

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 1926 [Eleven Jewell]

Dahlia said gently, 'The ceremony hasn't started yet, and we've been here for quite some time now. Mrs. Chapman is getting hungry, and the food will only be served later. It's not nice to carry a plate of food around in front of so many people. It might seem a little inappropriate.'

Aurora was unsure why Dahlia could not just ask a kitchen staff to do the same, but she did not question further as she was lost in her fantasy of a happy family.

Instead, she said softly, "I specifically picked the desserts you like. Try them."

Dahlia gently touched her face, "I have raised you right.

You're always so thoughtful."

Aurora heaved a sigh of relief inwardly, 'I'm glad that Mom finally thought this through.' Suddenly, the sound of footsteps echoed at the door. Dahlia paused, raised her head, and said, "Aurora, you should go back to the banquet hall. The ceremony will begin soon. I'm going to go speak to Mrs. Chapman for a while."

"Okay, sure."

When Aurora was about to leave, Dahlia stopped her and handed her a neatly packed bag before saying warmly, "Would you take this bag of garbage and throw it away for me? Use the staircase on the west side. The bride will be coming from the east side later, and there'll be a lot of people."

Aurora smiled, "Got it, Mom."

After saying that, she took the bag and did as Dahlia said. She headed straight to the west side staircase and threw the bag into the trash can before going downstairs.

When Keegan came back, he could not see Stella and Aurora anywhere and felt a little uneasy.

He turned to ask Vermont, "Where are they?"

Vermont and Felicity were busy calculating how much they should contribute to each other's pension fund for the best return.

Upon hearing Keegan's voice, he lifted his head and said, "The restroom. Aurora left not long after you did. Then, Stella walked away, too. Didn't you run into them when you came out of the restroom?"

Keegan frowned. Obviously, he had not.

With a stern face, he took out his phone and dialed Stella's number. He heard her phone ringing in her bag on the seat next to his.

Stella did not bring her phone with her.

Keegan pursed his lips, then called Aurora. However, before it was connected, she came back.

He put his phone away and asked her after she sat back down, "Where did you go?"

Aurora thought about the conversation she just had with Dahlia and lied, "I went to the restroom."

As she said that, she did not look Keegan in the eyes, and her hand subconsciously grabbed the hem of her dress as her thumb lightly stroked her finger. It was a small gesture she would make when lying.

Keegan's gaze turned cold. He asked in a deep voice, "Did you see Stella? She went to the restroom, too."

Aurora's gaze shifted as she stammered, "Y-Yeah, I did. She'll be out in a moment."

She had not gone to the restroom, so she naturally did not see Stella. But having told one lie, she had to continue with another to cover it up.

Keegan could clearly sense her lie, causing his expression to turn even more unpleasant. Just as he was about to speak, a sudden commotion came from the door as someone shouted, "Someone fell in the staircase, and there's blood everywhere!"

When Stella came out of the restroom, she turned her head to the spot where she had seen Aurora earlier. However, she did not see anyone there and proceeded to go back downstairs.

Then, a loud noise, accompanied by a woman's scream, echoed in the staircase. The hotel staff on the floor paused.

Then, he hurriedly rushed over and saw Stella covered in blood.

When that person came in to tell everyone that someone had fallen, nobody knew who it was. However, Keegan's face turned pale when he heard that blood was mentioned. He abruptly stood up and ran outside.

Aurora's expression changed, and she followed him out.

Marshall watched Keegan lose his composure as he tapped on his wine glass without showing any reaction.

Felicity became very worried as well upon hearing that there was blood everywhere. With a pale face, she stammered, "Stinky Cucumber, c-could it be... Stella—"

Before she could finish speaking, Vermont cut her off with a teasing smile, "The stairs aren't that high. Even if someone falls, how could there be blood everywhere? I'm pretty sure that person was just exaggerating."

"But—"

"Stella is not that fragile. How could she bleed from just a fall? Besides, nobody knew who that was. How can you be so sure that it's her?"

Vermont interrupted her again, and Felicity finally calmed down. She almost slipped about Stella being pregnant the moment she panicked earlier.

"Let's go and have a look first. It sounds pretty scary."

"Sure, come on."

Vermont stood up, and Felicity left with him. After that, Carter and Lena followed suit.

Kayla looked at Marshall, "Are you not going to check it out?"

Marshall replied gently, "It's going to be so crowded. I doubt I'll be able to see anything."

She looked at him and asked, "What if it's someone you know?"

Marshall lowered his gaze and said flatly, "I'm in no place to even care if it is."

Kayla pursed her lips tightly.

Marshall, in his gentle moment, would treat everyone with kindness. But when his harsher mood struck, he could turn a blind eye even to those he cared.

Suddenly, Kayla remembered what her mother had told her a few days ago, "Kayla, why don't you consider someone else? Although Marshall Moore looks like a decent guy, I heard some things about the Moore family.

"Marshall had a girlfriend before, but his family disapproved of the relationship.

So, they did something to force them to break up. Marshall caused a big scene and even fell ill.

When he was sick, he did not even want to see his parents. There's a scar on his mother's arm, and the ladies said that he was the one who caused it."

Kayla found it somewhat unbelievable. She had seen Marshall speaking to Ariel on the phone, and he always spoke very gently, never talking back at her.

However, she had noticed a faint scar on Marshall's left palm. It was very shallow, though she noticed it cut through his life and love lines.

When Vermont was studying Felicity's palm for her, Kayla saw it when Marshall was looking at his palm.

'His palm lines... are bad,' Kayla thought to herself.

Compared to the romantic feelings she had for Marshall, Kayla was more curious about the secret he was hiding.

Curiosity about a person often marked the beginning of attraction.

Kayla felt somewhat irritable. She stopped speaking to Marshall and went out on her own.

Keegan pushed through the crowd and saw Stella sitting on the stairs.

She was half-lying there with an extremely pale complexion, her face and hands covered in blood. Next to her was a scattered trash can.

Keegan froze all over. He walked forward with his stiffened limbs and pushed aside the people standing in front of him.

Stella saw him through the crowd and weakly called out, "Keegan."

His face turned even paler as he squatted down and looked at her with a distressed expression. His hands were trembling; he had no idea where to place them.

"Keegan..." Stella called out softly, extending her bloodied hand to grab Keegan.

Keegan's heart trembled as his eyes turned red. He carefully supported her upper body up and said in an extremely hoarse voice, "I'll take you to the hospital now."

However, Stella grabbed his hand and whispered, "Keegan, someone spilled oil on the stairs. It wasn't an accident..."

Keegan paused and shifted his gaze to the steps in front of him. Indeed, each step was covered with a layer of oil.

Olivia had been renovating the hotel and was planning only to carpet the stairs after her daughter's wedding. So, the steps were exposed, and someone took advantage of it.

Keegan sounded very worried as he spoke, "TH get someone to call the police."

"Let's go to the hospital first."

Stella looked frightened, with blood on her hands, clothes, and face.

The stairs were not high, so Keegan could not figure out why she would bleed so heavily.

She stopped him from carrying her up and said, “Lena can take care of me. I want you to stay here and find out who did this.”

Keegan paused and looked at her in disbelief.

Stella leaned on his shoulder and spoke very softly, “Keegan, trust me. The baby and I are fine, but you’ve got to find out who’s trying to harm me. I need to know that. If you can’t do this, I’ll make sure the baby has absolutely no connection with the Kane family. I mean what I say.”

Keegan looked at her with an ashen face.

It was not because he heard Stella’s threat but because someone tried to harm her and his child right under his nose.

How could she be fine when she was covered in blood?

Keegan did not listen to her and was about to take her away.

However, Stella pressed his arm down forcefully, raised her other hand, and touched his lips with her bloodied thumb.” Keegan, trust me,” she said word by word.

Keegan was stunned and realized the liquid on his lips did not have the smell of blood at all. He thought he had lost his sense of smell, so he licked his lips to taste it.

It tasted like a mixture of fruit and honey.

Then, he looked at Stella, dumbfounded.

Stella quickly pushed his face, fearing that the others would see his foolish expression.

More and more people gathered around, including the guests from the wedding, the hotel staff, and her close friends.

Felicity, who had hoped that it was someone else who fell, panicked right after seeing Stella covered in blood in Keegan’s arms.

Stella! Are you okay? How did you fall?”

The manager was also shocked and quickly asked the on- duty staff about what had happened.

However, none of them had a clue.

Keegan told Olivia to prepare a room and had Lena take Stella inside to check on her.

Dahlia was not surprised to see what happened at all.

They had been hiding the news of Stella's pregnancy from the public. It was very unlikely that they would disclose it at a time like this.

However, Dahlia figured that the baby in Stella's belly had no chance of making it, given how much blood she had lost.

Dahlia felt very happy upon thinking about that.

Then, she stepped forward and spoke in a gentle tone," Keegan, it's Mrs.

Chapman's daughter's big day and the ceremony will begin soon. Stella looks fine. Someone probably accidentally dropped an oil bottle, covering the stairs with oil. We should put this aside and investigate it later. Let's not delay the ceremony because of this."

Felicity could not hold back her temper upon hearing that," Are you hearing yourself? Are you sure she looks fine? If someone did accidentally drop an oil bottle, the oil should be all over the place. Look at this; this is clearly smeared on purpose, and it's so even, too! Someone must've done this!"

Dahlia glanced at Felicity and said, "Who would deliberately smear oil on the stairs for no reason? There are so many people going up and down the stairs, but why is she the only one who fell? Today is a big day for the newlyweds. Who will take responsibility if the ceremony is delayed because of this?"

Felicity stomped her foot in anger, "You're the one who did this, aren't you? This is why you don't want Keegan to investigate it and keep trying to brush it off!"

Dahlia's expression darkened, "Watch your words! Get lost if you're simply trying to stir things up!"

Vermont grabbed the agitated Felicity and smiled, "Ms. Crosby, you went a little too far with your words. We were invited here to attend the wedding of Mrs.

Chapman's daughter. We brought wedding gifts, and we're here to give the couple our blessings. What right do you have to tell us to get lost?"

With a cold expression, Dahlia retorted, "Vermont, you used to be so polite when speaking to your elders. After getting together with such an uneducated woman, you became rude. Look at how you've degraded. If your parents saw you like this, they would be heartbroken!"

Vermont chuckled, "Ms. Crosby, I was only polite to you because of Mrs. Kane Sr. and Keegan. You were a part of the Kane family back then, and I had to show some respect to you. Now that you're no longer a part of them, why should I still treat you politely? I don't know anyone from the Crosby family anyway, so you'd better not judge me as if you are someone to me. To be honest, although my elders could be unlikeable, they're not shameless." Dahlia paused as her expression turned extremely unpleasant, "Who are you calling shameless?"

Vermont shrugged, looking innocent, "I don't think I'm calling anyone shameless."

"You-"

"Enough!" Keegan interrupted them with a stern face.

Even though Dahlia was still very angry, she quickly calmed down upon thinking that her plan had succeeded. After organizing the words in her head, Dahlia was about to say something, but Keegan beat her to it.

"Mrs. Chapman, this incident happened in your hotel. I demand an explanation on whether it's an accident or intentional. Otherwise, I'll get the police involved."

Although Dahlia was very confident in her plan, she still could not help but feel a little nervous. She then looked at Olivia, who gave her a reassuring glance.

"We take full responsibility for what happened. I've instructed the manager to retrieve the surveillance footage. Everyone here can watch it later. If it turns

out that the incident happened because of our negligence, I'll be sure to apologize and compensate Ms. Hall accordingly."

After a while, the manager came back with a copy of the footage.

After that, Olivia brought everyone to a smaller banquet hall downstairs and used the projection equipment to show them the surveillance footage.

The cameras were installed near the staircase. At the beginning of the footage, it captured a few people walking by, but none approached that side of the staircase. It was not until over half an hour later that Aurora came out of the main banquet hall and entered the staircase carrying a bag.

Then, the footage switched to the entrance of the staircase on the floor above, where Aurora came out from inside.

From the time mark, it was evident that Aurora stayed on the staircase for about ten minutes.

It was simply too suspicious.

Everyone began to shift their gaze to Aurora.

Aurora's face was pale, thinking about the identical bag Dahlia had given her before leaving. Then, she turned her head and stared at Dahlia.

However, Dahlia did not look at her. Instead, she was just watching the footage with a frown, seemingly as nervous as everyone else watching the video.

After coming out of the staircase, Aurora went into a room. However, she came back out again after a while.

She still held the same bag. However, instead of taking the same staircase down, she went down the other side.

Right after that, Stella exited the restroom and took the stairs that Aurora used to come upstairs. A few moments later, a loud noise echoed from the surveillance, accompanied by a woman's scream.

After the footage ended, everyone's gaze was fixated on Aurora.

Her face turned even paler. When she met Keegan's scrutinizing look, she said anxiously, "Keegan, it wasn't me. I swear. I'd never do anything like this..."

With a stern face, Keegan asked in a low voice, "Then what were you doing on the staircase for so long?"

"I was waiting for someone," Aurora stammered. "Mom said that she had something to tell me and asked me to wait on the staircase, so I did. But she didn't come for a long time, so I called her, and she told me to go into that room."

"What about the bag you were holding? What was inside? Why did you throw it right after you came out of the room?"

"That was the pastry Mom asked me to bring for her. She said that Mrs.

Chapman was taking too long with her makeup, and she got hungry. So, I went up to give her some food. The bag I threw away was the garbage Mom asked me to take out from the room."

"Garbage?" Olivia chuckled, took something handed over by the manager, and tossed it on the floor. "Is this the garbage?"

A bottle of Tung Oil rolled out from the same bag Aurora had thrown in the bin earlier.

Aurora was terrified, "This is not mine."

Felicity exclaimed angrily, "Aurora Kane, you heartless creature! I knew you were up to no good! Stella has been so nice to you and even made delicious food for you, yet you still want to harm her! Do you even believe in the lies you're spinning? Mrs. Chapman's family owns this hotel. If she wanted something to eat, why wouldn't she ask the kitchen staff to bring it? Why would she need you to bring it upstairs? And why use a bag? Is a plate too heavy for you?"

With red eyes, Aurora looked at Dahlia, "Mom, say something. You were the one who asked me to bring the pastries upstairs. You told me to use a bag..."

Dahlia looked incredulous as she asked in a dejected tone, "Aurora, how could you do such a thing?"

Aurora froze in place.

She looked at Dahlia with both shocked and fearful eyes and stuttered, “M□ Mom, wh-what are you saying?”

Dahlia put on a heartbroken expression on her face, “I know that you don’t like Stella. You’d always tell me about it, but I thought you were just ranting. I never thought that you’d actually do something like this at Mrs. Chapman’s daughter’s wedding. I’ve spoiled you too much, and you have no sense of right or wrong!

You’d better hope that nothing bad happened to Stella, or the entire Kane family will never forgive you for what you did!”

With her still pale face, Aurora stared blankly at Dahlia. Every word she uttered felt like a cold knife stabbing her in her heart.

Compared to the suspicious and disdainful look of the outsiders, Aurora was more troubled by Dahlia’s attitude.

Just moments ago, she had said that she would not target Stella anymore for the sake of her grandchild and wanted them to live happily as a family. But now, she became the first to direct the blame on Aurora without any clear evidence after Stella fell.

It was only then that Aurora realized Dahlia had never given up on getting rid of Stella’s child. Dahlia had shifted the blame for Stella’s “miscarriage” onto her.

However, she could not understand why her mother would do something like this.

It seemed like Dahlia was not just ruthless in getting rid of her grandchild without a second thought, but she could also heartlessly set her daughter up to serve her motives.

“It seems like she hasn’t learned anything after being locked up.”

“The heiress of the Kane family has always been arrogant and a bully. She never cares about what’s right or wrong. She does whatever she pleases, and no matter what, the Kane family will always cover for her.”

“Things are different now. Stella was a part of the Jewell family that wasn’t respected by many, so Aurora could mistreat her however she wanted.

However, Stella has returned to the Hall family and has no connection with the Kane family anymore. She’s even staying in the Kane residence to help Keegan recover his memory out of kindness. How could Aurora try to harm her at a time like this? She has no conscience at all. What she did was completely ungrateful and heartless!”

“Did she lock Stella in the restroom during the charity banquet? She nearly caused Jaylene’s death, too. It seems like she’ll never change.”

The onlookers criticized Aurora, suggesting that she had a malicious and arrogant nature.

Aurora’s shoulders trembled slightly as she shouted at them with her eyes red, “It wasn’t me who did it!”

The crowd stopped talking for a moment but quickly resumed.

Dahlia said disappointedly, “Aurora, if you made a mistake, you should admit it.

If that bottle of Tung Oil hadn’t rolled out of the bag, I also wouldn’t have thought that you were the one who did it. When you told me about your plan on the phone earlier, I didn’t know that you meant it. I can’t believe that you actually did it. How do you expect Keegan to face Uncle Wenham in the future after what you’ve done?”

Felicity immediately chimed in upon hearing that, “What did she tell you on the phone? You knew about this, huh? Are you the mastermind behind this?”

Dahlia ignored her, “I’ve been too lenient with you before, and that’s why you’ve become so uncontrollable. Otherwise, nothing like this would’ve ever happened.

This is all my fault. ■ With that, she took her phone and played an audio recording.

Soon, Aurora's voice came through.

"Who does she think she is? Does she think everything has to go her way?"

"Yeah, Stella still thinks that Keegan is the same man who would always put her first. He doesn't even remember her, and I bet even her presence annoys him.

"I'm at home too, pouring some oil on the floor. She's going to slip and fall when she comes downstairs later..."

Aurora's arrogant and domineering voice came through from Dahlia's phone.

When everyone heard her mentioning the oil, the truth suddenly became clear.

The crowd assumed Aurora did not like Stella and could not stand her presence at the Royalpark Villa. She had wanted to teach Stella a lesson for a long time but had been unable to do so at home, so she chose to do it during Ms.

Chapman's wedding.

Everyone thought that Aurora's intentions were malicious.

After listening to the audio recording, Aurora's face could not have been any paler.

She looked at Dahlia, and her eyes turned from shock to indifference.

Keegan's expression was very gloomy as he stared at Aurora. He clenched his fists tightly, and his gaze looked somewhat indescribable.

Aurora felt a pang in her heart as tears streamed down her face. "Keegan, do you also not believe me?" she asked in a hoarse voice.

Keegan shifted his gaze to Olivia, "Mrs. Chapman, why don't you show us the full footage? If Aurora was the one who did it, Stella should've noticed the oil on the steps when she went upstairs since Aurora went up before her. However, Stella fell when she was going down the same stairs. Were there

any other people passing through the staircase during this time? The most crucial part of the evidence is missing from the surveillance you provided.”

Dahlia began to look somewhat worried.

There was a flaw in her plan. She initially thought that Stella getting injured would throw Keegan off balance and immediately hold Aurora accountable after watching a part of the surveillance footage. She had not expected that Keegan would still be so calm to analyze the whole situation.

Aurora was surprised, too. She could not believe that Keegan would still trust her as she stood there blankly.

Olivia spoke calmly upon hearing that, “The staircase is currently under renovation and the surveillance there isn’t connected to the power. So, we can only check the cameras in the hallway. I already showed everyone the crucial parts.”

As Dahlia heaved a sigh of relief, the screen automatically played again.

The footage, which was cut off before, continued with the part showing the moments before Stella went upstairs.

She went to the restroom upstairs because the one she wanted to use was being cleaned.

So, she had a waiter guide her upstairs. Shortly after she left, someone took away the cleaning sign in front of the restroom downstairs.

That person was wearing a light blue dress identical to the one Dahlia was wearing.

After taking the sign away, she also went to the staircase. She stayed there for a while and then came out from upstairs.

The crowd looked at Dahlia, whose expression slightly changed.

Vermont smirked, “Dahlia, since when are you responsible for cleaning the hotel restroom?”

Dahlia’s face turned pale, embarrassed, “Don’t talk nonsense! I was just passing by!”

"You were passing by, but you took away the cleaning sign?" Felicity suddenly came to a realization. "I get it now. You were the one who smeared the oil and blamed it on your daughter. Damn, I've never seen anything so shocking in my whole life! Aurora is your daughter, yet you have the heart to set her up like this.

Everyone's scolding her like this, yet you don't seem to care at all!"

"It wasn't me!" Dahlia retorted. "I was just passing by. Aurora said she needed to talk to me, so I went upstairs to find her."

Vermont looked at Dahlia, then at Aurora, "Aurora also said that she went upstairs to find you. So, which one of you is lying?"

Aurora pursed her lips without saying anything. When Dahlia presented those framed pieces of evidence to set her up, she had already lost the ability to defend herself.

Keegan stared at Dahlia for a moment and calmly said, "Let's just call the police."

Dahlia's expression changed as she grabbed his sleeve, "Today is Mrs.

Chapman's daughter's big day. Stella is fine anyway. Do you really have to spoil someone else's celebration?"

Keegan slowly pushed her hand away and said coldly, "What are you so afraid of?"

Dahlia's lips trembled. Then, she yelled, "I'm not afraid of anything! I didn't do anything wrong at all! I just don't want you to spoil Ms. Chapman's wedding. I'm the wedding tonight, they'd undoubtedly hold the Kane family accountable!"

That was also the reason why Dahlia dared to take action at this wedding and act recklessly.

how Vinci Rivera was planning to launch a new product soon, she figured Bloodshot veins appeared in Keegan's eyes as he clenched his jaw tightly.

The muscles on his cheeks quivered slightly due to anger, and he Dahlia froze, and her face turned pale again.

At this moment, Keegan made her feel somewhat uneasy. His eyes were filled with hatred, just like the time before he lost his memory and found out that she had drugged Stella to make her infertile.

Suddenly, Dahlia's throat felt dry.

She started to lose confidence in her plan.

She was scared.

Although Keegan valued his family very much, Dahlia had forgotten that the person she intended to harm was his baby, someone connected to him by flesh and blood.

Considering how big of a family man he was, he would never let it slip if anything were to happen to his child.

He did not hesitate to challenge the Crosby family when Dahlia drugged Stella.

He was no longer the little boy who would do something against his own will just because of a few words from her.

Overwhelmed by fear, Dahlia looked helplessly at Erick, who had just come over upon hearing the commotion.

Erick cleared his throat and tried to mediate the situation, " Mr. Kane, your mother was the person who matched the couple up. She's our VIP tonight. She cares so much about her friends, and it's just impossible that she would do something to harm her family. I'm sure that there's some misunderstanding in this.

"However, regardless of who did it, Ms. Hall was harmed on our property, so we'll take full responsibility for the situation. How about this? Let me arrange for a few staff to accompany you to the hospital, and we'll pay for all the expenses.

As for the rest, would you do me a favor and put it aside for now until the ceremony is over?"

Olivia scoffed, leaving Erick momentarily stunned. However, her expression remained indifferent when he looked over as if he had misheard the disdainful snort.

Felicity widened her gaze, 'It turns out that Dahlia is the one who brought such a mess into the Chapman family!

'Damn. Dahlia introduced someone terrible to Mrs.

Chapman's daughter, yet she still defends her. Has Mrs.

Chapman lost her mind?' Keegan swept his glance across Erick emotionlessly and said, "Mr. Chapman, you should keep yourself out of this and keep your own family in check first."

Erick's expression stiffened. Suddenly, he remembered his illegitimate son.

'Is Keegan warning me or something?

'But he had lost his memory of everything that had happened in the past few years, didn't he?' Erick felt guilty and did not dare respond to what Keegan said. Instead, he turned to Olivia and suggested, "Why don't you go and speak to Ms. Hall? Didn't you help her when the Hall family organized the banquet to welcome her back?

Ask her to do us a favor, and let's solve this after the wedding."

Olivia replied flatly, "Didn't you see the state Ms. Hall was in earlier? She was covered in blood. How can I convince her not to pursue the matter? I'm not that shameless."

Erick was taken aback, not knowing why his ever-obedient wife would speak against him today.

He lowered his voice and said, "I understand, but it's a big day for our family. We family as her support. You've always been good with words.

I know you can do it."

He paused before continuing, "I've worked hard all these years for you and our on the verge of turning our lives around. Let's not mess things up at such a crucial time."

Olivia scoffed inwardly, 'He's been making empty promises for so many years. I feel like throwing up just by listening to his voice now.' She held back her surging anger, lowered her gaze, and said softly, 'Til give it a try then.'

However, before Olivia could go anywhere, Lena came out of the room. She said, "Stella is fine for now. She said today is a big day for the Chapman family, and she's willing to wait until the ceremony is over before finding out the truth."

Lena's words took everyone by surprise.

'She bled so heavily, yet she's okay with not finding out the culprit right away?' Dahlia found it unbelievable. But then she thought about how Stella would only pick on people weaker than her and figured that she probably backed down Felicity was dumbfounded, "Did Stella damage her brain from the fall?"

'This is such a perfect opportunity to deal with Dahlia. Why would she let it slip away?' Felicity thought to herself.

She immediately caught up with Lena, "Stella has bled so much; is she really okay? Shouldn't we take her to the hospital?"

Lena replied flatly, "She's fine for now. I've contacted the hospital, and the ambulance will be here shortly."

When Felicity was about to say something more, she heard Lena adding, "You can come inside to check on her if you're worried."

Felicity turned to Keegan, "Keegan Kane, didn't you see how badly injured Stella was? Say something!"

Keegan looked at the now calm Dahlia, clenched his fists, and said, "We'll talk about it after the wedding."

He had no idea why that vengeful woman would suddenly change her strategy, but since she had Lena deliver the message, she must have had her reason.

Stella was the injured one, so Keegan figured that he should follow her plan.

Felicity got so angry that she stomped her foot on the floor,” You’re not planning to stand on your mother’s side, are you? If you’re not going to do anything about this today, I’ll be sure to turn your mother and sister’s life miserable!”

Vermont wrapped his arm around her waist, “Okay, okay. Let’s go and check on your best friend first,” he said while glancing at Dahlia. “The surveillance footage is right here. The culprit will eventually be revealed.”

Dahlia glared at him with an unpleasant expression.

The ceremony was about to start, so the crowd dispersed and returned to the main banquet hall one after another.

Aurora stood in place until everyone else left. When Dahlia was about to turn around, she called out, “Mom.”

Dahlia froze and then looked at her with cold eyes.

Aurora’s lips trembled as she spoke in a hoarse voice,” Mom, why?”

Dahlia remained expressionless, “Why what?”

Aurora’s eyes turned red, “Didn’t you say that you wouldn’t do anything to Stella anymore? Didn’t you want us to live like a happy family? Why did you lie to me?”

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When Stella came out of the restroom, she turned her head to the spot where she had seen Aurora earlier. However, she did not see anyone there and proceeded to go back downstairs.

Then, a loud noise, accompanied by a woman’s scream, echoed in the staircase. The hotel staff on the floor paused.

Then, he hurriedly rushed over and saw Stella covered in blood.

When that person came in to tell everyone that someone had fallen, nobody knew who it was. However, Keegan’s face turned pale when he heard that blood was mentioned. He abruptly stood up and ran outside.

Aurora's expression changed, and she followed him out.

Marshall watched Keegan lose his composure as he tapped on his wine glass without showing any reaction.

Felicity became very worried as well upon hearing that there was blood everywhere. With a pale face, she stammered, "Stinky Cucumber, c-could it be... Stella—"

Before she could finish speaking, Vermont cut her off with a teasing smile, "The stairs aren't that high. Even if someone falls, how could there be blood everywhere? I'm pretty sure that person was just exaggerating."

"But—"

"Stella is not that fragile. How could she bleed from just a fall? Besides, nobody knew who that was. How can you be so sure that it's her?"

Vermont interrupted her again, and Felicity finally calmed down. She almost slipped about Stella being pregnant the moment she panicked earlier.

"Let's go and have a look first. It sounds pretty scary."

"Sure, come on."

Vermont stood up, and Felicity left with him. After that, Carter and Lena followed suit.

Kayla looked at Marshall, "Are you not going to check it out?"

Marshall replied gently, "It's going to be so crowded. I doubt I'll be able to see anything."

She looked at him and asked, "What if it's someone you know?"

Marshall lowered his gaze and said flatly, "I'm in no place to even care if it is."

Kayla pursed her lips tightly.

Marshall, in his gentle moment, would treat everyone with kindness. But when his harsher mood struck, he could turn a blind eye even to those he cared.

Suddenly, Kayla remembered what her mother had told her a few days ago, "Kayla, why don't you consider someone else? Although Marshall Moore looks like a decent guy, I heard some things about the Moore family."

"Marshall had a girlfriend before, but his family disapproved of the relationship."

So, they did something to force them to break up. Marshall caused a big scene and even fell ill.

When he was sick, he did not even want to see his parents. There's a scar on his mother's arm, and the ladies said that he was the one who caused it."

Kayla found it somewhat unbelievable. She had seen Marshall speaking to Ariel on the phone, and he always spoke very gently, never talking back at her.

However, she had noticed a faint scar on Marshall's left palm. It was very shallow, though she noticed it cut through his life and love lines.

When Vermont was studying Felicity's palm for her, Kayla saw it when Marshall was looking at his palm.

'His palm lines... are bad,' Kayla thought to herself.

Compared to the romantic feelings she had for Marshall, Kayla was more curious about the secret he was hiding.

Curiosity about a person often marked the beginning of attraction.

Kayla felt somewhat irritable. She stopped speaking to Marshall and went out on her own.

Keegan pushed through the crowd and saw Stella sitting on the stairs.

She was half-lying there with an extremely pale complexion, her face and hands covered in blood. Next to her was a scattered trash can.

Keegan froze all over. He walked forward with his stiffened limbs and pushed aside the people standing in front of him.

Stella saw him through the crowd and weakly called out, "Keegan."

His face turned even paler as he squatted down and looked at her with a distressed expression. His hands were trembling; he had no idea where to place them.

"Keegan..." Stella called out softly, extending her bloodied hand to grab Keegan.

Keegan's heart trembled as his eyes turned red. He carefully supported her upper body up and said in an extremely hoarse voice, "I'll take you to the hospital now."

However, Stella grabbed his hand and whispered, "Keegan, someone spilled oil on the stairs. It wasn't an accident..."

Keegan paused and shifted his gaze to the steps in front of him. Indeed, each step was covered with a layer of oil.

Olivia had been renovating the hotel and was planning only to carpet the stairs after her daughter's wedding. So, the steps were exposed, and someone took advantage of it.

Keegan sounded very worried as he spoke, 'TH get someone to call the police.

Let's go to the hospital first."

Stella looked frightened, with blood on her hands, clothes, and face.

The stairs were not high, so Keegan could not figure out why she would bleed so heavily.

She stopped him from carrying her up and said, "Lena can take care of me. I want you to stay here and find out who did this."

Keegan paused and looked at her in disbelief.

Stella leaned on his shoulder and spoke very softly, "Keegan, trust me. The baby and I are fine, but you've got to find out who's trying to harm me. I need to know that. If you can't do this, I'll make sure the baby has absolutely no connection with the Kane family. I mean what I say."

Keegan looked at her with an ashen face.

It was not because he heard Stella's threat but because someone tried to harm her and his child right under his nose.

How could she be fine when she was covered in blood?

Keegan did not listen to her and was about to take her away.

However, Stella pressed his arm down forcefully, raised her other hand, and touched his lips with her bloodied thumb." Keegan, trust me," she said word by word.

Keegan was stunned and realized the liquid on his lips did not have the smell of blood at all. He thought he had lost his sense of smell, so he licked his lips to taste it.

It tasted like a mixture of fruit and honey.

Then, he looked at Stella, dumbfounded.

Stella quickly pushed his face, fearing that the others would see his foolish expression.

More and more people gathered around, including the guests from the wedding, the hotel staff, and her close friends.

Felicity, who had hoped that it was someone else who fell, panicked right after seeing Stella covered in blood in Keegan's arms.

Stella! Are you okay? How did you fall?"

The manager was also shocked and quickly asked the on- duty staff about what had happened.

However, none of them had a clue.

Keegan told Olivia to prepare a room and had Lena take Stella inside to check on her.

Dahlia was not surprised to see what happened at all.

They had been hiding the news of Stella's pregnancy from the public. It was very unlikely that they would disclose it at a time like this.

However, Dahlia figured that the baby in Stella's belly had no chance of making it, given how much blood she had lost.

Dahlia felt very happy upon thinking about that.

Then, she stepped forward and spoke in a gentle tone," Keegan, it's Mrs.

Chapman's daughter's big day and the ceremony will begin soon. Stella looks fine. Someone probably accidentally dropped an oil bottle, covering the stairs with oil. We should put this aside and investigate it later. Let's not delay the ceremony because of this."

Felicity could not hold back her temper upon hearing that," Are you hearing yourself? Are you sure she looks fine? If someone did accidentally drop an oil bottle, the oil should be all over the place. Look at this; this is clearly smeared on purpose, and it's so even, too! Someone must've done this!"

Dahlia glanced at Felicity and said, "Who would deliberately smear oil on the stairs for no reason? There are so many people going up and down the stairs, but why is she the only one who fell? Today is a big day for the newlyweds. Who will take responsibility if the ceremony is delayed because of this?"

Felicity stomped her foot in anger, "You're the one who did this, aren't you? This is why you don't want Keegan to investigate it and keep trying to brush it off!"

Dahlia's expression darkened, "Watch your words! Get lost if you're simply trying to stir things up!"

Vermont grabbed the agitated Felicity and smiled, "Ms. Crosby, you went a little too far with your words. We were invited here to attend the wedding of Mrs.

Chapman's daughter. We brought wedding gifts, and we're here to give the couple our blessings. What right do you have to tell us to get lost?"

With a cold expression, Dahlia retorted, "Vermont, you used to be so polite when speaking to your elders. After getting together with such an uneducated woman, you became rude. Look at how you've degraded. If your parents saw you like this, they would be heartbroken!"

Vermont chuckled, "Ms. Crosby, I was only polite to you because of Mrs. Kane Sr. and Keegan. You were a part of the Kane family back then, and I had to show some respect to you. Now that you're no longer a part of them, why should I still treat you politely? I don't know anyone from the Crosby family anyway, so you'd better not judge me as if you are someone to me. To be honest, although my elders could be unlikeable, they're not shameless." Dahlia paused as her expression turned extremely unpleasant, "Who are you calling shameless?"

Vermont shrugged, looking innocent, "I don't think I'm calling anyone shameless."

"You--"

"Enough!" Keegan interrupted them with a stern face.

Even though Dahlia was still very angry, she quickly calmed down upon thinking that her plan had succeeded. After organizing the words in her head, Dahlia was about to say something, but Keegan beat her to it.

"Mrs. Chapman, this incident happened in your hotel. I demand an explanation on whether it's an accident or intentional. Otherwise, I'll get the police involved."

Although Dahlia was very confident in her plan, she still could not help but feel a little nervous. She then looked at Olivia, who gave her a reassuring glance.

"We take full responsibility for what happened. I've instructed the manager to retrieve the surveillance footage. Everyone here can watch it later. If it turns out that the incident happened because of our negligence, I'll be sure to apologize and compensate Ms. Hall accordingly."

After a while, the manager came back with a copy of the footage.

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After that, Olivia brought everyone to a smaller banquet hall downstairs and used the projection equipment to show them the surveillance footage.

The cameras were installed near the staircase. At the beginning of the footage, it captured a few people walking by, but none approached that side of the staircase. It was not until over half an hour later that Aurora came out of the main banquet hall and entered the staircase carrying a bag.

Then, the footage switched to the entrance of the staircase on the floor above, where Aurora came out from inside.

From the time mark, it was evident that Aurora stayed on the staircase for about ten minutes.

It was simply too suspicious.

Everyone began to shift their gaze to Aurora.

Aurora's face was pale, thinking about the identical bag Dahlia had given her before leaving. Then, she turned her head and stared at Dahlia.

However, Dahlia did not look at her. Instead, she was just watching the footage with a frown, seemingly as nervous as everyone else watching the video.

After coming out of the staircase, Aurora went into a room. However, she came back out again after a while.

She still held the same bag. However, instead of taking the same staircase down, she went down the other side.

Right after that, Stella exited the restroom and took the stairs that Aurora used to come upstairs. A few moments later, a loud noise echoed from the surveillance, accompanied by a woman's scream.

After the footage ended, everyone's gaze was fixated on Aurora.

Her face turned even paler. When she met Keegan's scrutinizing look, she said anxiously, "Keegan, it wasn't me. I swear. I'd never do anything like this..."

With a stern face, Keegan asked in a low voice, "Then what were you doing on the staircase for so long?"

"I was waiting for someone," Aurora stammered. "Mom said that she had something to tell me and asked me to wait on the staircase, so I did. But she didn't come for a long time, so I called her, and she told me to go into that room."

"What about the bag you were holding? What was inside? Why did you throw it right after you came out of the room?"

"That was the pastry Mom asked me to bring for her. She said that Mrs.

Chapman was taking too long with her makeup, and she got hungry. So, I went up to give her some food. The bag I threw away was the garbage Mom asked me to take out from the room."

"Garbage?" Olivia chuckled, took something handed over by the manager, and tossed it on the floor. "Is this the garbage?"

A bottle of Tung Oil rolled out from the same bag Aurora had thrown in the bin earlier.

Aurora was terrified, "This is not mine."

Felicity exclaimed angrily, "Aurora Kane, you heartless creature! I knew you were up to no good! Stella has been so nice to you and even made delicious food for you, yet you still want to harm her! Do you even believe in the lies you're spinning? Mrs. Chapman's family owns this hotel. If she wanted something to eat, why wouldn't she ask the kitchen staff to bring it? Why would she need you to bring it upstairs? And why use a bag? Is a plate too heavy for you?"

With red eyes, Aurora looked at Dahlia, “Mom, say something. You were the one who asked me to bring the pastries upstairs. You told me to use a bag...”

Dahlia looked incredulous as she asked in a dejected tone,” Aurora, how could you do such a thing?”

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Aurora froze in place.

She looked at Dahlia with both shocked and fearful eyes and stuttered, "M□ Mom, wh-what are you saying?"

Dahlia put on a heartbroken expression on her face, “I know that you don’t like Stella. You’d always tell me about it, but I thought you were just ranting. I never thought that you’d actually do something like this at Mrs. Chapman’s daughter’s wedding. I’ve spoiled you too much, and you have no sense of right or wrong!

You’d better hope that nothing bad happened to Stella, or the entire Kane family will never forgive you for what you did!”

With her still pale face, Aurora stared blankly at Dahlia. Every word she uttered felt like a cold knife stabbing her in her heart.

Compared to the suspicious and disdainful look of the outsiders, Aurora was more troubled by Dahlia’s attitude.

Just moments ago, she had said that she would not target Stella anymore for the sake of her grandchild and wanted them to live happily as a family. But now, she became the first to direct the blame on Aurora without any clear evidence after Stella fell.

It was only then that Aurora realized Dahlia had never given up on getting rid of Stella’s child. Dahlia had shifted the blame for Stella’s “miscarriage” onto her.

However, she could not understand why her mother would do something like this.

It seemed like Dahlia was not just ruthless in getting rid of her grandchild without a second thought, but she could also heartlessly set her daughter up to serve her motives.

“It seems like she hasn’t learned anything after being locked up.”

“The heiress of the Kane family has always been arrogant and a bully. She never cares about what’s right or wrong. She does whatever she pleases, and no matter what, the Kane family will always cover for her.”

“Things are different now. Stella was a part of the Jewell family that wasn’t respected by many, so Aurora could mistreat her however she wanted.

However, Stella has returned to the Hall family and has no connection with the Kane family anymore. She’s even staying in the Kane residence to help Keegan recover his memory out of kindness. How could Aurora try to harm her at a time like this? She has no conscience at all. What she did was completely ungrateful and heartless!”

“Did she lock Stella in the restroom during the charity banquet? She nearly caused Jaylene’s death, too. It seems like she’ll never change.”

The onlookers criticized Aurora, suggesting that she had a malicious and arrogant nature.

Aurora's shoulders trembled slightly as she shouted at them with her eyes red, "It wasn't me who did it!"

The crowd stopped talking for a moment but quickly resumed.

Dahlia said disappointedly, "Aurora, if you made a mistake, you should admit it.

If that bottle of Tung Oil hadn't rolled out of the bag, I also wouldn't have thought that you were the one who did it. When you told me about your plan on the phone earlier, I didn't know that you meant it. I can't believe that you actually did it. How do you expect Keegan to face Uncle Wenham in the future after what you've done?"

Felicity immediately chimed in upon hearing that, "What did she tell you on the phone? You knew about this, huh? Are you the mastermind behind this?"

Dahlia ignored her, "I've been too lenient with you before, and that's why you've become so uncontrollable. Otherwise, nothing like this would've ever happened.

This is all my fault. ■ With that, she took her phone and played an audio recording.

Soon, Aurora's voice came through.

"Who does she think she is? Does she think everything has to go her way?

"Yeah, Stella still thinks that Keegan is the same man who would always put her first. He doesn't even remember her, and I bet even her presence annoys him.

"I'm at home too, pouring some oil on the floor. She's going to slip and fall when she comes downstairs later..."

Aurora's arrogant and domineering voice came through from Dahlia's phone.

When everyone heard her mentioning the oil, the truth suddenly became clear.

The crowd assumed Aurora did not like Stella and could not stand her presence at the Royalpark Villa. She had wanted to teach Stella a lesson for a long time but had been unable to do so at home, so she chose to do it during Ms.

Chapman's wedding.

Everyone thought that Aurora's intentions were malicious.

After listening to the audio recording, Aurora's face could not have been any paler.

She looked at Dahlia, and her eyes turned from shock to indifference.

Keegan's expression was very gloomy as he stared at Aurora. He clenched his fists tightly, and his gaze looked somewhat indescribable.

Aurora felt a pang in her heart as tears streamed down her face. "Keegan, do you also not believe me?" she asked in a hoarse voice.

Keegan shifted his gaze to Olivia, "Mrs. Chapman, why don't you show us the full footage? If Aurora was the one who did it, Stella should've noticed the oil on the steps when she went upstairs since Aurora went up before her. However, Stella fell when she was going down the same stairs. Were there any other people passing through the staircase during this time? The most crucial part of the evidence is missing from the surveillance you provided."

Dahlia began to look somewhat worried.

There was a flaw in her plan. She initially thought that Stella getting injured would throw Keegan off balance and immediately hold Aurora accountable after watching a part of the surveillance footage. She had not expected that Keegan would still be so calm to analyze the whole situation.

Aurora was surprised, too. She could not believe that Keegan would still trust her as she stood there blankly.

Olivia spoke calmly upon hearing that, "The staircase is currently under renovation and the surveillance there isn't connected to the power. So, we can only check the cameras in the hallway. I already showed everyone the crucial parts."

As Dahlia heaved a sigh of relief, the screen automatically played again.

The footage, which was cut off before, continued with the part showing the moments before Stella went upstairs.

She went to the restroom upstairs because the one she wanted to use was being cleaned.

So, she had a waiter guide her upstairs. Shortly after she left, someone took away the cleaning sign in front of the restroom downstairs.

That person was wearing a light blue dress identical to the one Dahlia was wearing.

After taking the sign away, she also went to the staircase. She stayed there for a while and then came out from upstairs.

The crowd looked at Dahlia, whose expression slightly changed.

Vermont smirked, "Dahlia, since when are you responsible for cleaning the hotel restroom?"

Dahlia's face turned pale, embarrassed, "Don't talk nonsense! I was just passing by!"

"You were passing by, but you took away the cleaning sign?" Felicity suddenly came to a realization. "I get it now. You were the one who smeared the oil and blamed it on your daughter. Damn, I've never seen anything so shocking in my whole life! Aurora is your daughter, yet you have the heart to set her up like this."

Everyone's scolding her like this, yet you don't seem to care at all!"

"It wasn't me!" Dahlia retorted. "I was just passing by. Aurora said she needed to talk to me, so I went upstairs to find her."

Vermont looked at Dahlia, then at Aurora, "Aurora also said that she went upstairs to find you. So, which one of you is lying?"

