

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted by Eleven Jewell

Chapter 340-371

Chapter 340

Aurora was found by a cleaner by the road. Her mouth was filled with blood as she laid unconscious on the ground.

Somebody called the cops, and they worked together to send her to the hospital. They found her phone and I.D. in her bag so they called Dahlia.

Dahlia's face turned pale, and her knees went weak as soon as she saw Aurora.

Both sides of Aurora's cheeks were swollen, and there were little rocks wrapped in a piece of cloth stuffed in her mouth. Her mouth could not be fully opened because of how swollen her face was, so it was impossible for her to get that out. That was why her mouth was still filled with those little rocks when she was found.

The doctor cut the cloth with surgical scissors to slowly remove the rocks, and that was when the doctor could finally get a closer look at her mouth.

There were scratches everywhere inside her mouth. Even though they were not fatal or damaged the crown, the amount of scratches was terrifying to look at.

The mouth was nothing like the skin. It would keep producing saliva, and the wound would take a longer time to recover, compared to other parts of the body. Not only would Aurora not be able to speak for some time, but she would have difficulty eating too.

After all, the mouth is the only way to get food in, so the pain would only intensify if she were

to eat.

The doctor had been in this field for so many years. He saw various types of injuries, such as a broken arm or guts falling out, but it was his first time seeing such a strange injury.

It was not severe, but it was humiliating and tormenting.

Dahlia's heart broke, and she cried when she saw how Aurora could only make a squeaky voice to relieve her pain.

"Who did this?!"

Keegan pursed his lips and stood at the side silently with a straight face.

The police knocked on the door and entered the room. "Mr. Kane, Ms. Crosby, how's the victim? Is it possible for her to give a statement?"

Dahlia saw Aurora nodding her head. Then, she wiped her tears away and said with bloodshot eyes, "Come on in."

Aurora could not speak, so she typed on her phone to communicate with the police.

The police asked her everything that had happened the previous night.

Aurora could only remember going to the washroom alone before somebody covered her mouth and nose with a cloth. She was already blindfolded, and her mouth was taped when she woke up, followed by an endless beating.

Aurora shivered when she thought about what she had been through yesterday. She struggled to continue.

The police wanted to ask her more questions, but Aurora looked very frightened, and she started shaking as soon as she recalled what happened. Her face was swollen like a balloon as well, and the policemen could not bear to see her like that.

So, they shifted the topic. "Did they do anything else other than beating you?"

Dahlia's expression darkened. "What kind of question is this? You're here to find out who did this to her, yet you're asking irrelevant questions! You're just giving more time for the culprit. to escape!"

The policeman frowned. "Ms. Crosby, we're just doing what we have to. We have to know every single detail about the case to crack it."

"Did you get any ideas from asking so many questions then?"

The policeman pursed his lips. One of his colleagues went to the bar to look at the surveillance footage, yet he could not get any useful leads to make any advancements in the case. However, Aurora was only beaten up. She did not lose any valuable things, nor was she sexually assaulted...

"Ms. Kane, did you offend anybody recently? Or did you make any enemies?"

As soon as the policeman asked that question, Dahlia immediately thought of what had happened yesterday. Then, she gritted her teeth and said, "Stella Jewell! It's got to be her!"

"That's not possible." Keegan immediately denied her accusation. "She was with me last night.

Dahlia burned with anger. "Can't she hire somebody else to do it? Did you think I didn't notice how she looked at Aurora when she rushed toward her?"

Keegan's face darkened. "Aurora was the reason why her great-grandpa was injured. What do you expect?"

"Why are you still defending her at this point? Look at how badly injured your own sister is!"

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Keegan pursed his lips. "She should've been reflecting on herself after doing something wrong, but she went to the pub instead. Did you think this would happen to her if you spoil her so much?"

didn't

Dahlia was so angry her lips trembled. "Keegan Kane! You'd better not forget who raised you!" The policemen became very confused after listening to what they were saying. Then, one of them interrupted and asked, "Who's Stella Jewell?"

Dahlia's anger coiled in her stomach. Then, she told the policemen everything that had happened yesterday before adding, "I'm sure that she's holding a grudge because of what happened, so she took revenge on my daughter. Aurora has never crossed anybody in her life, yet this happened to her right after that incident. Isn't it very obvious who did this?"

The policemen heard Dahlia's words and thought what she said made sense. So, they asked, "Where is she now?"

"I'll bring you there."

Keegan stood in their way and pursed his lips. "I'll bring her to you later. She's taking care of a patient now."

The policemen peered closely at his reaction and said, "Mr. Kane, we're just going to ask her some questions. If she had nothing to do with it, it won't take very long. Would that be okay?" Getting impatient, Dahlia led the policemen to Arthur's ward angrily.

Keegan's face darkened. He went out of the ward and took a call from Aldor.

“Mr. Kane, the cameras didn’t capture the full face of the people who kidnapped Ms. Aurora. Also, the surveillance footage of the pub around ten o’clock was altered. The police are questioning the witnesses now, and that’s all we know for now.”

“Do you know who altered it?”

“I’m not sure. The security on duty last night took leave and went to his hometown, so we can’t reach him.”

Keegan went silent for a moment before he said, “We’ve got to find that security guard before everyone else does.”

“Understood, boss.”

“Would you take another bite?” Stella persuaded Arthur softly.

“Let me rest for a while first.” Arthur sighed. “I have someone else to take care of me here. You should be resting at home. Why did you get here so early in the morning?”

Stella put down the utensils. “You messed up my body clock. I can’t fall asleep after seven

o’clock now.”

“Heheh,” Arthur chuckled before he asked, “You didn’t argue with Keegan last night, right?” Stella gazed downward. “Why would I do that? I have better things to do.”

“Actually, Keegan’s very kind. The caretaker he hired is very attentive.”

Stella was not moved, “Everybody could do it with money.”

“It’s the thought that matters. Do you think your dad and uncles can’t afford to hire a caretaker? Why didn’t they do so then?”

Stella kept quiet.

“Go home early today and reconcile with Keegan. Otherwise, I won’t be able to stay here with peace of mind, and I won’t eat properly without peace of mind, and my wound will take longer to heal if I don’t eat properly, and I’ll have to keep staying in the hospital if my wound won’t heal. So, you should stop being angry at him if you want me to be discharged sooner.”

Stella was speechless after listening to his roundabout logic. However, she conceded reluctantly after hearing how determined Arthur sounded. “Okay.”

The ward door was pushed open abruptly right after she said that. Dahlia stood there in a very fierce and angry manner. There were two policemen in uniform standing behind her. "That's her."

Stella paused as her gaze darkened.

The policemen sized Stella up and thought that she looked very familiar before they asked, "Are you Ms. Stella Jewell?"

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Stella stood up. Before she could speak, Dahlia grabbed her arm, looking angry. "Did you do this? Did you find someone to beat Aurora up? Was it you?!"

Stella frowned. She looked like she did not know what had happened. "Mother, what are you talking about? What happened to Aurora?"

"Stop pretending!" When Dahlia looked at Stella, she immediately thought of Aurora's bloody, pitiful face. She raised her arm and wanted to slap Stella.

Arthur looked furious. He hit the mattress as he shouted, "Don't dare!"

you

Stella was ready to be hit. But her wrist was grabbed by someone the next second. She was abruptly pulled aside. A sound could then be heard when the smack was strongly made. But the slap landed on Keegan's chin.

Dahlia's sharp nails raked Keegan's chin and left a few shallow hints of redness on it.

Stella stared unwaveringly at Keegan. She unconsciously clenched her fingers.

Keegan touched his cheek. He glared at Dahlia. "Are you done? Let's go outside and talk if you're done!"

Dahlia looked exceptionally unhappy. She did not expect Keegan to take the slap for Stella. She would be less angry if Keegan grabbed her hand to stop her.

The policeman hurriedly stepped forward to ease the situation. "Ms. Crosby, relax. We'll know who did it after the investigation." After he said that, he turned his head to say to Stella, "Ms. Stella, there's been a violent assault at West Loop Avenue last night. We want to ask you some questions. Can we go outside and talk?"

Arthur instantly sat up when he heard "violent assault".

"What violent assault? Are you all mistaken?"

The policeman thought that Arthur might be the flashpoint of the incident. He also thought Arthur might be involved in the incident too. So, he told him about Aurora being beaten up.

After hearing what he said, Arthur immediately said, "It can't be Stella. She was taking care of me in the hospital last night. How'd she have the time to go and do that?"

The police frowned. 'Stella has another alibi now.'

"We didn't say she did it. We just want to ask some questions."

"Ask her the questions here then! That woman dared to hit my great-granddaughter in front of me. Who knows how you guys would conduct the case behind my back?"

The policeman was at a loss for words. 'Our response was slow just now. Who would've thought Dahlia, who dressed so properly, would hit someone?'

Dahlia coldly said, "You'll just find excuses for her if we ask her in front of you."

"Don't ask her questions then." Arthur angrily added, "Arrest her if you guys have proof. Or else, get lost!"

While they were in a stalemate, a male's voice could be heard from the door. "Why're there so

many people here?"

Everyone turned their heads. They then saw Trevor carrying a banquet of flowers standing at the door. He looked surprised.

Keegan frowned. "Why are you here?"

"I heard that Mrs. Kane's family member was admitted to the hospital when I sent her back to the hospital yesterday. So, I wanted to come and visit." He paused for a moment and looked around. He then stared at the two policemen. "What are you guys doing here?"

The police paid attention to Trevor's words. He asked, "You're saying you were with Ms. Stella last night?"

Trevor nodded. "I went to find her to talk about work. I was the one who sent her to the hospital last night."

The two policemen exchanged glances. One of them asked, "What time did you guys go out?"

“Before nine or ten at night. About that time. We talked for quite a long time. I fetched her back to the hospital after that.”

Stella raised her eyes to look at Trevor. He looked natural. He even asked the police, “What are you guys investigating here?”

Right after he said that, the policemen received a message from their colleagues on their phones. Stella indeed went back to the hospital at one o'clock at midnight. And she got back home at two o'clock at midnight. The owner of the Bentley that sent her to the hospital was Trevor.

The time information matched. There was no proof saying Stella was directly involved in this violent assault.

“Nothing. We just wanted to ask some questions.” They meant to ask questions before they got new leads. The police then said, “We'll leave now.”

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Dahlia was suddenly desperate when she saw the police were going to leave without doing anything. “You guys didn't even find out anything and didn't arrest anyone! You want to leave just like that?”

“Ms. Dahlia, we understand that you're desperate to arrest the criminal. But we can't solve the case by just guessing. We can't simply arrest anyone that we suspect. Don't worry, we'll continue to follow up on this case. If there's new information, we'll contact you immediately.”

Dahlia could not accept such an outcome. She lashed out. “You guys are trash!”

The police officers' facial expressions changed. “Ms. Dahlia, please watch your language!”

Dahlia glanced angrily at Stella and stormed out of the ward.

Stella pursed her lips. She stepped forward and said, “I'm sorry, police officers. My mother-in-law was worried. But she didn't mean to be rude. I'll walk you two out.”

‘She sounds gentle. She's nothing like what Dahlia described.’

‘Moreover, ordinary people wouldn't think of putting stones into someone's mouth and slapping them.’

When they were in the elevator, one of the police officers suddenly said, “I remember now. Isn't she the female lead in the first episode of Jurisdiction?”

The other policeman was frozen for a moment. He quickly checked on his phone and made the comparison. 'It's really her.'

"She's an actress... Actresses are exceptionally good at acting, right?"

"I think Ms. Crosby is the one who can act. Rumors say that she's virtuous and well-mannered. She wasn't any of that. Even if her daughter-in-law did it, I think it's excusable. Her elderly family member was beaten up so badly. It's unforgivable to not want revenge."

"You're a police officer. How can you say that'd be unforgivable?"

This was the first time Arthur received flowers. He was very happy.

When Stella came back, he was carrying the flowers in his arms and continuously asking Trevor the names of each of the flowers.

Trevor was very patient. He told Arthur one by one.

Keegan was not in the ward. He might have gone to visit Aurora. Stella did not care about that.

"Trevor, are you Keegan's friend?"

"I'm friends with Stella too. Stella saved my sister back then. I find Stella very congenial to me.

Arthur smiled. "Since you two are friends, you shouldn't always talk about her saving your sister. I thought you looked friendly when I saw you. Stella must think the same too.'

True friends would not talk about owed favor. Arthur was exceptionally wise.

Keegan came after they chatted for a while.

Trevor stayed a little longer before he said he had something to do and had to leave. Arthur then asked Keegan to show him out.

After they exited the ward, Keegan said, "Did you switch the surveillance footage?"

Trevor was confused. "What surveillance footage?"

Keegan stared at Trevor's face. He did not want to miss any of his micro-expressions.

But Trevor looked very calm. There was nothing amiss.

Keegan pressed his lips. He pondered before he said, "Nothing."

After he left the hospital and got into his car, Trevor then asked Xavier, "Did you finish your job?"

"Mr. Kane went to check it right after I was done."

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"But he was too late. I'd already tempered with the surveillance footage." Xavier paused for a moment. "Mr. Kane suspected you?"

Trevor loosened his tie. "Keegan isn't stupid. I testified for Stella. How can he not be suspicious? He'd definitely immediately go and check the surveillance footage when he knew Aurora got beaten up."

"Mr. Kane didn't go and check the surveillance footage. He wanted to destroy it, just like us," said Xavier.

Trevor stopped moving. After a while, he said, "Are you sure he wanted to go and destroy the footage?"

"My intel can't be wrong."

Trevor pursed his lips. He gave a faint laugh after a long ponder. "Interesting."

"Mr. Saun, it's easy to deal with the surveillance footage at the store entrance. But we can't do anything about the public surveillance system. If Mr. Kane were to continue investigating, he'd definitely see our car at the place where Ms. Kane got into trouble."

"It's all right if he sees it." Trevor was not concerned about it at all. "We didn't do anything." They did not do anything. But they refused to help Aurora.

After they sent Stella back to the hospital last night, they went back to where they came from.

After Aurora awoke, she ran out of the abandoned repair shop. She ran staggering to the roadside to wave for a lift.

Trevor coldly watched her. He did not ask Xavier to stop the car.

The reason he turned back was to see how badly Aurora was hurt. If she was not too seriously hurt, he might even hurt her further.

'Aurora locked Ms. Saun in the washroom. Ms. Saun almost died because of her. How can Mr. Saun spare her?'

Xavier knew exactly how protective Trevor was of Jaylene.

He studied in the same school as Jaylene. She was sickly. She was tinier than the other kids when she was in school. And she always looked sick. So, there were some kids in school who liked to tease Jaylene.

They would secretly pour her water out, ripped her homework, and intentionally grabbed her braid in the class. They would even put worms in her bag.

They enjoyed all these lame tricks.

Even if she reported it to the teachers, the kids were only asked to write apology letters and they would get away with it. After that, they teased her more aggressively.

And there was a time when Jaylene was sick at school. The medicine that she always carried could not be found. Luckily, the teacher of the sickbay came opportunely and helped her.

On that day, the Saun family came to take Jaylene back home.

But that incident did not end there. No one admitted to taking away Jaylene's medicine. And the school was afraid that it would cause a scene and affect the school's reputation if they were to report it to the police. So, the school did not call the police. They merely sent a few leaders of the school to the Saun residence to express their sympathies. The school wanted to just reconcile everything and not make it a big issue.

Xavier could not remember what the Saun family's reaction was. Because it happened too long

ago.

But the day after the school leaders went to the Saun residence, Trevor brought a few people with him to the school. And they pulled those kids that always bullied Jaylene out of their class.

They brought the kids to the top floor of the school. They pushed the kids one by one from upstairs in front of the entire school.

They did not fall to death. They were hanging off the ground. Trevor was stepping on the rope that was tied to the kid. It was over a hundred feet off the ground. The kid would definitely fall to death if Trevor let go of the rope.

Just when everyone was terrified, the second kid was pushed down too. Same posture and the same way of being tied.

Then the third kid, the fourth...

Soon, all six of the kids were hanging outside of the top floor's fence.

Some of the kids were scared and screaming. The ropes swung when they struggled. It was possible that they would just fall anytime. Some of them were so scared that they fainted.

There were six lives. The school could not just sweep it under the rug like before. They hastily called the police.

The situation was only under control when the police arrived.

Trevor was very cooperative with the police. He was very obedient when he got arrested.

The Saun family paid compensation to the kids' families. And Trevor was still a minor at that time. So, he was released after he being detained for only three days.

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The six kids had a tough time after that incident. After they were pushed by Trevor, the psychological effects of that event were very serious for them. And after everyone found out that the six of them stole Jaylene's medicine and she almost died because of them, they were isolated at school.

In less than a year after that, six of them changed schools one after another.

Xavier remembered that incident very well because he witnessed Trevor hanging the kids on the top floor and pushing them down.

So, after that, when he went for an interview and found out that the boss was Trevor, he immediately wanted to take his resume and leave.

Trevor was not as gentle and approachable as he appeared, especially when it came to Jaylene. He was extremely protective of her.

He toned down himself as he grew up in recent years. If it were before, Aurora's arms and legs would be broken for hurting Jaylene.

'Rather than saying he helped Mrs. Kane with the incident yesterday, I'd say he actually used Mrs. Kane to hurt Aurora.

'And Mrs. Kane looked so gentle. But she could actually think of such a ruthless move. Come to think of it, she does have something in common with Trevor to a certain extent. It's their ruthlessness.'

"Oh, right. I got the information regarding Rainee and Albert that you wanted me to get."

Xavier then handed the document in his hand to Trevor. "It's all here."

Trevor took the document and looked through it. He was stunned for a moment when he saw one of the sentences. "Albert and Rainee got divorced?"

Xavier nodded. "He did the paperwork six months ago. Albert hid the divorce very well. Mrs. Kane still doesn't know about it."

Rainee had been in a vegetative state for many years. It was very easy to get a divorce in this kind of situation.

Albert was smart. Although he divorced Rainee, he applied in court to become Rainee's guardian. He promised that he would be responsible for her follow-up treatments.

As long as Rainee did not wake up, no one would know that they were divorced even until her death. Albert could even get all the assets under Rainee's name all to himself.

Trevor pursed his lips as he opened the document about Rainee.

'It's a classic story about a rich girl and a self-made man.'

As he was looking through it, he noticed that both Rainee and Albert had type A blood, while Stella had type AB blood.

Trevor clenched the document. He said in a deep voice, "Do you think two people with type A blood can give birth to a child with type AB blood?"

"How's the possible?"

Trevor closed his eyes. He pictured Stella's face in his mind. Her face gradually coincided with another person in his memory.

Some old images continuously appeared in his mind.

Wet, cold body, a dead baby whose face had turned blue, a unique mole on the shoulder blade...

'Is this real, or is this a dream?'

'Did I misremember, or did the other people misremember?

'How can there be such a coincidence?'

Suddenly, his phone rang.

Trevor came back to himself and answered the phone call.

"Trevor, mom and dad said they'll be here next week. You need to quickly find someone to remove the roses in the garden. Mom's allergic to roses."

Trevor frowned. "I'd already prepared a house for dad and Darcie. They're not staying here."

Jaylene was stunned for a moment. "We're not staying together?"

"The new house is ready. There are too many things that need to be fixed in the old house. It's not convenient for mom and dad to stay here. After dad and Darcie arrive, you go and stay with them. I'll tidy up the old house before I move in with you all."

Jaylene kept quiet for a while. She softly said, "Trevor, you don't want to remove the roses, do you?"

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Trevor froze for a moment. He quietly said, "Those roses have been there for decades. Some of their roots are very deep into the ground. It's not that easy to remove them. It's not

worthwhile to spend so much effort to remove it."

"All right. I'll tell dad and mom."

"Okay. Let them know."

After the call ended, Trevor flipped through a few pages of the document again before putting it aside.

Trevor and his mother planted the roses in the garden together.

The flowers bloomed and died all these years. But his mother could no longer see it.

When Keegan got back to the ward, Arthur was sleeping.

Stella was leaning back in the chair. She was half asleep. She looked a little tired.

It woke her up when Keegan came in.

She raised her eyes to look at him. Her eyes were cold.

“Come out,” Keegan said to her.

Stella got up and took her jacket before leaving with Keegan.

They did not talk along the way. Keegan spoke after they got into the car. “Where did you actually go last night?”

“I was with Mr. Saun. Didn’t you hear that?”

Keegan pursed his lips. “Do you know how well the police’s surveillance system covers?”

Stella slowly raised her eyes. She looked calm. “How well?”

Keegan’s eyes were dark. “As long as the surveillance captures your face, they’ll have ways to know where you went.”

“So impressive. Then why are there still so many unsolved cases?”

Keegan’s forehead twitched. “Do you think I’m joking?”

“No.” Stella faintly said, “It’s good that their surveillance system is so well developed. The sooner they find the criminal, the sooner I’ll be absolved.”

“You’re innocent?”

Stella paused for a while. She glanced at the phone he was clutching. She suddenly smiled. “Are you trying to extract information from me?”

Keegan remained silent.

Stella looked emotionless as she leaned close to his ears. She slowly said, “Keegan, do you remember what I told you on the charity gala night?”

Keegan startled.

Memories gradually appeared in his mind.

She had said, “Keegan, this will be the last time I humor Aurora. I can forgive what she did in the past because she was still young. But, in the future, if she crosses me again, I won’t go easy on her. You can protect her. But I’ll fight back and make my stand. I’ve got nothing to lose. I’ll fight for myself.”

Stella kept her word.

Keegan turned his head to look at her.

But Stella distanced herself. She wiped away the hair on her shoulder.

“I’m saddened by what happened to Aurora, just like all of you.” She looked at Keegan.
“I’m really quite sad.”

‘I’m sad I didn’t slap her a few more times.’

She was not afraid that Keegan recorded her voice. ‘What I said can’t prove anything.’

She wanted to let Keegan know that since the Kane family could not give justice, she would seek it herself.

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She thought Keegan would be furious. They were used to pampering Aurora, and she was made very aware of it. How could Keegan possibly relent if she had hit their precious sweetheart to this state?

However, Keegan did not say anything. He was quiet for a long time, then said, “Go home. Great-grandpa says he wants to have chicken soup.”

Stella was stunned for a moment. She felt like her throat was stuck and did not say a thing in the end. The incident about Aurora being beaten up did not spread. It was unknown if the Kane family had purposely suppressed it. Although she was tied up and only beaten once, it was not convincing enough. She might have also been sexually harassed. Regardless of whether the news would be passed on, how the incident developed was uncertain, so the Kane family suppressed the news.

On the police’s side, they also could not make any headway. Initially, they assumed it was a standard violent assault case, but the investigation was constantly hampered. At first, the surveillance footage was switched. Then they found out that the car used to kidnap her was a scrapped car using another license plate.

When they went to look for it, the car had been processed into scrap. No clues could be found. Dahlia went to make a fuss at the police station a few times and was almost detained by the police’s administration. In the end, it was Cordelia who diffused the situation, and Dahlia was also reprimanded by her. Stella herself did not think that the incident would just fizzle out like that in the end.

Arthur was discharged after a week. His body had recovered up to a point, and he would wake up early every day to exercise. On the night three days after that, Stella

came home and did not see Arthur beckon her to wash her hands and eat like he usually did. Instead, she found he had left a note for her on the chair he usually sat on.

“The sow at home is about to give birth. I need to go back to help it. I’ll make some suckling piglet for you at Thanksgiving.”

He then left Rivera quietly without notifying anyone. After Stella made sure he returned to his home safely, she got busy filming and preparing for Cordelia’s birthday party.

Very quickly, she met with her first obstacle. The venue for throwing the birthday banquet was booked in advance by someone else. Rivera was not lacking in venues, but Dragon Lagoon was indeed the best in terms of scenery and size. Cordelia held these birthday banquets once every ten years, so naturally, it could not be shoddy.

Stella contacted the person in charge and asked for the phone number of the other client to see whether they could negotiate. However, the person in charge refused her, so Stella had to look for the boss of the premise.

After searching, in the end, she came to Mrs. Chapman. It turned out that this property was a part of Mrs. Chapman’s family’s property. When she heard that Stella wanted to negotiate the timing for renting the venue, she said with a complicated expression, “Mrs. Kane, it’s not that I don’t want to help you. The other person wanted to hold a wedding and booked the date early. In other words, how could I tell the other person?”

Stella replied, “Mrs. Chapman, you can help me inform them. If they can exchange, I’m willing

to return the amount they paid in deposit threefold.”

Mrs. Chapman chuckled with a slightly disdainful expression. “Mrs. Kane, as a member of the Jewell family, you probably have not planned a banquet this huge before, so maybe you don’t understand. People who can hold a wedding banquet at the Dragon Lagoon do not need that small amount of deposit.”

Stella’s expression tensed slightly. “What you said, Mrs. Chapman, I naturally understand. However, the birthday banquet that Madam Kane Sr. holds is only held once every ten years. I still need to put in all my effort for it. As you are doing business, it’s natural that you don’t want to upset your clients. How about you give me the contact of the client that booked it? I’ll tell them myself and take full responsibility if I can make them change their mind, regardless of the penalty charges or anything else that happens. Would this be okay?”

“Ms. Kane, you already said I do business. The most basic rule of doing business is to protect the client’s confidentiality. If I leak the client’s information to you today, the client could spread this incident tomorrow. The reputation I have accrued over the years would crumble. Then, who would want to do business with my family?”

Stella pursed her lips.

“That’s enough.” Mrs. Chapman stood up. “I still have other clients coming at the moment, so I won’t be able to keep you company, Mrs. Kane. You can look for another venue. There are many other venues at Rivera. Go through a few more. There should be a suitable one in the end.

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After dismissing Stella, Mrs. Chapman took her phone to call Dahlia’s cell number. “Dahlia, you can rest easy. How could I not perform what you told me to do well?”

Dahlia said nonchalantly, “Sorry to trouble you. I’ll make up for the loss of venue later.”

“No need. About what I told you about last time, you can help me keep an eye out. I’ve already spoken with the other larger venues. If Stella wants to rent it, it wouldn’t be easy.”

Hanging up the phone, the sound of glass breaking came from behind.

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Aurora could not eat anything due to the pain in her mouth. She threw her cutlery onto the floor in anger. The housemaid knelt down on the floor to clean anxiously. Aurora then threw a glass cup by the housemaid’s feet.

The flying shard of glass slit her hand, and she started to bleed.

“Scram! Get away from me!” After she finished screaming, Aurora held onto her cheeks in pain.

“Why are you taking your anger out on the housemaid?” Dahlia scolded her and turned to the housemaid. “Stop cleaning and take care of your injury first.”

The housemaid nodded and left. Dahlia took another bowl of porridge and passed it to Aurora. “This bowl is slightly cooler. Eat it slowly.”

Aurora had difficulty eating due to the injuries in her mouth these few days. Her whole frame had grown skinnier due to her nutrition’s inability to keep up. Not only did her physique become much thinner, but her complexion had become much worse too. In addition to the constant torment from the pain, her initially terrible temperament became extra cranky.

“I don’t want to eat it, mother. I’m in pain,” she said while sobbing softly.

Dahlia looked at her much skinnier daughter and bit her lower lip. After a long while, she said, "Eat your meals properly and heal your injuries first. You can rest assured that mommy won't let this incident slide."

On the other hand, Felicity was waiting outside. When Stella walked out of Mrs. Chapman's place, she asked anxiously, "How did it go? Is it negotiable?"

Stella shook her head. "The owner of Dragon Lagoon is Mrs. Chapman."

Felicity froze. "Is Mrs. Chapman the one you won tens of thousands of dollars from, so she keeps causing problems for you?"

Stella nodded her head.

"It's such a small world. How could it be her? Is she spiteful, so she did not rent it to you?" Felicity asked.

"There's that possibility," Stella replied.

'And this should be the one with the highest probability to be the truth,' Stella thought.

Mrs. Chapman could not possibly have known that the Kane family wanted to hold a birthday banquet. Dahlia had been worried about this issue very early on. She definitely would have to save the venue for Dahlia. Consequently, when Dahlia does not acquire the rights to host the banquet, Mrs. Chapman immediately rents the place out. That would be too much of a coincidence.

"Why not," Felicity prodded, "find Keegan for help? Mrs. Chapman would still do it for his sake, right?"

Stella did not speak. Truthfully, after Arthur and Aurora's incident, she had not talked to Keegan that much. Stella could not lay down her dignity to beg him shamelessly for this meager issue.

Felicity sighed as if she had given her all. Sadly, Keegan was not strong enough and even made Stella mad.

"Oh yeah, Mr. Saun could help. Didn't he say he owed you a favor? Coincidentally, you can look for him for help and let him return the favor."

"It would be better if I thought of other solutions," Stella interjected. Trevor had helped her get rid of suspicion for no reason. She really had no clue about the person deep down. Everything was fine, so what made him think of helping her?

Forget about saving his life. The favor was returned with that one Bentley.

She was afraid that if she went to look for him for help, he would have other ulterior motives. Until then, she would be on thin ice, making the situation more difficult to solve.

She still needed to solve the issue of the venue by herself. Felicity started the car. "Let's go. You should accompany me to the hospital first, and you can think about it carefully on the way there."

Stella was surprised. "Are you sick?"

"I've had some pain in my chest recently. It feels like there's a lump inside. I wanted to have it checked in the hospital, but I was scared to be alone."

Stella furrowed her brows. "Why didn't you say sooner? How long has the pain been?"

"Quite a few months. Sometimes it hurts, and sometimes it doesn't. It was excruciatingly painful these few days," Felicity replied.

Stella was so mad at her. "It's been hurting for a few months, and you never thought about getting it checked out? If it's truly a big problem, the delay might have killed you!"

Felicity was immediately scared. "It wouldn't be a big problem, I think. You shouldn't scare me. My second aunt had breast cancer. Are these diseases hereditary? Could I have breast cancer? I'm not even married. If I need surgery to remove my breast, how would I get married in the future?"

Stella was speechless. She then replied, "If it comes to that, you can have a sex change."

Chapter 349

Felicity immediately felt disgruntled. "I haven't experienced the joys of being a woman, and you want me to have a sex change? Even if I want a sex change, I'll do it after sleeping with a

man."

Stella was at a loss for words. Why did she continue with Felicity's mindless ramblings? She originally wanted to get a number on the way there so they would be called sooner when they reached the hospital.

Turns out, the people who were queueing for the breast surgeon were exceptionally numerous. Besides that, many females there were of the same age. It was unknown whether it was due to women of this day and age being under more immense pressure. Still, she had always felt that the age for the onset of breast cancer had started to be younger and younger.

She originally wanted to turn around to comfort Felicity, but the girl had already started to play a round of games on her phone. The corner of Stella's lips twitched. "Are you not afraid that you have breast cancer?"

Felicity did not even raise her head. "Worst case scenario, I get a sex change."

'Fine, it was a waste to worry for her. Look how she's moved on!' Stella thought.

"Then you should stay here in the queue. I have to go to the washroom," Stella said.

"Come back quick. I'll get scared if I go in there alone later. You have to keep me company," Felicity pleaded.

"I know," Stella replied.

When Aldor walked out to refill on water, he suddenly saw a familiar silhouette flash by in the direction facing the washroom.

He was surprised. 'Why is the madam at the hospital?'

He thought about it for a while, and went to follow her. Then, he saw Stella walk out of the washroom and use the stairs upstairs. He followed all the way until he reached the breast department. Then he saw Stella go into the outpatient department for the breast department.

He was shocked and quickly called Keegan. "Mr. Kane, the madam just admitted to the breast department."

Keegan was sitting in the chair in the sick hospital ward, flipping through his photo album. A nurse straightened her clothes and walked in softly.

"Mr. Kane, you came here to see Coco again?" the nurse asked.

Due to his train of thought being broken, Keegan pursed his lips, turned off his screen, and asked, "How is she recently?"

"Coco's current condition is quite well. It's just that sometimes, she can get bored when she's alone in the sick ward. You can come more often to see her," the nurse answered.

Keegan did not continue the conversation. The nurse eyed Keegan and thought, 'He looks so gorgeous. When he lifts his gaze, his entire aura looks so sharp. When he lowered his gaze, he looked so gentle.'

There were so many people coming and going to the hospital. Even the celebrities that came here for a checkup were less outstanding than Keegan. The nurse gripped her

hands and nervously held her lunch box out in front of Keegan. Her face was flushed as she said shyly, 'It's... It's almost noon. I saw that you haven't had your meals. I made a lunch box myself. If you don't mind, you can try it.'

||

Keegan looked at the lunch box, stunned. He had the same lunch box at home. It was blue with a bunny on top, and Stella bought it. The first time she made a lunch box for him, she used this specific lunch box.

"I'm telling you now, this is the first time I've cooked, so even if it tastes terrible, you have to eat it. Or else, it would be a waste for me to get these blisters."

"It's already good that someone is making meals for you. Why are you being picky?"

"Keegan, am I the first woman to have made you a meal?"

"You're not allowed to eat the things other women make. You're only allowed to eat the ones I made."

"My cooking is terrible, but I look gorgeous. When you eat, I can sit next to you. How appetizing is that?"

Turns out she was very shameless then. Thinking about these distant memories, Keegan suddenly raised the corner of his lips. The nurse was flustered by his smile, and her face turned redder.

"Mr. Kane, I..." Before she could say something, a voice came from the door.

"Daddy."

Chapter 350

Keegan turned around, and at the entrance was a little girl around five or six wearing a red cap. She called out to him with a smile in her eyes. She was frail and skinny with short hair. Her eyes were big and expressive,

Keegan pressed his lips together. "What did you call me?"

The kid pouted and replied, "Uncle Keegan,"

Only then did Keegan beckon her. "Come here."

The little girl walked over and sat on his lap. "Could you change the color next time? The hat is very ugly. They said when I wear it, I look like the matchsticks in the little matchstick girl's hand."

Keegan took a closer look and commented, "It's quite similar, but there were only two colors. The other one was black."

"Then I want the black one," the little girl replied.

"Then wouldn't you look like a burnt matchstick?" Keegan teased.

Coco was at a loss for words.

"Have you made up with Aunt Stella?" Coco asked with her hands wrapped around his neck. Keegan paused and replied, "Who told you we were fighting?"

"Uncle Aldor said so." The little girl huffed. "If he didn't say so, I wouldn't have noticed. The clothes you wore these few times had a different smell from before. They don't have the nice smell Aunt Stella had."

Saying this, she took a whiff. "There is none today too.'

Keegan pinched her nose. "You can even smell this out?"

The little girl smiled with her eyes. "Aunt Stella definitely had a fight with you, so you're not allowed into the bedroom."

After saying this, she sighed. "Why have you learned nothing? When can I get a younger sister or brother?"

The corner of Keegan's eyes twitched. 'Learned nothing? Me? What kind of person had the little girl been hanging around with recently? She sounds like a tiny old grandma all the time.'

As the both of them were talking, Keegan's phone suddenly rang.

"Mr. Kane, the madam just admitted to the breast department," Aldor said.

Keegan's expression shifted slightly. "Where is she?"

"She just went in. I still don't know what the situation is."

Keegan hung up the call and lifted the little girl off his lap. "I need to go out for a bit."

"Mr. Kane..." Before the nurse could finish speaking, Keegan had already left the sick ward.

Coco smiled through her eyes. "Auntie, my Uncle Keegan looks pretty, right?"

The young nurse had feelings for Keegan, so she was naturally willing to maintain a good relationship with Coco. Hence, she said, "Mr. Keegan is the best-looking person I've ever seen.

"Then the number of people you have seen might be quite low." While saying this, Coco flipped through the phone and showed the picture Stella had posted on social media for the nurse to see. "My Uncle Keegan's wife is better-looking." The nurse was left speechless.

Aldor was anxiously pacing outside the outpatient department. The woman queueing next to him could not help but say, "Young man, you should stop pacing. All your pacing is making me dizzy."

Aldor then said apologetically, "I'm sorry, miss. I'm just worried."

The woman smiled. "You're worried your wife is sick? No need to worry. Young people usually don't have any major diseases. For breast nodules, the chance of mastitis is higher. As long as you eat your medication on time and readjust your mood, you'll heal very soon."

Aldor choked and coughed. "It's my boss' wife."

The woman probably had never seen this type of situation. She was shocked for a long while and then proceeded to say, "It's your boss' wife, and he made you come here and wait? What's your relationship with her?"

Aldor was at a loss for words. Then he thought, 'What is this woman imagining?'

At the same time, Keegan arrived. Aldor did not want to speak any further and quickly went to meet him.

Chapter 351

"Is she still not out?"

Aldor nodded his head. "She's been inside for quite some time."

As they were speaking, a woman's shriek of agony could be heard from inside. Keegan felt his chest tighten and subconsciously wanted to push open the door to enter.

The older woman on the side quickly blocked him. "The doctor's doing the checkup. If there's a lump inside, it'll hurt when it's pinched. Hence the screaming out is a normal occurrence. If both of you go in now, it'll affect the doctor's diagnosis."

Keegan retracted the hand that was about to push open the door stiffly. His lips tightened into a thin line.

The older woman saw his state which seemed pretty worried, so she comforted him. "Dr. Steven's skills are excellent. He looks handsome and has a gentle personality. With him there, there would definitely be no problem."

The corner of Keegan's eye twitched once while Aldor asked the question he wanted to ask. Dr. Steven is a male doctor?"

"Ah, isn't a male doctor prevalent nowadays? There are many male doctors in gynecology. As long as he can cure diseases, who cares if he's a male or female doctor? They're all good doctors. You both are young people. Why do you seem to make more of a fuss than an old lady like me?"

Keegan was at a loss for words. Aldor secretly sneaked a peek at his boss. His expression could not be considered well. Aldor was also worried on behalf of his boss, so he asked again. "How would they check precisely?"

"How else can you check a breast nodule? The first would be palpitations. That would be touching. After touching, they would bill for procedures for a more thorough examination."

Aldor's lips trembled. "Y-You said touch?"

The older woman had an odd expression and said, "If you don't touch, how would For andrology check-ups, don't they also touch?"

you check?

Aldor was speechless. Even with his excellent improvising skills, he did not know how to speak in this situation. Eventually, he coughed and said in a low tone, "Mr. Kane, it's just a normal checkup."

Keegan gave a deep glance with his taut expression and did not say a word.

Inside the outpatient department, Felicity was blushing as she stared at the refined-looking doctor. Her eyeballs were about to burst out of her face.

Stella was on the side and dared not look at her.

"Does it hurt when I press like this?" Dr. Steven asked in a low voice.

His clear tone made Felicity's heart beat faster when she heard it. Her voice also started to flutter. "A little."

Dr. Steven then touched on another part, "Is it the same position on this spot too?"

"Yes, but the left side is slightly more painful," Felicity answered.

“Have your menstruations come?” Dr. Steven asked.

“Not yet, but it will be soon. Almost around these few days,” Felicity replied.

“When your menstruation comes, does the pain become more apparent?” Dr. Steven continued.

Felicity nodded her head. “Yes, especially on the two days before my menstruation. It has a bulging ache and would alleviate when my menstruation goes away.”

Dr. Steven nodded his head and pulled back his hand. He got up and said. “You can get dressed now.”

When saying this, he took off his gloves and walked to his office desk to start billing for procedures. Felicity got dressed while Stella asked the doctor, “Doctor, is her condition severe?”

Dr. Steven raised his head, his gaze scanning her whole body with a glance. “You are accompanying her to do the checkup?”

Stella nodded her head.

“No need to worry too much. Felicity should be having breast hyperplasia, which causes the growth of the breast nodules. It’s most likely a benign one. You can come to see me again after taking a Color Doppler Ultrasound in a while.”

Felicity, at that moment, had worn her clothes. “Doctor, I don’t have breast cancer, right?” Dr. Steven chuckled. “Breast cancer wouldn’t have that type of pain.”

Felicity sighed in relief and whispered, “Dr. Steven, the something hyperplasia, is it severe?” “No need to be afraid, breast hyperplasia is actually considered to be common in comparison. It’s usually related to the level of hormones in the body. Conditions such as a woman’s mood fluctuations and high-pressure during work could easily cause these problems to occur. It’s not considered a huge problem and doesn’t require any medication under normal circumstances. Just stay happy, return for regular check-ups, and you’ll be fine.”

Felicity’s heart could finally rest easy in her chest, and she stared at Dr. Steven with starstruck eyes. “Dr. Steven, you’re amazing. Just by touching, you can know what the problem is.”

Once Stella heard this, she knew Felicity was enamored.

Chapter 352

Stella knew that Felicity was just trying to flirt with Dr. Steven after hearing what she said.

Felicity used to say that a wise person would never fall in love, yet her actions showed the complete opposite when she met a handsome man.

Dr. Steven handed her the prescription with a smile. "Palpation is the most common technique used in breast examination, and every doctor knows how to do this."

"I'm sure you're the best among all your colleagues then. Otherwise, why would so many patients come to specifically look for you?"

The doctor gazed downward and smiled without speaking.

"Dr. Steven, can I get your number? It's my first time getting diagnosed with this, and I'm very scared. Would it be okay for me to text you directly if there's an emergency?"

Corbin paused for a moment before he said, "Sure."

Then, they exchanged numbers. After that, Stella dragged her friend out of the clinic and left. "Dr. Steven's so handsome. His legs look so long even with the big white coat on. His frameless spectacles make him so just like a gentle... scum?"

Felicity saw Keegan standing in front of her before finishing her sentence, and she uttered the word 'scum'.

She almost bit her tongue off after saying that. 'I'm so stupid. How could I forget how vindictive this man is?' So, she immediately put on a smile. "Mr. Kane, what a coincidence this is. Are you here to see Dr. Steven too?"

Aldor, Stella, and Keegan were all speechless.

Stella immediately sent Felicity away after noticing the change of expression on Keegan's face. "Go get checked now. I'll wait for you here."

Felicity was more than happy to do that, so she slipped away while holding the prescription in her hands.

Keegan only spoke after Felicity left. "Did you come here to accompany her?"

Stella nodded.

"Did you get checked?"

"Why would I do that?" Stella glared at him strangely.

Keegan's frown slowly went away after hearing that. He shifted his gaze to Aldor.

Aldor shrugged. 'Well, I didn't know Mrs. Kane's best friend was here too.'

Stella looked at Keegan from head to toe. "Why are you here?"

Keegan replied with a straight face, "To see a doctor."

"Oh, go ahead then."

"I just did."

"I see." Then, Stella said, "You should go home now then. I still have to stay here with Felicity."

11

Keegan kept quiet.

'Why is she chasing me away? Does she really hate me so much?'

Keegan glared at her and said, "I'll wait for you. I didn't drive today."

Aldor was speechless.

'Mr. Kane is getting better at lying.'

Stella's mouth twitched. "Are you sure? Aldor is right here."

Keegan said flatly, "Earth Day falls on this month, right? That's why I'm commuting without emitting carbon monoxide."

Stella kept quiet.

Indeed, there were a lot of advertisements encouraging people to reduce their carbon

footprint, so Stella could not figure out if Keegan was speaking the truth or not. She paused for a while before she said, "Wait here then. I'll check on Felicity."

Keegan turned around and looked at Aldor angrily as soon as Stella left. "Face looking extremely pale?"

Aldor chuckled. "Mrs. Kane's skin is just too fair. Perhaps I saw wrongly because I was too far away from her." Then, he immediately tried to make up for his mistake.

“Mr. Kane, I’ll get some bottles of water. I’m sure Mrs. Kane is very hungry after doing so many things in the morning.”

Keegan looked away and said, “Okay.”

Aldor felt relieved and immediately ran off to get some water.

Chapter 353

Keegan stood outside the clinic to wait for them, and he did not realize that he had caught a lot of people’s attention.

Obviously, it was because of how attractive he looked, and the fact that he accompanied his wife here to see the doctor, so the ladies there got very interested in him.

However, there was one particular lady that gave him a very strange look.

Keegan noticed it, and he thought that he was standing in her way. So, he moved to the side.

However, that chatty lady opened her mouth. “Young man, you look like a decent man. Why would you hire such an assistant?”

Keegan was puzzled.

Then, the lady continued mysteriously after seeing the confused look on his face. “Your assistant kept walking back and forth outside like a cat on a hot tin roof before you arrived. Who would be so nervous while seeing the doctor with somebody else’s wife? Also, why would you even hire such a young assistant to take care of your beautiful wife? This is never going to end up well!”

The edge of Keegan’s mouth twitched. Then, he pursed his lips and said, “He’s been working for me for many years.”

The lady slapped her thigh. “That’s even scarier! I’m sure that the bastard has developed feelings for her after so many years!”

The lady told Keegan about every suspicious thing that she noticed while spraying spit all over Keegan. She only stopped talking when it was finally her turn to meet the doctor.

She even added before she left, “Young man, you’d better keep an eye out on him if you don’t want things to get worse.”

When Aldor returned with the water, Keegan looked at him fiercely.

Aldor's heart sank. Then, he immediately put a smile on. "Mr. Kane, are they not back yet?"

"Nope."

Keegan's voice sounded a little cold.

So, Aldor said cautiously, "Mr. Kane, do you want some water? I have both warm and cold ones. I bought some drinks too. What do you feel like drinking?"

"There's only four of us. Why did you buy so many drinks?"

"It's better for ladies like Mrs. Kane and her friend to have warm drinks."

Keegan stared at him for a second before he said out of the blue, "You're pretty thoughtful."

Aldor was speechless.

Keegan's strange tone did not sound like he was complimenting Aldor at all. The look on his face was very odd too, and it made Aldor feel like Keegan was a little bitter and angry.

Aldor was a very self-conscious person, but he could not figure out what he did wrong which

could've to this unusual reaction from his boss.

That was why Stella and Felicity saw how uncomfortable Aldor looked while standing in front of Keegan with those drinks in his hands.

"Why are the both of you standing right at the entrance?"

Stella pulled Keegan to the side. "You're in somebody else's way."

Aldor saw Stella, and he felt like he was liberated. Then, he quickly grabbed two bottles of water and said, "Mrs. Kane, Ms. Thompson, are you thirsty?"

Stella took one bottle from him and said to Felicity with a smile, "Go inside. I'll wait for you here."

Felicity took two steps forward before she turned back and grabbed the other bottle from Aldor's hand. Then, she said to him with a smile, "Thank you."

Stella twisted the cap open and, out of courtesy, asked Keegan, "Do you want it?"

“Yeah,” Keegan said.

Stella paused. She had no choice but to hand him that bottle of water, and she got herself a new bottle.

Keegan tilted his head and looked at her.

Stella had been spending most of her time outside the house, and Keegan barely saw her at all. She would still be sleeping when Keegan woke up, and she would be working at the set when he went to sleep. However, when he was less busy and waited for her to come home at night, she would go right to sleep after taking a shower.

She just would not talk to him at all.

Keegan hated the way things became.

So, he braced himself and said, “Are you...”

Felicity came out of the clinic before he could finish his sentence.

Stella immediately went to her, so Keegan swallowed back the words he was about to say.

“Hey, what did Dr. Steven say?” The happy look on Felicity’s face disappeared, so Stella was a little confused. The doctor said she would be just fine after the ultrasonic inspection. Yet, she looked very down after coming out from the outpatient department.

Chapter 354

Felicity said in a sluggish manner, “It’s a benign one.”

Stella was speechless. “Why the face then?”

“Dr. Steven told me to come back for a checkup every six months, which means I’ll only get to see him twice a year.” Felicity sighed. “Why does it have to be a benign one?”

The edge of Stella’s mouth twitched. “Did you hit your head? You’re crazy!”

Felicity glared at her. “What do you know? How am I going to make something happen between us if I don’t see him more often? Do you really want me to stay single till the day I die?”

Stella rolled her eyes. “Didn’t you add his number on WhatsApp?”

“Oh, yeah!” Felicity patted her own head. “How did I forget about that?”

She took her phone out as she spoke. Dr. Steven had saved her number too, and his profile picture was his own face but with casual clothes on.

That picture was taken in a gym. The doctor wore a tank top, and he was lifting his shirt up to get a shot of his abs.

Felicity's eyes sparkled. "He's packing!"

Stella immediately went to her after hearing what she said. "Not bad. I couldn't tell at all with his uniform on."

"Fuck, look at his waist. It looks sexier than the Toy Boy you showed me last time."

Stella shook her head. "Toy Boy is still better."

"Dr. Steven is clearly hotter!"

The edge of Keegan's eyes twitched.

On behalf of his boss, Aldor asked, "What Toy Boy?"

Stella's eyes twitched, and Felicity blurted out before she could even stop her, "He's a fitness celebrity with an amazing body. He would perform the Happy Cougar Dance on his live stream!"

"Happy Cougar Dance?" Apparently, all the years that Aldor spent studying were not enough for him to know what that was.

Felicity showed him a video. "There you go."

Aldor got closer to her, and the edge of his mouth twitched. "This is the Happy Cougar Dance?"

"

The man in that video had a sensational build, but it was not a video about fitness. However, that man was half-naked, and he was performing a dance that looked somewhat like a pole dance. The way that he swung his hips looked very erotic.

Keegan's face darkened after looking at it. Then, he looked at Stella with a long face.

Stella was looking very sheepish.

Felicity got very excited. "All of the top fans in his live stream are rich women, and he could earn more than hundreds of thousands just from their tips. Wouldn't you say that they're very happy with him?"

Aldor was speechless.

Then he asked tentatively, "Have you ever tipped him too?"

Stella kept shooting looks at Felicity, but she did not notice because of how excited she was as she told them everything.

"I don't have that much money. I'm only a freeloader. However, Stella tipped him before, and she was also the one who introduced me to him."

Stella did not know what to say.

Keegan glared at her. "Top fan, huh?"

Stella kept quiet.

Then, she said emotionlessly, "Not yet."

Keegan scoffed. "You sound disappointed."

Stella went silent again.

'Felicity's such an idiot. She just doesn't know when to keep her mouth shut!'

Right after they got into the car, Stella asked, "Should I send you guys back to the office?"

Aldor replied, "Let's go to Sapphire Clubhouse. Our company has a team-building session today."

Felicity got interested after hearing that. "Sapphire Clubhouse? Has your company always been organizing your team-building activities at such a high-end place?"

Chapter 355

So, Aldor said, "We did pretty well in the first quarter, so Mr. Kane wanted to reward us. Ms. Thompson, you should join us if you're interested."

Obviously, Felicity wanted to go. Sapphire Clubhouse was a very famous and expensive club in Rivera. It was said that the decorations inside were extremely luxurious, and the clubhouse would only hire good-looking people as its attendants. She wanted to open her eyes and brag to her friends by saying that she had been there. However, she was not in the right position to say yes. After all, she was not very close with Keegan, so she tried to convince Stella. "Stella, you don't have anything to do this afternoon, right? Why don't we go there and have a look?"

Stella heard her and figured that she should not turn it down because she had been going everywhere with her in these few days, and she just could not find any reason not to grant her little wish.

Everything was fine for Stella after saying yes to Felicity, but she started regretting it after they arrived at the place.

Because Sophia was there too.

And she was also the special guest at the team-building session.

The talent recruiting campaign that Vinci Rivera worked on with other universities was promoted by Sophia as a spokesperson.

Their first stop was at the university that Sophia graduated from, and it was a huge success. She attracted a lot of media attention, and she even made it to the local headline. Also, she was in one of the hottest searches on the internet.

The “Motivation Goddess” persona that Sophia built for herself was also very popular among university students.

Stella watched the video of her speech too, but she switched it off halfway.

Because she could not bear it anymore.

Sophia had been doing this for so long, and she knew very well how to make herself famous.

That was why she promoted herself as a flawless person.

She would tell people that she came from a humble family, but refused to give up after how unfairly life treated her. So, she tried her best to turn her life around. She even lied about being bullied at the orphanage and encourage the public to pay more attention to less fortunate children just to make her persona look more perfect.

Stella was not bothered by how Sophia tried to make herself look better to others, but the fact that she lied disgusted Stella very much.

Sophia had never once returned to the welfare center ever since the Jewell family adopted her.

Stella’s mother had been funding the welfare center, and it would organize a few events every year.

Rainee would ask Sophia if she wanted to go with her before attending those events, and Sophia would say yes. However, there was not one time that she actually made it to the events.

So, Rainee could tell that Sophia did not want to go back to the welfare center, so she stopped asking her to join.

Sophia was abandoned and left in front of the welfare center when she was five. She had

nothing with her when Shelley found her. The welfare center tried to search for her parents but to no avail. So, they took her in.

Sophia was then adopted by the Jewell family because of a fire accident after just three months of staying in that welfare center.

It was simply impossible for her to be bullied when she only stayed for such a short time there.

Stella got very angry after thinking of all the lies that she made up!

“Miss, would you like anything to drink?”

She heard a youthful voice behind her. She thought that the person’s voice sounded very familiar, so she turned around to have a look.

Then, she saw a teenager in a waiter’s uniform. He was skinny, tall, and had a rather delicate complexion. Stella thought that he looked very familiar.

The teenager’s expression changed after he took a closer look at Stella’s face. Then, he turned around and left with a tray of drinks in his hand.

Stella shouted, “Stop right there!”

The teenager threw the tray and ran outside.

‘You stupid kid!’

Stella gritted her teeth and chased after him.

Keegan saw Stella running behind a waiter right after somebody proposed a toast to him.

Then, he frowned and went after them.

The teenager was still very young and fit, so he could run very fast.

The inside of Sapphire Clubhouse was huge. The corridor was very long and there were a lot of private rooms too. All the attendants were busy taking care of those private rooms, and the corridor was empty too. However, nobody would stop him if there were anybody around because he was wearing his uniform.

Stella was wearing high heels, and she was drained after just chasing after him for a while." Ow!" She fell on the floor after seeing the gap between them gradually getting bigger.

Chapter 356

The teenager slowed down. He turned back and saw Stella sitting on the floor while holding her knee. Her face looked very pale.

He hesitated for a few seconds. Then he turned back and ran to Stella. However, he was very smart. He stood a few steps away from her and asked, "Are you okay?"

Stella looked like she was in a lot of pain as she held her knees while her shoulders shook.

In the end, the teenager was still too naïve. He went forward because Stella did not look like she was pretending. Then, he also asked for his colleagues' help as he checked on her.

He squatted down, and she suddenly pushed him to the ground. Then, she grabbed his collar before he could realize what was happening. "Stupid kid, why did you run away from me?"

The teenager realized that Stella had fooled him. His face turned red as he said, "You liar. I should've never believed your dirty tricks!"

He was just too forgetful. How could he forget that this woman in front of him acted like she would die just to make him wear women's clothes when they were younger?

She was just too good at acting, and her head was filled with evil plans too! She squinted. "Why would you run if you didn't do anything wrong?"

The teenager straightened up his neck. "I only ran because you started chasing after me."

"Why would I chase after you if you didn't run?" Stella stretched her arm out and slapped the teenager's chest. "Look at how skinny you are. Do you think you look good in this suit? Is this where you're supposed to be?"

Keegan saw Stella acting like a hoodlum when he came out; she was pinning a waiter on the ground while caressing his chest. Then, suddenly, he was filled with rage. 'I

didn't cause a scene when I learned she tipped the gigolo. But now she's no longer bothered to hide her true colors!

"To earn money? For what? Just tell me if you need money. Why would you wear anything like this? Do you know what kind of people hangs out here?"

Sapphire Clubhouse was high-end. But it was just another place for rich people to burn their

money.

The hourly rate for the attendants in Sapphire Clubhouse was very high, but its requirements were very high too. It did not only demand its applicants to be good-looking, but they also needed a high educational qualification.

Why would a mere attendant need to be so outstanding? Their jobs were just to attend to the customers, right? So what kind of other services did they need to provide?

However, it was difficult for youngsters like them to withstand the temptation of money.

They would forget their boundaries and do many things when money came easy. And it would

for them to pull themselves away when they got addicted to this lifestyle.

be

easy

The teenager gritted his teeth and said in an upset tone, "Not a hooligan like you, that's for sure!"

Stella was so mad that she laughed. "I'm going to act like a real hooligan since that's what I am to you. Take off your shirt now!"

She had just removed the teenager's blazer when she suddenly heard Keegan's voice coming from behind. "What are you doing?"

Stella's hand shivered. She turned around and saw Keegan standing beside her, glowering at her tensely. To be precise, he was glowering at the hand she used to take off that teenager's clothes.

Plenty of other staff came over to the corridor. All of them were stunned by what they saw. They saw a lot of customers teasing the attendants but never once blatantly pinning them down on the corridor.

After being on the ground for a while, Stella finally spoke and tried to explain the situation, "He's my brother."

After seeing Keegan, the teenager immediately denied it, "I don't know who she is. She just pounced on me out of nowhere."

The edge of Stella's mouth twitched. "Do you have a death wish?"

"How dare you threaten me!"

Stella was speechless.

Keegan said with a tight and angry face, "Would you get up now?"

Chapter 357

In the end, they were brought to the manager's office.

Stella and Keegan sat on one side while the young man had a long face as he sat on another

couch.

The manager looked to his left, then to his right.

He coughed and said, "Mr. and Mrs. Kane, this is just a misunderstanding. I also just learned about it. We've been understaffed, so the subordinates recruited new personnel. But,

unfortunately, since this boy's really tall, we couldn't tell how old he was. This matter's gotten pretty serious."

"Couldn't you check his identification if you couldn't tell?" Stella asked furiously. "He's underage!"

"I'm of age."

The young man glanced at her and continued, "I became of age last week."

For a moment, Stella was speechless.

"You think you can work here because you're of age? Have you graduated from high school? Have you sat for the college entrance exam? Don't you need to go to school anymore?"

The young man pursed his lips. Then, after a long while, he finally said stubbornly, "It's none of your business."

Stella was so furious her head hurt.

"None of my business, huh? Then, I'll call Ms. Cooke and ask her to come and mind your business!" she said as she pretended to make a call.

The young man's expression changed, and he immediately went over to snatch her phone. Before he could touch Stella, Keegan grabbed his wrist and twisted it backward. The young man fell onto the couch in pain.

"Let go of me!"

The young man forcefully struggled. However, Keegan was incredibly strong, so the young man could not move.

Julian Smith was nearly 5 feet 9. He was a child the organization had rescued near the train station. After unsuccessfully searching for the child's parents, he was settled at the Eastern Alley Welfare Center.

Nobody knew if he got lost or trafficked. He was being used by a gang that specifically used children as beggars. The gang had been roaming near the train station and committing crimes.

Due to Julian's childhood experience, he was agile. So fighting had never been a problem. However, it was the first time someone made him helpless. He could not move at all.

For a moment, he was defiant, humiliated, and angry.

Stella patted Julian's face, "Suck it. You try to put your hands on me? My husband's got a black belt in Taekwondo! A 10th degree in Jiu-Jitsu! A kickboxing champion!"

Julian was speechless.

Keegan was also at a loss for words.

'Even I had no clue I was that good at fighting,' he thought.

The manager was a sly person.

When he saw the situation, he quickly said, "Youngsters are impulsive, so they speak this way. Why don't the two of you have some water and calm down? I've already gotten someone to look for the person in charge. I'll definitely give you two an explanation."

'Whatever. I didn't want to ask for an explanation in the first place,' she thought.

She grabbed Julian's face, "Remember this face. The next time he comes back, just kick him out. Don't let him work here."

Julian pulled his chin away and said in a disgruntled tone, "I haven't gotten paid yet!"

"Alright. I'll get someone to pay you immediately," the manager instantly said.

After 10 minutes, Julian stood in the hallway, counting a stack of money. The manager even gave him an additional 1000 dollars, perhaps because of Keegan and Stella. After they exited the manager's office, Keegan finally asked, "Who's he?"

"He's a child my mother's sponsoring at the orphanage. His name's Julian."

Stella frowned and continued, "At this hour, he should be in school preparing for his exams." 'Julian's a really brilliant child who always has good grades. He's sitting for his college entrance exam this year and has a high chance of getting into a top university. There are less than two months before the exam, yet he isn't studying and working as an attendant at Sapphire? The more I think about it, the weirder it is. As he said, he seems to really be short of money,' she thought.

After Julian finished counting the 3000 dollars, he counted it again. Stella snatched the money away as he was about to count it for the third time.

Julian immediately wanted to snatch it back. However, when he saw Keegan standing next to Stella, he froze and retracted his outstretched hand. Then, he glared at her and said, "Give it back!"

Stella noticed the white and yellow patches on Julian's face. Suddenly, she frowned.

"What's that on your face?" she asked as she reached out to rub his face. After the foundation layer got rubbed away, a green bruise was revealed at the corner of his mouth.

Chapter 358

Julian frowned in pain. Then, he turned away and covered his bruise. "Low-quality makeup. Allergic reaction," he said vaguely.

'I shouldn't have bought that foundation that cost less than twenty. It came off after I sweat,' Julian thought frustratedly.

Stella had a taut expression. 'Does he think I'm blind? That's clearly a bruise from getting hit by someone!' she thought.

She asked with a dark expression, "Did the people here do it?"

"No."

"Then, who did?"

"I told you, nobody hit me. It's an allergic reaction!"

Seeing how this punk refused to confess, Stella brought up Shelley again, "Then, I'll call Ms. Cooke and ask her."

'Intimidating him using Ms. Cooke's name is despicable, but it's useful,' she thought.

As expected, Julian immediately confessed when he heard Stela say she wanted to call Shelley.

"I got it while fighting with a classmate."

He continued with slight panic, "Hurry up and give me back the money!"

"I can return it to you, but I'm going to send you back to school now."

When Julian heard her words, his expression turned icy.

"I'm not going," he said.

Stella saw his expression and knew there was much more to the matter.

"How many days haven't you gone to school?"

Julian pursed his lips. After a long while, he finally said, "I'm dropping out."

Stella instantly seethed hearing his words.

"How old are you? What can you do if you drop out? Serve tea and do hard labor? You can do hard labor while you're young, but how about when you get old? What will you do then?"

Julian seemed really annoyed and reluctant to discuss the topic. He said through gritted teeth, "It's my life, so I'll choose the path I want. Leave me be!"

Stella was enraged, "Leave you be and let you live like a loser? Look at you; you look like a clown! Is this the path you choose?"

Julian straightened his neck, "It's none of your concern!"

Seeing how Stella was about to lose her temper, Keegan stopped her.

“At this time of the day, there probably won’t be anyone at school if you send him there.”

“Then you tell me what I should do?” she asked.

“Isn’t it Monday tomorrow? The teachers should be in school on Monday. You can take him to school tomorrow and understand the situation,” he said.

‘That’s true. Even if I go now, I won’t necessarily find his class teacher. I don’t even know the specifics of Julian’s situation. If I don’t get to the root of the problem and solve it, he’ll find a chance to escape from school even if I send him back,’ thought Stella.

“Then, I’ll go tomorrow. You’ll stay at my house tonight. If you dare run away, don’t even think of getting back your 3000 dollars. I’ll even tell Ms. Cooke about what you did!”

Sure enough, Julian bought it. He was annoyed, but there was nothing he could do.

Most of the children at the orphanage had a disability; almost all of the able-bodied children had been adopted. Julian was one of the few non-disabled children in the orphanage. He was aloof, stubborn, and less cheerful than the children his age. He could not get along with the others when he first arrived at the orphanage.

Shelley patiently counseled him and reformed him bit by bit. That was why no matter how bad -tempered he was to others, he would immediately behave himself when others mentioned Shelley.

Stella called Felicity and told her to go back with Aldor after this. Then, she went downstairs with Julian and Keegan. Coincidentally, they encountered Sophia the moment they got out of the elevator.

Behind Sophia were two staff members of the clubhouse. They were pushing a trolley and about to enter the elevator.

On the trolley were two whole boxes filled with boba drinks. Sophia was a little shocked to see Keegan.

“There’s still a second round after this. So, Keegan and Stella, are you guys leaving now? Everyone’s still got a lot of programs prepared.”

Stella glanced at Sophia, whose gaze was practically stuck on Keegan.

‘Me not liking Keegan is one thing, but Sophia constantly coveting something that’s mine makes me feel disgusted,’ she thought.

And so, Stella said without changing her expression, "It's getting late; it's almost nine o'clock. Everyone's pressing us to have a baby, so your brother-in-law and I need to go home and work hard. If we go home too late, it'll hold him up from going to work tomorrow."

Keegan was speechless, and so was Julian.

Chapter 359

Sophia turned red and internally cursed Stella for being shameless.

Then, she said dully, "Since you two have urgent matters, go ahead. Drive safe."

Stella did not want to look at her and walked right out of the elevator. Julian side-eyed the trolley as it passed him by. Then, he gently stuck out his foot.

SPLASH!

The trolley fell onto the ground, and the liquid from the broken boba tea drinks splashed onto Sophia's foot.

Sophia shrieked and hurled insults. She no longer had her cultured and polite demeanor.

When Keegan looked over, Sophia instantly realized she had lost her temper. Nevertheless, she endured the pain as she recomposed herself. Then, she reprimanded the staff members in a low voice, "How can you be so careless?"

Stella glanced at Julian, who had an indifferent expression. She obviously saw Julian do it.

'This punk. He really isn't afraid that others will check the security camera. He's barely encountered Sophia; what does he have against her?' she thought.

In case anybody realized what happened, Stella quickly led him away from the 'crime scene.'

Even though Julian had followed Stella home, he refused to speak. He was really stubborn and did not answer any of her questions.

Stella could only secretly contact Shelly to probe how Julian had recently been. As expected, Shelley did not know about Julian not going to school. She also kept telling Stella that Julian did really well in his previous exam and that his results would be alright if his performance remained stable for the college entrance exams this year.

Stella did not bring up the matter after hearing Shelley's words. Julian was in the guest room downstairs. After he kicked Stella out, he lay on the huge bed. However, he tossed and turned and could not fall asleep.

'What should I do when I go to school tomorrow?' he thought.

The more Julian thought about it, the more anxious he felt. Every time he felt anxious, he needed to use the washroom.

He got out of bed and opened the door. Then, he quietly stuck out his head and promptly saw Keegan still in the living room, so he closed the door.

After a while, he could no longer hold it in. He quietly looked outside through the door crack. However, Keegan was still there.

Julian repeated his actions a few times before Keegan finally said, "Go to the washroom if needed. Don't dirty the room."

Julian blushed. Then only did he go to the washroom boldly. When he returned, Keegan was still working. He had many documents beside him, most of them fully in a foreign language. However, Keegan read them effortlessly and quickly.

"If you can't fall asleep, watch the TV here for a while," he said.

Keegan spoke in an indifferent tone. However, it did not make Julian feel comfortable. He shook his head. Then he sat on the couch next to Keegan. He threw the remote control at him.

However, Julian did not switch on the television; he did not like watching the television.

'I thought Keegan would ask me some questions, but he doesn't seem to care about me. My presence next to him also doesn't affect his working speed. I've known Stella for years. I know she got married, but I had never seen her husband before. Today's the first time. I've grown much taller this year; I'm nearly 5 feet 9 now. However, when standing before Keegan, I look like a child. Keegan has broad shoulders, narrow hips, and a tall physique. He's what I want to look like when I grow up,' he thought.

Julian moved his lips. After a while, he finally said, "Do you really have a black belt in Taekwondo, a tenth degree in Jiu-Jitsu, and a champion in kickboxing?"

Keegan was speechless.

Chapter 360

Keegan obviously did not answer his question. Instead, he asked him, "What do

“You look like you do,” Julian answered.

you think?”

Keegan seemed like he smiled. However, he did not say anything more. Julian stared at Keegan’s computer screen. Moments later, he finally spoke.

“You’re my brother-in-law; could you help me persuade Stella? I don’t want to go to school.”

Keegan was pleased with the word ‘brother-in-law.’ However, he merely threw Julian a side-eye and asked calmly, “Do I look like I can control her?”

Julian was speechless.

Keegan stood up and grabbed a bottle of beer. After he cracked it open, he asked Julian, “Do you want one?”

Just as Julian was about to accept it, Keegan retracted his hand.

“I forgot. You’re underage.”

Once again, Julian was at a loss for words.

‘I’m of age, okay?’ he thought.

Keegan took a sip of his beer before finally speaking again, “Why don’t you want to go to school?”

Keegan asked why he did not want to go to school and not why he did not want to study.

While there was only a two-word difference between the two sentences, they had very different meanings.

Julian pursed his lips and did not speak for a long time.

Keegan did not urge him either. Moments later, Julian finally said, “I beat someone up and injured them. They want me to pay for the medical expenses. It’s more than a million.”

Then, he peeked at Keegan’s expression. Surprisingly, he did not see disgust or displeasure in his eyes.

Keegan even calmly asked, “You beat them to death?”

Julian was speechless.

“Of course not! I just... I just injured their head, but I also got hit! His parents came to school and made a list, saying they wanted to see Ms. Cooke. They want us to pay them over a million dollars. I don't have that much money...”

Keegan said, “You don't want to pay them; that's why you don't want to attend school. Did you ever think they'd still find Ms. Cooke even if you didn't go to school?”

Julian paled:

“I'll hide it for as long as I can. I got a job and earned money to hire a lawyer, so I won't have to pay them as much. I just don't want Ms. Cooke to worry because of me.”

“Constantly avoiding something won't solve the problem,” Keegan said as he shut his laptop.

He continued, “Besides, it's not like compensation is whatever the amount they state. Get some sleep.”

After Keegan went upstairs, he saw Stella sitting on the staircase on the second floor. She sat there with outerwear over her shoulders as she hugged her knees.

When she saw Keegan, she glumly lifted her head, “Why does he tell you everything?”

Keegan said two words to her, “Charming personality.”

Stella was speechless.

‘How shameless!’ she thought.

“Why are you just sitting there?” Keegan turned around and glanced at her.

He continued, “Come and fulfill your promise.”

Once again, Stella was speechless.

“Can't we do it another day?”

“Your credibility doesn't last longer than 24 hours,” he said.

Stella was at a loss for words, so she accepted her fate and gave Keegan a massage.

‘That's right. Keegan's condition to help me find out what Julian's thinking is to give him a massage,’ she thought.

The following morning, Julian changed into new clothes after breakfast. Stella urged him to leave the house. However, Julian was unhurried. He kept on dawdling until he saw Keegan come downstairs. Then, he immediately approached him and asked, "Keegan, can you go with me?"

Stella was confused.

Keegan glanced at Stella, "Don't you already have someone to go with you?"

"Stella has a sharp tongue. If she speaks, we'll get beaten up. Don't you have a black belt in Taekwondo? If you go, at the very least, those people won't dare to attack us."

Keegan was speechless.

Chapter 361

Stella was confused. 'I'm sharp-tongued? I guess he hasn't seen Keegan's other side yet. If I were to get beaten because of how I say things, Keegan would definitely be dead based on how hurtful his words can be.'

"They wouldn't bully you at school. Come on. Let's go. We're going to be late."

Julian felt that Stella could not solve the issue, so he had to ask Keegan to go with him no matter what. He even played rogue and said, "I don't care. If Keegan doesn't go, then I won't. go either!"

Stella knew that Julian would not budge, even if she mentioned Shelley. So, she tentatively asked, "Can you come with us?" Before Keegan could reply, she continued, "If not, can you call Mr. Moore and ask him if he can accompany us? After all, he is a professional in the legal field."

Keegan was speechless. He glanced at Stella and said, "I'm afraid you don't have the money to pay Mr. Moore for his service." Then, he said lightly, "I have an hour to spare. Let's go." Stella's lips curved into a smirk as she thought, 'Damn. This man sure is competitive.'

It was only after 7:00 a.m. when they arrived at the school. The students had just finished their morning read and started to wander around.

'Julian seems quite popular, huh? So many students are gathering around him on his way to class, mostly girls. The kid had a pretty face and was good at his studies, so it was expected. I mean, he would definitely be popular in my school back in the day... So I guess it's natural for girls to be attracted to him,' Stella thought, completely forgetting that she and Keegan brought something to the table as well.

Julian was popular in the school, but the fact that he showed up at school with two well-dressed and good-looking people attracted the attention of his classmates. They looked like they were on a runway with the theme- 'wealthy siblings.'

When a boy saw this scene, he immediately rushed into the classroom and said, "Raymond, Julian's here! And brought people with him!"

Julian was a little cautious at first, but he gradually relaxed when he saw that Stella and Keegan's expressions looked normal. He led them to the office building, turned around, and said, "The teacher is in there."

Stella raised her chin and said, "Go on and knock." Julian glanced at Keegan before knocking on the door. "Come in." A voice sounded from the teacher's office, and Julian pushed open the door.

Perhaps it was because the class was about to start. Quite a few teachers in the office were busy chatting, some were preparing lessons, and some were answering students' questions.

Julian's class teacher was at the innermost side of the office. He walked in front, leading Stella and Keegan to meet his teacher. Voices began to die down as he walked past them. When Julian was in front of the class teacher, he said, "Ms. Ada, my guardians are here."

For a while, the office was silent. Julian was from an orphanage; all the teachers and students

in his grade knew that the director of the orphanage was the one who attend the teacher- parent meeting before. However, now that the director was old, it was difficult for them to converse. So, Julian decided not to ask her to come.

'Are these two the new help in the orphanage? But... they look rich,' everyone looked at the two people as they secretly speculated.

Stella stretched her hand and said gently, "Hi, Ms. Ada. I am Julian's guardian, Stella. This is my husband, Mr. Kane."

When Ms. Ada heard that, she finally came to her senses, stood up, and shook their hands. "It's nice to meet you," she said.

"Julian told us that he had a dispute with his classmates and hit them. So we're here to discuss this matter."

Ms. Ada got up immediately when she heard that. "Alright. Let's go to the administration office to have a chat. His classmate is returning to class today, I will contact his parents."

“Sure.”

After they left, one of the teachers asked, “Mr. William, do you know the couple who just came in here?”

Chapter 362

Mr. William rubbed his chin and shook his head, “I don’t know them, but they seem familiar.” Someone in the office laughed, “Mr. William, you are the most well-connected person among us. Yet, you don’t know them?”

“They look familiar, but I can’t remember where I’ve seen them before.”

“Hey, who do you think is gonna win, Julian’s guardians or Raymond’s parents?”

“I’m guessing Raymond’s parents. His father is a deputy director, and his mother has a sharp tongue. Last time, Raymond fought with the chubby kid in Class 5, and his mother came to the office to fight the kid. It was terrible.”

“And the deputy director married her???”

“Maybe that’s just his type.”

“These two new people are well-dressed and well-mannered. They don’t seem like they can fight Raymond’s mother. Julian is such a hot-tempered child. Raymond was just joking around. He should really learn to be patient.”

“You weren’t there, Mr. Walsh. Raymond is a rude ass kid. Everyone in the class knows that Julian is from an orphanage. Yet, he still mocks him daily for wearing old clothes and shoes. He kept asking why his mother gave birth to him but didn’t want him. Who in the world could possibly sit there and listen to that? Sure, Raymond is pretty well off and loved, but his results are not better than any of them. Plus, he lacks decency and manners. I would rather be childless than give birth to such a kid.”

“It’s not like Raymond has never said those things to him before. Julian did not react badly back then; why did he do it now?”

“I think a girl wrote a love letter to Julian and slid it into his book. When he flipped through the book, the love letter fell out. Raymond picked it up and read it in front of the whole class. He even read the girl’s name aloud, so Julian took the upper hand.”

“If you asked me, Raymond deserved the beating.”

“Ms. Ada is so pretentious. Ugh. They could have talked about the matter here so that all of us could tune in to the show. Why did they have to go to the administration office? We won’t be able to stop them there if they get into a fight.”

“Just say you like gossip. I bet you’ll be the first to run if a fight occurs.”

The teachers roared with laughter when they heard that but secretly prayed for Julian. Raymond’s family was indeed powerful, and he bled from the last fight. His parents were unhappy with it. It was highly possible they would want Julian’s guardians to pay a considerable sum to settle the feud.

In the administration office, Ms. Ada poured two cups of coffee and pushed them in front of Stella and Keegan. “Excuse me, Mrs. Kane. You mentioned that you are Julian’s guardian. Are you from the orphanage?”

Ms. Ada was a young woman; she looked about thirty years old and spoke informally but respectfully, which made people feel comfortable around her. Stella took the cup and smiled, “I’m not from the orphanage, but my mother funded that orphanage. The director and I are

friends. We watched Julian grow. I’m here today with my husband because Ms. Cooke entrusted us to solve this matter.”

Ms. Ada nodded. “Actually, I had planned to take some time today to talk to the director about this matter. I didn’t expect you to make the first move.”

“Where is the kid who fought with Julian?” Stella asked.

“I have asked one of the students to bring him here.”

As soon as she finished speaking, the door revealed a tall, strong-looking boy. He had harsh facial features and a piece of gauze wrapped around his head.

“Ms. Ada? Liam said you were looking for me.”

“How many times have I told you to knock before you enter the office?” Ms. Ada seemed to be very troubled by this boy. She frowned and said, “Come in. Close the door.”

Chapter 363

“Okay,” Raymond said as he walked into the office swaggering. Pulling up a chair, he suddenly kicked Julian’s chair leg. Julian could not hold his balance and hit his elbow on the table. His face turned pale with pain. He then got up, grabbed the other party’s collar, and said, “What’s the matter with you, huh?”

Raymond held his hands in surrender and said, “Ms. Ada, look. I didn’t even do anything. He was like this in the classroom last time, and now he’s trying to fight me right in front of you. I told you that orphans like him lacked human decency, but you didn’t believe me.”

Julian clenched his fist, his eyes red, and his lips angrily trembled as if he were about to strike Raymond again.

Stella frowned and said lowly, "Let go, Julian. Remember why you're here today."

Julian's lips trembled once more. The veins on his neck bulged out, but he did not let go. Ms. Ada also tried to persuade him, but Julian was unfazed.

Keegan tapped on his teacup and said calmly, "The tea is cold. Go and add some hot water for me." Julian gritted his teeth. He finally released his hand, took Keegan's cup, and filled it with hot water. He then put it back in front of Keegan and sat down obediently in his original seat. Stella's eyes twitched. 'Why does he listen to Keegan better than me?' she thought.

Raymond pursed his lips in disappointment when he saw Julian back down. Instead, he rubbed his nose, looked up at Stella and Keegan, and said, "Are you two new hires from the orphanage?"

As he spoke, he glanced at the brand-new clothes on Julian. "He even wears new clothes now. Has the orphanage found someone to donate recently?"

'This kid is so rude!' Ms. Ada frowned, "Raymond, please be respectful! These are Julian's guardians, and they came here today to discuss the conflict between you two."

"Ms. Ada, there is no conflict between us. Strictly speaking, it should be regarded as intentional injury. The police should deal with this."

Ms. Ada was so angry that her head was almost on fire. Raymond's family held some power, and Mr. Harrison repeatedly reminded her to handle the matter with caution. Ms. Ada knew what he meant. A good student like Julian was indeed rare, but losing him made no difference in their school enrollment rate.

But it was different with Raymond; his father approved a new soccer field, and they recently proposed a new library. The school relied on Raymond's family; being cautious meant sacrificing Julian.

However, Ms. Ada did not want to do that. She had been Julian's teacher for three years. She knew how challenging it was for him to get to where he was now. If he gets expelled from the school because of this matter, it would be a major loss for Julian. So Ms. Ada took the initiative to request the school's understanding and deal with the problem reasonably. But Raymond's attitude showed he did not want to settle things easily.

"I guess he's right. It'll be easier if we call the police. I also think it'll be more appropriate to do so. Since Raymond was the one who suggested it, let's call the police, Ms. Ada."

Julian is going to enter the entertainment industry in the future. His beaten-up face will definitely

affect his career. I believe compensation must be due.”

Raymond frowned. At that moment, a shrill female voice came outside the door, “You want us to compensate you? Is the orphanage that desperate for money?”

Chapter 364

The door opened, and a woman strode into the administration office while her high heels tapped on the floor. Stella turned around and saw a woman in black leggings with heavy makeup on her face. She wore a tiny leather skirt and a coat. She was not short nor tall and had an outstanding figure. The woman looked curvy and was probably not over forty years old. Stella thought that she was pretty and looked familiar.

While Stella was inspecting the woman, the woman, too, was examining Stella. Seeing Stella’s young appearance, her eyes showed disdain. But when she saw Keegan, she froze in her tracks. Her eyes wandered all over Keegan before coming into the room. Behind her was a lean, middle-aged man with greasy hair, glasses, and a neat suit.

Stella wondered who the man was when Ms. Ada said, “Mr. Harrison.” Mr. Harrison did not even spare a glance at Ms. Ada. Instead, he walked forward courteously and pulled up a chair. He then turned to Ms. Ada and said, “Ms. Ada, why are you standing there? Make a cup of my finest tea for Mrs. Chapman...”

Stella raised her eyebrows. ‘Mrs. Chapman? Is everyone with the surname Chapman so difficult to get along with?’

Olivia waved her hand impatiently and said, “I’m not here to drink tea, Mr. Harrison. I’m here to listen to your explanation. You promised to give me a day ago, and I’ve been waiting. So? Where is it? I thought you’d settled this matter since you called me over, but what’s this? Are they asking us to make up for that orphan kid’s fault? What kind of disciplinary system are you running here?!”

Mr. Harrison bowed and said, “My apologies, Mrs. Chapman. Rest assured. I will get to the bottom of this and explain reasonably.” He turned around and put on a straight face as he said, “Ms. Ada, what’s going on here? I thought you said you would handle this. It’s been a few days now. So what’s the result? Why are these people here making a scene?”

Ms. Ada looked embarrassed. “Mr. Harrison, these are Julian’s guardians. They came to school today to discuss this matter.’

“What’s there to discuss?” Mr. Harrison said in a serious tone. “I have never witnessed such a

vicious incident since the establishment of our school. The classroom is a sacred and inviolable place where students acquire knowledge. Julian, however, violated the school motto of unity and kindness when he hit his classmate in front of his teacher. This shall not go unpunished. We do not condone violence here. What do you think will happen when other students follow in his footsteps? What will happen to our school's reputation?"

Mr. Harrison put everything on Julian, but Ms. Ada spoke up for him, "Mr. Harrison, both parties are responsible for this matter. Julian was not the one who initiated the fight. I could not get ahold of Julian's guardian's before this, but they're here now. Can we all sit down and talk about how to solve this matter calmly?"

Mrs. Chapman frowned, "What are you instigating? What do you mean both parties are responsible?"

As she said that, Olivia pulled Raymond over, pointed to the wound on his head, and said, "My son's head is injured because of that little bastard. He hit him with a fucking chair, for god sake. My baby had to get three stitches in the hospital! Who will be responsible when my son's

grades are affected by this injury in the future, huh?"

Ms. Ada was only good at speaking when she was in the classroom. She was still young and careless in her speech. So, naturally, she was at a loss for words after that.

Mr. Harrison looked at Stella and Keegan and said, "Both of you have witnessed Raymond's injury's seriousness. The impact of this incident is bad. The school board had made deliberation on expelling Julian, but Ms. Ada begged us for mercy. So, since he is a first-time offender, please pack his things and leave this school."

'What's the difference between getting expelled and being persuaded to leave?' Julian's face was livid as he clenched his fists on his knees while Keegan casually pushed the cup of tea to him. Julian froze for a moment. Then, he looked up to meet Keegan's calm eyes and suddenly cooled down.

He seems to have understood what Keegan was trying to tell him through his eyes, "We're not there yet. So why are you getting mad?"

Stella waited for Mr. Harrison to finish speaking before she looked at him and said, "Mr. Harrison, right? Which shitty university did you graduate from?"

Chapter 365

Harrison froze as a very unpleasant look flashed across his face. "W-What did you say?"

Stella continued, "Am I wrong? Are you saying the losing party in a fight would always be right? Are you familiar with your school motto? The first sentence literally says fair and square. May I know if that's how you're dealing with this matter now?"

Mrs. Chapman has been the only person you talked to since you came inside. You kept asking for her opinions, but what about us? Are we here just to participate in your show? I could not help but wonder if you're here to serve the students or Mrs. Chapman. If it's the latter, I suggest you resign as the dean and be a pet to Mrs. Chapman if she's looking for one."

Stella did not hold back with her words as she confronted Harrison. She was not the first person to expose how Harrison practiced favoritism, but she was undoubtedly the first to be so straightforward about it.

Julian's jaw dropped as he listened to what Stella said.

Everybody in the school knew how much of a snob Harrison was. He would pay extra attention to students with influential parents and ignore those who did not. He was a brown-noser who loved picking on the weak.

Even though he had an extremely bad reputation among the students, his boss liked him very much. Even the teachers dared not to offend him.

Stella's words humiliated Harrison in the worst way possible. Finally, she did something that everybody else had been wanting to do.

Harrison looked very surprised as he pointed his finger at Stella for a while before he could speak, "How dare you... What an uneducated person you are!"

Stella scoffed. "Right, but what about you? You don't care about your dignity anymore because you want to help Mrs. Chapman. You're no better than me."

That woman guessed that Stella was just someone hired by the welfare center judging by how assertive she sounded and the disdainful look on her face. That woman figured she was just a nobody who knew how to run her mouth.

"Tsk." That woman clicked her tongue. "I was just wondering where this barbaric little bastard came from. It turns out he's from your welfare center. This is such an eye-opening experience for me. Mr. Harrison, are you expecting a corrupted student like him to make your school proud in the future if you don't get him expelled now?"

Stella frowned. "Who are you calling little bastard?"

"Hmph." That woman scoffed. "I guess I wasn't being precise enough. A little bastard has at least a bastard father. This kid has no parents, so he's just a piece of trash!"

Stella grabbed the cup of water in front of Julian and splashed it on that woman's face as soon as she said that.

"You'd better only speak again when you get that filthy mouth of yours cleaned!"

Stella acted so fast that Julian did not know what was happening.

However, he got that cup of water from the machine just a few minutes ago. It was still steaming hot.

Unexpectedly, that woman screamed with her hands over her face. She did not look as condescending as before. Instead, she looks like a complete mess now.

Everybody in the office was shocked. That was when Keegan calmly pushed another cup of

water toward Stella.

Julian was stunned.

He thought Keegan would stop Stella from doing anything else rashly, but he decided to add fuel to the fire.

Chapter 366

'Fuck. Do you think you can do anything you want with your man here?'

The woman cursed to herself but dared not to speak recklessly anymore.

Stella was not bothered at all and even felt a little bored. Then, she saw something shiny on Keegan's collar. She could not help but stretch her arm out to scratch it off compulsively.

Keegan gazed at her. However, he did not move away and just let her do it.

That shiny thing felt like it was embedded in his collar. She finally managed to scratch it off after some time, and she frowned. She found out that there was some gum behind that shiny thing, as if it came with Keegan's shirt.

She subconsciously looked at the other side of Keegan's collar and found another identical diamond at the exact same spot.

Stella paused.

She silently gazed at Keegan and found out he was not looking at her. So, she stretched her arm out secretly, attempting to stick it back on.

However, she just could not do it after trying to do so for some time. Suddenly, the door was pushed open, and Stella immediately held the diamond tight in her fist before looking up.

That woman cried and rushed toward that person before Stella could see who that was as she shouted, "You're finally here! Your son and I would probably be murdered here if you came a little later."

Harrison acted politely as he always would as he quickly approached that man, "Mr. Chapman, this is nothing serious. You didn't have to come all the way here."

That man ignored him completely.

"What kind of trouble did you get into again?"

The man frowned and got a headache after seeing the woman and his son.

"You heartless man! What do you mean? I only came here for an explanation because your son was beaten up. However, somebody splashed a cup of hot water on me. Look at my face! Look!"

That cup of water was not hot enough to cause any serious damage, but it raised a welt on her face. Also, she was drenched, and she looked very awkward. The man felt embarrassed.

The man's face darkened. "Who did this?"

"I did."

He heard a clear voice coming from inside. Stella stood and waved her hand before her chest as she smiled, "Mr. Chapman, is that your wife? She looks a little different from the last time I saw her."

Erick Chapman paused. Then, he froze in place after knowing Keegan and his wife were inside

the room.

Stella walked toward him slowly while sizing his wife up.

'No wonder she looked so familiar when I first saw her. Isn't she the actress that Mrs. Chapman offered ten million to leave her husband?'

Mrs. Chapman wanted to borrow some money from Dahlia a few years ago. She still had not married Keegan then.

Stella only knew that because Aurora told her at a family banquet when she had too much to drink. She had nothing else to do, so she looked that actress up.

Even though she was referred to as an actress, she had only been cast in a few shows.

However, she could not find any information about the dramas and movies that were stated in Wikipedia that she starred in.

They were only two possibilities. Either the shows were filmed but not aired, or she inserted some random shows' names to make her resume look better.

Chapter 367

That woman looked decent, but her features were not very distinctive. Stella could only recognize her because of that mole at the edge of her lips.

She would forget this woman's face if Erick did not show up. Now, she suddenly remembered everything.

Not only that the actress did not leave Rivera after taking Mrs. Chapman's ten million, but she became the new 'Mrs. Chapman.' She gave birth to Mr. Chapman's children; their son was already a teenager. 'How interesting is this!'

Stella figured this kid in front of her might have already been born when Mrs. Chapman offered her the money. Suddenly, a thought flashed across Stella's head. 'I guess not only did this woman scam Olivia's money, but her husband might also be a part of this racket!'

Olivia spent so much effort keeping her reputation clean, yet her husband had a love child at this age. 'I wouldn't have the mood to be so busybody if I were her.'

She was still worrying about what she should do with Dragon Lagoon, but what happened gave her an idea!

The look on Erick's face looked awful. He was not expecting to meet Keegan and his wife on

this occasion.

'Mrs. Chapman' did not notice the strange look on Mr. Chapman's face as she hurriedly urged the man to stand up for her. She was not bothered by what Stella said as she grabbed Erick's arm and said, "This is the bitch! She's the one who splashed the hot

water on me. Also, that jackass beside her is why your son's head was injured! Get him expelled now, and I want their welfare center to get out of Rivera forever!"

That woman spoke as if she wanted everybody to know that her man would abuse his power for things to be in his favor. She made getting rid of a welfare center so easy in front of everybody. It was apparent how normal something like that was to her.

Erick's face tensed up, and his fingers lightly trembled as he dared not even look at Keegan directly. Finally, after seeing how the woman kept going, he gritted his teeth and said, "Shut up! Do you think I own this school? Conflicts among students are very normal. Why are you causing a scene like a shrew? I have no idea why you called me because of this. Do you know how busy I am at work?"

The woman was shocked as she had no idea what was happening. The word, shrew, echoed in her head.

Erick would always do everything she wanted, yet he just scolded her in front of so many

people. So, she got angry, "Erick Chapman, are you serious? Do you realize that your wife and son are getting mistreated? How dare you scold me?! You're out of your mind!"

All Erick wanted to do was to get out of there. So, he ignored her and said while gritting his teeth, "How ridiculous of you! You're the reason this kid is always misbehaving and causing trouble at school! Bring him back now, and stop embarrassing me!"

That woman was furious. "Erick Chapman! You're insane! Whose side are you on? Why should we go back?"

That woman could not stand Erick's cowardness anymore. Not only that her own man did not stand on her side, but he also kept telling her to keep quiet. There was just no way that she could put up with that. She was too used to being a bully at school; even the teachers, principal, and parents had to show her some respect.

She knew very well that she would become a laughingstock if she were to get out of that room like a loser.

"Yeah." Stella fanned the flames. "She should at least pay for our medical bills and psychological injury before leaving."

That woman was filled with rage as she yelled, "Shut your mouth, bitch!"

Keegan's gaze darkened. "Say that one more time."

"I'll say that another ten times! Bit-"

Slap!

Erick immediately swung his palm at her and scolded, "Would you stop being such an embarrassment?"

That woman was shocked as she covered her face in disbelief.

Raymond panicked too, and he quickly stepped forward to protect that woman. "Dad, are you out of your mind? How could you do this to mom?"

"Shut up!" Erick's blood boiled when he heard Raymond calling him dad as he yelled angrily, 'None of this would've happened if you didn't cause any trouble!"

Chapter 368

Erick's wife was a good friend to the Kane family, so he was very familiar with them too. Also, he was working on a few ongoing projects with Keegan, and he knew very well who he was. Olivia and Dahlia were best friends. Dahlia started to look after her more after how she fell out with her brothers. His wife's relationship with Dahlia was also why he could achieve many things in his career. So he knew that his wife would definitely cause a big scene if she were to find out what happened today.

Erick was about to get a promotion, and he figured that he would most likely lose the opportunity to do so if anybody ever found out about this.

"They're so dumb! Isn't what I'm doing obvious enough for them to shut up? How stupid!"

'I shouldn't have dated this woman who's only good for her looks! Even her child is a disappointment!'

Erick then said to his assistant, "Send them back home now. Make sure you reflect on yourself!"

Stella was not going to let them off the hook that easily.

So, she lifted her gaze and said, "Mr. Chapman, we're not done here. What if Mr. Harrison still wants to get my brother expelled after you left with them? We've got to at least solve the problem before you leave, right?"

The edge of Erick's eyes twitched. 'They kept telling me how stupid and ignorant Keegan's wife is, but is this something a stupid person would say?'

Harrison was shocked to see how Erick slapped that woman too. Then, he recollected himself and got an idea. 'Mr. Chapman wants to play this down because he knows he isn't in the right place to get involved, right? I'm sure he only did that to make himself

look like a just and fair man in front of everybody. After all, he wouldn't have come to the school if he didn't care.'

After figuring out what Erick's intention was, Harrison said, "The school decides to expel Julian Smith, and it has nothing to do with Mr. Chapman. So hurry up and get the withdrawal procedure done.

Erick trembled with rage. 'Another moron!'

He tried to keep his emotions in check and said in a low voice, "Mr. Harrison, this is a very big decision. Please take it seriously."

It was already obvious what Erick was trying to say.

However, Harrison stood firm with his assumption. He thought that Erick wanted to be the good cop and him to be the bad cop.

"The school board has decided to expel Julian Smith. A student with poor morality like him will only bring shame to our school. So, we'll deal with him justly and never encourage behavior like this!"

Stella kept quiet and looked at Erick with a half-smile.

The edge of Erick's eye twitched even more intensely. 'Are they fucking brainless? Why can't they just understand a single thing I say?'

Harrison saw a slim figure in a light gray suit pushing the door open and came inside as soon as he was done speaking.

Harrison paused. "Mr. Robert? What brought you here?"

Ada was relieved as Robert was a man of integrity, and he would take this matter seriously. In that way, Julian might still have a chance to continue his studies here.

Harrison was worried that Robert would take his credit, so he immediately approached him and said, "This is just a tiny matter. You don't have to get involved at all. I can handle this."

However, he saw Robert looking at Julian's guardian with a surprised look on his face after saying that. "Mr. Kane?"

Harrison froze. "M-Mr. Kane?"

Ada was shocked too. 'Why does Mr. Robert know this man?'

Robert immediately went forward. "Mr. Kane, what brought you here? Does it have something to do with the library?"

Chapter 369

'Library? Mr. Kane?'

Harrison was shocked when he saw Robert's respectful attitude toward Keegan. 'Is this the Mr. Kane from the Vinci Rivera Group who donated the library to our school?'

He experienced tingling in his back, which had broken into cold sweats. He looked at Erick in disbelief, "Mr. Chapman, this..."

Erick just ignored this foolish man!

"No." Keegan faintly said, "Someone at school beat up my family's kid. Your school indiscriminately said that you all wanted to expel him. So, I accompany my wife to come here to understand the situation."

Robert's facial expression instantly changed when he heard that. He twisted his head to ask Harrison, who was standing next to him, "Mr. Harrison, what happened? Why did you want to expel the student?"

Julian pursed his lips.

'This couple, one can lie better than the last. He was the one who beat someone up. But he became the victim when the couple talked about that incident.'

Harrison shuddered. His face broke into a cold sweat as he stuttered. Finally, he said after a while, "Students... A small conflict between students."

Stella raised her eyebrow, "A small conflict? Mr. Harrison, you said something different just now. You said that Julian violated the school motto and discredited the school. And after the school committee's discussion, he's expelled. So if it was just a small conflict, why was he expelled?"

Robert frowned, "When did the school committee have that discussion? Why don't I know about it?"

Expelling a student was a big deal. It needed many layers of reviews and approvals. It was not a decision that Harrison could make on his own. Not even Robert could do that.

Robert knew that a few people on the school committee liked Harrison a lot. He also knew Harrison's way of working. As long as nothing serious happened, everyone would

just turn a blind eye. 'I didn't expect Harrison to create such a mess. I can forget that he expelled a student personally. But the student he expelled was the Kane family's kid.

'If the teacher didn't come and look for me and just let this dispute go on, how can we still talk about the cooperation with the Vinci Rivera Group?'

Robert looked gloomy, "Mr. Harrison, is this your first day here? How dare you lied about the school committee's decision?!"

Harrison was so frightened that he trembled when Robert shouted at him. He was not as proud as when he was dealing with the issue just now. His face was pale, and his lips trembled. He was usually a talker. But now, he could not even say a word.

Robert angrily glanced at him. He then turned his head to look at Ada, who was a little stunned too. "Are you the class teacher of the two students?"

Ada came back to her sense. She hurriedly nodded.

Robert then started asking about the full story of what happened. Erick was on pins and needles at the side. He was restless.

To the school, it was not a big deal that students fought. Teenagers were young and impulsive. So it was impossible not to have some arguments between them.

Robert was the head of the school's administration office. He has been very good at resolving these issues since last time. So, he suggested a solution after he heard what Ada said.

The two students were each given one warning and had to write three thousand words on self-criticism. As for the medical expenses, it would depend on the discussion between the two families. Robert suggested that they pay for the other party's medical expenses.

Stella was quite satisfied with this outcome. They did not come here to seek special treatment. They just hoped for a fair and just solution regarding this incident. But the other party's attitude was very bad in the beginning. That was why it turned into a farce just now.

She raised her eyes to look at Erick, "Mr. Chapman, how much was your son's medical expense?"

Erick wanted to leave hurriedly long ago. He did not care about the medical expense. He softly said, "It's just a minor injury. It didn't cost a lot. Moreover, Raymond was at fault in this incident. So, just forget about the medical expenses."

“Then, please pay for Julian’s medical fees.” Stella faintly said, “Medical fee, nutrition fee, fee for being absent in class, moral damages... I’ll round it up. Just pay us five thousand dollars.” Everyone there was speechless.

Chapter 370

‘What’s the definition of pushing your luck?’

This is it! Julian started the fight. I’m embarrassed to talk about medical expenses. But Stella is so shameless. She mentioned so many expenses.’

Only Keegan looked normal. With Stella’s personality, five thousand dollars was considered a conservative amount.

She did not care about the compensation. She did that because she wanted to demoralize the other party. Erick looked a lot unhappier.

He was a respected person with high status. So, of course, he was not happy about being made difficult by a girl.

But Keegan was there. So, he could only swallow his anger even when he was furious.

He turned his head to signal his assistant to transfer her the money hurriedly. He did not want to stay here any longer. Stella smiled slightly when she looked at the payment on her phone.” Mr. Chapman is more reasonable than Mrs. Chapman.”

Erick was speechless.

“Mr. Chapman, there’s one more thing that I need your help with. Do you mind?”

Erick coldly glanced at her. Then, he said in a deep voice, “Mrs. Kane, feel free to tell me.” Stella said, “My grandmother is celebrating her eightieth birthday the week after next week. I wanted to rent the Dragon Lagoon venue for her birthday celebration. But Mrs. Chapman said someone had already rented the venue. Can you help me to talk to Mrs. Chapman about it? Help us schedule a time for the birthday celebration?”

Of course, Erick knew about this. He needed the Kane family’s industry support at work. So, he would know about the “discussion” between his wife and Dahlia.

Olivia always did what Dahlia said. So, it must be that Dahlia wanted her not to rent the venue to the Kane family.

Erick was not willing to upset Dahlia. So, he said, “Dragon Lagoon is my wife’s property. I can’t help.”

"I see." Stella slowly said, "Will Ms. Joanna be able to help? Mrs. Chapman hasn't seen Ms. Joanna for many years, right?"

Ms. Joanna was the person who pretended to be Olivia.

Erick looked unhappy, "Mrs. Kane, are you threatening me now?"

"It's just a business deal." Stella bent her eyes. She lowered her voice, "Would Mrs. Chapman cry or laugh if she learned that the ten million dollars got her a son? After all, her dream for years sort of came true. She then immediately distanced herself. She faintly said, "It's just business. It's the same no matter whom you do this business with. Am I right, Mr. Chapman?"

Erick looked unhappy since the very beginning. But he looked frightened and panicked afterward.

'She even knows about the ten-million-dollar incident. If this gets out, this would be more than just a behavioral problem.'

He suppressed his panic as he said in a deep voice, "I'll try to talk to her about it."

"Thank you for your help, Mr. Chapman."

Ada was a little confused when she saw how the situation turned around. Everyone in the

office could not hold it anymore. They kept tagging Ada in the group. They wanted to know the negotiated outcome. All of them were shocked when Ada sent them the results of the negotiation.

'They actually made peace?

'No. It wasn't a truce. On the contrary, Julian's side even gained the upper hand. They received five thousand dollars in medical expenses from Raymond's family.'

Harrison went on unpaid leave for expelling a student without permission.

Everyone was very pleased with the outcome. They felt it was unbelievable at the same time. "Raymond's mother was just like a shrew. How could these two people get the money from her?"

"They even made Harrison go on unpaid leave. So who exactly are they?"

Chapter 371

“Bam!” William suddenly tapped the table.

Everyone was frightened, “Mr. William, what’re you doing?”

William tapped his leg as he said, “I remember now! I thought he was familiar. That Mr. Kane is the Mr. Kane from the Vinci Rivera Group. I was there that day when the agreement of the library was signed. I glanced at them from afar. He was the one who signed the agreement.”

Everyone was shocked!

‘No wonder Mr. Harrison slipped this time. He buttered up the wrong person. The other party has a stronger background.

‘Come to think of the married couple’s vibe, all of this suddenly feels strange but justifiable. ‘Finally, there are people who can control the mother and son of the Chapman family.’

Stella was extremely happy after solving the serious matter. She was humming along the way. Julian still felt a little unreal, ‘This issue was resolved so easily. Not to mention that we didn’t have to compensate them. We even received some money for medical expenses.’

He took a look at Stella. He then glanced at Keegan. He hesitantly asked, “Stella, why was Raymond’s father so afraid of you two?”

Stella glanced at him, “Did you forget?”

Julian was confused.

Stella kept a straight face as she said, “My husband has a black belt in Taekwondo, tenth Dan in Jiu-Jitsu, and a kickboxing champion. How can they not be afraid?”

Julian’s lips twitched, ‘I shouldn’t have asked her!’

Stella put her hand around Julian’s shoulders. She smiled as she said, “Let’s go. I asked for a half day’s leave from Ms. Ada. Let’s go and buy some presents for Ms. Cooke, Tevin, and the others, and visit them later.”

Kids did not have to know about the dirty business in the adult world. She then turned her head to say to Keegan, “Take a taxi home on your own. I’ll visit the welfare center.”

Keegan’s forehead twitched, ‘She’s getting rid of me as soon as I’ve done my part?’

Stella had already grabbed Julia and walked away.

Keegan's phone vibrated twice. He then took out his phone and answered the call, "Mr. Kane, your flight is booked. We probably need to go there a few days earlier. We have to run the entire testing once more to make sure nothing goes wrong."

"Got it." Keegan stared at Stella's back as he faintly said, "You help arrange everything. I must be back before the birthday party."

"Okay."

At the shopping mall, Stella swung the sneakers in her hand, "What about these?"

Julian stiffly stood inside the shop. His shabby shoes were reflected on the spotlessly clean

ceiling. It constantly reminded him that he was incompatible with this luxurious store.

The shop assistant immediately walked forward, "Miss, you have such good taste. This pair of sneakers is the latest model in our store. It has very good customer feedback. The shoes are very light. It's very comfortable when you run or jump wearing it. Handsome, what's your size? Let me take a pair of them for you to try."

Julian pursed his lips. He softly said, "I don't want to try."

"Why don't you want to try? I'm not buying the sneakers for you." Stella then turned her head to say to the shop assistant, "Get me a pair of size eleven and a half."

Julian coyly removed his shoes. There was a small hole on his left sock. His toe was awkwardly exposed.

"Your socks are quite unique," Stella smiled as she teased him. She then twisted her head to ask the shop assistant for new socks.

The shoes were exactly like what the shop assistant said. They were very comfortable. This was the first time Julian wore such light sneakers. He looked surprised and happy.

Stella asked the shop assistant, "How much is it?"

"There's a five percent discount for new products. I'll calculate the price for you." She pressed the calculator as she said that. She raised her head and said, "It's three thousand one hundred and sixteen dollars after the discount."

Before Stella could speak, Julian blurted out, "So expensive?"

He regretted saying it. 'This shop is nicely decorated. How can the sneakers be cheap? It's like I entered a world in which I do not belong. I'm not used to everything here.'

