it intensely when Bonnie pulled out her phone and called the people at her

research institute.

“Yeah. Just do as I say and make an official announcement, Be quick about it.”

Everyone frowned at that, especially Reece, who did nothing to hide the mockery on his face.

He was about to say something when she pulled out her phone again. She checked it and seemed to be pleased.

“Check your phones, **guys.**”

None of them wasted a second. Pulling out their phones, they finally saw the official announcement from Bonita Research Institute. They were so shocked that their jaws dropped to the floor.

The announcement read, “It’s our honor to announce that we will take in the winner of Pylalis University’s Scientific Research Competition as an intern. If the winner excels at it and wishes to work for the institute, then they are welcome to join us.”

The official tweet was flooded with comments.

“Why did I pick Drungend University instead of Pylalis University? I could’ve had a chance to work at Bonita Research Institute!”

“Can I still apply for a transfer now?”

“This is strange. Why would Pylalis University collaborate with Bonita Research Institute now?”

“Rumor **has** it that there’s a new président at Pylalis University. Today’s supposed to be their first day too. Do you think it has anything to do with that?”

“You’re making a lot of sense.”

The top management personnel and professors looked at each other strangely before directing their gaze

at Bonnie.

“Ms. Bonnie! I didn’t think you’d be this capable. You actually have a connection to someone at Bonita Research Institute. I must say, we have truly underestimated you! I hope I didn’t offend you earlier.”

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“Exactly. We had no idea about your capabilities. Now it makes sense why Russell kept praising your nonstop. He has always said that you’ll lead the university to the top of the world once you take over his

position.”

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 439

Chapter 439

“With this official announcement and the fact that one of Pyralis University’s students might get into Bonita Research Institute, I’m sure our enrollment rate would increaser”

” said you’re ignorant when you didn’t know about Arjun Research Institute, but I’m tempted to slap myself now. You are above all that. Only the top three research institutes are worth your time and

attention!”

Reece’s face turned red with anger when he heard how the others complimented Bonnie.

Adan looked at Reece triumphantly. He was about to make a dig at Reece, but he saw how the latter’s **face** had soured **and** decided against it. Otherwise, Reece might pass out right away

Russell's assistant basked in the glory. Looking at her out of the corner of his eyes, he thought to himself. It's going to blow their minds if they learn that Bonnie is none other than Ms. Bonita herself. I'll bet they'll

suck up to her more than they're doing now.

At that moment, one of the top management personnel **asked**, "We're all curious about something, Ms. Bonnie. What kind of connection do you have with Bonita Research Institute?"

It was lively in the conference room a minute ago. Now, an eerie silence hung over the room as all of

them stared at Bonnie again.

Sweeping her eyes across everyone, she responded calmly, "I'd rather not say it."

Everyone was disappointed by it. However, they knew she must've had a **reason** for not saying it.

"That'll be all today. If none of you have anything else to discuss, then let's adjourn the meeting."

She stood from her chair, and **that** wrapped up the meeting.

Everyone waited until she left before they filed out of the conference room. Reece kept his head lowered throughout the entire time. He was so embarrassed that he wished he could teleport himself to the other side of the earth.

At that moment, a couple of professors walked by him.

"Here's a bold assumption. Isn't Ms. Bonita supposed to be young as well? Moreover, they were both ladies. Do you think Ms. Bonnie may be Ms. Bonita herself?"

His heart quivered. He stared at his fellow **professor** with widened eyes. His body was as stiff as a board.

"What crazy idea is that?" The professor next to him said, "Who do you think Ms. Bonita is? She's the pillar **of** the world of scientific research in Arvandar! Why would she become university president instead of working at the research institute?"

"I **guess** you're right."

"Also, Bonnie is an ordinary computer science **student**. Do you think the reputable Ms. Bonita would enroll herself here to be a student? Why would she pick computer science of all things?"

“Yeah. That makes more sense. I guess I overshot it a little.”

Reece let out a breath of relief

“The logic tracks! At the same time, you have to think about how distinguished she is and how crucial she is to our nation! The King of Combat, Master Jim, acts as her bodyguard whenever she goes out. When have you seen Jim on our campus?”

“Heh heh. Now, I’m embarrassed. Please don’t tell anyone about what I was thinking earlier!”

Reece felt so much better. Chuckling nervously, he shook his head. How ridiculous that idea was.

That was when a security guard bumped into his shoulder by mistake.

“I’m sorry.”

“It’s fine. Just watch it...” Before he could finish, he was gawking at the security guard, **who** was doing his

best to pull down his cap.

The security guard was wearing a mask, so Reece couldn’t get a good look at his mug. However, the guard looked exactly like that person!

Reece pulled out his phone and looked up Jim Ray’s pictures.

‘C–Could it be? I–Is this really happening? Why would someone like Ms. Bonita study in our university? Is this just a coincidence? However, the security guard looks just like..

“Am I imagining things?”

“Hey, you! Hold it right there!”

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Chapter 440

Reece needed to prove to himself **that** he was merely seeing things. He walked briskly toward the security guard. Eventually, he picked up his pace and ran after the latter.

However, he ran for a while and still couldn't see anyone.

In the end, he went to the security office and asked for all the footage. He sat down and went through all of it, but he didn't see anyone looking remotely close to Jim.

"Does this mean I was actually seeing things?"

Reece went back to the lecture **hall** and discovered Bonnie wasn't there.

"Back to your seats, **guys**. The class is going to begin now. Today, we're looking at..."

Frankie raised his hand and said, "You forgot about taking attendance, Professor Reece."

His classmates were very curious, too. Reece **was** known for being so strict that he'd never **miss** out on

taking attendance before he started every single lesson. So, why did he forget about it today?

Pursing his lips, Reece looked at Frankie angrily.

"Bonnie's over there by the library, Professor Reece. Look!" Frankie pointed at a spot not far from the

window and shouted.

He didn't like how Frankie was acting, but he was curious why Bonnie went to the library instead of

coming back to class

He was feeling a little puzzled and looked in the direction Frankie pointed. Then, he saw her chatting with

a security guard.

"Wait a minute. I recognize that guy! His stature is similar to the one who bumped into me in the hallway!

Could it be...?

Bonnie didn't realize that people from her lecture hall were looking at her. She was talking to Jim, who **had** disguised himself as a security guard and snuck into the campus.

"Didn't I tell you not to come here when I'm on campus?"

"Things are different now."

"How so? Things have stayed the same."

"I beg to differ, Bonnie. You used to be a student here. Now, however, you're promoted to be its president. This is a highly prestigious position. What am I going to do if someone wants to harm you and I'm not around to protect you?" He asked stubbornly.

She rubbed the side of her head.

"This is Pyralis University. They have one of the best securities in the world. How am I supposed to be at risk at a place like this?"

"I'll tell you what I've told you before I have a duty to perform. Your identity as the president of Pyralis University has attracted a lot of eyeballs, but the announcement from the research institute has made

things worse.

"Everyone suspects that the new university president is closely connected to someone in the research Institute. With that in mind, you're in greater danger than you realized." He analyzed the situation logically.

"I kept my identity as the university president under wraps. Who's going to suspect me?"

"It doesn't matter what you say, I'm going to guard your life right here at the university."

She was about to say something, but she ended up holding her forehead helplessly.

"Fine. You can stay on campus if that's what you want to do, but I'll have to figure out a way to keep your identity secret. Remember. Don't let anyone know who you are. Otherwise, it'll become a bigger mess.

"Don't worry about it. This isn't my first rodeo."

"Alright. It's settled, then. I have to go back to class now. I'll send a text to Russell's assistant... I guess he's my assistant now. Either way, I'll ask him to figure out a cover for you.

“Alright.”

Bonnie returned to the lecture hall, nodded at Reece, and went inside.

“Are you going to waltz in like nothing happened, Bonnie? Do you know you’re late for more than ten minutes?” Frankie barked.

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“Yeah. I’m aware.” Bonnie turned to Reece and said, “I’m sorry, Professor Reece. I was away to deal with an urgent matter. That’s why I’m late to class.”

Reece regarded her. She seemed so friendly and approachable that he wasn’t sure what to feel.

“What are you talking about? All of **us** saw you chatting with a **security** guard at the library. Are you swooning over him? Why don’t you **guys** get a hotel room already?” Frankle lashed out at her.

She looked at him coldly. She was about to say something when Reece roared furiously. “That’s enough,

Frankie! How could you say such filthy things in the lecture hall?

“I heard about your squabbles with Bonnie. It was not her fault, but you kept picking fights with her repeatedly. I want you to apologize to her right this instant. Otherwise, I’ll tell your dad about this and have him lecture you good and proper!”

That stunned Frankie. 'Why would Reece defend Bonnie?'

"What a dumbass!" Natalee cursed internally. The others might not know that Bonnie's the new president,

but I do.

"There was a big meeting this morning. Given Reece's standing in the university, he must've joined in. He's only defending Bonnie this much because he learned about her real identity."

Natalee had only gotten half of it right. Reece was this defensive about Bonnie because he also

suspected that she could be someone far more important than everyone thought.

"What are you waiting for, Frankie? Apologize to her right now. Otherwise, you can leave the hall now!" He gave the young man an ultimatum.

Naturally, Frankie's pride couldn't let him do it. He left the lecture hall and found his dad immediately.

"Huh? Why aren't you in class at this hour? What's the matter?" Corbin asked.

"You have to stand up for me, Dad!" He gritted his teeth as his face turned red.

"What happened? Did anyone pick on you?"

"It's Professor Reece! One of my classmates was late to class, and I brought it up to him. Not only did he

let my

classmate off, but he asked me to apologize to her. He told me to leave his class if I didn't. Don't you think that's outrageous?!"

"Are you serious?" The story did not make sense to Corbin. "Reece is known for being strict. How could he have done something like that?"

Frankie put a hand on his chest and said, "I swear, if I'm lying to you, then may Heaven curse me so that I can't bear any children in the future!"

"Why would you say something like that, you punk?!" Corbin smacked his son on the head.

Frankie rubbed his head. "The point is, I'm telling you the truth. You can ask him about it if you doubt me!"

Corbin looked at his son, exasperated. Then, he gave Reece a call and told him everything.

"So, that's what my son said to me. What on earth is going on here, Reece? This isn't like you at all!TM

Reece was standing in the hallway with his phone. "Do you have any idea who your son crossed?"

That stunned Corbin. "Is she some big cheese's daughter or something?"

Reece responded, "Her name's Bonnie."

"Good grief!"

Corbin quickly hung up the phone, dazed.

"How did it go, Dad? Did Professor Reece agree to give her hell?" Frankie asked eagerly.

The next thing he knew, his dad shot up from his chair and smacked him hard on the head.

"Ouch! It hurts!" Frankie yelled out of pain. His father didn't smack him hard, but he certainly meant it this

time!

"What the hell, Dad?"

"Serves you right! Instead of focusing on your studies, you're going around starting fights and making a mess of things. From **today** onward, I'm going to hire three professors and have them take turns tutoring you!" Corbin said it angrily.

His son was meant for greater things, but the young man wouldn't get his stuff together.

Frankie looked at his **dad** incredulously "You're out of your mind! You have never hired this many

professors when I was preparing for the entrance exams"

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"I have made up my mind," Corbin said matter-of-factly.

"Hold on, Dad. I don't..."

"Shut up!"

"What about Bonnie...?"

Smack! His hand landed on his son's head again.

Frankie wailed like a banshee.

As usual, Ivor came to pick Bonnie up from school when her class was over. They drove back to her villa

in Lenfield Resort

Ged, who was used to having free meals here, **helped** her out with setting up the dining table. Ivor gave him a frustrated sidelong glance, but he pretended he didn't see it and continued helping Bonnie.

Ivor shook his head helplessly and looked at her instead. "I heard that you have a new university president today. Did you see her?"

Raising her brows, she asked, "Why do you ask?"

"You might not like the answer."

She noticed how he was stammering and took a guess. "Are you planning on sending her some gifts or something?"

He

glanced at her lovingly and said, "There's no one else who knows me better than you do, Bonnie."

She was used to such sweet words, and she wasn't about to comment on that.

"Forget about it. Pyralis University is going to be a different place from here on out. They will not allow the wealthy and powerful to enroll their children through gifts or donations. This way, middle-class families will stand a chance at getting in as well.

"With that in mind, Pyralis University will clamp down on these loopholes. That's going to prevent the ordinary family from selling away their entire properties or assets just to get their children into the university

Ivor's eyes sparkled a little. "Listen to yourself. You sound more like a president than a student."

"I'm just telling you the truth," she said with a shrug.

Then, Ged chimed in, "My grandpa's birthday is around the corner. How about you guys attend his party together?"

"When is it?" She asked.

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"It's right after the holiday."

She thought, 'That reminds me, I have to take Ivor back to my hometown. I need to let Mom and Dad know who he is to me. It's a good thing the party didn't clash with my trip.

"With that said, Ged's grandpa is also a professor at Pyralis University. I'll have to be careful not to reveal my identity as the president."

"What are we waiting for?" Ged said, "Hurry up and eat. Bonnie prepared the dinner tonight. I'm practically drooling now." He couldn't wait to taste her cooking.

"Go on." She picked up the cutlery and was about to scoop some of the dips, but Ivor gave her a bunch of peeled shrimp.

"I peeled these for you. Go ahead and eat them."

Ged clicked his tongue before he continued to eat the food.

Back in the Shepard Villa, Trina wore a distressed expression.

“What’s the matter, Trina? Why aren’t you eating?” Vera asked.

Trina’s eyes turned red immediately. “Did you see the official announcement made by Bonita Research

Institute, Mom?”

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“What do you mean?”

Now that she had her parent’s attention, Trina said with a choked–up voice, “The Bonita Research Institute released an official tweet, saying that the winner of Ppyralis University’s Scientific Research Competition will be offered an internship at their institute.”

“What? Are you serious?!” Vera **and** Gresham were shocked by this news.

“Uh–**huh**. There’s more. If the intern managed to excel, they might consider letting her work at the

Institute.”

Tears began flowing down her cheeks.

“What should I do?! I would still be studying at Ppyralis University if I **hadn’t** offended Bonnie. You know how talented I am in scientific research. I stand a really good chance of winning that competition and getting an internship at Bonita Research Institute.

“This is all Bonnie’s fault. She ruined my bright future!” She cried her heart out.

"It's alright, Trina. Stop crying. You're breaking my heart. You're one of the most talented people I've ever seen. I'd even say you're born to do it. Don't worry, I won't let your talent go to waste."

Vera looked at her husband and said, "You need to figure something out, honey."

Gresham breathed out a puff of smoke, his face looking distressed.

"How am I supposed to do that? I warned Trina not to cross Bonnie again, but she wouldn't listen. I even released a video on my Twitter account earlier. Now everyone knows Bonnie has nothing to do with me and the Shepards. Furthermore, I said we'd never look for her again.

"Don't you see that you're making me humiliate myself by asking me to talk to her? What's more, you know how Bonnie is. She's going to let me have it. No way! I'm not going to look for her!"

Trina cried even louder at that. "I'm sorry, Dad. I promise I've learned the error of my ways. You have to help me. I swear I won't ever pick a fight with Bonnie anymore. I beg you. I'm going to repay you guys when I find success."

Vera wiped her daughter's tears, pursed her lips, and made a decision. "Don't worry about it, Trina. I'm going to help you and get over this hump!"

"What do you think you're doing?" Gresham asked, "Are you honestly going to look for Bonnie? It's pointless. You know how she is."

Clenching her fist, she said, "That's right! I'm going to look for Bonnie! If she refuses to let Trina return to the university, I will get down on my knees in front of all the students and professors. She has to agree to it, then."

Trina beamed as soon as she heard what her mother said. "Bonnie has to let me return to Pyralis University now. Otherwise, everyone's going to reprimand her for making her own mother kneel before her.

"That's outrageous! It doesn't matter what happened between us, you are her biological mother. You're going to humiliate yourself!" Gresham vehemently disagreed with the way she was going to handle it.

"Hmph!" Vera grunted coldly. "Trina is our daughter, and she's immensely talented. As her parents, we must ensure her academic life and career are smooth sailing.

"You won't do it. So, I'll have to do it myself. I'm going to Pyralis University first thing in the morning!"

The next morning. Bonnie had just arrived at the university when Vera stood in front of her.

Is there anything I can help you with, Vera?"

Vera wasn't bothered by Bonnie's disrespectful tone. The way she saw it, their blood ties were as good as nonexistent.

"We've heard about the collaboration between Bonita Research Institute and Piralis University. The winner of the university's research competition will win an internship at the institute. Trina is immensely gifted. She deserves to have a shot at it."

Bonnie's delicate brows furrowed slightly as she spoke. "Are you trying to make me reinstate her status as a student here?"

Before Vera could say anything, Bonnie continued, "That's not going to happen. Back when she was expelled from the university, I said explicitly that I wouldn't do it again, provided she didn't cross me

again.

"However, she didn't learn her lesson. She kept bugging me and got expelled again. She did this to

herself."

Vera was beside herself with rage. Noticing that more onlookers were gathering around them, she cried out at the top of her lungs.

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"Ruining someone's future is wicked. Only the people who are rotten to the core can do something like this! You don't have to go this far, Bonnie! I'm here, and I'm going to get her back to Piralis University.

“If you’re not going to agree, I’ll get down on my knees in front of everybody!”

The onlookers were muttering and pointing at Bonnie, but she simply stood where she was and remained unperturbed.

On the other hand, Avril was so angry that her neck turned **red**. “I’ve never seen a mother like you. This is entirely Trina’s fault. Instead of lecturing her, you’re trying to push everything on Bonnie again.

“What did Bonnie do to deserve a family like the Shepards? How could you treat her like this?! Here’s a question for you. How would you feel if your own mom did this to you?”

Vera wasn’t in the mood to listen to all of this. She merely stared at Bonnie and said, “All I care about is if you’ll let Trina go back to Pyralis University!”

Bonnie hated it when someone threatened her. With that said, it was her mother who was doing it this time. She wouldn’t have tolerated such impudence if it were anyone else.

“Fine! If you’re not going to do anything, then I guess I’ll have to do it!”

Vera looked around her and noticed that there were many onlookers now. So, she gritted her teeth and

decided she’d do it.

However, her knees had just bent a little when a security guard wearing a mask dashed to her side and pulled her up, ruining her plans.

“Let me go right now! Don’t make me call the police!” Vera roared.

Jim gripped her arms and didn’t let go. “You’ve got some nerve stirring up trouble on our campus. Leave

now. Otherwise, I’ll send you to the police myself.”

“Say what now? You’re nothing but a security guard. How will you justify sending me to the police?”

“How about harassing a student at Pyralis University? How does that sound?”

Vera sneered and looked at Bonnie. “I’m her mother. What do you think getting the police involved is going to achieve?”

“Didn’t you disown her? How could you claim to be her mother still?” That was all it took for Jim to stump

Vera,

He brandished the stun baton and tried to intimidate her. “Cut your crap and leave now!”

Vera realized that she couldn’t mess with Jim.

‘Fine. I’ll leave for now. A wise woman knows when to choose her battles. I’ll be back tomorrow. I’m going

to bend her to my will eventually.”

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Avril realized Vera was going to leave. Her eyes rolled, and then she called out to Vera.

“Wait a minute.”

Both Bonnie and Vera glanced at her. They weren’t sure what she was up to now.

She walked over to Vera and said, “Bonnie will let Trina return to the university if you agree on one simple

condition.”

“What makes you think you can speak for her?” Vera asked.

She turned around and looked at Bonnie, who nodded at her.

“Did you see that? She has just agreed to it.” Avril lit up. She knew Bonnie was going to trust her.

“Well, then. What is it?”

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“My term is simple. I want you to swear an oath right now. I want you to swear that you’ll never find

Bonnie or talk to her again. This goes without saying, but you can never **act** so shamelessly and guilt-trip her anymore. How about it? Do you agree to this term?”

Vera was beside herself with rage at what Avril said.

‘How dare she accuse me of being shameless? Damn it! I would just as soon slap her if I weren’t here to help Trina!’

“Fine!” Vera said it with a strained voice.

Avril pointed at the video she had just recorded and said, “I’ve recorded everything. I won’t hesitate to release it on the internet if you go back on your word.

“One more thing. I want you to remember that you can’t keep abusing the fact that you’re Bonnie’s biological mother and keep blackmailing her. If I see you doing it again, I will upload the video onto the

internet.

“It doesn’t matter if Bonnie tries to stop me. I’m her best friend and her family. I won’t listen to her if she’s trying to protect someone who harms her! This is my oath, and I intend to keep it!”

Bonnie felt moved when she saw Avril’s seriousness.

‘Avril really thinks of me as her family. She’d do anything it takes to keep me safe,’ she thought.

“Don’t worry about it. I promise I’ll never disturb Bonnie again as long as Trina gets to return to Pyralis

herself, University. Should she cross Bonnie and get herself expelled again, she would’ve brought it upon like you said!” Vera said it through gritted teeth.

Avril nodded. “I’ve also recorded that. Even someone who lacks a moral compass would know better than to do something so pathetic and despicable.”

“Why, you....” Vera was so upset that she was quivering with rage.

Avril took Bonnie’s arms in hers and said, “Let’s go. We’ll be late for class.”

“Okay.” Bonnie walked calmly to campus as if nothing had happened at all.

The moment Trina saw her mother was home, she asked hastily, “How did it go, Mom? Did Bonnie agree to let me return to Pyralis University?”

Vera let out a heavy sigh. Then, she looked at her daughter solemnly. “Listen to me, Trina. I sacrificed my pride to get you this opportunity. Never cross Bonnie again! If you see her on campus, you’ll hide or pick

another route!

“I don’t care how unpleasant she makes you feel, you can never approach her again. In fact, stay three feet away from her. I don’t want her to have any excuse to fight with you again. If I should find out that you’re the one who started it, I will never help you ever!”

Judging from Mom’s tone, she must’ve had a rather unpleasant conversation with Bonnie,”

“Understood, Mom. I swear I’ll never cross paths with her and that I’ll keep three feet away from her. I’ll do you one better. I’ll stay thirty feet away from her at all times!”

Even Gresham was wearing a sour face. “I hope you can keep the promise you made to your mom. If you get in a mess **again**, we won’t clean it up again!”

“Okay.” She nodded solemnly.

I’ve learned my lesson twice now. I’m freaking scared of Bonnie. Now that Mom has given me a second chance, I won’t squander it by doing anything that might undermine me again.

I’ve lost Hadwin. That means I can’t fall back on the Rhodes anymore. I’ll have to make something of

myself in my career.

‘Still, that doesn’t mean I’ll let Bonnie walk away **scot**-free. I’m going to deal with her again when I’m massively successful. I’ll let her taste the kind of humiliation she put me through a hundred fold. That’s a

promise.

‘My first step on my quest for revenge is to become the winner in the research competition. That’ll get me into Bonita Research Institute.’

Trina clenched her fist. ‘I will be the winner! No one can stop me!’

In the blink of an eye, the holidays were here.

Ivor drove Bonnie back to her hometown in the countryside. It took him five hours to get there.

She noticed that he wasn't looking too hot. "Are you tired? How about you let me drive?"

"Not really. It's just that...." He trailed off into silence.

"What is it?"

His brows knitted tightly. For a moment, he didn't know how best to tell her.

However, she has extensive medical knowledge. All it took was a brief observation and she knew what

was bothering him. The realization almost made her laugh out loud.

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Chapter 446

"**So**, you need to use the restroom. There isn't one around here, though. How about you relieve yourself at a tree? This is how they do it in the countryside. There's nothing embarrassing about it."

Ivor turned his head sideways and looked at her. "You just said this is how they do it in the countryside. Are you going to tell me you've seen it?"

"If Bonnie has truly seen it, then I'm going to suss out these uncultured men. How dare they let her see their private parts? I'm going to make them pay. Not even I have shown her my private part."

Bonnie knew what was on his mind. Her lips twitched a little.

“Things are different in the countryside. There **aren’t** as many restrooms here as there were in the city. Look, are you going to hold it in until we’re at my parents’ place? Or, are you going to relieve yourself at a

tree?

“Here’s the thing. There’s a solid 50–minute drive until we reach my parents’ place. Are you sure you can

hold it in?”

At first, he thought he’d hold it in. However, he made a snap decision to relieve himself at a tree as soon as he heard what she said.

He got out of the car and said to her, “Keep an eye out for any strangers. I don’t intend to reveal my private part to any lady but you.”

She didn’t know what to say.

“Alright. Just go. Do it now.”

After she pushed him forward, she turned around and saw a Volkswagen driving toward her. It didn’t take more than a second to know that Jim was behind the wheel.

‘Sheesh. I told him he didn’t have to follow me. For Heaven’s sake, I’m just going back to my hometown.

Then, she composed a text and sent it to him.

“Keep yourself hidden. Don’t let anyone find out about you. It’ll be very hard to spin a story if Ivor sees

you.”

Jim replied to her text promptly. “Don’t worry about it. It won’t happen.”

“Who are you texting?”

She was startled by Ivor. “My family. I’m telling them that we’ll be there soon.”

There was no reason for him to be suspicious. So, he said, “Alright. Come on. Let’s hit the road.”

50 minutes later, they arrived at her parents’ place.

Benedict, who came back a day earlier, saw them and rushed over to help them with their suitcases.

“Mom, Dad. Bonnie and Ivor are here!”

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Ivor reached out and patted Benedict’s shoulder. Then, he gave the latter a handsome amount of pocket

money.

“I appreciate it, Ivor.”

Gerald and Welma heard him yelling and came out of their house.

Bonnie didn’t realize that all her relatives were there until she entered the house. Even her distant

relatives were here. All of them showered her with praise.

“Your kids are doing extremely well, Gerald! Benedict holds a high position at Tang Fusion Studios, while Bonnie got herself the richest man in Pyralis.”

“Exactly! His kids are thriving! I’m afraid my kids aren’t as successful!”

“You guys are such a perfect match, Bonnie. I’d even say you’re a match made in heaven!”

Ivor did not hesitate to take Bonnie’s hands and lean in close to her.

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Chapter 447

“How shameless are you?” Bonnie was a little speechless, **but** she did not withdraw her hands.

She knew, from experience, that it wouldn't help at all. Every time he grabbed her hands, it was as if he wanted to win an arm wrestling match. She could never pull her hands back.

“I don't think there's anything shameful about it. We're boyfriend and girlfriend. It's not like we're having an affair or anything,” he said matter-of-factly. “Wait a minute. I need to get something from the trunk.”

Her lips twitched when she saw the trunk brimming with gifts.

“Why did you prepare this many gifts?”

“I prepared gifts for your whole family. I even prepared some for your neighbors and the village elders...”

The more he spoke, the more speechless she got.

“I even prepared pocket money for the kids.” Then, he showed her piles of envelopes that were stuffed

with cash.

There were no words that could describe what Bonnie was feeling at this moment

“You've Investigated quite thoroughly, it seems. I'd even say you did a better job than a detective.”

She noted, ‘These gifts were bought according to my friends and family's preferences. He has done some homework before today.’

Looking at her lovingly, he said, “You're the most important person in my life. I'm more than happy to do this for you. As long as you're happy, I'm happy

“Why do I get the feeling you're trying to bribe everyone I know in the countryside?”

What she said was on point, but **his** face didn't even turn red. Instead, he said matter-of-factly. “This isn't bribery, Bonnie. It's about making people like me.”

He paused a little before he stared at her.

didn't just say a bunch of honeyed words to you. I mean it from the bottom of my heart. I want to win your heart and be the only man who has a place in it. I also want everyone around you to wish nothing but

the best for us.

“I don’t regret doing all of this for you.”

His voice was so deep and charming. At the same time, his eyes were brimming with so much love. It was true. He was smitten and would love her and only her.

It wasn’t that easy to make Bonnie fall in love with someone. However, her heart could just melt at that

moment.

“Let’s head inside.”

He could sense that something had changed within her. He was so overjoyed that he wanted to do

nothing but lift her and spin her in circles. However, she would never want him to do something like the, given their current situation. So, he had to hold it in.

At the same time, the Shepards staying in Pyralls received news about Bonnie.

“What? Did you say Bonnie has the richest man in Pyralls for a boyfriend?!” Vera was talking with a friend

on the phone.

“Exactly. A relative of mine knows an aunt who resides in the same village as Bonnie. She heard the

Bonnie brought home a boyfriend and that the man was the richest person in Pyralis!”

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Chapter 448

Gresham and Trina were listening to **Vera's** phone conversation.

"That's impossible." He then asked, "What's the guy's last name?"

"It sounds like... Knight."

"The Knight family!" He was shocked. Any Pyralian worth his salt was aware that the Knights were the city's wealthiest family.

Then, Trina chimed in, "Perhaps it's just a coincidence. Or Bonnie made it up. She likes to boast, after all."

"I agree with Trina. Bonnie has always loved making up stories when she was still a part of our family. Sometimes, she claimed that she had won some big award in a certain field. Other times, she said that she was talented," Vera said.

"You say that, but..." Gresham frowned. "Whatever she said in the past has proved to be true. She won the Best Scholar Award. She's the miracle doctor. There's also the fact that she's extremely close to the president of Pyralis University..."

The hatred that was burning furiously within Vera and Trina's hearts fizzled out as soon as they heard

what he said.

Vera didn't find her voice until after a long time.

"You're right. Her words have been proven to be true, but are you seriously going to tell me **that** you guys believe her when she says stuff like 'classified information' and 'scientific research?'"

"Well, I certainly don't buy it. So I will not believe her when she says she bagged the richest man in Pyralis. She would have boasted about it a long time ago. Why would she only tell the poverty-stricken countryfolk who aren't well-informed?"

"I'll tell you why. It's because she knows it isn't true and that the countryfolk are morons," Vera analyzed.

"I think your theory is right on the money, Mom." Trina sighed. "I just don't get it. Why does Bonnie have to bluff this way? She could've made up any story about her supposed boyfriend but that. Why does she have to pick the richest man in Pyralis?"

"If the Knights learn about this, then she could be... Geez. Why can't she think about how it might end sourly for her? She won the Best Scholar Award, and she's the miracle doctor. Why can't she just appreciate what she has?"

“I’m going to become the winner of the Scientific Research Competition and get into the Bonita Research Institute. I promise you guys that I’ll never do the **things** she’s doing now. I’ll work hard and earn Ms. Bonita’s respect. I’m going to become the pillar of the nation.

Vera looked at her daughter gratefully and **said**, “Attagirl. You have my full support. Bonnie is the perfect role model for how you should never act. Don’t lose your way **and** do something that’d tarnish your

reputation.

“Okay! Leave it to me, Mom. I won’t forget my principles”

“That’s quite enough” Gresham was starting to have some headaches. “It’s fine for you guys to talk about yourselves, but there’s no need to talk badly about Bonnie.

“Til have you remember that you wouldn’t have been able to return to Pyralis University if she hadn’t decided to show you some mercy, Trina. You’d never have the chance to participate in the competition,

then.

“Also, both of you have to keep in mind that Bonnie Isn’t related to us anymore, So stop talking about her all the time. It doesn’t matter if she doon well or badly in her life. In **fact**, I don’t want to hear her name in my villal

Snuffing out the cigarette, he climbed the stairs, looking troubled.

“Mom. What’s wrong with Dad...?”

“He’ll be fine, Trina. Don’t worry about it. I can see where he comes from. I think you could too. We should do what he says and avoid talking about Bonnie in this villa, especially not in front of him.

“I’ll also call my friends **and** relatives about this so they don’t bring her up in front of him. Your dad is right. Bonnie has nothing to do with us now. Talking about her won’t help us in any way.” Vera held Trina’s hands and comforted her..

“Okay. Anything you say, Mom,” Trina was overjoyed and thought, ‘It looks like I’ll always be the only daughter in the Shepard family.’

The evening rolled on. Bonnie looked for Ivor everywhere. In the end, she found **him** in the watermelon patch.

‘Wait a minute. What’s Amy doing there with him?’

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 449

Chapter 449

Bonnie didn't go over there in a hurry. She sensed that something was off between Ivor **and** her cousin, Amy Howard.

She was kind of far from them and couldn't hear very clearly. So, she snuck in closer and pricked her ears.

Amy's face was red when she looked at Ivor. "Um... I love you! I want to be your girlfriend!"

That stunned her.

'I know I have to watch out for other women, but I didn't count on Amy confessing her love to him. She has some good looks, too. I wonder how Ivor's going to respond to her?"

Casting a glance at Ivor, she noticed how he carried the usual coldness in his expression. At that moment, he was the elusive man who always escaped a lady's grasp.

"I would not have talked to you if you weren't Bonnie's cousin."

Amy clenched her fists and pursed her lips. "Bonnie was just slightly prettier than me. She's not cute, and she doesn't like relying on men. A—Also, she's always cold and distant. Are you honestly going to tell me that you want to spend your time trying to make her happy every day?"

"What a coincidence. I love it when she's cold and distant to me." Ivor's eyes were unwittingly filled with

affection when he spoke.

Amy didn't think this would be his answer. "He's the wealthiest man in Pyralis, for Heaven's sake! I didn't count on him being this obsessed with his girlfriend."

"What are you doing here, Ivor?" Bonnie acted as if she had just arrived at the watermelon patch.

The moment he saw her, he decided he had to explain what went down between him and Amy right away.

"Don't misread the situation, Bonnie, I'd rather die than have any feelings for her. You're the only lady I'll

ever love."

Amy felt as if someone had stabbed right through her heart.

Bonnie didn't know if she should laugh.

"There's no way Ivor would fall in love with Amy in the first place. So, nothing's ever coming out of it. I didn't intend to expose anything.

"I didn't count on him being so worried about me misreading the situation, though. He was very brutal with the way he handled things with Amy."

"Oh. Let's **go**. My dad wants to see you."

"Sure." He took brisk steps forward and took her hands firmly.

She had gotten used to it by now.

"I might as well let him do what he wants. He's going to let me go as soon as he has his fill."

Chapte 449

Her phone vibrated. It was William

"Hasn't he returned to the SR League's headquarters? Why is he calling me out of the blue? It's midnight

where he is right now."

"Hello?" She said into the phone.

"You need to watch your back, Bonnie," he said in an uncharacteristic, serious tone.

“What’s the matter?”

“My league received a quest moments ago. Someone put a very high bounty on your life.

“Someone’s out to kill me?” She had completely forgotten that Ivor **was** next to her until she blurted it out.

e was grim. It felt

“What on earth is going on? Who dares try to kill you?” His voice was deep, and his tone as if the temperature around them had dropped.

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 450

Chapter 450

“It’s nothing. I heard it wrongly.”

She walked to the side and continued the phone conversation with William.

Tell me everything.”

He responded, “I’m not talking about you, Bonnie. Someone is out to kill your other identity, Ms. Bonita.” Her face grew grim immediately. After all, this was a serious matter. She couldn’t afford to take it lightly.

“Do you know who put up the quest?”

I don’t have the specifics yet, but there’s one thing I’m sure of—they’re not from Arvador.”

She started to analyze the situation.

“If someone’s after Bonita’s life, that means the latest nanomaterial I developed recently has threatened them. It could be Auguste Ludovici. He has the same prestigious standing in the world of scientific

research as I do.

‘He has been the most prestigious figure in the field before my arrival. As far as he was concerned, I dethroned him and took his **place**.

‘Moreover, the latest nanomaterial I developed has all but solidified my standing. I still remember when I first met him. He might’ve been exceptionally talented in the field, but he was so petty and spiteful that he couldn’t share the glory with anyone.”

“You have to listen to me and stay safe, Bonnie. I’ve told Jim about this and asked him to ensure no harm) comes to you. Hey, how about I send Jacques to protect you too?” William asked.

“Don’t do that. You’re just giving away my identity to them if you send Jacques to my side.”

“You have a point. Well, what are you going to do? You can always hole up in the SR League. You’ll be safer here than anywhere else.”

“I appreciate it, but that’s not what I want to do. First of all, I don’t want to leave my nation. I also don’t know who’s coming after me or when they’ll do it. If I go into hiding, I will lose my freedom.”

Before he could say anything, she added, “Alright. I appreciate that you’re concerned about me, but I handle myself. Also, are you forgetting that I have Jim watching over me?”

Talking about Jim made her have a headache at once.

‘Now that he knows about this, he won’t remain calm. I just know he will ignore my orders to keep his

distance from me.’

“I see you’re back at the village too, Bonnie.” Jim feigned surprise and walked toward her.

She held her forehead, trying to rub her headache away. ‘Speak of the devil.”

“Gee. You’re here, too, Ivor.”

can

Chapte 450.

The man in question stared at Jim.

“What are you doing here?”

“A relative of mine stays here. I decided to drop by and visit her. Bonnie knows about this too. Why? Didn’t she tell you about it?” Just like that, he threw the ball into Bonnie’s court.

She gave him a frustrated look before she faced Ivor and started explaining. “It’s true. He did have a

relative here in this village.”

“Oh. That’s great. I’m curious, though. Just how **close** are you to your relative to be visiting them during the holidays? Don’t you have a hometown of your own?” Ivor pressed.

Anyone would know he was probing Jim.

“My hometown is too far away. As you know, I’m Ms. Bonita’s bodyguard. You could say that I’m the only

back. person who’s keeping her safe. So, I can’t always apply for off days and go

“It just so happens that this relative of mine is ill. So, my parents called and asked me to swing by and check on her on their behalf.”

Jim’s answer was flawless, but it made her headache worse.

‘He made all of this up. All it takes is for Ivor to investigate a little and he’ll know that Jim doesn’t have a relative staying here.’

“You can ask Bonnie about it if you don’t believe me. Am I right in saying that you’ll trust what she says?” Just like that, he threw the ball in her court again.

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 451

Chapter 451

Bonnie glanced at Jim with a hint of dissatisfaction. She sighed and told Ivor, "You can check **it** out if you **don't** believe him. Otherwise, you'll be so worried that you'll get jealous of him for no reason."

She put it that way to shift the focus and topic.

"Why wouldn't I trust you? Also, I don't get jealous for no reason." With that, Ivor stopped questioning Jim.

The latter leaned closer to Bonnie and asked, "I can't stay at my relative's place. There aren't any hotels nearby, either. Can I spend the night at your parents' place?"

Bonnie knew he would ask that. Still, she could not reject him now. Given the current circumstances, he would sleep at the gate if she did. She said, "Sure, but I don't have an extra room."

Suddenly, Ivor said, "It'll be okay, Bonnie. Since you two are close friends, he can have my room."

Bonnie was stunned.

'Ivor will never let any guy near me, even if he knows Jim and I will never be a thing.'

"Then, where will you sleep?"

"**In** your room," Ivor answered.

Benedict, Gerald, and Welma were dumbfounded when Bonnie took Jim to their place.

"B—Bonnie, is that Master Jim?" Welma had seen him on television before and had trouble containing her excitement.

"Uh, you're right." Bonnie's brow twitched.

"H—How do **you** know him? You never told me about it. I can't believe you know someone as famous as him! What kind of luck do you possess to have made friends with someone like Master Jim?"

"Uh..." Bonnie had no idea how to respond to her mother.

Although Ivor had a much more boastful standing than Jim, things were different here. The former was the most successful businessman and rarely showed his face. As far as the less-informed country folks

were concerned, Ivor was nothing more than an extremely wealthy man.

On the other hand, Jim came from a humble background and garnered a reputation and respect by relying on his fighting skills. Moreover, he was also the bodyguard of the most important person in the scientific

research **world**.

Although Jim did not have Ivor's wealth, country folk respected the former more because he was also

significant to the nation.

Gerald lit a cigarette for Jim and ordered, "Ben, get a chicken from the coop and tell your aunts to invite

as many relatives as possible. We'll host a grand celebration since Master Jim is **here**."

Welma **added**, "Bonnie, what **are** you standing around for? Get Master **Jim** some water. He **must** be

parched after being on the road for so long."

Jim was slightly overwhelmed, **saying**, "**Th**—that's not necessary. You guys don't have to make a big **deal**. out **of** it."

'I only intend to keep Bonnie safe. I don't want to trouble her and her family. Worse, her mom even asked her **to** get me some water. It should've been the other way around.'

"**I** had an early dinner, Gerald. I just need a place to spend the night. Is it okay if I head to my room to **rest**?"

"Of course, Master Jim! I'll prepare some chicken and lamb for tomorrow," Gerald said. "Um..." Jim was about **to** turn down the offer, but Bonnie reacted faster than he could.

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 452

Chapter 452

“Come on, Jim. Don’t turn down my dad’s hospitality. He’s being hospitable by offering to slaughter a lamb and a chicken for you to eat tomorrow. I’ll get offended if you refuse.”

‘Jim has done so much to protect me. One of his most significant sacrifices is spending time with his family. I should find the time to visit them for a change.’

Since she put it that way, Jim had no good reason to reject Gerald. He looked at the older couple and said, “Thank you for your hospitality.”

“It’s our honor! After all, you’re Ms. Bonita’s bodyguard. As far as we’re concerned, you’re just as important as her. Your arrival is nothing short of Lady Luck smiling down on us. We would’ve prepared fireworks if we could.”

Jim stole a glance at Bonnie, but she feigned ignorance. At that moment, Jim seemed to understand why she had not told her parents the truth.

The following day, Bonnie woke up to a commotion outside. She was surprised when she left her room.

‘Damn, that’s a lot of people and cars! There are kids and older people everywhere! It looks like the whole

village showed up.’

Everyone huddled around Jim, trying to get to know him. Many even dressed their daughters to the nines

and told them to converse with him.

Meanwhile, some women stared at Ivor, making him feel so embarrassed that he wished he were on

another planet. Strangely, they only stared and did not approach him.

Bonnie thought, ‘I don’t believe they’re avoiding him out of respect for our relationship. Instead, he looks

cold and indifferent. He looks like he'd kill anyone who approaches. Maybe that's why the women are only

staring at him.'

Ivor sensed she was out of her room and turned to look at her. Immediately after, his cold and unfriendly demeanor disappeared. He smiled and said affectionately, "You're up."

His current attitude starkly contrasted with how he looked before he saw Bonnie, making the women considering flirting with him jealous of her.

Ivor strode to Bonnie and stood beside her, asking, "**What** do you want for breakfast? I'll buy whatever you

want."

"Don't worry about it. Thanks to Jim, we're having a big lunch. I'll save room for that instead."

"All right."

At lunchtime, Bonnie's grandfather, Donovan Shepard, took a bottle of homemade twenty-year-old wine and said, "Master Jim, I hope you like this wine. I made it myself. Please, have a taste."

"Master Jim, my dad treasures this wine very much. He opened a bottle for Ivor last night--this one's his

last. Let's finish the whole thing today."

Chapter 452

2/2

Bonnie's family persuaded Jim to drink the wine so he could not reject them. However, he also needed to stay sober to protect her. He was at a loss at that moment.

Bonnie had expected Jim to be concerned about that. She leaned toward him momentarily and whispered, "Jim, I've always felt guilty about you. Since you started working for me, you've been suppressing your wishes and thoughts.

"That includes the International Fighting Competition. I know how much you wanted to compete in it, but you almost gave up your dream to protect me. I would've fired you if you hadn't joined the competition.

“I don’t want you to keep sacrificing your future for my sake. I know you’re worried I might run into danger if you get drunk. Although I might not practice fighting daily like you, I’d still be a challenge if I went all out against you. I hope you don’t underestimate my self–defense skills.”

Chapter 453

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 453

Chapter 453

“Bonnie, I never intended to underestimate your fighting abilities.”

“I know, so you must have confidence in me. Also, we’re in the countryside, and Ivor’s bodyguards are patrolling near the village entrance. They’ll spot trespassers from a mile away. I want you to relax today. Nothing’s going to happen.”

With that, Bonnie poured Jim a big glass of wine and raised her glass to toast to him. “To you, Jim.”

“All right!” He let down his guard and concerns thoroughly. He raised his glass, clinked it with hers, and downed it.

“You’re an excellent drinker, Master Jim! I’d like to toast to you, too!” Gerald was thrilled that someone like Jim was willing to drink with the family. The former raised his glass and downed its contents.

Soon after, all of Bonnie’s family members approached Jim and drank with him. After drinking several glasses, Bonnie felt sorry for him.

‘He must have drunk like a whale. I wonder how long he’ll be passed out for.’

Suddenly, Ivor leaned closer to Bonnie and said, “What were **you** and Jim whispering about earlier? Can you tell me about it? For the record, I’m not jealous of him.”

Bonnie could not be bothered to continue this topic. She clinked her glass with his and said, "How about we toast to each other?"

Ivor smiled, asking, "How about we drink from each other's glasses instead?"

Bonnie rolled her eyes at him and was about to down her wine when he suddenly linked arms with her

and drank out of her glass. He grinned at the stunned Bonnie and said, "It's your turn!"

She realized what had happened and immediately withdrew her arm. However, Ivor trapped it instead.

"Let go of me right now. How shameless can you be?" Bonnie said hushedly and looked around, blushing.

Fortunately, everyone was busy drinking with Jim, and no one saw what had happened between her and

Ivor.

He smirked and said, "Hurry up and drink out of my glass, **or** I won't let go until you do. We'll stay like this

longer than we have to if you keep fighting me. Now, that'll be embarrassing."

Bonnie was so mad that she felt tempted to pour his wine over his head. Ultimately, she ensured that no

one was watching and downed the wine.

"That's more like it." Ivor grinned from ear to ear.

Bonnie could not bear to look at his smug expression.

The lunch lasted over an hour, and Jim had passed out when it was done.

Ivor noticed Bonnie leaving with her tools and caught up with her. Puzzled, he asked, "Where are you going?"

Chapter 453

2/2

She replied, "I thought we were attending Ged's grandfather's birthday. I heard he's suffering from severe hair loss. I'm going to pick some horsetail for him."

“Are there horsetails on these hills?”

“Sure, there are. I found a particularly old horsetail in one of these parts. It was at least a hundred years old. I made sure to put down a marking.”

“Well, then. I’m coming with you.”

She knew better than to refuse, so she let him tag along. They were trekking the hills when she heard a muffled grunt behind her and asked, “What’s wrong?”

Ivor held his thigh and grimaced.

“What in the world happened, Ivor? Move your hands, and let me see.’

”

Ivor felt dizzy and sat down, saying, “I noticed a snake slithering across my feet earlier, but I didn’t think it

bit me.”

“Well, it did bite you, and it looks like it was a venomous snake, too.” Bonnie’s brows furrowed.

Ivor noticed how worried she was and forgot all about the pain in his thigh. He asked, “Can you such the poison out for me?”

Bonnie grew exasperated, saying, “You’ve been watching too much TV.”

“So, are you going to just let me die? How will you find someone as excellent as me if I die?”

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 454

Chapter 454

Bonnie wanted to tell Ivor off by saying she would have no issues finding someone better than him,

especially with her qualities. Even so, a venomous snake had bitten him. If she had said that, he would get upset, and his heart rate would rise, causing the venom to circulate faster.

Ivor motioned to remove his pants and said, "Hurry, suck out the venom!"

Bonnie stopped him and said, "No way in hell am I doing that! Will you look where you got bit?!"

Since the fang marks were close to Ivor's inner thigh, it would be highly awkward and embarrassing for

her to do it.

"Well, are you going to leave me here, Bonnie? You can't be this heartless. If you had gotten bit, I would've

sucked out the venom from wherever you got bit."

After some thought, she said, "Stay put while I look for some herbs and apply them to the bite. That'll cure

it."

"There's no need for all that trouble. You just have to suck-" Ivor stooped when he noticed Bonnie glaring

at him.

keep

She said, "I'll leave you here if you keep this up."

Jim was sleeping on the bed before he jolted awake from a nightmare. Benedict came over with some hot tea and said, "You're awake, Master Jim. You don't look well. Did you have a bad dream?"

"Mhm." Jim nodded. He had a nightmare where someone assassinated Bonnie. He asked, "Where's

Bonnie?"

"She's out with Ivor."

“Where did they run off to? Is it just the two of them?” His worried expression roused Benedict’s curiosity.

‘I know he’s a close friend of Bonnie’s, but does he ha

to be this nervous about her going off with Ivor?’

“Yeah, Sis said her friend’s grandfather would have a birthday party soon. So, she went to the hill to pick

some horsetails for him.”

At that moment, Welma barged in, saying, “This is bad! Someone got hurt!”

To their surprise, Jim bolted out of the room. “Bonnie!”

Welma and Gerald exchanged glances, and the former asked, “Honey, don’t you think Master Jim cares too much about Bonnie?”

“Yeah, I sense that, too,” Gerald said as he watched Jim leave.

Welma’s eyes widened as she exclaimed, “I—Is Master Jim in love with Bonnie?! I would agree in a

heartbeat if he wanted to marry her. On the other hand, Ivor would make a fine husband, too.

Chapter 454

2/2

“I’m not even talking about his wealth. He’s so in love with Bonnie, and I’ve never seen that look he gives her on another man’s face before.”

“Don’t you think you’re overthinking it?” Gerald did not think Jim harbored such a feeling toward his

daughter.

Welma insisted, “Isn’t it obvious? Just look at how much he cares about Bonnie! Why would he dash out of the house if he didn’t have feelings for her? Go on, tell me. Why else would he care so much?”

Gerald did not have a good answer for that. Still, he did not think Jim loved Bonnie that way.

Meanwhile, Jim raced out of the porch. He was tense the whole way up the hill. When he saw Bonnie, he picked up his pace and ran to her, scanning her from head to toe. “Where’s your wound? Tell me! I’m worried sick about you!”

“Well...”

“If you don’t tell me, I’ll hit you till you pass out and take you to the hospital for a full check–up.” After some thought, Bonnie said, “I’m not the one who got hurt. Ivor did.”

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 455

Chapter 455

1/2

“Huh?” Jim was stunned as he glanced at Ivor. He didn’t relax until he saw the herbs on the latter’s thigh. ” Your mom said someone got hurt, and I thought she meant you.”

Ivor squinted at him, and the other two could not tell what was on his mind. He said, “You’re a little too concerned about my fiancée’s well–being, Master Jim. If I didn’t know better, I would’ve thought something was between you two.”

That was when Jim realized he had behaved inappropriately. He said, “I thought I explained that. I owe her my life, so it’s only normal that I care about her this much.”

It just so happened that Welma and Gerald had arrived and heard what he said. “So, that’s how it is. That explains why you’re so concerned about Bonnie.”

“Yeah, that’s about it. Please don’t complicate things. Bonnie and I are just real close friends,” Jim purposely phrased his sentence that way.

‘I need to shift their attention so they don’t misinterpret my relationship with Bonnie. Still, I don’t think they would. As far as they’re concerned, Bonnie’s just an ordinary girl. They probably think she’s the furthest thing from the nation’s leading researcher. Even so, I’d rather be safe than sorry.’“

Before they knew it, the summer solstice ended. The following day, Bonnie and Ivor returned to Pyralis together. They had promised Ged they would attend his grandfather's birthday as soon as the summer

solstice ended.

Ged called Ivor and asked, "Hello. Where are you guys?"

Bonnie answered the call because Ivor was driving. She said, "We'll arrive in five minutes, tops."

"All right, I'm waiting for you guys!"

When Ged hung up, his sister, Aimee Franklin's, sarcastic voice sounded, "What's wrong with you, Ged? Why are you so friendly toward Bonnie? I thought you told me she loved lying.

"You said she claimed to have bought a Maybach and knows someone from Bonita Research Institute. You always complained about her making up stories. Judging by your tone back then, I thought you hated her guts."

"Things are different now, Aimee. I said all that because I didn't know her well enough. I made a snap judgment about her, but I now think she could've seriously bought that Maybach." Ged would have forgotten that if his sister had not mentioned the past.

"Hehehe." Aimee did not believe a word her brother said. "She must've put a spell on you or something. The same goes for Ivor. I can't believe he ignored his childhood friend, Rowena, for a country bumpkin."

Rowena was standing beside Aimee and heard what the latter said. The former began to cry as she said, "Th—that's enough, Aimee. Maybe Ivor and I aren't meant to be."

"What are you talking about? You guys would've been together if Bonnie hadn't shown up!" Aimee spoke up for her friend.

10

Chapter 455.

\$2/2

Halle nodded. "I agree with Aimee. You're Ivor's rightful soulmate. Bonnie is the one who ruined your relationship with him."

Ged could not take it anymore. “That’s too much, girls. How did Bonnie come between Ivor and Rowena? They weren’t even together when she came into the picture. Also, he’s the one who’s hitting on her, and she hadn’t even agreed to be his girlfriend.”

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 456

Chapter 456

Ged regretted saying that because it made Rowena hate Bonnie even more.

‘I couldn’t win Ivor’s heart, yet Bonnie dared to play it off like she didn’t care about him. I hate that she’s

playing hard to get.’

Aimee said, “What do you mean, Ged? Bonnie’s just leading him on. I detest women who do that. I can’t stand by and do nothing when someone like her plays Ivor like a fiddle. I can’t ignore Rowena going through such torture. I’ll tell Grandpa about it and ask him to intervene.”

A moment later, Edward stroked his beard and approached, “Did I hear someone mentioning me?”

“Grandpa!” Aimee took his arm in hers and said, “I was talking about how Bonnie used deceitful means to seduce Ivor. Since you’re a respected professor at Pyralis University, you are the wisest person I know. I need you to figure out how to tear her away from him.”

The older man frowned and asked, “Why do I find that name so familiar?”

doby

“She’s that good-for-nothing that got disowned by the Shepards. I heard she rebelled against her parents and constantly picked on her stepsister. That’s why the Shepards kicked Bonnie out.”

“Oh?” It was evident Edward had not heard about that.

“That’s right, Grandpa! You were too busy with your research to care about such things. Of course,

wouldn’t know about it.”

you

“Still, why is that name so familiar? It’s like I just heard her name several days ago,” Edward muttered.

Aimee kept bugging him, “Grandpa, you have to help Rowena and Ivor! You’ve known them since they were children. I don’t think you can bear to see poor Rowena getting her heart broken and Ivor taking the wrong path in life because of that country bumpkin.”

Halle followed Aimee’s lead and added, “She’s right! You must pull Ivor out of it, Mr. Edward! You’re a scholar who’s more intelligent than the average Joe. I’m sure he’ll listen to you out of respect.”

“All right, but I’ll need to meet this Bonnie person before doing anything drastic. I’d like to see if she’s as you guys say she is. If you’re right, I’ll talk some sense into Ivor.”

“Grandpa!” Ged chimed in, “Don’t listen to their

“That’s enough, Ged! What’s wrong with you?

“Onsense. Bonnie’s not as bad as they say. She’s actually

“What do you mean I’m defending her? I’m just telling the truth.”

“I don’t care about what you think. *In 3. Why* do you keep defending her?” Aimee was furious.

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, Grandpa is a wis

aan He’ll know how vicious Bonnie is

when he sees her for himself!” Aimee had decided that Bonnie was rotten to the core.

Furthermore, the former was sure Bonnie *had*

her.

put a spell on Ivor. That had to be why he kept defending-

Chapter 456

2/2

“Ugh. I can’t stand talking to you.” Aimee knew she could no longer reason with Ged and turned to her grandfather, saying, “I heard there’s a new president at Pyralis University. Can you say a few good words for me and see if they can bend the rules for me to get in, Grandpa?”

“Um...” Edward was troubled. “That’ll be a little tricky. She put in a new rule that forbade us from bringing in students via any loopholes.”

“Please, Grandpa. I’ve always wanted to attend Pyralis University. All of my friends got in, but I didn’t. It’s so humiliating!” she said shamelessly.

That was when Ivor and Bonnie entered the party hall.

“Hey, you guys are here at last!” Ged quickly went to welcome them. Then, he whispered, “Bonnie, my younger sister has a little misunderstanding about you. She has a strong opinion of you but is still naive. Don’t let her get under your skin, okay?”

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 457

Chapter 457

1/2

“All right, I got it. Don’t worry, Ged. I won’t care what your sister says about me since she isn’t someone I

know too well.”

Ivor added, “That’s only true, provided she doesn’t take **things** too far. Bonnie might be generous **and** forgiving, but that doesn’t mean I’ll tolerate it.”

“Um...” Ged was at a loss.

Suddenly, Aimee appeared from behind him and pointed at Bonnie. The former told Edward, “That’s her,

Grandpa! She’s Bonnie.”

When Ged heard how loud his sister yelled, he wanted to pull her away. Meanwhile, Edward glanced at

Bonnie and then stared at her so hard that his eyes almost popped. He stammered, “M–Miss–”

“Hello there, Professor Edward. I’m Bonnie, a computer science student at Pyralis University. I came to

wish you a happy birthday,” she said calmly.

“Y–You... You’re...” Edward stuttered before laughing heartily and saying, “Th–that’s great! Thank you! It’s

my honor to have you at my birthday party. I’m on cloud nine right now!”

Everyone wondered why he reacted so enthusiastically. They could not shake the feeling that something

strange was happening.

“Grandpa!” Aimee tugged at the older man’s sleeves and asked, “Why are you so friendly to her? I thought you promised me that you’d teach her a lesson.”

Edward’s brows furrowed as he lectured her, “Aimee, that’s rude of you. Bonnie traveled so far to wish me a happy birthday. Not only did you not thank her for coming, but you even asked me to teach her a lesson. Is that how your parents have been raising you?”

Aimee knew her grandfather was genuinely frustrated with her. At that moment, a burning fury overtook her. “What’s wrong with you, Grandpa? You should be lecturing her, but you’re yelling at me instead. I can’t believe you’re getting mad at me for this nobody.”

“Who are you calling a nobody? She’s the–”

‘She’s the university president and is also connected to Bonita Research Institute. How can Aimee claim that she’s a nobody? I wish I could tape her mouth shut right now.’

“There’s more!” Aimee continued furiously, “She stole Ivor from Rowena. So, how could you defend her?”

Smack!

Edward slapped his granddaughter, causing a pin-drop silence as all the guests looked their way. The older man’s actions also shocked Ged, Rowena, and Halle.

Edward was furious. “Aimee Franklin, where are your manners?! Sigmund arranged for Ivor and Bonnie to get engaged. They’ve also hosted an engagement party. As for Rowena—I know she’s Ivor’s childhood friend, but that’s all.

Chapter 457

2/2

“They’ve done nothing to show us that they were ever a couple, yet you said Bonnie stole Ivor away from Rowena. The way I see it, Rowena’s trying to tear him away from her!”

Everyone in the hall was stunned, and Rowena froze. After gathering her thoughts, she noticed everyone staring at her strangely. She felt humiliated and wished to bury her head somewhere.

Even Ged did not expect his grandfather to help but glance at Bonnie.

ct so differently toward Bonnie. Ged and Ivor could not

She felt the duo’s intense stares but feigned ignorance. She was content to be a spectator of this incident. Meanwhile, Ged nudged Ivor and whispered, “Don’t you think my grandpa’s acting a little weird

today?”

“Mhm.”

“Do you think it’s because of Bonnie?”

“Mhm.”

“Why, though? Although Bonnie might be tough, my grandpa doesn’t know she’s the miracle doctor. As far as he knows, Bonnie is just an ordinary student studying where he works. He shouldn’t treat her so differently now.”

“Mhm.”

“Is that all you’re going to say?” Ged’s lips twitched.

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 458

Chapter 458

“That’s **all I** can say because you’ve voiced everything **I** wanted to ask.”

Ged was at a loss as Edward stared at Aimee. **Her** eyes had reddened, and she was on the **verge** of tears. Under normal circumstances, the older man would have felt heartbroken if he saw Aimee like that. However, there was nothing but forbidding sternness in his eyes now.

Edward questioned, “Do you see where you’re wrong now, Aimee?”

She gritted her teeth, but it did not look like she would admit it.

“**It** looks like you disagree with me: Fine, I’ll ask you some questions. **You** claimed Bonnie stole Ivor from Rowena, correct? Now, was Ivor and Rowena ever a couple before Bonnie appeared?”

Aimee remained silent.

“Answer me,

now!”

“N–No, they weren’t a couple,” she responded sobbingly.

“Very well. I know Rowena loved Ivor before they knew Bonnie, but did Ivor love Rowena back?”

“pm....

“Did he love Rowena?! Answer me!”

She pursed her lips and said, “I don’t think so.”

“One last question. Let’s pretend you love someone, and he has a childhood friend.

Naturally, he doesn’t like his childhood friend that way. Would you have stolen hay from her **if** you’d gotten together with him?” Edward’s questions stumped her.

He helplessly shook his head and glanced at Rowena, asking, “Did Rowena just tell sob story earlier?”

you

her

“How did you know about that, Grandpa?”

“Why can’t you use your brain for once? She’s just using you to stand up for her!” He was furious **at** how gullible his granddaughter was.

“Y–You can’t be serious, Grandpa! Rowena doesn’t seem like the kind of person.”

“Still don’t see it? What did I do to deserve such a foolish granddaughter like you?”

“I just don’t-” She was about to say something when she heard the party guests muttering.

“Edward slapped her real hard earlier! I was so frightened.”

“Can you **blame** him? Aimee was such a buffoon that she was fooled into doing someone else’s dirty work. Bonnie and Ivor are a perfect match and are in love with each other. Aimee’s a fool who wants to stand up for Rowena.

“Well, she’s bitten off more than she could chew. After all, everyone in the high society circle knows Rowena loved Ivor, but he didn’t care for her.”

The more Aimee listened in, the more embarrassed she felt. A moment later, she turned and glared daggers at Rowena, causing the latter to shiver and say, “Th–that’s not true, Aimee. I didn’t-*

“Don’t talk to me! Your voice and face make me sick!”

Tears rolled down Rowena’s cheeks as she turned to Halle and said, “I never intended to use Aimee. I didn’t- Don’t you believe me?”

Halle patted Rowena's back and answered, "That goes without saying. Aimee's a fool for believing anything people tell her. On the other hand, you and I have known each other since childhood. I know you well. Don't feel sad about this.

"Aimee simply isn't fit to be your friend. Trust is the most important thing between friends. You can count on me to never betray you, Rowena."

"Thank you for being my best friend, Halle."

Aimee had always detested cunning people, so she hated Rowena now. Meanwhile, Edward was pleased with his granddaughter's reaction. He said, "You did well to learn this, Aimee. However, you owe Bonnie an apology."

"Do I have to?" She pursed her lips.

"Didn't you want me to use my connections to get you into Pyralis University? Well, you won't get the chance if you don't apologize."

"**I just** don't-" She was about to say something when she heard the party guests muttering.

"Edward slapped her real **hard** earlier! I was so frightened."

"Can you blame him? Aimee was such a buffoon that she was fooled into doing someone else's dirty work. Bonnie and Ivor are a perfect match and are in love with each other.

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 459

Chapter **459**

Aimee did not understand what her grandfather meant. “Grandpa, what do you mean? What does apologizing to Bonnie have to do with me getting into Pyralis University?”

“Just trust me. I’ll try to talk to Bonnie alone when **I** can later. All you need to do is apologize to her sincerely.”

“B–But...”

“No buts! I’ll only repeat it one more time. Apologize to Bonnie now, or you can kiss Pyralis University goodbye.”

Although Aimee might not have understood why her grandfather said those things, she was determined to attend the university. Firstly, almost all her friends got in, and secondly, Pyralis University was in a different league now.

More accurately, the newly appointed university president had secured a collaboration with Bonita Research Institute.

Although Aimee would have nothing to do with their scientific research competition, it did not change the fact that she would be getting into a university that collaborated with the highly renowned research institute.

She could even meet the prominent Ms. Bonita one day if she were lucky.

Soon after, Edward found an opportunity to talk to Bonnie alone. Since Aimee was still nearby, he tried not to address Bonnie formally.

Bonnie asked in puzzlement, “Is there anything I can do for you?”

“Miss—ahem—Bonnie. My granddaughter wanted to apologize but couldn’t because so many people were around. So, she asked for my help to talk to you alone.”

“Oh, okay.” Bonnie nodded understandingly and looked at Aimee, saying, “Go ahead and apologize.”

The latter noticed how lightly Bonnie took it, and her guilt faded.

Edward grew slightly annoyed when he realized his granddaughter was not saying anything. He asked, “Why aren’t you apologizing? I thought you begged me to help you talk to her alone.”

‘I’ve never begged for anything. Why should I? Aimee thought. Even so, she needed to get **it** over with because she wanted to get into the university. After **all**, she was the one who had misbehaved earlier. So, apologizing to Bonnie would not hurt Aimee’s pride.

I

“I’m sorry about what I said earlier, Bonnie. I allowed Rowena to manipulate me.

Bonnie nodded. “It’s good that you can admit your mistakes.”

‘Damn it! She’s talking to me like she’s lecturing a little kid! **Ugh**, it reminds me of how Grandpa talks to me. Come on, doesn’t she know we’re the same **age**?’

Aimee fought the urge to roll her eyes. She whispered to Edward, “There, I apologized to her. Now, what does that have to do with me getting into Pyralis University? Also, how do you plan to do that?”

Edward noticed Bonnie was about **to** leave. **He** hastily asked, “Is it true that Pyralis

University no longer takes in students who intend to get in through connections with someone on the inside?”

‘Huh?’ Aimee was puzzled, wondering, ‘What does Grandpa mean? Why does he need Bonnie, an ordinary student, to weigh in on this?’

Bonnie stopped and said, “That’s right. The university had been letting people in that way, and it was unfair to the students who showed sheer effort and commitment to get in. It wasn’t even fair to those from middle–class or low–income families. That was what I suggested to the former university president.

‘What?!’ Aimee was bewildered.

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 460

Chapter 460

Aimee thought, ‘So, the university **stopped** allowing students to **get** in through connections because of Bonnie’s suggestion? Is **that** a joke?’

‘Firstly, she’s just a student, and secondly, she was still taking the SAT’s when the university decided that. She wasn’t even a student at that university at that time.’

Edward was just as surprised as his granddaughter. “I didn’t know that was your **idea**, Bonnie. With that said, I think we can make a few exceptions. It doesn’t have to be so airtight.”

“Oh? What do you mean?” Bonnie asked.

“I always say nothing is absolute. I suggest we make a few exceptions when certain conditions are met. **We** can let a few wealthy people slip in with the right amount of money. After all, fees mean nothing to the rich.

“The university will make a considerable profit. Then, **we** can use that money to incentivize students from **low**–income students. We can amp up the scholarship and enroll more financially challenged students.”

Bonnie rubbed her chin thoughtfully and said, “You have a point. Keep going.”

That's just part of the reason. We can also let wealthy families donate or sponsor the renovations of campus facilities such as the cafeteria, library, and dormitories. This should provide the students with a better learning and living environment.

"That said, we must consider a benefit for those who donate or sponsor the university. We can't ask them to do all that for nothing. We can thank them by advertising their company names on the university's Twitter account.

"The university will improve, and the donors will gain notoriety. It's a win-win situation, don't **you**

you think?"

The more Bonnie listened, the more plausible she thought it was. After some thought, she added, "Bonita Research Institute can prioritize providing these wealthy families with the fruits of their scientific research. I think they'll be more enthusiastic about sponsoring the university then."

Edward's eyes widened with shock as he stared at the young lady before him.

'Did she say Bonita Research Institute would provide the fruits of its scientific research? Does she get to make such decisions? It's different from her claim in the previous meeting. She said she'd convince Bonita Research Institute **to** take in the winner of its competition as

an intern.

'However, what **she's** claiming now is on a different level! Everyone in the institute works together to conduct scientific research. Now, Bonnie's saying they'll provide the fruits of their labor to the university without having to check with **them**.

'If another person had made these claims, I would've thought they were bluffing. Still, Bonnie's the university president. She wouldn't make such bold claims if she weren't.'

Edward was an excellent judge of character and knew Bonnie was not making things up. If that were the case, she must hold a higher standing than the professors at Bonita Research Institute. After all, not even ordinary professors could make such claims.

That meant her influence was far more significant than Edward had imagined. He was shocked as he considered Bonnie's actual status.

Meanwhile, the utterly dumbfounded Aimee thought, 'Why are we suddenly discussing the fruits of the research institute when we were talking about getting into Pyralis University through connections? What does this have to do with anything?'

Bonnie thought about it and decided, “All right, let’s do it that way. We’ll allow students to enroll via connections, but there’s a condition. These applicants mustn’t flunk any subjects. After all, they’ll tarnish the university’s standards **if** they can’t even perform well in tests.

“I’ll need you to propose a minimum amount of donations or sponsorships and other prerequisites, Edward.”

“Y–You’re letting me handle it?!” Edward was pleasantly surprised.

“I have faith in your capabilities.” She looked at him solemnly.

“Okay, then! I’ll gladly take up the task.”

“Okay.” She mulled it over, adding, “I think you have what it takes to oversee the university’s operations. Why don’t you apply for the vice president position?”

“**M–Me?! Are you sure it’s a good idea? I’m currently prioritizing scientific research. I fear my attention and time to other tasks might hinder my research.**”

“I respectfully disagree with that. Take me for an example. My main job isn’t related to computer science at all. However, I’m running into a bottleneck, so I’m trying to expand my horizons by studying computer science at the university.

“Frankly speaking, I’ve been using the same method to inspire myself and make new progress in

my main specialization,” Bonnie said leisurely.

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 461

Chapter 461

Chapter 461

Edward's jaw dropped as he thought, 'I might know what she specializes in! That would explain why someone as prestigious as Bonnie would study computer science at Pyralis University.'

'I finally see why Sigmund disregarded everyone's objection and insisted on setting his grandson up with a countryside girl.'

Bonnie said, "I meant it when I said you have what it takes to be the university's vice president. Of course, the decision is yours to make. I won't push you if you're uninterested."

'Honestly, I'd be disappointed if he rejects the position.'

"Why, of course, I am!" Edward grinned. "Ahem! Um, Bonnie, what do you think about my talent in scientific research?"

The clueless Aimee began to feel uneasy. After all, her grandfather was outstanding and knowledgeable, yet he humbly asked for Bonnie's opinion of him.

Bonnie replied straightaway, "You have the potential to be an experienced professor at Pyralis University. Naturally, you possess extraordinary talent and skills."

Edward asked, "Do you think I'll ever have the honor of visiting Bonita Research Institute as

a way way

to broaden my horizons?"

'Since he asked that question, he must've guessed who I really am. Since that's the case, there's no point hiding it anymore.'

Bonnie said, "Just inform me when you're free."

"Fantastic!" Edward was so overjoyed that he jumped and fist-pumped like a child.

He could not contain his excitement. After all, they talked about one of the most renowned research institutes. Any self-respective researcher would want to check out its labs.

"It's settled, then. Ivor just texted me, so I'll be leaving now." Bonnie waved and left.

"Okay, I'll see you soon, Bonnie!" Edward grew envious of Sigmund as the former watched

Bonnie leave.

'I can't believe that old coot has Avandor's science prodigy as his daughter-in-law!'

"G-Grandpa, am I seeing things? You are my grandpa, right?" Aimee struggled to digest what she had just seen and heard. Seeing her usually solemn grandfather acting like a child **shocked** her.

Chapter 461

2/2

"What nonsense are you spouting?"

"N-No, I mean... You see, I... You just... Ah! Bonnie, yeah, that's it. Did Bonnie just promote you to be Pyralis University's vice president?"

"Didn't you hear a word just now, Aimee?"

"W-Wait a minute and let me think. Bonnie promoted you, but how does she have the power to do that? Is it because she knows someone from Bonita Research Institute? Even so, how does that make you the vice president?"

"Does Bonnie know Ms. Bonita?! They're both Shepards, right? Are you telling me Bonnie is Ms. Bonita's distant relative?"

Edward's lips twitched as he thought, 'I was going to tell Aimee to keep Bonnie's identity a secret, but my granddaughter is such a fool that she can't even see the truth. Aimee was listening the whole time, yet that's what she assumes?'

After some thought, Edward said, "I think Bonnie made the right **call**. Even if we allow wealthy people to buy their way into the university, we must ensure their children don't flunk any subjects. Otherwise, it'll hurt the university's reputation."

"What do you mean by that, Grandpa?"

"It means you can't tell anyone about my conversation with Bonnie. Understand? It's a massive deal! If you disobey me and tell anyone, I'll disown you," Edward said solemnly.

Aimee pouted and said, "Oh, okay. I promise not to tell anyone that Bonnie is Ms. Bonita's

distant relative."

'So what if they're distant relatives? She's not Ms. Bonita, and Grandpa doesn't need to make such a fuss.'

Edward sighed and looked at his granddaughter disdainfully. He thought, 'Bonnie and Aimee are the same age, but the difference between them is as vast as the ocean! Anyone with a granddaughter like Bonnie would have difficulty not smiling in their sleep.'

"The Shepards, huh?" he muttered.

'They'll regret disowning her one day.'

Bonnie almost bumped into Ivor as she approached the party hall. She asked, "Where are **you** going in such a hurry?"

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I Love You Miss Genius (Bonnie Shepard) CHAPTER 462

Chapter 462

"**I was** looking for you," Ivor answered.

Although it was a brief response, Bonnie's heart almost skipped a **beat**. She said, "I'm not a child, y'know. I was just gone for a little while. Were you worried I **got** lost?"

"I was so terrified that I wished to put you in my pocket. Then, I can check on you anytime I

want.'

"I'm not an accessory."

"That you are. You're my accessory."

Bonnie was as tough as nails and was getting more used to him. However, she could not stop herself from blushing and her heart pounding. She said, "I'm hungry. I'll go get some food from over there."

"I'll come with you." Ivor served her well and would take whatever food she wanted without delay. Fortunately, she had adamantly protested, or he would have fed her.

Ivor looked at his phone in puzzlement and frowned. "Hmm?"

"What's wrong?"

He put down his phone and looked at her, saying, "I received insider information. It seems Pyralis University will loosen its enrollment rules for wealthy families."

"Oh?" Bonnie was so good at pretending that she almost bought into her own act.

"Isn't the Scientific Research Competition in two days?" He asked.

"Are you going?"

"Exactly. The Knight Group is one of the event's investors, so I must attend."

Bonnie guessed, "Are you going to have a discussion with one of the top management personnel and enroll one of the Knights in the university?"

"That's not what matters. I want to see if I can meet with the new president."

Bonnie was shocked when she heard that. She asked, "Why are you so determined to meet with the new president?"

"I suspect she's close to Ms. Bonita." He analyzed the situation slowly. "It's not just me, either. Many people share the same suspicion and will do anything to get into the university."

M

Chapter 462

Bonnie remained silent, knowing she could let something slip at such a moment. As she tried to mask her inner feelings by stuffing herself with food, Ivor looked at her and said, "You also seem to have a connection with someone **at** Bonita Research Institute."

Bonnie knew he was probing. "You're right. I'm well connected to one of the people there."

"Oh, and what connection would that be?" He squinted at her.

She stared at him and said, "I won't get into the specifics. After all, it's about the research institute. You'll understand why I don't want to give anything away."

"All right, I won't pry if you're unwilling to tell me. Will you be participating in the Scientific Research Competition?"

Bonnie chuckled and said, "I'm a computer science student. Why would I participate?"

"Your capabilities in scientific research impressed even Neville, my family's scientific genius. Don't you think you would've won the competition effortlessly? That way, you **can** secure an internship at Bonita Research Institute and become an official staff member

there.'

2

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Chapter 463

Bonnie said, "Your opinion of me is too high. Still, I don't intend to participate in the competition."

'Ivor is still suspicious of me, and I can't let it continue. I must neutralize his suspicions completely.'

"Why not? Don't you want to work at Bonita Research Institute?"

"Everyone has preferences. Also, Pyralis University has recruited exceptionally talented students from around the globe. The campus is full of extraordinary people. Why are you so confident I'll win the competition if I participate?"

"I just know you will," Ivor said confidently, "All right, let's drop it. Is there anything else you want to eat? I'll get it for you."

He showed the perfect example of quitting while he was ahead. After all, Bonnie would probably stop talking to him if he kept prying.

Bonnie sighed in relief as she watched him leave to get her more food. She knew he was so smart that he would realize she was Ms. Bonita if she slipped up even once.

Two days had passed, and the Scientific Research Competition was about to begin. All newspapers and media focused on Pyralis University. Still in the hospital, Russell grinned from ear to ear as he watched the television.

"Hahaha! I was right to insist on Bonnie taking over my position! She's the perfect successor. Now that our competition has become a hot topic throughout Arvandor, the president of Drungend University is probably crying. Our enrolment rate next year will set a new record! I'm excited just thinking about it!"

Suddenly, the door opened, and Elliana, the president of the Pyralian Pianists Association, entered. "You're an old man, Russell. Stop getting so excited. The doctor said you can't afford to get worked up. You can drop dead at any second if you keep it up."

"You're just jealous of me, honey. Bonnie's willing to take over my position instead of yours," he boasted triumphantly.

She grunted in response. "Why would I be jealous? You shouldn't be so proud of yourself when you deceived her. You have no idea how ashamed of you I am."

"Drop the act. If you could pretend to be sick, you would've done the same thing and tricked Bonnie into taking over your association."

"That's a load of crap!" She stomped. "I came because I cared about you and wanted to see how you were doing, but you seem perfectly fine. It seems you'll live long and plague the world!"

"Care about me? Save it for someone who buys your crap. The way I see it, you're just here to make fun of me."

"You're becoming more unreasonable as the days pass! I just can't talk to you anymore!" Elliana left the ward, supporting herself with the cane. Then, she dwelled on what her husband said. 'Perhaps I can also pretend to be sick to get Bonnie to take over my mantle. The old coot had just used this trick. I don't think it'll work if I use it again. It looks like I'll have to ask Coleman to seduce Bonnie.'

...

Back in Pyralis University, Bonnie was treading the cobblestone path when she overheard some conversations.

"I can't believe you managed to return here, Trina."

'Trina?' Bonnie did not bother turning around when she heard that name.

"Yeah, neither could I."

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Chapter 464

"Trina, I heard you got expelled twice because of Bonnie. I don't understand how she pulled that off."

Trina wanted to badmouth Bonnie but decided against it after considering her promises to Gresham and Vera.

"The truth isn't what you guys think it is. Bonnie and my family are strangers. None of us have anything to do with her."

One of Trina's friends saw Bonnie and purposely said, "We know that. Your dad published a video, and your mom swore an oath, too. I guess it works out for you guys. That way, you'll finally rid yourselves of that pathetic good-for-nothing."

Trina covered her friend's mouth and warned, "Lower your voice, or she'll hear you."

"I don't give a damn if she can hear me."

"Stop it—" Trina turned and realized Bonnie was looking at her. The former trembled and bowed at Bonnie apologetically. "I'm sorry, Bonnie! I swear we weren't badmouthing you!"

Bonnie glanced at her coldly and accidentally bumped into a fellow college student. She said, "Oops, sorry! I didn't watch where I was going."

She then realized she had just bumped into one of the two most handsome students at the university. His name was Toby Davis, among the brightest minds there.

He held a peculiar-looking robot with both hands and was so focused on tweaking it that he did not even glance at Bonnie. Instead, he simply brushed past her.

"Pfft!" Trina's friends cackled, and one said, "I'm sure she bumped into him on purpose. She must've thought she could seduce him with her looks, but he didn't even look at her."

"Bonnie must feel humiliated now, even though she's pretty. Coleman is also the other most handsome student at our university. Even he treats Bonnie nicely. With that said, Toby isn't as approachable as Coleman."

"You got that right. Toby is as cold and distant as they come. He rarely talks to anyone. I hear not even his roommate has heard him speak. Toby doesn't have a friend on campus, either. He only cares about his studies.

"Who does Bonnie think she is? Why would she assume every guy has to stop and stare at her?"

"Since I'm from the Newspaper Club, I'll publish this video I recorded on the college website later. Let's show everyone just how much of a dunce Bonnie is!"

"Seconded!"

"I'm behind you on that."

Bonnie ignored their nasty remarks and stared at Toby's robot. Avril asked softly, "What are you staring at? Do you seriously have a crush on Toby?"

Bonnie looked at her friend, raising her brow and asking, "What makes you think that?"

"For starters, I saw you staring at him."

"Are you kidding me? No, I won't even argue with you. I wasn't looking at him, but at the robot he was holding."

"Are you serious?" Avril did not quite believe her. After all, Toby was dashing. Even she could not help but linger when she saw him earlier.

Bonnie mimicked Avril's tone and joked, "Well, if you don't believe me, look into my eyes and see if I'm lying."

"Fine, I believe you now. What a relief. If you fall in love with another man, Ivor would raze the university to the ground." Avril patted her chest dramatically. Suddenly, she heard a deep and charming voice, "Why would I do that for no good reason?"

Avril gasped. She was so shocked that she flinched like a spooked cat, thinking, 'Did he hear what Bonnie and I were talking about earlier?!

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"Why are you looking at me like that? Were you badmouthing me to Bonnie?" Ivor squinted at Avril, trying to figure her out.

A chill ran down her spine, and she stammered, "N-Not at all! Why would I do that? I-I was just telling Bonnie how wonderful you are and that she should cherish what she has. After all, she'll never find anyone as perfect as you. Yeah, that's what we were talking about earlier."

Bonnie glanced at Avril but did not expose her lies.

"I appreciate that," Ivor nodded and said, "I'll give you something real nice in return when Bonnie and I get married."

"Sure! I'm looking forward to it. Make sure it's a super nice gift, okay? I won't accept anything less than that!"

"You got it!"

"I'll hold you to that promise!"

Bonnie was speechless about their interaction. She thought, 'I'm supposed to be the future bride, yet none of them asked for my opinion. They just went ahead and decided on their own.'

Floyd approached and said, "Mr. Ivor, all the other investors are here. They need you to be there, too."

Ivor looked at Bonnie and asked, "Do you want to come with me? You can sit beside me."

"You can forget about that. I don't want to draw attention to myself," Bonnie shoved him and said, "Hurry along now."

If she sat with Ivor, the entire university would focus on her instead of the competition. If that happened, she could no longer enjoy a peaceful university life.

Trina watched as Ivor approached the venue. Her brows furrowed as she said, "It's him."

"Who's that? Do you know that handsome man?" her friend asked.

"Even though I've seen him several times, I don't know who he is."

'What's he doing here? I think I saw him with Bonnie a minute ago. That reminds me Mom received a call during the summer solstice.

'She told me the village talked about how Bonnie brought back the wealthiest man in Pyralis. Of course, we didn't buy that crap since we're not that gullible.'

Trina grew curious and followed Ivor. However, she kept her distance and stayed out of sight.

Meanwhile, Bonnie told Avril, "Let's go inside, too."

"I've wanted to go in since earlier. I'm sure the Scientific Research Competition will be a spectacle!" Avril had just taken a step when she saw Terry from Bonita Research Institute. She approached the older man and greeted him, "Hello, Professor Terry!"

Then, she realized Reece was also there. "Hi, Professor Reece."

He looked at Avril and then glanced at Terry, asking, "Do you guys know each other?"

"Uh, well..." She instinctively looked at Bonnie. After all, she did not know Terry until Bonnie took her to the research institute.

At that moment, he followed Avril's gaze and noticed Bonnie, causing his heart to skip a beat. He thought, 'It looks like I'm getting closer to the truth.' Terry said, "Miss-"

Bonnie nodded and interjected, "Hi, Professor Terry."

He was stunned and swiftly caught himself, saying, "Greetings, Bonnie."

Meanwhile, Reece continued to observe the duo's exchange, thinking, 'I swear I'm getting closer to the truth!'

Terry asked, "Are you going inside, too? Should we go together?"

"Sure thing," Bonnie replied and approached the competition venue.

Terry did not move until after Bonnie was a distance away.

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When Reece followed Terry, the former noticed Jim, who disguised himself as a security guard, also following Bonnie.

Reece gulped as he looked at Terry and the security guard, who just happened to have a similar build to Jim. At that moment, Reece realized he had indeed grasped the truth.

Meanwhile, Trina tailed Ivor to the venue and saw him taking the seat specifically for Knight Group members. That was because the family was one of the investors. Trina was shocked when she saw that. 'Are the rumors true?! Is Bonnie in a relationship with the wealthiest man in Pyralis?'

Suddenly, Trina recalled the news about the engagement the wealthiest man in Pyralis had hosted long ago. She remembered talking about it with her friends and classmates. They were jealous of the girl who had gotten engaged to the man.

'If this man is the wealthiest man in Pyralis, I would be insanely jealous of Bonnie!'

"N-No, it can't be. I can't accept it," Trina muttered.

'Taking that seat doesn't necessarily mean he's the CEO of the Knight Group, right? His company could have sent him as a representative instead. I'll get to the bottom of this!'

Trina gritted her teeth and approached Ivor. Meanwhile, Bonnie and Avril entered the venue and saw what Trina was doing. Avril said, "Bonnie, do you think she'll try to seduce Ivor?"

"It doesn't look like it," Bonnie replied.

"Really, though? That is what she's doing."

"No, she's not. I think she's headed for trouble instead."

Avril noticed Bonnie's seriousness and could not help but cover her mouth and giggle. "Yeah, you're right. She's about to regret it."

Trina appeared before Ivor and acted awkwardly, trying to look innocent.

"Can I help you?" Ivor's tone lacked warmth as he glanced at her casually.

Trina found his demeanor imposing. No one could forge such an overbearing sense of authority. Instead, one could only attain it after spending most of one's life in the upper

echelon of society. Ivor's overwhelming authority confirmed Trina's suspicions. Still, she asked, "Um, are you one of the Knight Group's staff members?"

"Why does that concern you?"

"I-I was just curious. One of Bonnie's fellow country folks says you're the CEO of the Knight Group. Is that true?"

Ivor squinted at her but did not respond. He only had to sit there silently to rouse fear in Trina's heart. She was so scared that she dared not move, let alone speak to him again. Soon after, he said, "You may leave now."

Trina was about to say something but realized her feet had gone numb. Hence, she could not help but feel amazed at how intimidating he was. She was about to leave the menacing-looking man alone but noticed a shift in his eyes.

His cold eyes brimmed with affection, making Trina wonder what brought on such a drastic change. She turned and followed his gaze to see Bonnie. Then, an intense jealousy and displeasure rose within Trina's chest.

She even wished to slash Bonnie's face with a knife.

'How dare she hoard all the nice things in life to herself! I'll win this competition, get a permanent job at Bonita Research Institute, and prove to everyone that I'm better than Bonnie! I'll excel at scientific research and shine once I get into the research institute!'

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Avril tugged at Bonnie's sleeves and said, "Look at how miserable Trina looks. She's nothing but a homewrecker. I can't believe she thought someone as prominent as Ivor would like her. Not everyone is as unobservant as Hadwin."

Bonnie responded, "That's enough. Whatever Trina does doesn't concern us. Let's check out the contestants' inventions."

She checked them out, but none were good enough to pique her curiosity. Then, she kept walking and came upon a familiar robot.

Avril observed it from top to bottom and said, "Huh, this one seems familiar. I wonder where I've seen it before."

Then, she noticed Toby coming over. Instead of greeting him, she just stood there. It was evident he had built the robot. Avril muttered, "That explains why I find it so familiar. It's Toby's work."

Bonnie was pretty fascinated by his robot and went to touch it when his cold voice sounded, "You can look at it, but you can't touch it."

Although he acted coldly, she did not find him distasteful. On the contrary, she saw the makings of an excellent scientific researcher within him.

"What's with the attitude?" Avril questioned, "Fine, we'll leave you alone. Come on, Bonnie."

She tried to pull Bonnie, but the latter remained motionless. Avril looked at her and asked, "What's wrong?"

Bonnie stayed quiet for a few seconds and then swiftly touched the robot, causing Toby to spring into action. Although he was calm and collected before, he grew upset as he reached out to stop her.

However, Jim, who was never too far away from Bonnie, held Toby back and said, "We don't tolerate violence here, pal."

Toby said frustratingly, "Let me go! She touched my robot! For the record, I wasn't going to hit her or anything. I was just trying to stop her."

At that moment, Bonnie gave her feedback, "I'm going to guess your robot specializes in scanning and transporting books. I also noticed it can extend its arms to the highest shelves in the library to reach for books."

Toby was stunned, asking, "How'd you know that?"

"I can tell just by looking at it," Bonnie responded matter-of-factly, "Isn't it obvious enough?"

'It is?' Avril blinked and thought, 'I couldn't tell that was what it was for.'

"With that said," Bonnie continued, "The assembly is imperfect and clumsy. Hmm, it doesn't react quickly enough, either. It should concern the parts. They're too soft and flexible. Also, you'll have to optimize its pathing with the AS-R mobile dynamic obstacle avoidance."

Toby was astounded that she was familiar with this jargon. Still, that did not mean he agreed with her. He said coldly, "I'm sorry, but could you please leave? The competition is about to start." Meanwhile, Trina and her friends watched the whole thing unfold.

"Tsk tsk tsk... Look at Bonnie. First, she bumped into Toby on purpose, but it didn't work out for her. Now, she's trying to approach him when he wants nothing to do with her. She's so shameless." "She's always been like that. Toby's perceptive. One glance is enough for him to conclude how rotten Bonnie is. That's why he ignored her."

"You shouldn't tell anyone you knew her, Trina. She's just embarrassing."

However, Trina still tried to process Ivor's mysterious and shocking identity.

Five minutes later, the competition officially began. Bonnie sat in the auditorium and glanced at each contestant on stage. All she could do was shake her head.

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Trina's invention was not half bad, but her character was questionable. Bonnie would not let someone like her even enter her research institute.

Trina took the stage and confidently introduced her invention. She fiddled with her robot as she said, "The robot I invented can sing and dance. It can also rearrange a song into different genres, such as rock and roll and hip-hop."

One of the judges said, "That's neat. It's certainly better than the other robots we've seen."

"You're right. That's the best invention up to this point."

Trina was on cloud nine as she accepted the ceaseless compliments.

'I knew it! I have this competition in the bag with skills and talent. Now, all that's left is Professor Terry. He represents Bonita Research Institute. If he gives me a nod, my victory is all but secured.'

She looked at him confidently. However, to her surprise, he lowered his head and fiddled with something. He showed no interest in her robot.

'Wh-what's happening?' Trina grew worried. 'It doesn't make sense. My robot is an excellent invention. Quite a few investors and judges have complimented me on it.'

'If I remember correctly, Professor Terry sought my parents during the press conference for the latest nanomaterial. We thought he lowered himself to our level because he noticed my talents. I don't think that's no longer the case.'

'If that's the case, why did he talk to my parents? He even looked at me back then. Wait a minute!'

Suddenly, something occurred to Trina. She thought that maybe he was not looking at her. After all, Bonnie was standing beside her back then.

Terry said impatiently, "All right, next, please!"

Trina was flustered as she left the stage. She even looked at Bonnie, sitting in the auditorium, the former's eyes full of resentment and bewilderment.

Toby was the next contestant. He took his robot to the stage to briefly explain it before demonstrating its capabilities. Terry complimented his work, "Nicely done. It's the best work I've seen today." Trina grew nervous when she heard that.

'No, he can't be the winner! I must get into Bonita Research Institute, no matter what! I hope to build myself up again and get revenge on Bonnie.'

Meanwhile, Toby wallowed in joy. He came from a low-income family, and his parents were unhealthy, too. Succeeding in his career as soon as possible was the only way out for his family.

"With that said," Terry added, his words making Toby uncertain, "there seems to be some assembly error. I believe it concerns the parts you chose."

His words reminded Toby of what Bonnie said. However, Terry continued, "You can optimize its pathing a little better. Consider using the AS-R mobile robot's dynamic obstacle avoidance. That should help with the optimization wonderfully."

'Huh?!' Toby whipped around and looked at Bonnie. 'She got everything right earlier! Wait a minute. Why didn't she participate in the competition if she was this good? She would've wiped the floor with everyone else!'

The competition lasted for another couple of hours before it ended.

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Terry took the stage as the contestants looked at him, each sitting on the edge of their seats. He said, "I shall announce the winner of the Scientific Research Competition!"

Trina was so nervous that her nails dug into her palms. Even Toby balled his fists and stared at the professor unblinkingly.

"Congratulations, Toby Davis!"

Toby was on cloud nine while the others were disappointed. The former did his best to contain his excitement as he ascended the stage and accepted his certificate. On the other hand, Trina turned ashen as she fell into deep thought.

'It's over. My grand plot for revenge has ended before it could even start. I won't get another shot as easy as this one to make something of myself.'

The host passed a microphone to Toby, who asked, "If I may, Professor Terry, when can I start my internship in the research institute?"

"We must still prioritize your studies here, young man. So, you'll have to come in every weekend."

"All right, that's great!"

Toby thought deeply, 'Today's Wednesday so I can enter the place of my dreams three days from now. I'll finally meet Ms. Bonita, the pillar of the world of scientific research! I have to call my parents and tell them the good news.'

Trina left the venue, looking like a lost soul as she returned home.

"What are you doing home so soon, sweetie? Did the competition end? Did you win?" Vera bombarded her daughter with questions.

However, Trina simply hung her head and gritted her teeth.

"Why aren't you saying anything? Are you pretending you lost to surprise us?"

Vera thought, 'Trina's a child every parent wished they had. She's intelligent, cunning, and gifted, especially in scientific research. A former professor of Pyralis University even supported her generously and showered her with approvals. I know she won the competition.'

However, the more she asked, the paler Trina became. Ultimately, Gresham sensed something was wrong and asked, "Did you lose?"

That was all it took to shatter his daughter's last shred of confidence. Tears streamed down Trina's cheeks a moment later, and her mother's face fell. Then, the latter slumped into the couch and muttered, "Trina lost. How can this be?"

"I told all our relatives that you participated in the competition and would wipe the floor with everyone else. I can't believe you lost. What am I supposed to tell them now? How can I face them?!" The butler led a group of relatives to the living room as if on cue. They all congratulated Gresham and his family.

"Congratulations! You guys are so lucky to have a daughter as talented as Trina."

"I envy you guys! If only Fernanda were half as excellent as Trina, I would've considered myself the luckiest mother in the world."

Kaysen added, "Ysabel, Trina's about to work at Bonita Research Institute. You should stay here and sleep in her room tonight. That way, you can learn everything from her as best you can."

Everyone praised Gresham and his family, so nobody noticed how bleak Trina looked. A moment later, Harold and Yolanda approached to compliment Gresham and Vera generously. "You guys have taught Trina well. We're very proud of you. I want you two to look after the family company from now on."

Grant and Kaysen gnashed their teeth with anger.

'It looks like Gresham will continue to be the head of the family.'

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'We can't do anything about it. After all, Trina will soon work at Bonita Research Institute. Since Gresham has someone as excellent as his daughter to support him, we can't pull him down from the family head position.'

Gresham and Vera exchanged glances, intending to tell the family the truth. However, the rest of the family kept complimenting them. The couple could not get a word in edge-wise.

That was when Fernanda shouted, "Ahh!"

Harold barked, "Why are you yelling? That's rude of you!"

"G-Grandpa, look at this!" she showed him her phone and said, "Trina didn't win the Scientific Research Competition. Toby did!"

"What?! Trina lost?! How is that possible?!"

"It's true! I'm not making it up. Check your phones, and you'll see."

Everyone took their phones and looked at Trina and her parents mockingly.

"How shameless can you guys be? Why would you lie to us?"

Kaysen said, "Damn straight! We kept complimenting Trina, and I told my daughter to learn from her. Should I let my daughter pick up on her shamelessness and lies?"

Ysabel added, "I know I'm not as capable as Trina, but I live an honest life. I'm always truthful and would never claim to be more competent than I am."

Trina blushed with humiliation.

"Hmph!" Harold scoffed. "Bonnie's destructive behavior must've rubbed off on you when she used to stay here. She loved making up stories and boasting about how great she was. Still, she's the miracle doctor.

"At least Bonnie has that going for her. What can you boast about, Trina? You're nothing but a slightly above-average student."

"Your grandpa is right, Trina. Bonnie grew up in the countryside and picked up bad habits from the country folks. However, you carry a genes of a bumpkin even though we raised you. You're no better than her!" Yolanda's words were far harsher than her husband's.

Trina did her best to suppress her feelings. She glanced at her parents, only to see them standing far away. She knew they feared getting dragged into her mess, but even so, she was not exactly heartbroken. She long knew that her parents only ever wanted

to bring glory to themselves. That was why they always defended her even if she was not their biological daughter. Instead, she was the daughter they could brag about.

Although Bonnie might be their biological daughter, she kept doing things to humiliate herself and the family. That was why Gresham and Vera hated her so much and even disowned her. Even the whole family was raised on such values.

They would put their family members on pedestals when they were valuable but treat them like worms when they ceased to be beneficial.

Meanwhile, Bonnie was oblivious to what happened with the Shepards. Even if she knew about it, she would not have cared.

Avril held Bonnie's hands and headed toward the campus gate, saying, "Bonnie, you have to visit my place for dinner tonight. My mom misses you."

Before Bonnie could respond, she saw Toby standing in her way. She asked, "Is there something I can help you with?"

He frowned and said, "You're good. I'll give you that. I'm here to apologize for my earlier attitude."

"It didn't bother me at all."

"I don't get it. You're so good with scientific research. So, why didn't you participate in the competition?"

"I didn't have to. That's that."

His expression turned grim when he heard that.

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"Judging by your tone, you sound like you're underestimating the competition," Toby remarked. "You're overthinking it. I just wanted other people to have the opportunity," Bonnie said truthfully. Toby asked solemnly, "What's the difference between that and underestimating the competition?"

Bonnie's brow knitted as she pondered her words. She said, "You'll see why I didn't participate once you visit the research institute."

"What are you trying to say?" he asked in puzzlement.

"You'll know when you come on the weekend." Bonnie did not want to argue anymore and looked at Avril, saying, "Come on, let's go to your place."

"Sure, let's go. Mom can't wait to see you."

Ivor caught up to them and said, "I'm coming with you guys."

Avril turned and blinked. "Y-You want to come to my place, too?"

"What's wrong? Am I not welcome?"

"N-No, not at all! After all, you're the CEO of the Knight Group. Of course, I'd love to have you as my guest." Avril sighed discreetly.

'I have a hunch that I won't live to see tomorrow if I told him he's not welcome.'

Ivor approached his car and was about to open the passenger door for Bonnie when his phone rang. After answering the call, his expression fell.

Bonnie noticed it and assumed something must have gone wrong. "What's wrong? Did something happen?"

Ivor replied solemnly, "Grandpa passed out. They sent him to the hospital."

"What?! Is Granpa Sigmund okay?!" Bonnie turned and told Avril, "I can't visit your place tonight. Please tell your mom I'm sorry."

"It's okay, Bonnie. Your grandpa should be your priority. Hurry to the hospital, okay? My mom will understand."

"All right, we should get going, Ivor."

Bonnie was distressed and anxious during the drive. When Ivor stopped at a red light, he placed his hand on hers and said, "Don't worry. Grandpa's a good man-I'm sure the universe will look after him. Everything will be okay."

Bonnie felt much calmer when she felt his palm on her fist. "You're right. He's done plenty of good, and the universe will protect him. He'll be okay."

Twenty minutes later, the couple rushed to Sigmund's ward. When they opened the door, they heard his booming voice, "Hahaha! Checkmate, loser! You lost!"

"I didn't lose shit! You think I didn't see it, but you changed the chess piece's position when I looked away earlier," Russell said, exasperated.

Bonnie entered, dumbfounded, as she said, "Y-You seem fine, Grandpa. Why?"

Russell asked, "What did you think would happen to him? He'll outlive us and make everyone's lives more miserable."

"You say that, but didn't he pass out?"

Although it was usually no big deal when people fainted, the same could not be said for older folks. Russell smirked and said, "Do you know why he passed out?" Sigmund blushed. "I don't need you to tell them, you blabbermouth."

"That's why I have to tell them. This old coot fainted because he got worked up over accidentally breaking his favorite clay teapot."

'That's all this is about?' Bonnie and Ivor exchanged glances.

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Chapter 472

"That's hilarious!" Russell laughed heartily. "You fainted over a clay teapot. I wonder how humiliated you'll be if this ever gets out." Sigmund retorted, "You know nothing! If you were a fellow collector, you would understand how much that teapot means to me!" Bonnie was even more confused now. "Is it something special, Grandpa?"

Sigmund sighed and said, "Master Yandel made it. Back then, only three of his handiworks remained. Now, I think mine's the only one left."

Bonnie finally understood the older man's reasons. "No wonder you cared about it so much."

"Do you know about clay teapots as well?" Ivor asked.

She nodded and said humbly, "Just a little bit."

He knew her well enough to decipher her subtext. It meant she was an expert in the area. She said, "Now that we're talking about it, I also owned one of his clay teapots."

As soon as Sigmund heard that, he got excited. "You have it?! Where is it now?"

"I gave it to someone else."

The older man's face fell. At that moment, something popped into Russell's head, and he said, "I heard there will be a charity auction at Achork tomorrow. I think one of the items up for bid is a clay teapot. That said, I'm unsure of its origins."

After leaving the hospital, Bonnie called Hamish, "I need you to go to a charity auction tomorrow and look out for a clay teapot."

"I was just about to call you, Bonnie. One of the older members of my family passed away recently. I have to return to my hometown tonight. I'm sorry, but you'll have to go to the auction yourself." "I'm sorry for your loss. Travel safe, okay?"

Before she hung up, Hamish said, "I almost forgot. You'll have to wear a mask at the auction tomorrow. It's the rules."

She responded, "Gotcha."

The following day, Bonnie wore a mask and arrived at the auction venue in Achork. Benedict also wore a mask and attended the event with her. He said, "Sis, I feel a little unnerved."

"I know you haven't been to an event of this scale, but there's nothing to be nervous about. You'll get used to it in no time," Bonnie tried to soothe her brother.

He asked, "Do you often attend these events?"

"You could say that."

Benedict could not help but wonder, 'Bonnie is just several years older than me, and we both grew up in the countryside. How has she seen and known so much about the world? She even knows all the prominent figures and attends many grand events.'

Suddenly, a black Maybach stopped at the entrance. Floyd opened the car door and said, "Mr. Ivor, we're here."

"Okay." Ivor closed his laptop and exited the car, asking, "Have you investigated thoroughly? Are you sure Master Yandel's clay teapot is up for bid tonight?"

"Certainly, Mr. Ivor. I've triple-confirmed that it's Master Yandel's handiwork. It'll be the last item tonight," Floyd replied confidently.

Ivor trusted him to handle it well. Otherwise, the latter would not have worked for Ivor for this long. Ivor said determinedly, "If that's the case, I'll buy the clay teapot, no matter how much it costs."

Bonnie sat in her private room and waited for the last item to go up for bidding. Meanwhile, her brother observed how the wealthy and powerful raised the bid throughout the auction.

He was shaken as he said, "B-Bonnie, they sold the jade earring for seventy grand! They're not worth that price, are they?"

"That's just how it works here. Every bidder is the wealthiest person in Arvandor. Seventy grand is nothing to them."

"Are you serious?!"

Bonnie gazed at him and said, "Ben, you're my younger brother. You don't need to feel inadequate. Take your outfit, for example. Hamish designed it himself, and it's easily worth eighty grand."

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"Huh?!" Benedict almost bit his tongue from shock. He looked down at his outfit and felt like he was wearing a suit made of money instead of fabric.

Bonnie casually said, "You can bid on anything you like."

Then, one of Orson's paintings appeared onstage with a starting price of four million dollars. Benedict was stunned beyond words, thinking that it was just a painting. 'Just how expensive can it be?'

Bonnie saw his reaction and thought he liked it. She said, "Three million dollars!"

He gasped. "S-Sis?! Do you like that painting?"

She asked back, "I thought you liked it?"

His jaw dropped. Of course, he was moved, but he hastily explained, "N-Not really. I was just surprised that a painting could be worth that much."

"Oh, so that's what it was. I guess I'll stop bidding then. I don't even have to bid on it, either. I know Orson personally, so it wouldn't have been an issue to ask him to make a painting for me."

Benedict was astounded, thinking, 'I know Bonnie's incredible, but the more I learn about her, the less I think I know her.'

Harold and Yolanda heard Bonnie's bid from the auction floor. They glanced toward the private room, and Yolanda asked in exasperation, "Who was that? She's dumping loads of cash where it's unnecessary. Jeez, she could've bought something else to show off her wealth.

Why does she have to steal Master Orson's painting from us? Not only that, but she also raised the price too high. How are we supposed to bid on it now?"

"Lower your voice. The people here are the wealthiest and most influential in their respective cities. We, however, don't belong here. People like us only manage to enter through unconventional means. "That means people with private rooms are worlds above us regarding social status. There are a lot of ears here. If anyone catches us dissing someone we're not supposed to, we might drag our whole family down."

Yolanda shut her mouth and scanned her surroundings. Once she was sure no one had heard her, she sighed in relief and said, "You have a point. I should watch my mouth around here. Still, it's a shame we couldn't get Master Orson's painting."

Just the thought of it upset her. She continued, "It's all Bonnie's fault. Why else would she have torn Master Orson's painting during the party? I still can't believe she rejected us when we asked her to get another painting from him."

"I don't think we can pin everything on Bonnie."

"What about everything that has happened? I don't know how you can still defend that girl. Don't tell me you still consider her one of us."

"That's absurd. Bonnie has brought so much shame to us. I can't even consider her one of us. I hate the fact that our blood runs through her veins. The thought of it makes me want to bleed her out." The disdain in Harold's eyes was evident.

"So, why did you say we can't blame everything on her?"

As he looked at the painting on the stage, he explained, "I think we both know Bonnie can't even ask Master Orson to make a painting for her. She must've used dishonorable means to manipulate his granddaughter.

"Maybe that's why she couldn't do it more than once. Wouldn't she have asked Master Orson to make another painting if she could? Don't you think she would've used it to suck up to us and keep her place in the family?"

"You have a good point. Hold on, aren't you forgetting about something?"

"What do you mean?"

"You're forgetting that Bonnie is the miracle doctor."

He snorted disdainfully. "Miracle Doctor is but a flashy title. She's so young, and she's just a student. Could she have found the time and energy to study medicine?"

"Becoming a successful medical practitioner takes a long time and abundant experience. As far as I'm concerned, she got lucky to earn that title. She must've accidentally treated a big shot." "Didn't she treat your condition as well, honey?"

"Like I said, it's just dumb luck. It was a coincidence that Bonnie knew how to heal me—that's all." He refused to believe Bonnie was so capable.

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Chapter 474

Harold said, "Let's stop talking about Bonnie. It'll just bring us bad luck. Master Orson will host an art exhibition soon anyway. We'll attend it together and butter him up. Then, he might be so delighted that he'll give us one of his paintings for free."

"You're right. We'll have to take the chance to butter him up real nice that day," Yolanda added.

"Achoo!" Bonnie sneezed.

"Are you okay, Sis? Did you catch a cold?" Benedict asked with concern.

"It's nothing. My nose was just itchy." Then, Bonnie looked at the last item for bid tonight, and her eyes sparkled.

After taking the stage and discussing the item for a lengthy time, the host said, "Now that I've said a lot about the clay teapot, you should all know how valuable it is. So, I'll stop talking your ears off and start the bidding."

Ivor gazed at the item as he sat in his private room, thinking, 'That's the same one Grandpa has. I'm sure of it.'

"Floyd, bid until we get it. Price isn't an issue."

"Understood, Mr. Ivor."

The host continued, "We won't sell this item as usual. Instead, we'll trade it off. If you can name an item the seller loves, they will trade this teapot for it."

When the bidders heard that, they clamored. One asked, "Is the seller looking for something specific?"

The host responded, "Anything will do. You can start naming your items. The seller will stop us if they're interested in something you've mentioned."

"I'll offer a lavender jade bracelet."

When one of the bidders made their offer, someone chastised him, "Are you seriously trading that for a priceless clay teapot? The seller will never trade with you unless they have a screw loose." "If you have a better offer, then name it! Let's see what you have!"

"I'll offer a painting of Master Camren."

"Hahaha, his painting is way beneath Master Orson's works. I don't mean to offend anyone, but the teapot's worth will take your breath away. Not even ten pieces of Master Orson's paintings are worthy."

Harold wholeheartedly agreed with that sentiment. He muttered, "Master Orson's paintings are precious and worth collecting, but they're nothing compared to Master Yandel's clay teapot. I wonder who will get that item tonight."

Floyd asked his boss, "Should we make an offer, too?"

Ivor nodded, "Give him villa number twelve in Lenfield Resort."

"Understood," Floyd then shouted the offer, causing everyone, including Bonnie, to glance at Ivor's private room.

She muttered, "It looks like we have a tough opponent."

Benedict said worriedly, "What should we do, Sis?"

Bonnie smirked and waved at her brother confidently.

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Chapter 475

Benedict leaned in and listened to Bonnie. His eyes grew wider by the second.

She asked, "Got it?"

"Y-Yeah, I'll check on it now," he stammered. He then left the private room and shouted at the host onstage, "My mistress wants to make an offer but doesn't want to reveal it to everyone."

The host checked with the organizer privately. After receiving a confirmation, he gestured for Benedict to go to the stage. Everyone, including Ivor, was curious about the mysterious figure who had appeared seemingly out of nowhere.

'What in the world is she offering?! It must be something highly unusual.'

Benedict whispered to the host, "I heard the Hawkins from Olisgow are the organizers for this auction. The head of the family is well over eighty and haunted by a stubborn condition, right? My mistress says she can hire the miracle doctor to treat him for free for the rest of his life."

The host's eyes widened in surprise. He did not need to check with the organizer because he knew the Hawkins would agree. "All right, done!"

He turned and addressed the crowd, "The final item for tonight, Master Yadel's clay teapot, has been sold to the bidder in private room thirteen!"

Immediately after, the crowd discussed the situation, trying to guess who was in that private room. After all, the host looked like he had just heard the most outstanding deal in his life.

Ivor's brows furrowed as he fell silent. When he suddenly stood up, Floyd was confused. It was out of character for Ivor to admit defeat and leave. Floyd asked, "Are we leaving already, Mr. Ivor?" "We're going to private room thirteen," Ivor said as he intimidatingly marched toward the room next door.

Bonnie was leaving when she saw a masked Ivor at the door. She asked, "Can I help you?"

He looked inside and said, "May I have a word with you?"

She would have ignored him if it were anyone else. However, she felt a connection and found it difficult to reject him. She said, "Sure, come in."

Once they sat across from each other, Bonnie looked at him from head to toe. Simultaneously, he stared at the masked Bonnie. Evidently, she altered her voice, but he had an uncanny feeling that she was a young lady.

He thought it was weird that he found something very familiar with her.

Bonnie went straight to the point, "Please, speak your mind."

Ivor averted his gaze and looked at the clay teapot. "That item is everything to me. You can name whatever price or term, and I'll give it to you."

Bonnie knew what his purpose was when she saw him at the door. Still, she said, "I'm sorry, but it also means a lot to me. It isn't something money or properties can compare to. That's why I can't let you have it."

Ivor pursed his lips and asked, "Is there no room for negotiation?"

"I can tell you're determined to have it. I would've given it to you if I had bought it for myself. However, I bought it for an older member of my family. He's old and loves this teapot like no other.

"I'm not exaggerating when I say he might never be happy again if he doesn't have this teapot. He'll die knowing he has lost it."

With how she put it, Ivor knew he had no chance of getting the item. He rose and said, "I'm sorry to have disturbed you." "Wait a minute," Bonnie said, trying to make him stay.

"Is there anything else?"

She said smilingly, "Since you're already here, we might as well have some tea with this clay teapot before you leave."

He would have turned down her offer if it were another woman. Although he could not explain it, he found rejecting the young lady before him hard. After some thought, he said, "Sure, let's."

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Chapter 476

Floyd was surprised that his boss agreed to have tea with the young lady. After all, Ivor had never been particularly friendly with women other than Bonnie.

'Is it her appearance? But she's wearing a mask. Perhaps Mr. Ivor is trying to seduce her to get that teapot! Wait a minute. How can he do that without removing his mask?' Bonnie told Benedict, "Get us some hot water."

"Sure thing." A minute later, he returned with a kettle.

Bonnie took the kettle and poured the hot water into the teapot.

Ivor grew curious and asked, "Aren't you going to add tea leaves inside?"

She smiled and tried to play it off. "You'll see soon enough."

The mysterious woman had intrigued Ivor, but her actions piqued his curiosity even more.

Soon after, a sweet fragrance came from the teapot.

He asked, "Is that the smell of tea? But you didn't add any tea leaves."

Bonnie poured him a cup and explained, "This teapot has been passed down for generations, and its previous owners used it to make tea almost daily. Over time, the fragrance of tea leaves permeated every inch of its interior. I didn't have to add tea leaves to get the fragrance."

"I'm pleasantly surprised. You might look young, but you have extensive knowledge of this."

At that moment, Bonnie appeared in his mind. She was also young and had mastered many things.

Bonnie said humbly, "You're too kind. I only know a little about it, so it's nothing to brag about." "Just a little, huh?"

Ivor mulled over that phrase, and it reminded him of Bonnie again. After all, he had asked if she knew about the clay teapot in the hospital yesterday, to which she replied similarly.

Ivor fell into a momentary trance and immediately wanted to see Bonnie.

'Although I only left her for a day, it feels like centuries for me. She has smitten me. I can't leave her side for the rest of my life now.' Soon after, he returned to his senses and looked at the masked Bonnie from head to toe. He said, "You remind me of a friend of mine." Bonnie's eyes sparkled. "The feeling's mutual. You remind me of my friend, too."

The more they looked at each other, the more they felt the familiarities.

Ivor insisted, "How about we exchange phone numbers? If you're willing to sell this teapot in the future, I'll have a chance to buy it."

She thought about it and pulled out her phone. "Alright. But my family member loves this teapot like no other. Since Master Yandel made it, it'll be harder for him to let it go. There are only three of Master Yandel's handiworks left in the world."

Bonnie avoided telling Ivor about Sigmund breaking one of them, so only two such items remained.

She added, "So, I don't think you can buy it soon."

"There's still hope, right?"

Bonnie raised her brow in response. She noticed his persistence and did not want to rain on his parade. She said, "Let's add each other on WhatsApp."

"Alright." He fiddled with his phone and pulled up his QR code. "There, you can scan it now."

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Chapter 478

Ivor got straight to the point. "The thing is, this lady used the clay teapot, which was passed down for several generations. So, all she had to do was pour some hot water in, and it'd easily make a cup of tea with rich flavor."

Bonnie's eyes widened as she stared at him.

"I-It's you!"

"Yeah, it's me. I admit I'm not surprised because I found you very familiar and approachable. It turns out that it was you all along."

His gaze grew more intense by the second. "You pleasantly surprise me over and over again. Hurry up and tell me about everything you're skilled at. I can't wait to learn everything about you."

"None of you believed me. I'm not skilled in that many areas. If anything, I'm only good in one area," she said, feeling a headache coming on.

"What area is that? Hurry up and tell me! Come on, Bonnie!"

"I don't feel like saying it now."

He looked at her with humor in his eyes. "So, that's what's happening. You said you're good in that one area on purpose. You're trying to keep me on the hook, you naughty girl."

At the next moment, he bit her lips.

"Ouch... What are you doing?"

He didn't bite down that hard, but there was a tingling sensation in her that turned her face red instantly.

"I'm punishing you. You've been naughty, after all." He admired the bite marks on her lips as he spoke.

Her lips were rosy and plump. He wished he could savor its taste again.

She shoved him away from her. "Are you a rabid dog? I can't believe you bit me!"

He touched his lips, reliving the moment when he bit her. She noticed it, and her face turned even redder.

"Get away from me!" She walked past him and left angrily.

Ivor watched her with a smile. He couldn't resist chuckling out loud.

Bonnie was still within earshot. When she heard his chuckles, she eagerly wanted to punch him.

'No, I know him too well. If I do that, he might take it as a sign that I love him. He's going to ask me to punch him a few more times to demonstrate how much I love him.' She held her forehead and thought, 'Forget it. I'm not going to get into a whole thing with that pervert.'

It was the weekend. She went to her research institute and sorted through the recent information.

"The new guy's going to be here soon, Ms. Bonita. Do you want to meet him in person?" Professor Terry asked.

"Sure. Bring him to me when he arrives."

"Understood."

Toby was standing outside the research institute as his heart pounded with excitement.

'This is the place every researcher in Arvandor wants to be! I used to fantasize about this. If I get into the research institute, I'll have no regrets for the rest of my life! Toby clutched his left chest. His heart was pounding like crazy. Taking a deep breath, he headed toward the gate.

"I'll need to see the visitor pass," the security guard uttered.

"I-I'm the winner of the Scientific Research Competition in Pyralis University. I-I'm here..." He grew more nervous the more he talked.

Normally, he was calm and under control. However, he was still young. So, he wasn't that experienced and composed.

That was when Terry walked over.

"You're here at last. Come on, it's time to go inside. Ms. Bonita is waiting for you."

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Chapter 479

"D-Did you just say that Ms. Bonita is waiting for me?!" Toby stuttered again. This time, it was even worse than the last.

Terry thought to himself, 'I can't blame him, though. After all, this is Ms. Bonita we're talking about here! He must've been overjoyed!'

Toby felt a spring in his steps as he walked. He even felt a little light-headed. He still had not come back to his senses.

He followed Terry's lead and arrived at Bonnie's research lab. She was going through some documents and comparing reactions from different test tubes.

Worried that he might disturb her, Terry spoke softly. "The new guy's here, Ms. Bonita."

"Alright. Got it." Putting down the document, she turned around and walked over to them.

"I-It's you!"

Toby's composure was gone as he gaped at her.

'This is unbelievable! The great Bonita is a student at Pyralis University. If her identity went public, everyone at the university would be shocked, too.' She looked at him with a smile. "Do you understand why I answered you the way I did that day?"

"I'm sorry!" He said, "I shouldn't have talked to you that way."

She waved her hands. "I don't blame you for that. You only talked to me in that manner because you didn't know any better. Don't worry about it."

Her understanding and thoughtfulness gave him the impression that she was different. It made him respect her all the more for it.

"From here on out, you'll work as my assistant."

Terry was so jealous of the young man when he heard it. He held and squeezed Toby's shoulder.

"Good for you, young man! You've got some incredible luck! Your ancestors must be so proud of you now. I would swap bodies with you in a heartbeat if I could!"

'Judging by how hard the professor is squeezing my shoulder, I don't think he's just saying that to make me feel better. He's sincerely jealous of me!

'Well, I do realize how big this opportunity is. I was just a slightly talented student before today. Now, I'm the science prodigy's assistant. This is such an honorable chance!' The next day, Toby was surrounded by a group of fellow university students.

"Did you see Ms. Bonita, Toby? What does she look like? Is she hot?"

"Is that the biggest question you have? Come on. Ms. Bonita isn't a celebrity. What does that matter?"

"That's right. Ms. Bonita is talented and capable. She doesn't have to rely on her good looks to do her job."

Toby couldn't help but think to himself, 'Well, fellows. Bonita could rely on her good looks if she wanted to.'

"Hurry up and say something. Did you see Ms. Bonita? What was she like? How old is she?" One of the female students asked.

Then Bonnie spoke up behind her. "You're in my way, pal. Please let me through."

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Chapter 480

The female student looked at Bonnie impatiently. "Can't you see I'm talking to Toby? For crying out loud, I'm asking him about Ms. Bonita. Don't you want to hear what he has to say?" Another student chimed in. "Forget about it. Bonnie has zero talent. Why would she be interested in this? She might not even know who Ms. Bonita is."

"Really? Ms. Bonita is a world-renowned researcher. Bonnie is one of the students at Pyralis University. She has to know!"

"What's so surprising about that? You're forgetting something, guys. She's from the countryside. Who knows what backwater village she came from? It makes sense that she's never heard of Ms. Bonita." Bonnie was getting sick and tired of it. "You were in my way, and I politely asked you to let me through. Do you have to turn everyone on me? Are we enemies? Or, is it because you're an unreasonable brat?" "You're the unreasonable one! Even your parents are ashamed of you!" The female student waved her fists as if she were about to fight Bonnie.

Then she heard Toby's voice from behind her. "Excuse me."

The female student could ignore Bonnie any time of the day, but she was not going to rebel against Toby. So, she stepped aside obediently.

He walked over to Bonnie and said respectfully, "It's about time for lunch. I'd like to grab a bite with you. Do you have the time?" Everyone was rooted to the spot.

The elusive, handsome guy asked Bonnie out. Moreover, he spoke so warmly toward her. What on earth was happening here?

Bonnie nodded and responded, "Sure. Let's have lunch together."

Then, they walked side by side and headed to the cafeteria.

Everyone started muttering again when they watched the duo walk further away.

"Do you think they're a couple?"

"That's not possible! Toby is one of the most handsome guys on our campus. Moreover, he's cold and distant. As far as I know, he focused all his attention on his studies. He had never given a thought to the girls who flirted with him.

"Rumor has it that he's not interested in girls. Why would someone like him fall in love with Bonnie?"

"What's so strange about it? You're forgetting something, guys. Bonnie has dethroned Selina and is proudly wearing the title of the most beautiful lady on campus.

"You might not like how arrogant she is and resent her background, but the fact is that she's going to be massively successful if she enters the entertainment industry. She's just that gorgeous." That was a sound argument!

"So, are you telling me that they're an item now? Oh, my! This is a big scoop! I have to report this on the campus newspaper."

Just as she pulled out her phone, another handsome guy showed up next to Bonnie.

It was the other attractive guy at Pyralis University, Coleman.

His eyes were filled with affection when he looked at her. "Where are you headed to, Bonnie?"

"Toby said he's buying me lunch," she responded truthfully.

Coleman knew Toby had won the Scientific Research Competition. Naturally, that meant Toby had seen Ms. Bonita.

"Mind if I join?"

She shrugged. "I'm not the one who's paying. Ask him."

Toby responded casually, "Suit yourself."

The three of them walked toward the cafeteria.

Someone gulped out loud. "Oh, my heavens. What did I just see? The most beautiful girl is walking between the two most handsome guys on campus."

"I don't think that's the biggest takeaway here. Didn't you hear their conversation? Coleman wanted to join them for lunch, but Bonnie said to ask Toby. It was up to Toby if Coleman could join in, and he said yes.

"Is Bonnie going to have both of them for herself?"

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Chapter 481

As soon as Selina arrived, she overheard this. "What are you talking about?! Coleman and Bonnie are just old acquaintances."

"So they knew each other long ago. Oh, I remember now. Selina had a piano competition with Bonnie and was miserably defeated. Coleman left with Bonnie then."

"So you mean Bonnie and Coleman are childhood sweethearts. That makes Toby the newcomer."

"That's an interesting way to put it! But who knows if Bonnie will ultimately choose Coleman or Toby?"

"Let's make a bet then to guess who she ends up with?"

"That sounds fun and exciting, but we should add another option."

"What option?"

"That they all end up together."

"Haha, that's possible."

The discussion was heated and lively, with everyone having a good time. Selina glared in Bonnie's direction as she stood aside, feeling so furious she could spit fire.

'I may not be as skilled in piano as you, Bonnie, but that doesn't mean I can't get back at you. Just wait. I'll make sure to send you to hell, never to return. Coleman belongs to me, and me alone.'

The affair involving Bonnie, Coleman, and Toby became widely known in less than a day.

Ivor also received the news. He was sat at the dining table, staring at Bonnie with a deeply resentful gaze.

Bonnie planned to ignore him, but the intensity of his gaze made her uncomfortable.

Hence, she met his eyes after putting down her fork. "How can you be so jealous?"

"Can you blame me for this? I wasn't planning to be jealous, but look at the comments on the campus forum. They've even started betting on who you'll end up with." Ivor pushed his phone toward Bonnie as he spoke.

Bonnie couldn't be bothered to look, so she pushed the phone away.

"What others say has nothing to do with me. Can I stop them from saying things? Coleman and Toby are both my friends. If I can't even have a meal with my friends without worrying about what others will say, wouldn't I live a tiresome life?"

"Anyway, I'm not happy, no matter what you say. I won't be able to have dinner tonight unless you kiss me."

Bonnie couldn't help but laugh. Ivor was sulking like a child. "You're an aloof CEO. Aren't you afraid of being laughed at if this gets out?"

Ivor replied, "If I can't even do this with my fiancée without worrying about what others will say, wouldn't I live a tiresome life?"

"I can't be bothered with you. Whether you eat or not, it's up to you." Bonnie picked up her fork again and continued eating.

One minute passed, and the man continued to stare at her.

Five minutes passed, and he remained as steady as a mountain, staring at her.

Ten minutes passed, and Bonnie seriously suspected the man had become a boulder.

Bonnie admitted she was defeated and compromised a little in the end.

"Kissing you is impossible. Give me another option."

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Chapter 482

Ivor's lips curled up slightly as he pointed to the dishes on the table, "You can feed me."

The corner of her mouth twitched, then she buried her head and resumed eating.

Just as Ivor was feeling disappointed, Bonnie suddenly stuffed a forkful of spinach into his mouth.

It was the food he hated most, and she did it on purpose.

Bonnie smirked and asked, "Weren't you asking me to feed you? Well, I just did, but now you don't want to eat. Are you disgusted because you think my fork is dirty?" Ivor started chewing the food.

"Mmm, it's delicious since it was fed by my honey herself."

Bonnie inhaled deeply. She was truly at a loss with this man.

After dinner, she received a call from Jim.

"I just got a call from my family. My dad got into a car accident and is hospitalized. I need to go back for a while."

Bonnie became nervous upon hearing this. She asked, "How is the situation? Do you need me to help?"

"No need to trouble you. The situation isn't particularly serious."

"Don't be so courteous with me. You have to notify me if the situation gets worse."

"Okay." Jim said, "But my hometown is too far from here. It may take a week to come back."

"You don't need to rush back. Just stay with your family."

"But SR League received a message a few days ago that someone would assassinate you. Although there hasn't been any activity, I'm afraid it's the calm before the storm." Bonnie smiled indifferently. "We'll cross the bridge when we come to it. Besides, there are other people to assist me, right?"

"I've arranged for Keenan to protect you. He'll be able to take over in a few days."

"Okay, you arrange it then."

Bonnie knew Jim wouldn't be able to relax and return to his hometown if she didn't let him arrange it.

Just as the call ended, another call came in.

"Bonwick, has anyone been bothering you lately?" asked Orpheus.

Bonnie was slightly stunned. "Why are you suddenly asking this?"

Orpheus didn't know her identity as "Ms. Bonita," nor did he know about the assassination attempt on her. This question preplexed her.

"Oh! Tsk-" Orpheus clicked his tongue.

His demeanor piqued Bonnie's curiosity even more.

"If you have something to say, just say it."

"Okay," Orpheus sighed. "It's my ex-girlfriend. She wants to reconcile with me."

This topic piqued Bonnie's interest even more. "And?"

"It's just that our scandal back then caused quite a stir. Although I clarified that you're my nephew's fiancée, my ex-girlfriend insists that we're having an affair. I warned her not to bother you, but she threatened to settle scores with you!"

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Chapter 483

Bonnie was at a loss for words.

"So, are you trying to stir up trouble for me?"

"How could that be? Oh, wait. It seems like I am trying to stir up trouble." Orpheus realized belatedly.

"Since you've broken up, why does she care about your current girlfriend?"

"Because I was the one who initiated the breakup. I told her that her temper was too awful. Despite that, she refused to break up.

"I had to pull out my big move and tell her she wasn't worthy of me, so she was furious. She wanted to see what kind of person is worthy of me. That's why she's targeting you now." Bonnie finally understood.

"Bonwick, I'm not joking with you. She's not simple. Several men in her family were leaders in the military, and she inherited her grandfather's temperament. She's ruthless and even a bit sinister. You must be careful to avoid falling into her trap," Orpheus said solemnly.

"Okay, I got it. You don't have to worry. She'll be the one who suffers if she tried anything." Bonnie couldn't help but tease, "Will you feel sorry for her if I do something to her?"

"As if!"

Bonnie ended the call with a laugh and headed to bed.

The next day, as soon as the sky brightened, Bonnie was awakened by a knock on the door.

"Who is it so early in the morning?"

Bonnie opened the door in confusion and asked, "Avril? Why are you up so early?"

"It's for you!"

"For me? What happened?"

"Something huge!" Avril took a deep breath and continued, "Bonnie, you must not go out today!"

"What happened exactly?"

Avril pulled up Twitter on her phone. "Here, see for yourself!"

Bonnie took the phone in confusion. After seeing the content, she was slightly surprised.

Sienna McLeod, the queen of the music industry, was spreading on Twitter that Orpheus belonged to her and no one could take him away. She was the ex-girlfriend he spoke of. She also posted recent photos of herself, Ivor, and Orpheus at the bar.

Sienna tagged Orpheus with the caption, "You claim she's your nephew's fiancée, but do you think I'd fall for that? I know your nephew well. He's never interested in women, and everyone says he's gay. If you're going to lie, at least come up with something better."

As soon as this tweet was posted, internet users went crazy in the comments section, particularly Orpheus's followers.

"I was woken up early in the morning by this news. This is too juicy! The man in the photo is Orpheus's nephew, and although his face is obscured, he looks pretty handsome. I didn't expect him to be gay! How exciting!"

"Aren't you focusing on the wrong thing? The point is that the trashy expelled heiress is trying to seduce Orpheus!"

"She's shameless! She tempted Orpheus!"

"I see that Bonnie forced Orpheus to issue the clarification announcement."

"Are you suggesting that Bonnie knows Orpheus's weakness, so she used it to blackmail him into issuing such a clarification?"

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Chapter 484

"This is just despicable! How shameless! People like her shouldn't even exist in this world!" "Agreed!"

Almost all the comments online were filled with curses towards her.

Avril snatched the phone from her hand as Bonnie was about to continue scrolling down.

"I shouldn't have made you feel bad by telling you about this. Bonnie, don't overthink it. Let the PR department of your research institute handle this. If it doesn't work, just reveal your identity as Ms. Bonita. Let's see if they dare say anything then."

Bonnie remained calm and said lightly, "There's no need to go that far. Besides, I don't care about this matter at all."

"Are you saying you're not going to deal with this? You're just going to let it continue to escalate?"

"It's not that I'm too lazy to deal with it, but I've heard many of these remarks since I was young and no longer find them offensive. Even if I win the argument with these idiots, I will only end up dirtying myself." Bonnie stretched lazily and added, "I don't have class this morning, so I'll sleep a bit more before going to campus."

Seeing Bonnie lie back on the bed as if nothing had happened, Avril couldn't resist admiring her. Avril's parents often said Bonnie's composure was unmatched among her peers, and even the elders admired it. If something like this happened to Avril, she would probably have high blood pressure from the rage and be desperately fighting back.

But what Bonnie said was right. Getting angry and losing sleep over these idiots did not seem worthwhile.

Avril felt even more admiration for Bonnie as she glanced at her again.

Bonnie went to class in the afternoon. There were discussions and whispers around her as she made her way to the lecture hall. "She still has the nerve to come to campus after doing such disgusting things. If it were me, I would've stayed home."

"Yeah, look at her, acting as if nothing happened. Her mental toughness is high."

"The mental toughness of shameless people has always been high."

"That makes sense. Speaking of which, I don't understand why the school doesn't expel Bonnie."

Upon hearing this, Avril wanted to shout at them. 'Expel her? Have you ever seen a university president expelling themselves?'

"Bonnie..." Avril turned around and saw Bonnie engrossed in a difficult book.

Bonnie's composure reminded Avril of Tibetan monks, who sat still on elevated platforms during meditation.

The classmates continued their discussion.

"Why don't we petition the school to expel Bonnie? Let's tell them that she's a bad influence and a corrupt character."

"Let it go. I have a friend on the editorial board. He saw Bonnie intentionally bump into Toby Davis on the day of the Scientific Research Competition.

"Then he took a photo and posted it on the campus website, saying that she tried to seduce Toby with her looks. Guess what happened?"

"What?"

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Chapter 485

Chapter 485

"My friend got blocked as soon as he posted it on the campus website, and then the dean called him in. They said it was a despicable act to accuse Bonnie of seducing Toby without evidence. They made him write a ten-thousand-word essay reflecting on his actions."

"What? A ten-thousand-word essay? T-This is too crazy! Did he write it?"

"If he hadn't, he would've been expelled."

"Is it that serious? From what you're saying, the school is protecting Bonnie."

"That's unlikely. Even if Bonnie had good grades and was a top student, the school wouldn't shield such a petty individual. It's probably because Bonnie attends our school, and they will only punish her if there's enough evidence. After all, it's a matter of the school's reputation."

"That makes sense. So even if we collectively petition the school's higher-ups, it won't be effective unless we have solid evidence that Bonnie seduced or threatened Orpheus, right?"

"That's probably the case, but you don't need to worry. The wheels of justice grind slowly but surely. Bonnie's mischief will catch up with her sooner or later. Let's wait and see."

"Exactly!"

Hearing that, Avril suddenly stood up.

Bonnie reached out and pulled Avril down. "They're right. The wheels of justice grind slowly but surely. Those who cause trouble may be arrogant for a while, but they'll eventually get their comeuppance."

"Ahh!" Avril grabbed her hair in frustration. "Let's go. I'll treat you to something to eat. We'll feast outside and forget about all these unpleasant things."

"Sure," Bonnie smiled.

They dined until 9 p.m. Both of them had some drinks, and their faces were slightly flushed.

"Avril, do you want me to escort you home?"

"No, I'm fine. I can see the way. By the way, why isn't Jim nearby?" Avril looked around curiously.

"He went back to his hometown," Bonnie replied.

"What about your husband?"

Bonnie glanced at her speechlessly. "He isn't my husband yet."

"Oh, very soon, then." Avril joked, "Seriously though, why didn't he come today?"

"He's on a business trip to the neighboring city. He probably won't be back until tomorrow afternoon."

"I see. I wondered why it was so quiet when we had dinner today. Normally, your phone buzzes nonstop whenever you have dinner with someone, whether a man or a woman."

"Alright, stop teasing me. Go home quickly." After waving her hand toward the road and hailing a cab for Avril, Bonnie jogged back instead of catching one herself."

She received a call from Jim while jogging.

"I've arrived home."

"That's good. How's Mr. Ray?"

"Just as I said before, nothing serious. I'll be back in a few days."

Jim's voice became serious as he said, "I just got word from William that the person who previously posted tasks in the SR League has now gone to other leagues to post tasks."

"The SR League can't act, but the other leagues don't know your identity. Even if they do, they may be blinded by money."

Bonnie frowned slightly. "Why didn't William mention this earlier?"

"Perhaps he was afraid of worrying you."

"Okay," Bonnie nodded. Just then, she suddenly turned her head and shouted.

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Chapter 486

"Who's there?!"

Bonnie heard faint movements behind her just now.

She had picked a lonely running route in an attempt to find peace. However, it was evident that several footsteps were behind her roughly 20 to 30.

Jim instantly became nervous and asked, "What's happening? Is it the assassin?!"

If he had known that this would happen as soon as he left, he would not have returned to his hometown.

"I don't know. Someone is hiding. I'll hang up first to avoid distractions," Bonnie said, then she hung up the phone.

Jim was anxious. Keenan, who he had carefully selected, would take a couple days to get to Bonnie. It seemed that Jim had to call him.

Jim didn't dare to waste another second and immediately dialed the phone.

Bonnie stared intensely at the bushes and yelled, "Why are you hiding like this?"

No one answered her.

Bonnie narrowed her eyes. "If you don't come out now, I'll leave."

This time, they all came out of hiding.

Bonnie was surprised that none of these people's faces were disguised, and the leader was stunningly beautiful.

'Why does this woman look so familiar? I've seen her somewhere before.'

The woman was dressed in a formidable outfit and looked at Bonnie with a cold expression, her chin slightly raised.

"Are you Bonnie?"

"Who are you people?"

Bonnie's intuition told her that these were not the assassins Jim mentioned. Assassins would not show their faces so openly, nor would they waste time with so much talking.

"How dare you ask that? Don't you know who I am? Stop pretending." The woman's voice was full of anger.

Bonnie chuckled. "I admit, you're not bad-looking, but not to the extent that everyone knows you. I don't know you."

"Watch it—" The woman paused and took a deep breath. "Fine, I see! That's how you managed to deceive Orpheus. Not everyone possesses the same level of guile and deception."

"Oh. You're Sienna, Orpheus's ex-girlfriend. You made a big deal online to get me to leave him alone. But let me tell you right now, Orpheus and I aren't a couple. We're just friends, so you better leave now with your people."

"Haha! Do you think you can just dismiss me like that? Are you looking down on my intelligence?"

Bonnie looked at Sienna contemptuously, "Honestly, I do look down on your intelligence now."

Sienna narrowed her eyes and said, "No one dares speak to me like this. You have guts. Of course, I'm not admiring your courage. I just pity you because you're about to pay a painful price for those words." Sienna raised her hand toward the people behind her.

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Chapter 487

"Force her to kneel in front of me." Sienna commanded.

"Yes." Two men approached Bonnie and reached for her shoulders.

Bonnie's eyes blazed with sharp coldness as she grabbed both of their wrists. With a forceful twist downward, the sound of bones breaking echoed through the air. "Ahh!" The two men erupted into screams akin to slaughtered pigs.

But that wasn't all. Bonnie swiftly kicked at their kneecaps.

Again, two more cracking sounds. The legs of the two men were broken, leaving them kneeling on the ground.

'This was what happens if you dare to make me kneel!'

Bonnie met Sienna's eyes with a neutral expression.

"I heard you come from a military background. Judging by your physique, you must have been practicing combat since childhood. Are you willing to fight me?"

"Hmph! Useless!" Sienna said angrily at the two kneeling bodyguards. She then took off her coat and revealed her arms and legs, which were more muscular than the average woman's.

"I did underestimate your strength, but your skills are nothing but child's play. They might work against those weaklings, but not against me. If you dare to challenge me, be prepared to be crippled!"

Sienna clenched her fists and charged forward. Bonnie gave her a single shove that sent her stumbling back several paces.

"I didn't expect you to know boxing, but even so, you're still no match for me!"

Sienna turned her fists into claws and aimed for Bonnie's face. It was obvious she intended to disfigure Bonnie's face.

Bonnie's expression turned colder. She advanced, meeting Sienna's fierce attack head-on. She blocked Sienna's wrist with her left hand, then quickly twisted it downward.

At the same time, she used her right palm to strike fiercely at Sienna's neck.

'Uh oh.' Sienna felt a strong sense of danger and struggled with all her might to break free.

Just when she thought she had escaped, Bonnie's hand once again wrapped around her right wrist. No matter how she struggled, she couldn't shake off Bonnie's grip.

She felt like a marionette, being manipulated by Bonnie's twists and turns.

The subordinates saw that Sienna was unable to fight back, no matter how much Bonnie toyed with her.

This shocked them to the core.

For many years, the McLeod family was involved in the military and produced a number of well-known generals. The descendants of the McLeod family, regardless of gender, were all subjected to rigorous training since childhood.

Furthermore, every member of the McLeod family possessed combat proficiency.

Despite being a woman, Sienna was the most formidable of her generation. And yet, she was totally outmatched against Bonnie in a fight.

'Just how skilled is this Bonnie? Who exactly is she?'

"Ahh!" Sienna continued to scream wildly. She had never experienced such humiliation in her life.

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Chapter 488

Sienna noticed a strong smell of alcohol emanating from Bonnie's body. Looking at Bonnie's complexion, it was clear she was somewhat drunk.

Sienna was even more infuriated, knowing that her opponent was drunk and that Sienna was still not a match for her.

"Let go of me! I told you to let go!"

Bonnie smirked and laughed. "Who said you're not like those useless guys? It seems you're even worse than your subordinates."

"How dare you insult me?!" Sienna's face turned purple with anger.

Bonnie teased, "You're inferior in skill, so I've insulted you. Do you have any other comments?"

"Y-You..." Sienna couldn't complete a full sentence in her rage.

"If you want me to let go, you can ask nicely. But you must kneel and beg."

She was never one to suffer insults quietly, and her principle had always been, 'Don't offend me, and I won't offend you.' Bonnie would never forget how Sienna directed her bodyguards to force her to kneel.

"Dream on!" Sienna roared in frustration.

Bonnie narrowed her eyes, and in the next moment, she abruptly dislocated Sienna's arm.

"Ahh!" With an agonized cry, Sienna's arm was hanging limp at her side.

"Will you kneel?" Bonnie pressed down on Sienna from a position of dominance.

Gasping for breath, Sienna turned her head and shouted, "You're all dead! Hurry up and attack! I'll make my grandfather strip all your team positions!"

Hearing this, her subordinates didn't dare to hesitate any longer and immediately took action.

Bonnie looked unfazed as she watched approximately 20 people charge toward her. Instead, she appeared excited.

Yes, Jim protected her recently. She rarely had the opportunity to demonstrate her skills as she did now.

With the alcohol fueling her, Bonnie charged forward.

"You don't value your life!" Sienna mocked.

However, after five minutes passed, Sienna's mouth widened in disbelief. She had not expected a young girl like Bonnie to stand up to multiple attackers.

"All of you, attack her with all you've got! Even if she's formidable, she's just one person. Eventually, she's going to run out of energy! That's when your chance will come!" Bonnie burst into laughter upon hearing this.

"Judging from your fighting skills, you must all be in the military. Yet you're willing to act like thugs and attack innocent civilians. If this matter gets out, won't you lose your jobs?"

Sienna's subordinates hesitated. They did not want to deal with a young girl, especially with two or three dozen grown men attacking at once. As she said, what would become of their reputations if this matter got out? Their jobs would surely be in jeopardy.

Sensing their hesitation, Sienna shouted, "What are you afraid of? We're the only ones here. As long as you shut her up, who would ever find out?"

Bonnie's sharp gaze swept around, frightening those about to charge forward.

"Listen up, Sienna. Just because your grandfather was a former general does not give you the right to treat others like dirt. Your grandfather, Leo McLeod, was a legendary figure on the battlefield. Do you know the consequences if he knew what you were doing?"

After such a fierce battle, Bonnie's stamina was significantly depleted. Otherwise, she would not be talking to delay.

"Did Orpheus tell you about my grandfather? It seems you're quite special to him. But what can you do? You're just a small fry with no chance of meeting my grandfather. Even if you did, I'd deny everything. Who do you think my grandfather would believe? You or me?"

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Chapter 489

Sienna didn't hide her arrogance. She regarded Bonnie as an ant and herself as the apex predator. Bonnie pursed her lips lightly and confidently said, "Of course, your grandfather would believe in me!"

"Hahaha!" Sienna laughed, then abruptly said in a cold voice, "Attack, disfigure her face. You have 10 minutes. If you can't do it, then pack up and leave!"

This statement shocked her subordinates, and they looked at Bonnie like hunters preparing to capture prey.

One of them yelled, "Let's fight to the death!"

"Alright!"

Bonnie noticed their morale had skyrocketed, and even detected a murderous intent emanating from them.

She became more vigilant, keeping her eyes and ears peeled in all directions.

"Charge!"

Sienna's subordinates surged forward.

Bonnie applied every fighting technique she had learned. She demonstrated mastery in all disciplines and left everyone, including Sienna, astonished.

As she watched her subordinates fight valiantly but fail to defeat Bonnie, Sienna's anxiety began to rise.

Although this location was remote, that did not mean no one passed by. With all of the commotion, they might attract the attention of the police and miss out on this rare opportunity.

Sienna's eyes lit up with a sinister smile as she pulled out a special bottle from her bag.

Then she pushed past her subordinates and sprayed the bottle's contents on Bonnie's face.

Despite being on guard, Bonnie was unable to withstand the onslaught from all sides. She did not evade in time and was sprayed in the face. Her eyes burned with pain, and she could not see clearly. She instantly guessed that what Sienna sprayed was pepper spray.

"Sienna, your actions are a disgrace to the honorable reputation of the McLeod family. It is one thing for so many people to attack me, but to launch a sneak attack... with pepper spray no less!" Bonnie's voice was full of mockery.

Her subordinates were all trained to the highest military standards. They were all ashamed of Sienna's actions and lowered their heads.

"Enough nonsense. Are you just trying to delay time?" Sienna didn't feel embarrassed about her actions at all. She ordered her subordinates again, "What are you all standing around for? Attack!"

No matter how she shouted, those subordinates remained motionless. Sienna knew it was because of what Bonnie said.

"Useless! You're all useless! Then I'll do it myself!"

Sienna pulled out a dagger from her boot and brought it toward Bonnie's face.

Bonnie could not see clearly and had to rely on her ears to determine the source of the sound. She narrowly evaded Sienna's rapid attacks.

"Damn it, damn it, damn it!" Sienna attacked dozens of times in a row without hitting once, driving herself to the brink of madness.

"I refuse to believe I can't hit you!"

Just then, Bonnie tripped over something with her heel and lost her balance.

A perfect opportunity! Sienna swung the dagger at Bonnie's face without hesitation.

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Chapter 490

Bonnie quickly retreated and raised her arm to block her face.

Her sleeve was torn, and a shallow cut was made on her arm.

Sienna's anger rose as she looked at Bonnie's cut, which appeared so tiny that a cat's claw might have caused it.

She had used all her strength and force, but only managed to scratch Bonnie's arm.

Bonnie's anger had reached a boiling point, although she knew her injury wasn't that bad by the smell of the blood.

"You've provoked me," Bonnie said icily.

"Haha! How amusing. You are still so arrogant. It seems I was too gentle with that stab."

Sienna raised the knife and brought it toward Bonnie's face again.

Bonnie didn't dodge. She caught Sienna's wrist and snatched the dagger from her. Bonnie twisted Sienna's wrist and, using only her blurry vision, brought the dagger close to Sienna's face. Sienna nearly passed out as she paled with fear.

Just as the sharp knife was about to cut her face, a hand suddenly slapped Bonnie's hand.

Bonnie was so exhausted that she couldn't maintain her balance with this sudden attack. She fell back into a solid chest.

She knew he had arrived.

"Why did you come? Didn't you go to the neighboring city?"

"Don't talk for now. Let me check your body."

Ivor pursed his thin lips, his face frigid. He looked like he had just crawled out of hell.

After seeing the wound on Bonnie's arm, he felt extremely anxious. "You're injured!"

"It's nothing serious, just a little scratch."

"Just a little scratch? Look, you're bleeding!"

"Uh... Yes! It's quite serious. Hurry up and take me to the hospital, or the wound won't heal."

"Do you still have the mood to joke?" Ivor knew Bonnie didn't want him to worry.

Bonnie was a bit amused. "I'm telling the truth, and I feel like the cut has already healed."

"You never know how to take care of yourself. Do you know how much it hurts me to see you like this? Even if a single hair of yours is harmed, it hurts me terribly! If you don't care about yourself, can you at least consider me? How can I live without you?"

Ivor gazed affectionately at the girl in his arms. While looking at her pale face, he felt distressed.

Bonnie didn't know how many times this man touched her. She couldn't see Ivor's expression, but she could guess from his affectionate tone.

On the other end, the middle-aged man who had just slapped Bonnie's hand looked at Sienna with concern.

"Is your arm broken?"

"Uncle Steve! She's the one who broke it! You have to avenge me!" Sienna shouted furiously.

Steve McLeod looked fiercely at Bonnie and yelled, "How dare you touch someone from the McLeod family?! You're asking for death!"

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Chapter 491

Ivor swiftly pulled Bonnie behind him.

"Let's see who dares touch my woman!"

Steve stopped abruptly and shifted his gaze between Bonnie and Ivor.

"Uncle Steve, he's lying to you! Bonnie is not his girlfriend at all. He's just saying that to help Orpheus!"

Despite her words, Sienna was genuinely surprised. Ivor went to such lengths to assist Orpheus, publicly declaring Bonnie his woman and holding her in his arms. Steve felt relieved by Sienna's words.

"Mr. Ivor, this matter has nothing to do with you. Bonnie injured my niece, and this grudge must be settled."

Ivor narrowed his deep, unfathomable eyes and spoke coldly, "As I said, she's my woman. Let's see who dares to touch her."

"In that case, don't blame me for being rude. How can the McLeod family remain strong in the military if this issue spreads? People will think they can bully us!"

Bonnie laughed and replied, "Clearly, the McLeod family picked a fight with me and brought so many people to bully just one person. It's bad enough to gang up on someone, but to use pepper spray when you can't win?"

"You've turned me, the victim, into a villain. How can you lead soldiers to defend the country? You'll only tarnish the country's image. I have one word for you embarrassing!"

Steve clenched his fists in anger. He said, "What a slick-mouthed girl! Watch how I tear your mouth apart today!"

"Floyd," Ivor called out lightly.

The next moment, Floyd led all the elite bodyguards of the Knight family over.

Steve knew he was outnumbered and stopped in his tracks.

"Fine! This matter isn't over. We'll settle the score when we get home!" Steve then turned and left with Sienna.

"Hold on." Ivor's expression was even colder and more brutal than before. "You're just going to leave after hurting my woman?"

Steve's anger surged after glancing at Bonnie's arm injury. "What kind of injury is that? It's just a shallow cut, and the blood has already dried. But have you seen my niece? Her arm is broken! I'll settle scores with you later."

"What's your niece compared to Bonnie? Even if she died, it's not worth a single hair of my woman!" Ivor's voice was intimidating.

Even Steve, who had been fighting on the battlefield for years, felt hesitant to meet his gaze.

"My niece is a precious angelic girl, while Bonnie is just worthless!"

Suddenly, a surge of hostility emanated from Ivor.

"If that's the case, let's not wait to settle this later. Let's settle it now."

He glanced at Floyd and said, "Attack them, especially Steve and Sienna. Turn their faces into pig heads!"

"How dare you?" Steve squeezed out the words between his teeth.

Floyd and the others surrounded them with fists raised. Without a word, they began to strike.

Steve took a lot of punches as he was overpowered by attacks coming from all directions.

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Chapter 492

"You servants dare lay a hand on me?! You're asking for death!" Steve roared in anger.

Floyd and the others were not afraid because they knew that Bonnie was their boss's life. No! She was even more critical than their boss's life. They continued to hit without hesitation. "Ah-Uncle Steve! Help, help! Don't hit my face!" With her face swollen and bruised, Sienna cried out in pain.

Just hearing these continuous cries of agony, Bonnie knew how brutal the scene was.

"The McLeod family is old friends with the Knight family. Is this necessary?"

Ivor's arm was around Bonnie's waist, supporting her gently so as not to cause more pain.

"If Grandpa knew that the McLeod family was bullying you, I believe he would support me." Ivor paused and asked, "Are you sympathizing with them?"

Bonnie chuckled. "Do you think I'm such a sympathetic person?"

"Yes, you are. In my eyes, you are delicate and helpless, like a flower swaying in the wind," Ivor said seriously.

This comment almost made Floyd forget how to hit people.

'What a joke! Boss, didn't you see Sienna's dislocated arm? Or her thugs that Bonnie beat up? They have broken ribs and noses. And Bonnie was almost evenly matched, despite her impaired vision. This is downright wild, isn't it?'

Bonnie's face flushed as she gazed at Ivor with her lips slightly parted. She was usually described as a tough girl. His description of her as a helpless girl made her speechless.

"Just take me home. I have some medicine and want to clean my eyes first."

As time passed, Bonnie's eyes became more and more uncomfortable.

"I think I'll take you to the hospital instead," Ivor said anxiously. "There's a hospital up ahead. It's only a five-minute drive."

"Okay, let's go to the hospital then."

Bonnie was soon taken into the examination room.

Ivor waited anxiously at the door when Jim called.

"What's the situation? Wait, why are you answering the phone? Where's Bonnie? Why isn't she answering the phone?" His tone became increasingly urgent with each sentence.

Ivor narrowed his dark, ocean-like eyes and said, "She's getting checked at the hospital."

"The hospital?!!" Jim's voice rose to its peak. "What happened to her? Is she injured? How serious is her injury? Where is she injured? Why aren't you saying anything!"

Ivor's dark gaze intensified. "I'm curious. You shouldn't be this concerned about her, even if she saved your life before, right? Or is there some special secret between you two that makes you care so much about her?"

'Oh no!' Jim inwardly cursed. 'I was too nervous just now, too emotional.'

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Now that he had calmed down and analyzed it carefully, he realized that Ivor wouldn't be speaking so calmly if Bonnie's injuries were severe. And he even had the presence of mind to ponder the unusual relationship between Jim and Bonnie.

"You don't need to tell me. Because I trust Bonnie, and I believe she will tell me one day." Ivor's words relieved Jim.

"So, how is she?"

"A dagger has cut her arm, but as for other issues, I'll tell you once the results are out."

"Other issues?" Jim's voice rose again.

Ivor held the phone away as his eardrums ached.

At that moment, the door to the examination room opened.

"Bonnie's coming out. We'll talk later." With that, he hung up the phone.

As soon as Ivor saw Bonnie's figure, he immediately approached her.

"Are your eyes feeling better?"

"The doctor said it's not serious, but I need to rest for about a week before my vision fully recovers."

"A week? That serious?" Ivor felt his heart drop.

Then Sigmund called him.

"I heard that wretched McLeod girl ambushed Bonnie. How is she now? It's nothing serious, right?"

"She's got a little injury on her arm."

"What?!" Sigmund asked loudly, "Is it bleeding?"

"Yeah."

"How dare they provoke my granddaughter-in-law?! They're asking for trouble!"
Sigmund's

fingers trembled with anger. "I'm et

calling your dad and all your uncles right now. I'll have them bring their families to the
McLeod home. They must give us an explanation today!"

Ivor had initially intended to travel there alone, but Bonnie needed someone to look after
her, given her current state. Moreover, his

grandfather had personally

intervened. With Sigmund's

domineering personality, theovel.net

McLeod family would face consequences today.

Before the call could be completed, Jim's call came in urgently.

"What's Bonnie's situation exactly?"

Ivor didn't beat around the bush and replied, "Her eyes were sprayed with a stronger
version of pepper spray. It'll take about a week for her vision to fully recover."

"A week to recover her vision? That serious!" Jim punched a nearby tree out of sheer
rage.

'Bonnie is the backbone of the

country's scientific research! Her eyes can't afford even the slightest mishap! Today, the
McLeod family must be held accountable for what they did to the country!'

Jim immediately called the relevant departments in the country. "Hello, Ms. Bonita has
been attacked and temporarily blinded..."

The person who received the call was deathly terrified. "Who? Who dares to attack Ms.
Bonita?"

"It's the McLeod family."

Sienna returned home with her arm freshly bandaged, grumbling the whole way.

"Damn Bonnie! What did she do to make Orpheus so infatuated? To the extent that Orpheus had to ask Ivor for help."

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Chapter 494

Steve's face turned purple with anger. He had never suffered such humiliation in his life.

The head of the family, Leo, threw the cup in his hand at Steve.

Due to his injuries, Steve was unable to avoid the cup in time, and it hit him.

"How did I raise such a useless son? I entrusted you to protect your niece, but you got yourself into trouble instead. You've disgraced our family!" Leo roared, growing angrier the more he looked at Steve. Steve felt wronged. "Dad, it's not entirely my fault. You don't know the situation. Ivor brought dozens of elite bodyguards, especially Floyd. They swarmed me mercilessly, and I couldn't match them. I was completely overwhelmed!"

"Damn, that brat from the Knight family! He's disrespecting our family! Come with me to the Knight Villa. We'll demand an explanation!"

Just then, the butler rushed in frantically.

"Mr. Leo, people from the Knight family are here."

"Hmph! Thankfully, not every member of the Knight family is as ignorant as that brat, Ivor. They're probably here to apologize for what happened." Leo felt somewhat relieved. Steve and Sienna thought the same.

"Grandpa, they beat up Uncle Steve so badly. We can't let this slide. Regardless of Ivor's status, we need Bonnie to apologize to me publicly. Otherwise, I won't swallow this humiliation!" "Don't worry, you're my granddaughter. I won't let anyone trample over you," Leo assured her.

While they conversed, Sigmund ushered in about a dozen Knight family members.

Leo and the others were taken aback. Was the Knight family's sincerity this intense? Almost everyone had come along.

However, the absence of Ivor and Bonnie made the McLeods feel uneasy.

"Sigmund, why aren't Ivor and Bonnie here?"

"Hmph!" Sigmund banged his cane loudly on the floor. "You have the nerve to mention Bonnie! You allowed your granddaughter to bring military personnel to attack Bonnie and even used pepper

I've never seen such

vnox

her.

shamelessness!"

Sienna's face turned purple from anger, and Leo turned sharply to look at her.

"Sienna! What's going on? Didn't you say Bonnie wanted to take Orpheus for herself, so she attacked you with a group of people? And what's the deal with the pepper spray?!"
"Grandpa! Don't believe him. He's just protecting Bonnie. I swear, I didn't lie to you. Bonnie attacked me first!" Sienna cried with a pitiful expression.

Leo didn't quite believe Sienna's words. "Are you suggesting that, at his age, Sigmund is lying?"

"No, of course not. Mr. Sigmund is highly respected. Why would he lie? Bonnie must have twisted the truth when she complained to him, making it appear as if I was at fault first."

SW

The more Sienna spoke, the more aggrieved she seemed. She even started to believe in her performance and was convinced that Bonnie was the cause of all this trouble.
"Grandpa, if you don't believe me, you can ask Uncle Steve. He was there. If you ask him, you'll know the truth."

As she said this, Sienna cast a subtle glance at Steve.

Because Steve couldn't have children, he had always treated Sienna as his precious daughter. He would always find a way to fulfill Sienna's desires, no matter how big or small.

"Dad, Sienna didn't lie to you. Bonnie had already dislocated Sienna's arm when I got there. And if I hadn't arrived in time, Bonnie's dagger would have cut Sienna's face."

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Chapter 495

After hearing consistent testimony from his son and beloved granddaughter, Leo no longer doubted her and faced Sigmund sternly.

"Leo, you heard that, right? You've been deceived, too. Enough with the idle talk. Just hand over Bonnie. Don't worry, for the sake of your son Orpheus, I'll spare her life."

Sigmund slammed his cane down heavily.

"You want to take Bonnie? Over my dead body!"

His words shocked everyone present.

Leo and the others never expected that Sigmund would protect Bonnie like this. 'Isn't Bonnie Orpheus's girlfriend? Furthermore, Orpheus had yet to announce his relationship with Bonnie officially. 'Even if she's his son's girlfriend, did he need to protect her like this?'

The members of the Knight family standing behind Sigmund also had strange expressions, exchanging glances with each other.

"What's going on with Dad? Why is he protecting Bonnie like this? Won't this completely sever ties with the McLeod family?" Sydney asked softly, voicing what everyone wanted to know.

"I don't understand. What kind of spell did Bonnie cast on Grandpa?" Halle's words carried a hint of bitterness.

At that moment, Flynn stepped forward and stood by Sigmund's side.

"Grandpa, I support you! This can't be Bonnie's fault! It's the McLeod family's problem. It's Sienna's fault!"

"Wow," Sydney and Gunnar both gasped in shock.

'Is this brave child our son?'

They had never seen Flynn like this before. Previously, this unruly son of theirs spent his days idly, never resolving any issues and leaving them to clean up after him.

Now, he seemed to have matured.

'Wasn't this change in him due to the incident with Bonnie's brother? So, was his change because of Bonnie?'

Sigmund nodded approvingly at

Flynn.

has taught you the importance

Well said. It seems Bonnie et

being a better person." S

"Yeah!" Flynn's eyes sparkled with admiration when he mentioned Bonnie. "Without Bonnie, there

wouldn't be me today. With her.

god-like presence, how could

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she

possibly be bothered by a clown like Sienna?"

"Who are you calling a clown?!" Sienna fumed with rage.

"I'm talking about whoever fits the description," Flynn retorted.

"You" Sienna was about to say something else when Leo interrupted.

"Sienna, there's no need to argue with a hoodlum. It's beneath your dignity."

"Yes," Sienna said with a smug sneer as she lifted her chin and gave Flynn the cold shoulder.

Flynn was instantly enraged.

"Enough." Sigmund also spoke up to stop them. "I'll handle this matter."

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Chapter 496

"Alright, Grandpa,"

Sigmund said firmly, "Hand Sienna over to me. I'll make her kneel before Bonnie and slap herself a thousand times. With each slap, she must say, 'I was wrong and deserve to be punished.'" Leo's eyes nearly popped out in rage at hearing this.

"Old man, how dare you humiliate my granddaughter like this?! You used to be reasonable. It's clear that Bonnie was wrong in this matter, yet you're protecting her and humiliating Sienna. This is intolerable!" "You're unwilling? Fine, listen up. The Knight family will cut off all ties with the McLeods!"

"What? Y-You're willing to ruin the relationship between our families for an outsider? You're taking things too far!"

Leo couldn't believe that Sigmund would say such words.

"Not only that, our two families will be enemies from now on. We won't rest until your granddaughter publicly apologizes to Bonnie!"

Leo was stunned, and so were the members of the McLeod family present.

Roy McLeod, Leo's brother, stepped out of the crowd.

"Leo, please calm down. Don't make such a big deal of this matter involving the younger generation. As I see it, there's no evidence to determine who's right or wrong. Both sides of the younger generation have their own stories, but no concrete evidence."

"Yeah, what Roy said makes sense," Theo, their other brother, chimed in.

"We should calm down and investigate the truth ourselves. Once we find out, the one who's wrong should apologize. How about that?"

Leo wore an ugly expression.

Naturally, he believed in his

granddaughter, but there was no evidence. Besides, their two families had been close for generations. It would be absurd if they made big fuss over a matter between youths.

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"They're right, Sigmund. This was just a minor quarrel. There's no need to make it so serious. Why don't we each investigate and find evidence—" Sigmund abruptly cut off Leo's words.

"No need for evidence! This matter is entirely Sienna's fault! Bonnie is my granddaughter-in-law. I know what kind of person she is. Sienna may be a talented woman in your eyes, but she's nothing compared to Bonnie!"

"Why would Bonnie actively seek trouble from your granddaughter? She doesn't have the time for that!"

The McLeod family was furious, especially Sienna. She would argue with Sigmund, if not for his status. He dared to describe Sienna as nothing compared to Bonnie!

Leo felt out of breath. He did not expect Sigmund to say such things.

'Wait a minute!' Leo's face went blank as he realized something. "What did you just say? Granddaughter-in-law? Bonnie?"

This question also stunned Sienna.

"That's right, Bonnie is the fiancée I arranged for Ivor! So, do you still think she stole your granddaughter's boyfriend?"

Leo looked at Sienna again. "What's going on?"

He didn't think Sigmund would joke about such things, so Bonnie must be Ivor's fiancée. Then how could Bonnie be jealous of Orpheus and secretly plot against his granddaughter?

Sienna suddenly realized something.

"I now know why a rural woman like Bonnie knows Orpheus. It's because of her relationship with Ivor. Bonnie must've thought that since Ivo

wasn't interested in her, she

seduced Orpheus instead."

belongs to

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Chapter 497

Listening to Sienna's analysis, Leo felt it made sense.

"Alright, alright!" Sigmund was tired of their nonsense. "It seems that this matter won't be resolved today. Let's go! We'll announce the severance of ties with the McLeod family!" Although Leo knew that severing ties would harm both families, he couldn't bear to see his granddaughter being wronged.

Buzz! Buzz!

The sound of a vibrating phone filled the air. Upon seeing it was a superior's call, Leo's face instantly became respectful. He picked up the call.

"Hello?"

"Leo! How dare you allow your granddaughter to commit such a heinous crime?!"

Leo listened anxiously. "W-What happened?"

Seeing Leo's reaction, Sienna was filled with doubt. Her grandfather was a retired general, so what kind of call could elicit such an expression?

After seeing Leo answer the phone, Sigmund decided to stay and watch the show.

"What happened? Your granddaughter is audacious enough to mobilize troops and attack Ms. Bonita secretly!"

"What?!" Leo exclaimed, jumping up from his chair in shock. His hands trembled as he hung up the phone.

'Ms. Bonita? B-Bonnie?! Oh no! Is that why her name sounded familiar? Three years ago, before I retired, I had the honor of protecting Ms. Bonita once. Could it be...?'

As Leo considered this, he glanced at Sigmund, who exuded confidence and confirmed his thoughts.

He glared at Sienna aggressively, terrifying her.

"Sienna, how dare you lie to me?!"

"It's not true, Grandpa, I didn't-"

"You still dare to argue! Who allowed you to mobilize troops? Speak! Who?!"

Leo's questioning became increasingly severe, and Sienna looked toward Steve.

Knowing he couldn't escape, Steve stepped forward. "Dad, this isn't Sienna's fault, it's—"

"Is it you? You bastard! How could

have a son like you? Sienna is still young

and doesn't know any bet

But you're over 50, yet you're joining

her in this nonsense!" Content

belongs to S

"This matter is indeed partly my fault for indulging Sienna. I'm willing to accept punishment."

"Punishment? Do you think this

matter is just about secretly

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mobilizing troops? Do you know who that brat Sienna was going to deal with?! I want to kick you to death!"

Leo kicked Steve to the ground.

'That was Ms. Bonita! She is Arvador's most prominent scientist and an important person for our

troops to protect,' Leo thought to et

Ovelhet

himself. As a former general,

couldn't control my son and

granddaughter, and they teamed up

to attack Ms. Bonita.' Content

belongs to

Sienna was terrified. She had never seen her grandfather so furious at home. She could hear the loud crack of Steve's ribs breaking with that kick.

'Why is Grandpa acting like this? Also, who's Bonnie? Isn't she just an insignificant girl from the countryside?'

After lecturing Steve, Leo looked at Sienna. "You must apologize to Bonnie immediately! You must kneel before her until she's satisfied!"

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Chapter 498

Sienna widened her eyes in disbelief. "Grandpa! What are you saying? Do you want me to apologize to Bonnie? No! I'd rather go to jail!"

"Fine!" Leo gritted his teeth. He ordered, "Someone, take her to the police station to confess all her crimes. Given the severity of her offenses, she should spend at least 20 years in prison. After she's released, she'll be immediately expelled from the family!"

"What?" Everyone present who was unaware of the situation was stunned.

"Grandpa, a-are you serious?" Sienna's face paled with shock.

Ignoring Sienna, Leo continued to command his subordinates. "What are you all standing around for? Execute my orders immediately! Any delay, and you'll all be expelled from the family!"

"Yes." The subordinates dared not disobey and swiftly approached Sienna.

"Miss, forgive us."

"No, no, stay away!" She screamed.

Sienna used to be able to command the household, but now she felt helpless as she was restrained and dragged away.

Steve and the others quickly pleaded for her.

"Dad, Sienna is your granddaughter!"

"Anyone who pleads for her will be treated as an accomplice and expelled from the family."

Leo's words silenced everyone.

"No, I don't want to go to jail! Grandpa, I know I was wrong. I'll listen to you. I'll go and apologize to Bonnie!"

Although Sienna said so, she was seething with hatred.

Bonnie's eyesight was not very good, so she decided to go to the Knight family's home with Ivor. Shortly after lying down, she heard a commotion downstairs.

"What's happening?" Bonnie asked in confusion.

"Sienna is here to apologize," Ivor replied.

"Oh."

"Don't worry about it. You're badly injured, so just rest."

Bang bang bang!

As he knocked on the door, Flynn shouted from outside, "Bonnie, hurry down! Sienna is going to kneel and apologize to you. Her grandfather has said that she must kneel until you're satisfied.

"If she refuses, they'll take her to the police

station, and she'll spend 20

years in prison. After she's released, she'll be expelled from the family." Initially reluctant to get involved,

Bonnie reconsidered. Considering her contributions to the count her

Leo's upright character and his

she had

to show some respect to him.

"Alright, I'll come out now."

Ivor frowned. "You just changed and got into bed, and now you want to get up."

"It's okay. I'm not in pain."

Bonnie was indeed fine. She was just a little tired. She didn't mind getting up, so she asked Ivor to get her clothes from the wardrobe.

Seeing Bonnie's determination, Ivor didn't try to stop her. Walking toward the wardrobe, he suddenly remembered something and looked back at Bonnie. "Do you want me to get your bra too?"

Although Bonnie couldn't see, she could guess where Ivor's gaze was directed.

It was precisely as Bonnie guessed. Ivor's gaze was fixed on her impressive figure.

This figure made Ivor incredibly proud that she was his woman. Even without a padded bra, she looked great.

"Of course, are you trying to see me go braless?"

"No, you can only be seen like this by me."

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Chapter 499

Bonnie pursed her lips. She wouldn't have let Ivor fetch her bra if it weren't for her current inconvenience.

"Just get it for me, and don't make any lewd moves," Ivor heard Bonnie say as he picked up the bra.

"I'm not that vulgar. I could enjoy it with you on our wedding night. But since you said that, are you reminding me to do it?"

Unable to bear it any longer, Bonnie said, "Give it to me, then leave."

"I'll leave, but how will you put it on? Or should I help you? Don't worry, you can't see. Out of sight, out of mind, right?" Ivor chuckled as he approached the bed. Bonnie took a deep breath and clenched her fist.

"I left the clothes here. I'm leaving now," Ivor said, immediately turning around and leaving.

Hearing the sound of the door closing, Bonnie changed her clothes. After she finished, she went out.

As soon as she pushed open the door, a large palm grabbed her hand, and another hand held her waist. Then, a pleasant, low voice sounded in her ear.

"Don't refuse. You can't see clearly and have difficulty walking. If you resist, I'll carry you downstairs like a princess."

Bonnie knew the man wasn't joking. If she resisted, he would be happy to carry her downstairs in front of everyone.

"Fine, let's go downstairs," Bonnie said.

Ivor's lips curled up, and he took the opportunity to draw her closer to his chest.

This guy was the kind who could take advantage of any opportunity to escalate things. Ultimately, Bonnie remained silent and let Ivor help her down the steps.

Watching Bonnie and Ivor's intimate behavior, Sienna was convinced that they were just putting on an act.

She had always thought so, especially after receiving a call from Orpheus, who was filming elsewhere.

He said that if anything happened to Bonnie, he would make her pay with her life!

She felt uneasy since she had never

seen

-pus act with such r

Why would Orpheus care so

for Bonnie if he didn't like

Leo walked past Sienna and bowed his head in front of Bonnie.

"I'm sorry! Truly sorry! It's unforgivable!"

"Grandpa?!"

"Dad?"

"Mr. Leo!"

All the McLeod family members were shocked, except for Leo's younger brothers, Roy and Theo.

Roy and Theo were perplexed while

in the McLeod house. Even if their family was at fault, did their elder brother have to punish Sienna so severely?

Now, they finally understood. It turned out that Sienna targeted the national treasure they were protecting-Bonnie! 'Damn it! This is unforgivable!' Thinking of this, Roy and Theo also stepped forward and hung their heads, like Leo.

"Sienna has committed a heinous

el

et

crime. You can punish her however you want. Even if you want to execute her on the spot, we will have no complaints!"

Sienna looked at Roy and Theo in disbelief.

Ivor looked away from Leo and the others, his wise and narrowed eyes falling on Bonnie.

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Chapter 500

The girl's face remained expressionless, revealing no joy or anger.

The three elders of the McLeod family were all influential figures in the military. They were hanging their heads before a young lady named Bonnie. The scene shocked everyone present who was unaware of the truth.

Sydney and the others whispered to each other.

"Why does this feel so strange?"

"I feel the same way."

Bonnie gave them the impression that she was in a position of authority.

However, they were well aware of Bonnie's background. She was just a girl who came from the countryside. Her only notable accomplishment was getting this year's top grades on the college entrance exam. But such an accomplishment should mean nothing to the three elders of the McLeod family!

Bonnie sat down and spoke, her gaze unfocused. "You don't need to blame yourselves. This has nothing to do with you. The one at fault is Sienna."

"But that's also because of our lack of " Leo abruptly stopped speaking when he noticed Bonnie's eyes.

"Y-Your eyes. Were they damaged by that fool?!"

Bonnie didn't speak, which was equivalent to confirmation.

"Ahh!" Leo roared before turning around and slapping Sienna fiercely.

Sienna fell to the ground after being hit. Her face was swelling visibly.

"You despicable girl! You scum!" Leo yelled as he kicked Sienna.

If Sienna weren't his granddaughter, he would have beaten her to death.

Nobody in the McLeod family could make up for Bonnie's loss of vision, not even with their own lives.

"Help! Please stop hitting me! Grandpa! I know I was wrong. I'll apologize to her right now! Grandpa-"

No matter how Sienna begged for mercy, Leo didn't stop.

Steve wanted to protect her, but Roy and Theo seemed determined to punish Sienna.

He had never seen his father and uncles like this before. If he guessed correctly, Bonnie's identity was not as simple as it seemed. "Enough," Bonnie said, and Leo's actions immediately stopped.

"I'll make her apologize to you right away."

"An apology is necessary, but not to me."

Bonnie's words puzzled Leo. "Then to whom?"

"Where are those troops she brought with her?" Bonnie asked.

Leo thought Bonnie wanted to discipline them together. "I've had them all dismissed and detained."

"Bring them here."

"Okay."

Before long, all those who had attacked Bonnie under Sienna's command were brought in.

Bonnie's expression was severe. "As

a member of the prestigious military family, Sienna privately mobilized military personnel to deal with

ordinary civilians. She even

threatened them with various

punitive measures to force them into action.

"So Sienna doesn't need to

to me. Instead, she

apologize to them. Each of them

should receive a hundred apologies."

After hearing this, those

subordinates were moved to tears,

feeling deeply remorseful and

repentant. They had laid hands on

such a righteous person! They felt genuinely despicable. Content

belongs to

Leo admired Bonnie from the bottom of his heart. Even though she was the victim, she still thought of others and showed empathy.

"Start apologizing," Bonnie said to Sienna.

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