

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted by Eleven Jewell

Chapter 659-690

Chapter 659

Felicity asked, "So? Is she pregnant?"

Vermont was still in shock after he saw the pregnancy checklist and has not snapped out of it. 'It was just that one time. Did she already get pregnant?'

Felicity's words slowly brought him back to his senses. He said softly, "Yes, she's pregnant."

"Sheesh, I knew it! I saw her taking a brochure about painless abortion just now. Who would look at those things when they are pregnant? The baby in Hylda's belly is definitely not Albert's child!"

Vermont paid no attention to whose baby Hylda was carrying. He was more concerned about the baby in Felicity's belly, wondering if it was his. He thought about it for a while. When they got in the car, he hesitantly said, "What do you plan to do with the baby?"

"Let me be clear. I have no plans of getting married and am not eager to have a child. But if you want to have the baby, I won't force you to have an abortion. You will have to take care of the baby on your own. I will provide child support if the baby is born. If you don't want to take care of it, I will raise the child myself," Vermont said.

Felicity was perplexed, but her expression slowly turned dark as she listened to Vermont. 'Did this shit think I was carrying his baby and discussed the baby's future with me in all seriousness?'

Felicity did not reply for a long while, so Vermont asked again, "What are your plans now?"

Felicity gritted her teeth and said, "I plan to crush it and flush it down the toilet. Who would have gotten pregnant with your baby? I stole someone else's urine!" Vermont paused momentarily before asking, "So, you're not pregnant?"

"No! You're pregnant! My period just ended yesterday!" Felicity glared at him. "Crazy bastard!"

Vermont was speechless. After driving for a while, Felicity suddenly thought of something. "Copy the footage of your car's dashcam later. I want to check the young lover's car plate."

Vermont paused and immediately started to lay out his conditions. "I'll copy it if you cooked for me for a month. I'll buy the ingredients you want. You won't have to spend a penny. All you need to do is to come to my house to make it. You don't even need to do the dishes," Vermont said while smiling, "How about that?"

Felicity's mouth twitched, 'Is he treating me like a servant?' She glared at Vermont once again. "It's terrible!"

"But you could help your best friend," Vermont persuaded. "Don't you want your bestie to get rid of those scumbags in the Jewell family?"

Felicity gave him a sideways glance. "Your buddy is busy pursuing Stella. So apart from being helpful to your friend, you're threatening me now?"

"He screwed up himself. He could pursue her on his own. It's none of my business.

He couldn't hack it if he couldn't win her back.'

'Would you look at that fake brotherhood!' Felicity thought.

"I'll promise you, not only will you get the dashcam's footage, but you'll even get all the information about the young lover if you promise to cook for me for a month. How about that?"

Seeing Felicity's hesitated expression, Vermont sighed, "It's fine if you don't want to. It seems like you're not that close to your bestie. Just a few days of cooking had made you hesitant."

Felicity's mouth twitched, "Don't try to sow discord among us. I don't believe you can find out the information."

Vermont smirked, "Miss bandit, I'm the boss of a listed company. How could I make it in the business world if I didn't have some abilities?"

Felicity started to waver in her decision. She realized she could not help Stella much after thinking about her isolated situation. Vermont was annoying, but he had connections. He could probably find out more than they could. 'It's just cooking for a month, right? I'll just treat it like feeding a dog!' Felicity thought. She gritted her teeth and asked, "Will you keep your word?"

Vermont smirked and replied, "A real man never goes back on his words."

Chapter 660

After driving for a while, Vermont asked, "Rainee just passed away. Your bestie is not even Albert's daughter now. What's the use of finding out these things?"

'Stella did not seem like the type of person interested in the Jewell family's assets.

After all, she rejected Keegan's money. Why would she even be interested in the puny inheritance left by the Jewell family? She wasn't even Albert's daughter by blood. She could take the chance to cut ties with them. Why bother getting entangled with them?' Vermont thought.

Felicity said, "Is there no need for revenge after a person dies? Those two adulterers teamed up and caused Ms. Spade's car accident. She turned into a vegetable and lay in bed for seven years. Now that Rainee is gone, how could they be allowed to live happily ever after? Is this fair?"

Vermont was startled. "Are you saying that Albert caused Rainee's accident?"

"Duh? Albert was about to leave the marriage with nothing at all, but then an accident happened to Rainee. She lost consciousness. Who do you think was the biggest benefactor? Based on that alone, Albert is the biggest suspect!"

"You did not report to the police?"

'Stella has consulted her police friend. The car involved in the accident was destroyed back then. It's impossible to reopen the case without direct evidence. The detective Stella hired suggested we start by driving a wedge between Albert and Hylda. If the two of them fall apart, we might be able to dig up some useful information.'

Felicity paused. "You must not tell anyone else. Or else I would shut you up! ■

Vermont shot her a look. "Don't worry. I'm good with secrets."

After sending Felicity back to her company, Vermont called Keegan. "A chance to impress your ex-wife. Are you going to take it?"

Keegan had just finished a meeting. He held his phone and said while walking, "Go on."

Vermont smirked, 'Your ex-wife suspects Albert and his mistress had caused her mother's accident. If you could help her sort it out, your ex-wife would definitely think better of you.' He paused and continued, "Just a reminder. The mistress seems to have a young lover. You could start from there."

After hanging up the phone, Vermont headed home while humming a tune. Now, he had a person to investigate without cost and tricked a little chef into cooking for him. 'Why am I so smart?'

Keegan returned to his office and immediately instructed his team to investigate the matter. He asked, "Has Albert lost all of the money he invested in Semiconductor Technology?"

Aldor replied, "Not really. But he had lost half of it already. He sold half of his shares this afternoon and is still considering what to do with the rest."

Keegan did not raise his head. "Continue leveraging. If he doesn't sell it out, then make him lose everything."

The trap was set for a long time, but now it was time to start reeling in the fish. Aldor sighed. He had to admit that Keegan has a keen sense of human nature. The trap was hastily set up. The overall plan was not even complex. If Albert was careful enough, he should withdraw after making the first fortune. That would have made him a tremendous profit.

Yet, Albert lacked experience in investing and was too ambitious. Keegan had given out ample bait, and he was certain Albert would take it.

However, Aldor has never seen this method of harming others and oneself on Keegan before.

Keegan's phone vibrated. He opened the message from Julian and saw a report card with a score of 637. Keegan smiled and picked up a pen, writing a line on a piece of paper. He then took a picture of it and sent it to Julian. Aldor glanced at it.

[The immense sea lets fishes leap at liberty, and the vast sky lets birds fly freely.]

The pen strokes were strong, and the font was carefree. Aldor remembered the first time he came to the Vinci Rivera Group's interview; Keegan wrote a sentence behind his resume.

Chapter 661

[If there's a will, there's a way.]

Due to this sentence, he studied everything about the Vinci Rivera Group for a year.

This included the founding process, the company's history, and the specialties and sales of the current products. The following year when he applied again, he passed all interviews smoothly. The last one-on-one interview with Keegan made Aldor more nervous than ever. Keegan simply asked him a few questions and approved him.

After they were more familiar with each other, Aldor mentioned this to Keegan. He gratefully told Keegan that if he had not seen the line on the back of his resume back then, he would have never come for a second time. It was Keegan who gave him another chance. Keegan was momentarily startled and said, "You did it alone."

It was only after some time that Aldor knew Keegan would write something on the back of everyone's resume who managed to go into the last round of interviews every year. Most of them were encouragements, but the Vinci Rivera Group had high standards. The people who came to interview were all graduates from prestigious

universities. They might feel dissatisfied after being rejected, so they might not even look at the resume.

The manager in the human resource department told Aldor that Keegan did this every year. However, the people who swallowed their pride and came for a second interview, like Aldor, were rare. Keegan's way of doing things seems too cold and rigid to many people. But as an entrepreneur who values hard work, he equally gave every job seeker a chance to prove and show themselves.

"Did you send the flowers?" Keegan asked, looking up.

Alder's thoughts were interrupted. 'Hmm, he's also a little love-struck.'

"Yes, it has been delivered and signed for today."

Keegan was slightly surprised, considering the flowers were thrown away a few days ago. "What did she say?"

Aldor pursed his lips, "It was Ms. Thompson who signed it. She said she wanted to use them to shower, and Mrs. Kane agreed."

Keegan was speechless. Aldor felt Keegan was a little discouraged, so he coughed and said, "Mr. Kane, this is a good sign. Even though Ms. Thompson was the one who signed it, if Mrs. Kane did not allow it, she wouldn't be able to take it."

Keegan's expression looked better. "Did Elegant Media arrange any job for her recently?"

"There's a movie casting in Elegant Media. Mrs. Kane is going to audition it on Monday. The audition venue is Sapphire Clubhouse," Aldor paused before continuing, "Mr. Kane. Mr. Hudson is hosting at the Sapphire Clubhouse on Monday too. Are you going to attend?"

Keegan looked at him and asked, "What do you think?"

Aldor smiled, "I'll inform Mr. Hudson right away."

Stella rested for five days before Kaiden arranged another audition for her. A director was holding a casting at Elegant Media for his suspense movie. The movie was called Motives for Murder. It was based on a poisoning case at Xaver University in the 1990s. Unfortunately, they did not provide the script, just a rough story outline.

Stella was very interested in this story, and so was Kaiden. However, a big-budget movie needed a person who could pull in revenue at the box office. Stella, as a newcomer, had a slim chance of getting the lead role. No matter how good the script was, it depended on the investor's attitude. Stella was somewhat optimistic in this matter, saying, "The lead actor in that recent anti-corruption drama was rejected over two hundred times during auditions. What's one rejection compared to them? The path others could walk, I could also take."

Chapter 662

Kaiden admired Stella's attitude very much. He believed that acting skills were second to a correct mindset and a clear goal.

Kaiden had to go to Bostown to recruit an actor, so he could not go to the audition with Stella. He then told one of his colleagues to bring her there.

Shea was supposed to be her assistant and was arranged to help other artists when she was on leave. Even though Trevor looked after Stella, he had company policies to follow.

Stella was not supposed to have a personal assistant with her level of fame. So, it

was only reasonable for Shea to be transferred to other artists when she was on leave.

Shea called her colleague, Yasmine Fallon. Yasmine was also a celebrity manager and worked for Royal Deluxe Entertainment before she came to Elegant Media. She used to be in the same company as Felicity.

Felicity told Stella that Yasmine was a very capable manager and used to manage several A and B-listers. However, she fell out with her boss over something. Her old boss transferred most of her artists to other managers.

So, she left Royal Deluxe Entertainment and joined Elegant Media as soon as it was established. She was the first manager to work for Elegant Media.

Stella had gotten ready since very long ago. It was twenty to seven, and she still did not get a call from Yasmine. So, she started to get nervous.

Then, she took the initiative to call Yasmine. It took Yasmine some time to pick it up. "Hello."

Yasmine's voice sounded a little nonchalant on the phone. Stella said gently, "Miss Fallon, are you here yet?"

"No. There's a little traffic."

Stella frowned. It would take them thirty to forty minutes to reach Sapphire Clubhouse from her place without traffic, yet Yasmine had not arrived yet. They would be late to the audition if Stella were to wait for her to pick her up before going there together.

"Miss Fallon, you should go directly to Sapphire Clubhouse instead. I'll take a cab there so that we can save ourselves some time."

"I don't think that'll work. I promised Kaiden that I'd take you there. What if something bad happened to you when you were on your way there? I'm reaching your place soon. Just a little while longer."

Yasmine hung up before Stella could say anything. Stella frowned and gave her another call. However, she got a busy tone instead.

Yasmine told her to wait a little longer, but it was already about ten minutes past seven when she arrived. Stella had been waiting outside her residence.

Yasmine sized her up when she got into the car and said, "Didn't Kaiden tell you what you have to wear for the audition today?"

Stella paused. "He did not."

Yasmine said, "Well, you should know what this movie is about even though he didn't tell you, right? Motives for Murder's main setting is a dancing school, and all its main casts are dancers. The director will want to see your basic dancing skills. How are you going to do that with a pair of jeans?"

Stella pursed her lips. "I'll go get changed then..."

"We don't have time," Yasmine said, "I'll ask somebody to bring you some new pants for you to change into later."

Stella heaved a sigh of relief. "Thanks, Miss Fallon."

Yasmine stopped talking because her phone rang, and she picked it up. Fortunately, there was not much traffic, and they arrived at their destination before eight.

They went upstairs, and Yasmine handed her a plastic bag with clothes inside. Then she said, "Take this. Let me know when you're done changing."

Stella took it and thanked her. After that, somebody led her to the changing room.

Directors often chose Sapphire Clubhouse as their audition venue, so the owner

changed a mini storeroom into a simple dressing room. It was about fifty square feet big with a stool inside and some beverages in the corner.

Stella changed into her dancing clothes and put what she wore into the plastic bag. Then, she went to open the door. She pulled it once, but it did not move at all. She paused. She tried it again, and nothing happened.

Stella's face darkened. She shouted through the door but got no response.

Chapter 663

Stella hurriedly reached for her phone to call Yasmine, but there was no signal. She had forgotten that many celebrities and highly profiled people would come to Sapphire Clubhouse, so they installed a signal jammer on the fifth floor to protect the guests' information. There was just no way she could make a call from there.

It was then Stella realized that she had been tricked. She looked around her and saw that there was not even a window in the changing room. However, there was a ventilating fan in the top left corner.

It was impossible for her to shout for help.

'Damn it!

'What did I do to upset Yasmine Fallon?'

Yasmine went back to the room for the audition after locking Stella in. Bella saw her and handed her a bottle of water.

"Yasmine, how did it go?"

"Don't worry." Yasmine took the water and smiled. "She won't be at the audition today."

Felicity was wrong. Yasmine once tried to recruit Bella. Even though she did not manage to do so, they formed a very good relationship with each other. After joining Elegant Media, Bella requested that Yasmine be her manager.

Bella was a famous and pretty actress then and was bound to be successful. So Yasmine agreed. The audition of Motives for Murder was meant for Bella. She had a lot of fans and was very influential. So, the producers wanted her to be their selling point for the movie.

However, Elegant Media sent two people to try this role out. One was Bella, and the other one was Stella.

At first, Yasmine was not very bothered by Stella, who was not popular. However, Bella went to her and told her that she was worried that she would lose her role to Stella because she had a rather special relationship with Trevor.

Yasmine could not tell how Trevor treated Stella differently. The Saun family owned many businesses, and Trevor rarely visited the office. However, Yasmine started to get a little worried after she watched Stella's Jurisdiction.

Yasmine and Kaiden came from the academy, and Kaiden was her senior. Back then, they had no conflicts of interest, so they treated each other like normal friends.

However, things are different now that they worked in the same company, and Yasmine viewed Kaiden as her competitor.

Kaiden had good eyes, and Yasmine figured there must be something special about Stella that made Kaiden pick her. However, Yasmine was desperate to prove herself to her new boss, so she could not afford to give Kaiden a chance to make a newbie

famous.

So, that was why she did that to Stella.

Bella was immediately relieved after hearing what Yasmine said.

'Stella, Stella. You're nothing after you divorced Keegan. You should've figured out if you had what it takes to be a part of this industry before coming here!'

People were smoking and drinking in a private room on the seventh floor. Keegan took a look at his watch while sitting in the corner.

'It is already eight. Where is she?'

Keegan was starting to get worried. Mr. Hudson noticed that he had been frowning since he came and would not speak or drink. So, he went to talk to him.

"Mr. Kane, you can't have any fun sitting alone. Come on, have a drink."

Then, he handed Keegan a cup of alcohol. Keegan was about to reject him, but Aldor came inside.

He bent down and spoke softly beside Keegan's ear, "Mr.Kane, I can't reach Mrs. Kane's phone."

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Keegan's face darkened. "What do you mean by that?"

Aldor replied softly, "Her signal's gone. She's probably here in Sapphire Clubhouse and entered the signal jamming zone. However, I couldn't see her anywhere in the audition venue.

"I talked to the clubhouse manager. He's looking at the surveillance cameras now, but it will take some time." Aldor paused before continuing, "Somebody probably set Mrs. Kane up."

Keegan was unfamiliar with the "rules" of showbiz, but Aldor was.

Aldor knew that Stella would be a threat to her competitors after Jurisdiction was aired. Jurisdiction was a legal series that gained over a million viewers in just a week and topped the trending searches several times without paying for any promotional campaign.

The showbiz pie could not get any bigger. Stella was good at acting, and she had a pretty face too. She would get a piece of pie off somebody else's plate if she ever got famous.

Aldor figured that Stella took the audition seriously, and she would have shown up at the audition venue way earlier before this time. So, her competitor probably set her up.

Keegan stood up and went outside without speaking.

It was not easy for Mr. Hudson to have Keegan there, so he wanted to stop him from leaving. However, Aldor raised his arm to stop him and said gently, "Mr. Hudson, Mr. Kane has an emergency today. The Vinci Rivera Group will be having its anniversary banquet on Wednesday next week. We hope to see you there. I'll have someone send the invitation to your house after today."

Mr. Hudson paused. The Vinci Rivera Group would only invite a few outsiders to attend its anniversary banquet.

Only their major partners and brand ambassadors would have the chance to attend it. Mr. Hudson had only been working with Vinci Rivera for about two years, yet he had just got invited to join their anniversary banquet. It was simply unbelievable for him.

Aldor ignored the surprised look on his face and left with Keegan. Stella knocked on the door several times, and the lights went out. She panicked and immediately switched on the flashlight on her phone. She was a little afraid of the dark, not to mention how tiny and confined that dressing room was. She could not help but be reminded about some of her unpleasant experiences when she was younger. She squatted down and kept knocking on the door. Her hand was starting to feel sore, but she still could not hear anything from outside. She should have expected that because of how good the soundproofing was at Sapphire Clubhouse. Stella figured that the person who locked her in here would expect her to escape, and that person might even get somebody to keep an eye around this area to stop anyone from finding her. That person would not give her a chance to get out quickly. She held her phone up and looked around her with the help of the dim light from her phone. Suddenly, she saw a few boxes of alcohol on the floor. An idea popped into her head. Then, she stood up and carried those boxes to the door. She opened a bottle of alcohol and poured it outside from under the door. Keegan quickly went to the ninth floor, where the audition was held. He left the elevator and asked Aldor as he walked, "How long will it take for the footage to come out?" "I'm unsure because we don't know when Mrs. Kane arrived. I told them to start checking around when the audition started. It's probably going to take half an hour... I guess." Keegan's face turned darker. It was already thirty past eight. The audition would end before the cameras could find out where she went. Aldor immediately said, "The clubhouse manager has sent somebody to find Mrs. Kane floor by floor. I'm sure we'll know where she is very soon." He paused before continuing softly, "Mr. Kane, this could be good for you. If you ignore what's happening, it'll be a good opportunity for you to take advan- I mean...help Mrs. Kane." Keegan stopped walking. Then, he turned around to look at him and said, "This is her dream." Of course, he could do what Aldor suggested and let Stella go through the harsh side of society. He could be a savior and pull Stella out of the ditch after she realizes how tough and terrifying life could be after leaving him. In that way, he could keep her by his side like a canary forever. However, Stella was not a canary. In those years she spent with Keegan, she looked like she had nothing to worry about while spending a lot of money shopping, but her feathers lost their colors gradually every day. She would lose sleep after seeing what her old classmates achieved in their careers and point at one of the actors and say while watching a drama, "He used to be my classmate, and he would always have a lower score than me. I didn't expect him to be so successful now. Everybody's working so hard."

Chapter 665

It was true that Keegan wanted Stella to stay by him forever, but he had never put a

lock on the cage. She was the one who lost her fighting spirit after staying too long in her comfort zone.

Stella was like a baby elephant chained up its whole life. It could definitely be strong enough to break free when it grew up, but it just would not have the courage to.

Stella had chosen to step out of the cage. So, Keegan would never do anything to trap her back in and destroy her dream if she was unwilling to return to him.

Aldor was shocked and said softly, "I got it, boss."

Keegan walked past the audition room and stopped after taking a few more steps. He bowed his head down and felt something wet under his feet. The carpet was supposed to be bright red, but the part under his feet was darker.

That damp trail flowed from a very small door a few feet away to where he was standing. Aldor said curiously, "It's leaking. This isn't right. Why does it smell like alcohol?"

Keegan looked over. He was about to leave but saw alcohol flowing out from under the door.

"I'm so sorry." A waiter approached them and apologized nervously, "Gentlemen, please walk on the left side. The alcohol in the storeroom is spilling. I'll get someone to take care of it."

'Spill? It looks more like a floodgate opening.'

Keegan looked at the door and suddenly said, "Open it."

The waiter became anxious. "I'm sorry, sir. That's also the staff changing room. Our staff has plenty of private belongings, and we have to protect their privacy..."

"Open it up!"

Keegan said in a deep voice, looking impatient.

The waiter was frightened. Keegan tried to keep himself calm, but not anymore. He went off, and the waiter's hair curled.

His commanding presence was simply too strong.

But the waiter took someone else's money and was only supposed to let Stella out of there by nine. There were only twenty minutes left to nine, so he worried he would not receive the other half of his payment if he let Stella out.

However, he recollected himself very quickly. 'The boss of Sapphire Clubhouse is from Royalburgh. I'm sure none of these small business owners from Rivera would dare to cause trouble here.'

So, he kept his fear in check and said while pretending to be tough, "I'm sorry, but I've got to get my manager's permission first."

Aldor took his phone out and said, "Mr. Davis, a waiter refused to open the door for us. Would you please take care of this? We're on the ninth floor. Be quick. Mr. Kane is waiting."

The waiter's face turned pale. He was not expecting to call his manager directly...

The manager made his way there after three minutes. He was about to tell the waiter off, but Keegan interrupted him, "Open the door first."

Mr. Davis turned around and glowered at the waiter impatiently. "Where's the key? Open the door now?"

The waiter hurriedly went to the duty room to get the keys. His hand was shaking, and he could not put the key inside the keyhole after trying a few times.

Aldor snatched the key from him and unlocked the door with a grim face

Chapter 666

The door opened, and a strong smell of alcohol went right at their faces.

Stella was squatting down on the floor with a pale face. She held her phone in one hand and a bottle of alcohol to pour it outside in the other. Keegan's heart sank as he immediately went inside to carry her out of the room. The look on Aldor's face was not looking very good either.

The dressing room was tiny and confined, yet no electric supply existed. The only ventilating vent was also jammed. It was literally an enclosed space with filthy air. Anybody who spent more than thirty minutes in it would feel awful and struggled to catch their breath.

"Keegan?"

Stella called his name softly while lying in his arms.

Keegan's face looked very serious as he pursed his lips tightly. "Mhmm," he replied softly.

She shut her eyes and took a deep breath before saying hoarsely, "Bring me to a window or a balcony. I want to catch some air..."

Keegan paused and said in a low voice, "I'll bring you to the hospital now."

"Let's go to a balcony first." Stella grabbed his shirt. "I'll feel better after resting. I still have an audition to go to. I can't let things go their way."

She stretched her arm out and touched Keegan's face after seeing the worried expression he put on, "Bring me there. Please..."

Please...

It was the word she would never say when he wanted her to, yet she spoke it out so naturally at the time he did not want her to. Keegan tightened his jaw without saying anything. Then, he carried her to the balcony.

The balcony was huge, and fresh air came rushing at them. Stella could finally breathe better and did not feel as awful as before. Keegan kept quiet. He sat beside her as he stroked her back. Her face began to look less pale too.

Aldor handed her a cup of warm water. "Mrs. Kane, have some water."

Stella thanked him before taking the cup from Aldor. Then, she took two sips and gave the cup back to him.

"I've got to go to the audition now."

She stood up, and her vision went black briefly before returning to normal. Keegan grabbed her wrist. "Rest for a while longer. I'll talk to the director for you."

"No."

Stella looked at him. "Other people would think you're my sponsor if you got involved. I won't get myself in any scandal before I can make a penny for my boss. How do you expect me to survive in my new company?"

Keegan replied with a dark face. "I'll cut whoever's tongue that dares to spread rumors about you."

Stella kept quiet.

I have no idea Keegan could be such a crazy man. I forgot that he's a big boss who could literally do anything he wanted after getting into too many fights with him.

Stella coughed. "D-don't say something so cruel. I don't feel comfortable with it."

Keegan was speechless.

Stella looked at the time. "I need to go now. Don't get yourself involved, you heard

me? Otherwise, I'm going to donate all your money!"

Then, she ran away after saying that.

Keegan only turned around and said to Aldor with a cold face after she disappeared from his sight, "Find out who did that."

The door opened before Stella could make it to the audition room, and a group of people came out while talking and laughing.

Her heart sank as she quickly followed them and said loudly, "Mr. Winfield."

A man with gray temples, around fifty years old, turned around and looked at her.

Chapter 667

"You are..." "I'm here for the audition today. My name is Stella Jewell."

Stella cursed inwardly after introducing herself.

I've gone through this when The Palace was still in production. Daniel wouldn't let me replace that actress's role if nothing happened to her.

'I wonder if I would have the same luck now.'

Stella was not very familiar with Stuart. He used to direct theatrical and commercial films, and he won many awards too. Stella figured that directors like him would probably hate it more when an actor ran late to an audition.

As soon as Stella said that, Yasmine and Bella came out of the room.

Yasmine stood in front of Stella right when she saw her." You were nowhere to be found when you were supposed to be here. So why are you making a scene now?

You can't manage your time properly at all! Mr. Winfield had decided to cast Bella as Lexi."

Stuart turned around and asked his assistant, "Who is this actress?"

His assistant looked for Stella's information and said softly, "She's a new artist from Elegant Media and had never participated in any productions back then. She just finished filming a costume drama, but it has not been aired yet. I think she also starred in a skit recently, earning herself some fame."

The assistant continued, "Bella came to the audition one hour earlier than you even though she's already a superstar. What you did is just unacceptable. It's funny how Elegant Media actually recommended both of them to us." To the assistant, Stella just could not be compared to Bella.

Bella crushed Stella in every aspect, whether fame, public persona, or the shows they had participated in. Yasmine kept pushing Stella, and she got mad. Finally, Stella grabbed her wrist and said in a low voice, "You should know better than everyone else why I'm late!"

Yasmine lifted the edge of her mouth and smiled coldly, "How could you blame others when you don't know how to manage your time?"

Stella did not want to talk to her at all. She shrugged her off and walked toward the director.

"Mr. Winfield, the audition is supposed to end at nine, and it's only eight fifty-two now. Eight minutes are enough for me to prove myself. So please give me a chance."

Stuart looked at her from head to toe.

He only spoke after some time, "You heard what she said just now. We've already made our decision."

Bella smiled subtly.

The character design of the female lead, Lexi, in Stuart's drama was tailored to Bella. She was the best at making herself look like a pitiful and vulnerable girl. She knew the role would be hers as soon as she read the script.

She figured that Stella had the face of a sly person, so it was impossible for Stella to beat her just by the way she looked.

Bella was waiting to see Stella's defeated face, but unexpectedly, Stella's expression did not change at all. Instead, she flashed a smile.

"I'm not here to try out for Lexi, but Georgia."

Georgia was the second female lead in the drama. She would be Lexi's roommate, and she came from a very wealthy family that everyone in her family loved. However, she could never perform better academically than Lexi, and they shared a very tense relationship.

After that, Lexi would be paralyzed after getting drugged. A task force conducted an investigation and made Georgia their main suspect. However, the case slowly got left behind as the task force could not find sufficient evidence to prove that Georgia was the culprit.

Lexi left the stage forever because she could not walk anymore, but Georgia made it to the international scene and became a world-famous artist.

Georgia had the most complicated character design in the drama, and she had just as many scenes as the female lead. They were looking for an actress from ages twenty to forty, and it was a rather important role.

However, that role was too dark, so Stuart had difficulty deciding whom to cast. He sized Stella up again after she mentioned it. She had a hint of haughtiness in her eyes and looked effortlessly elegant. He had to admit that she fit the role very well.

He got interested.

"Can you dance?"

Stella replied carefully, "I went to a dancing class for a few years."

Then, Stuart turned his head and said to his assistant, "Give her the lines from the dancing studio scene."

Then, he shifted his gaze to Stella. "I want to look at your basic dancing skills."

Stella could finally feel a little relieved. She was glad Stuart gave her a chance instead of directly rejecting her.

Bella put on an unhappy look and flatly said when she walked past Stella, "Stella Jewell, you've got to have real

Chapter 668

Stella paused and swept her gaze across her. "We'll soon find out which one of us has better skills. As for men, I'm sure you haven't slept with any men I've been with."

Then, she looked at her belly. "When are you due?"

Bella felt very embarrassed, but Stella already went around her to go into the audition room. The script that Stuart's assistant gave her was only a page long, and it was set in the school's dancing studio.

Georgia just won first place in the youth dance competition of Sresport. Her classmates started talking about it. All of them thought that the competition was rigged, and they were all on Lexi's side. Georgia interrupted them and argued with Lexi after hearing their conversation from outside. Then, they started competing in

front of everyone. Georgia would then make a mistake and made fun of. Stella quickly memorized her lines and said to Stuart. "Can I start now?" Stuart nodded. Then, he paused and said, "Bella, come and join her. You'll only have a few lines." "Sure," Bella said before gazing at Stella. Then, she took the script from Stuart.

All their classmates thought Lexi did better because Georgia made a few obvious mistakes during the competition but won first place anyway.

Georgia's father was the deputy mayor of Sresport, and her grandfather was a very influential man too. So, everyone guessed that the competition was rigged, and the judges were biased toward Georgia.

In other words, none of them thought that Georgia deserved to win.

Everybody was talking about it and complained about how unfair it was for Lexi. Lexi came from an underprivileged household. She could only study in this school because she was talented, and the people from her hometown sponsored her tuition fees.

The winner of that dancing competition would receive three thousand dollars as the prize. It was a huge amount back in the nineties. It would be enough for her to complete her studies and even improve her family's living conditions.

So, everyone was burning with rage after Georgia got first place instead of her.

"What does she know? Does she really think that she can dance better? She wouldn't have gotten so many votes if it was not for her family after doing that sidekick wrongly." "Yeah. The judges would know how horrible that mistake if they were not ignorant."

Lexi said softly, "Actually, Georgia did pretty well. Dancing is a very subjective thing, anyway. Let's stop dwelling on the past." "You're always so kind. Did you see how arrogant she looked after winning? She said she worked very hard when she gave her acceptance speech. Every dancer works just as hard as her, and we all stretch in the studio before the sun even comes up.

"I finally realized something. It's better to have an influential father than to actually know how to dance." "Bang!" The studio was kicked open right after that. Everyone was shocked. Then, they put on a strange look after seeing Georgia's face.

After all, seeing the person one spoke ill of would be very awkward.

Georgia's face looked cold as she swept her gaze across them and said grimly, "Do it in front of me if you have anything to say about me. Why are you guys doing it behind my back? Are all of you rats afraid of the light?"

One of the girls who criticized Georgia the most exploded, "I will! I'm not afraid of you! I'm pretty sure you know how badly you did that day. You should know better than everybody else about how you won that competition. If there's a rat here, that would be you. You're the rat that stole the victory from someone else, which was not supposed to be yours!"

Lexi immediately stood up and said, "Lulu, that's enough."

Georgia clenched her fists tightly. She looked very unhappy. "The judges came from other places. How could I even cheat? You're talking smack about me just because you lost the competition. How ridiculous. Do you think that nobody else deserves to win other than you?"

Lexi frowned. "Georgia, that's not what she meant. We're all from the same class.

There's no need to be so mean."

Georgia sneered. "Always the kind one, aren't you? Why don't you tell them about your mistakes that day?" "Don't drag Lexi with you just because you made a mistake. Do you know how many times Lexi trained for that choreography? It's impossible that she made a mistake." "She's human too. Why wouldn't she make a mistake?" Georgie shifted her gaze to Lexi. "Do you dare to have a rematch?"

Chapter 669

"Let's go then. Lexi, show her how Nirvana should be performed!"

Then, Lexi stood beside Georgia reluctantly. Nirvana, as its name suggested, was a dance to mimic the movement of a Phoenix. The music started, and both of them began dancing.

Georgia bent down slightly and hugged herself with both arms. She looked like a nestling that just broke its shell while exploring the unknown world timidly. Then, as the melody changed, she stretched her arms out and started moving like an eagle soaring through the sky.

Suddenly, a high-pitched tone played. She then fell as if her wings broke.

Then, she bathed in the fire before rising from the ashes and being reborn...

Bang-

Georgia could not maintain her balance while she wanted to straighten her back and fell to the ground.

Everybody was shocked and thought that Stella had made a mistake.

She sat up with a pale face and looked at Lexi, who was dancing with her bloodshot eyes beside her. Georgia was too desperate to win that she made a big mistake on that simple move.

Her classmates laughed at her. Georgia clenched her fists tight, looking very angry and resentful.

Everybody in the audition room kept quiet.

Stuart froze for a few seconds before saying, "Cut!"

Stella heaved a sigh of relief as she sat on the floor quietly. She just got locked up in a tiny room for some time, yet she had to perform such a long choreography afterward. She was drained.

Everyone around her was so shocked by her acting skills that they were all speechless. Bella was the only one with an awful look on her face. Stella's acting skills were somewhat powerful. Bella's emotions almost got affected after Stella read her lines.

Bella was supposed to be the female lead, yet the lines she ran with Stella could not display her toughness as an underprivileged lady. In contrast, Stuart could see the condescending haughtiness in Stella.

He got very excited. He suddenly could see how much potential Georgia had in his head. Finally, he calmed himself down and asked, "Did you come up with that choreography yourself?"

Stella shook her head. "Not entirely. Mr. Gerald's masterpiece inspired it. However, my skills are not as polished as his, and that was the closest I could do to recreate it."

Everyone kept quiet.

Stella's dance made them feel like they were watching a stage play, and her

movements were extremely fluid. Bella's choreography could not come close to that at all.

Bella claimed that she learned modern dance for five years and was very confident in playing Lexi. Stuart looked at her dancing skills without giving any comments. Then, he told the crew to find a dancer who had a similar build to be her double.

However, Stella did not say she was good at dancing, yet she shocked everybody there. She would not need a double to help her with what she was capable of. She could get any difficult moves done with the proper guidance.

That was why people said empty vessels make the most noise.

A voice within Stuart shouted. 'It's her! It's got to be her! Georgia is Stella, and Stella is Georgia.'

Chapter 670

Keegan watched the live broadcast on a screen in a room next door. He pursed his lips without saying anything.

That was his first-time seeing Stella dance like that.

Actually, she would sometimes dance in his house. Her best habit was making time daily to stretch her legs and practice basic dancing moves. She would dance on a whim, but the choreographies were mostly nothing serious. For example, she would mimic alien, frog prince, or panda man dancing...

Stella would ask Keegan to stand beside her when she did that. Then, she would play the animated cartoon choreography on the television while following the steps and making those weird moves on the other side of the screen.

Keegan paid little attention to viral videos, so he felt very strange when he first saw Stella doing that. However, she could dance almost exactly the same as the cartoons on television. He still had the video of her wearing a full yellow outfit while doing the alien dance on his phone.

Keegan attended a business banquet, and somebody performed that same dance. An older lady who used to be a dancer said that even though the dance might look very simple, it required very high body coordination, and only a competent dancer could learn it quickly.

So, Stella was very humble when she told the director that her dancing skills were mediocre.

She embodies the humblest character in the world. But, perhaps, she was only pretending to be humble to wow the crowd later on. After all, she liked to do it very much when she was still married to Keegan.

During the gathering with her old classmates, some ladies would show off how capable and how much their husbands were earning before asking her about her husband.

She always said that her husband was not as outstanding as their husbands. She would tell them that her husband was just an ordinary man with a small business that could barely support her.

Then, she would ask Keegan to pick her up in a Rolls Royce. Also, she would put on the most expensive dress in her closet, the most exquisite accessories and the most luxurious bags to put her classmates to shame.

Instead of showing off verbally, Stella would always prefer to prove it with actions.

"Mrs. Kane got this," Aldor said, "Look at the director's face."

Keegan gazed at him with a joyful expression. "You don't say."

Aldor was speechless.

'I was praising Mrs. Kane. So why does he look like I'm complimenting him instead?'

Aldor did not see the same proud expression on his face even when he led his team to receive the science and technology award on stage.

He felt like telling Keegan that he had divorced Stella, and the compliment he gave had absolutely nothing to do with him.

Unfortunately, he was not brave enough to do so. Emotionally, Keegan was like a little kid who loved to be flattered.

Stuart talked with the producer and the crew. Then, they decided to give Stella the role. After that, he said to Stella.

"I don't allow any of my cast to be late on set. I don't care what your excuse may be, but I could get you replaced anytime if you ran late to the set after we officially started shooting."

Chapter 671

The fact that Stella was late today left a bad impression. Though, she tried her best to redeem it with her acting skills. "Don't worry, Mr. Winfield. This will be the first and last time I'll be late," she said.

Stuart felt relieved when he heard that. "Take a look at the contract and sign your name if there is no problem." 'Is it okay if I video call my agent and ask him to review the contract?'

Before Mr. Winfield could open his mouth, his assistant said, "These types of contracts are almost exactly the same. There's nothing to review. Hurry up and sign it. Don't delay our ti—"

Stuart raised his hand, motioning for the other party to stop talking. Then he said to Stella, "Go ahead. It's a good thing to be cautious."

When Yasmine heard that Stella would call Kaiden, her face changed slightly.

Stella thanked Stuart. Accompanied by several crew members, she went downstairs to a place with a signal and made a phone call with Kaiden. She also sent a copy of the contract to him.

Kaiden was still on the train at that time. After reading the contract, he asked, "You auditioned for Georgia?" "Mhm. I was late today. Lexi's role had already been decided when I arrived, so I tried out for Georgia. I also realize that I like acting as Georgia better." Kaiden also preferred the role over the main character. The most complicated character in the show is the best part to play to win an award. However, Trevor said that Stella must be the female lead, so he arranged for her to audition for the role of Lexi.

Trevor was someone with capital; he only understood his investments and knew almost nothing about acting. So, he thought that it was best to be the female lead. On the other hand, Kaiden was a professional in the field; he knew very well what roles had more dramatic tension and which part suited his actors best. So to him, Stella's performance as Georgia was simply perfect.

However, he still asked, "Why were you late? Didn't Yasmine pick you up?'

It was hard for Stella to go into details with the crew nearby. The internal conflict in

Elegant Media would be bad for the company if the news ever got out, so she said, "I'll tell you about it when you come back."

Kaiden did not press any further. "Stuart is a good director, while you are very good at shooting female-dominated shows. Remember to ask him if you get lost or have questions about the script. He likes to discuss the characters with the actors. He's rather chatty, so just bear with him."

Stella did not say anything back. After all, he was a great director who had won many awards, and Kaiden had described him well.

After hanging up the phone, Stella went upstairs to say goodbye to the director and others. Stuart was very happy that he had decided on two important roles simultaneously. Before Stella left, he patted her shoulders and said, "The younger generation will surpass the older generation."

Bella also came forward after a few of the people had left. "Don't be too proud of yourself, Stella. Signing the contract is just the beginning. Whether you can stay until the end is up to you."

Switching actors while filming a movie or TV series was rare. Bella had been in this circle for many years and knew the ins and outs of the industry well. It was in her best interest that Stella stayed so that she could take revenge. Dusk Galaxy, The Palace...

One thing piled after the other. Bella needed to avenge herself.

Stella glanced at her lightly and said, "Right back at you. What do you think your fans would do when they find out that the innocent princess they've been so protective of sent me a pregnancy test report to provoke my relationship with my husband? Will they eat you alive when they realize that you're actually a dirty and stinky piece of shit?"

Bella's eyes turned cold, and a trace of panic flashed across her heart.

However, she managed to suppress the look on her face and said, "Do you really think that anyone will believe your empty words?"

Bella had built a perfect image of herself. She had blocked all the haters and revealed all the diehard fans. As long as she did not break the law, the perks from her reputation were enough for her to retire.

Chapter 672

"Why don't you try it if you don't believe me?" Stella said. She suddenly changed the main subject with, "What are you afraid of, Bella? Why did you use such a low-level method to make me miss my audition for the female lead?"

Bella froze for a moment but quickly came back to her senses. "Huh? What do you mean? What are you talking about?"

Bella was not a fool. She would never admit something she did not directly commit. 'Who knows if this crazy bitch is recording or something. I'm not about to let her get to me.' "Everyone was given the same chance. You're the one who did not arrive at the scene on time. You must accept the price of being late instead of blaming others."

The corners of Stella's mouth twitched when she heard that. 'I see someone has become smart.'

Bella looked at her half-smile and thought of the last time she kicked her into the sea. 'This crazy bitch is wild. Today's incident was not executed well. There's a possibility that I'll get exposed if I continue arguing with her. I should stop.' "We'll see," she

added, giving Stella a cold glance. Bella then turned around and left. Yasmine paused. She looked at Stella, who stood there quietly, staring at her with calm eyes and even slightly curling the corners of her lips when meeting her gaze. That mocking look made Yasmine flustered, but she quickly settled down. Whether an unpopular newcomer, who relied on their looks and mediocre acting skills, could succeed in films depended on what the audience thought. No matter how good Stella's performance was, she would not be able to have a turnover if the audience did not like her.

After several people left, Keegan and Aldor came out of the room. Stella suddenly felt a little embarrassed when she saw Keegan. When she was locked in the room earlier, she hoped someone would come to rescue her. It did not matter if that person was a man or a woman or if they asked her to be their slave or to repay them with sex; she just wanted an out. Unexpectedly, Keegan was the one who showed up.

Her thoughts of repaying someone by being their slave or giving them her body were gone. She realized that only good-looking people could use sex as a form of payment. She would actually become a slave if Mr. Davis were the one who saved her.

"Are you trying to figure out how to thank me?" Keegan calmly said as if he had seen through her thoughts. "According to the plot of your shows, I'm thinking... sex?" Stella was taken aback when she heard that. Her ears got a little hot, and she shot Keegan a look, "I'm tired of looking at your face. I would rather become a slave and work like a horse."

Keegan lowered his gaze and smiled. Suddenly, he approached her and said, "Forget about being a slave. Why not just focus on working like a horse?" 'Is he saying what I think he's saying?' Stella's scalp tingled. 'Did he say that because horses could be ridden?'

However, it turned out that Stella was the one with a dirty mind since Keegan said, "I have to see who runs faster, you or Juno."

Stella's face turned green. She slapped Keegan's hand away, glared at him, and said, "You're crazy!" She left with a grim look on her face after that.

Keegan frowned, "Why is she mad again?"

Aldor was speechless. 'Mr. Kane needs to learn when to flirt and when not to flirt.

They were standing so close just now; he could have just kissed her. Why in the world did he have to mention Juno?'

Stella rubbed her ears and thought, 'Aah. Son of a bitch. You're such an idiot, Stella.' "Stella?"

Chapter 673

As soon as Stella arrived at the lobby, Marshall's voice came behind her. She turned around, surprised, "Mr. Moore- I mean Marshall, why are you here?"

Marshall approached her and said softly, "I'm here to discuss a case." He glanced at her dancing outfit and said, "Why are you-" 'I just finished an audition.'

Marshall nodded.

Stella just passed the tryout and was excited, "Why don't you ask me if I got the role?"

"Is there even a need to ask?" Marshall smiled. He could already tell by her expression. "Come on, ask me," Stella said. She had to show off in one way or another. Marshall laughed and asked seriously, ' Did you pass the audition, Ms.

Jewell?"

Stella's eyes sparkled, "Yeah! The director's eyes shined bright when he saw me!"

Marshall could not hide his smile while looking at her, "Is that so?

Congratulations, then." Stella rolled her eyes.

As he was talking, a middle-aged bald man suddenly approached Marshall and said,

"Think about it, Mr. Moore. I can pay you more if you kick that old shrew out of the house and lose everything. I can even pay you double the initial price."

Marshall turned round, and the smile he had on earlier was gone; only indifference remained in his eyes.

"Mr. Brown, I've made it very clear. I'm Mrs. Brown's lawyer now. I can't take on your lawsuit." "If you can't take on my case, can you at least let go of that old hag's case? I will pay for it," the middle-aged man said. Marshall was obviously annoyed by him and replied with a cold face, "If you have that kind of money, Mr. Brown, why not spend it on other lawyers or go and beg Mrs. Brown to withdraw the lawsuit? Maybe she'll agree since you have been married for so many years. I'm afraid I must leave; I have an appointment with a friend."

After saying that, Marshall pulled Stella away. Mr. Brown's expression was ugly. "Mr. Brown, maybe we should hire another lawyer. It'll be hard to make Mr. Moore budge," said his assistant.

Mr. Brown said with a gloomy face, "Do you think it's a matter of who will represent me? I can deal with whoever that old hag hired, but there's no way I can go up against Marshall Moore. His family is famous in Rivera." "Even so, you can't use wealth to negotiate with him; he doesn't need the money."

Mr. Brown frowned, "Everyone wants something. Ask someone to watch him and find out what it is." "Okay." "Was that your client?" Stella asked after being pulled outside.

"No, he's the husband of one of my clients." Marshall said lowly, "I recently took on a divorce lawsuit. The two have been married for nearly 30 years and suddenly wanted a divorce. The man has illegitimate children outside the marriage from more than one mistress. The woman wants to get back the money her husband spent on those people over the years. So she hired me to redo the divorce settlement."

Stella was taken aback. "Why are there so many cases like this now? Do these people have any respect for their marriage?" "Actually, their relationship had a downfall more than ten years ago. The woman had another lover, and the two did not interfere with each other's relationships outside of the marriage. They agreed it was all for fun, but the man had a few illegitimate children. So, the woman wanted a divorce since children born out of wedlock could inherit the same assets as her children. It would be unfair to her children if she did not divorce her husband."

Stella did not continue the conversation because now, she was also an unidentified illegitimate daughter. She never dared to check her background because, firstly, she was afraid that the truth would be difficult to accept. Secondly, she did not want to believe that Rainee betrayed her marriage.

"Where are you staying? I'll drive you back," Marshall said softly.

Chapter 674

Stella glanced back at the door and saw that Keegan had not come down yet.

Marshall noticed her looking and asked, "Are you waiting for your friends?" Stella was

silent for a few seconds before saying, "No."

Clearly, she was not waiting for Keegan, the idiot who did not know how to speak.

"It's okay. I don't want to trouble you. I'll just call a cab."

Marshall paused, "It's no trouble, Stella. Treat it as friends helping each other. Plus, it's late. It's not safe for you to take the cab alone. Come on, let me give you a ride."

The last sentence sounded like a request.

Stella was afraid when people talked to her like that because she would not know how to reject them. So, she got into Marshall's car in a daze.

"You live in Clouditude International?" Marshall asked as he turned the steering wheel. Stella nodded, "Yeah. It was a company arrangement. I'm staying there with my friend."

Marshall lightly tapped his fingers on the steering wheel a few times before saying, "Clouditude has a great security system. It's safer there."

Stella's phone rang while they were talking. It was Aldor. She answered the call, and Aldor said on the other line, "Where are you, Mrs. Kane?" "I'm on my way home." "Did you leave by yourself?" "Yes—" "Is that your friend?" Marshall's voice suddenly came from beside her.

Aldor felt the temperature around him drop. He did not need to look at Keegan to know the cold had come from him. Before Stella could explain, Keegan gritted his teeth and said, "Is that Marshall?"

Stella felt a little guilty for some reason, but she suppressed the guilt. 'Keegan and I are divorced, and I'm not doing anything wrong with Marshall. There's no need to feel guilty, Stella.'

Keegan felt no guilt when he left with Bella in his arms. So she confidently said, "Who cares?"

Keegan was so angry that his teeth were hurting, "How many times have I told you to stay away from Marshall? Why don't you ever listen?" "I just happened to run into him! Didn't I also run into you earlier?" "What a fucking coincidence!" Keegan could not help swearing. "Do you really think I have nothing better to do than to sit and drink with those people? I obviously did it because of you!"

Stella's heart beat faster, and she hummed, "Who knows why you were there? I'm not the only one who auditioned for a role."

Keegan did not have the patience to explain himself, so he said, "Get out of that car immediately. Send me your location, and I will pick you up."

The corners of Stella's eyes twitched, "Are you insane? I'm almost home!" "I said get out—" Stella hung up the phone and whispered, "Who does he think he is?" "Was that Keegan?" Marshall asked aloud. Stella then came back to her senses and said, "Uh-huh." "Speaking of which, I haven't seen him for a while," Marshall smiled. "After his grandma's birthday party, many people came to me to inquire about him. They all wanted to introduce him to someone new." "Please don't introduce him to anyone. Keegan looks like a normal guy, but he has a nasty temper. Any girl who marries him will be miserable. He's doing fine being single and alone," Stella said immediately.

Chapter 675

Marshall chuckled, "Actually, Keegan is liked by many elders. He is great at his work and very responsible. He meets the standards of a son-in-law, and many girls fancy

him. I'm guessing the elders of the Kane family are urging him to find another bride. After all, he is the only son in the family. They would want him to spread his seed."

Stella was startled when she heard that, her heart trembling slightly. She pursed her lips tightly and said nothing while lightly tapping the window beside her.

Not long after, they arrived at Clouditude International. When Stella got out of the car, Marshall called out to her. He took a tiny pink bunny-shaped pendant from the car's storage box and handed it to Stella. "My colleagues custom ordered a phone strap, but pink is not my color. I'm thinking you girls might like it..?"

The details on the bunny looked amazing. Stella liked it but said, "My phone doesn't have a case, so this thing is pretty much useless to me. Maybe you should give it to whoever you like."

Marshall froze momentarily before asking, "You don't have a phone case?" "Yeah."

"Why? I thought girls like having cutesy or pretty phone cases?" Marshall wondered.

"It's not that I don't like having a case. I just feel like it would be more worth it if I get to touch my phone that I spent a lot on, rather than just holding it with a 10-dollar case on."

Marshall could not believe such a thought. He glanced at Stella's phone and asked, "Do you not have a screen protector too?"

Stella nodded, "What's the point of scrolling my phone if I don't get to touch the screen that costs me thousands of dollars?" 1

Marshall was speechless. He finally had a little understanding of Stella's mindset; she thinks that expensive things are meant to be used rather than preserved.

After watching Stella enter the building, Marshall took the pendant out and looked at it for a while. He then threw it into the trash at the entrance of the housing area and drove away.

At the same time, Keegan was annoyed that Marshall had driven Stella home. Aldor tried to comfort him by saying, "Sir, Mrs. Kane isn't someone with no boundaries. Maybe she just could not reject his kindness."

Aldor only had little contact with Marshall and was not close to him. But he knew he was not like Keegan; Keegan was straight to the point, while Marshall seemed gentle and soft-spoken. However, that did not mean that he was easy to persuade.

'Maybe Mrs. Kane did not know how to reject him because she owed him a favor for Ms. Spade's funeral and the subsequent lawsuits,' Aldor thought.

Keegan was much more difficult to understand than Vermont, but Aldor dared not speculate anything.

"It's not like I don't trust her. I... I just want her to have as little contact with Marshall as possible," Keegan pursed his lips.

Aldor nodded.

Then, Keegan grabbed his phone and called Trevor. Trevor had just gotten off the plane when he saw Keegan's phone call and hung up without a thought.

Keegan gritted his teeth and called him once more. Trevor picked up when he got into the car. Before he could open his mouth, Keegan scolded him, '

Trevor, you bastard! Did you sign Stella just to give her supporting roles?" 1

Trevor's face turned dark, "What are you on about? When did I let Stella take on the supporting role?"

Keegan recalled what happened that night and said with a cold face, "I invested

money in your company. It's fine that you banned me from interfering in the company's affairs, but can you do your job and take care of her? If anything happens to her, I will tear Wings Group apart!"

Trevor's face was sullen because of what happened that night, but when he heard what Keegan had said, he laughed angrily, "Bring down Wings Group, and I will make sure you never get Stella back for the rest of your life!" Trevor hung up the phone after saying that.

Chapter 676

'What an ass. How dare he say that to me?' After Trevor hung up the phone, he called the HR department and said with a stern face, "Tell Yasmine to get the hell out of here! Never let me see her face or hear her name ever again!" He then hung up after speaking.

When Yasmine arrived at the company the next day, the HR manager called and asked her to go through the resignation procedures. Yasmine thought she had misheard and asked, "Sorry, what?" "I said, hurry up and go through the resignation procedures. You have been fired."

Yasmine's face turned pale, "Why is the company firing me? I've recruited three actors for the company, and I'm still working with the most famous artist in the company. Why are you guys firing me?" "This is Mr. Saun's decision; neither you nor I have the right to comment on it," said the HR manager. He sized up Yasmine and wondered why Trevor made a non-compete clause with an agent here.

Yasmine gritted her teeth and said, "I signed a three-year contract with the company. You have no right to fire me without a valid reason!" She had switched jobs three times and had not made a name for herself yet in Elegant Media. She was afraid that she would not be able to get into any of the big companies if she left. Thus, she was not about to leave that easily.

The HR manager chuckled, 'Is this your first day at work? There must be reasons why the boss wants to fire you. You can apply for labor arbitration if you don't want to accept it. We will deal with it, but I advise you to keep a low profile and just leave the company. Making a fuss won't benefit you.'

Even if Yasmine could not work in big companies, she could still make a living in smaller companies as long as she did not have to meet with Trevor.

After speaking, the HR manager added, "Hurry up and make your decision.

Lunch break is at eleven thirty; don't waste our time."

Yasmine's face was gloomy. She had made it to where she was alone, step by step. She was not willing to be kicked out of the company like this.

She called Bella immediately, and Bella rushed to the company as soon as she heard. Naturally, Bella did not have good intentions. She only came to draw a fight with Stella.

After hearing Yasmine talk about the matter while crying, she handed her a tissue and said in a low voice, "Is it because of what happened last night? I heard that Ms. Jewell had something going on with Mr. Saun."

Yasmine paused, 'Do you mean she's his partner?' "I met her with Mr. Saun during a meal before, but maybe it was just a friendly meet-up," Bella said ambiguously.

Yasmine's expression darkened as she said, 'No wonder.' "Maybe you should go and

beg Ms. Saun. I heard from people in the company that Ms. Saun is kind-hearted and may help you with this.”

Yasmine quickly found Jaylene and was asked, “How did Ms. Jewell get out?” 1 She was stunned by the question but did not know the answer; she just thought Stella was lucky.

“I can ask, but you’d better not get your hopes up because even I can’t change my brother’s mind,” said Jaylene. Sure enough, Trevor was outraged and told her not to interfere. After hanging up the phone, Jaylene glanced at Yasmine, who was pale and said, “What you did was too obvious. I’m afraid I can’t help you.” i

So Yasmine was kicked out of the company, and Bella backed down

Chapter 677

At first, Bella did not instruct Yasmine to interfere directly, but she thought she was still in Royal Deluxe Entertainment, where everyone respected her as a celebrity. She felt that the company would protect her even if it were obvious that they had done it.

However, Bella felt a little more apprehensive about taking further action after this incident. To her, it did not matter if Trevor fired Yasmine out of consideration for the company. His relationship with Stella was not as simple as it seemed.

After Stella went home, she texted about the incident at the audition in her group chat. Shea was still working with another crew and was furious after learning about what happened to Stella.

There was still more than a week left for her to wrap things up with her current crew. Afterward, she would apply to accompany Stella in her new crew. Shea told her that this type of incident was common in the entertainment industry. She reminded her to watch someone eat the food they bring her before trying it out herself.

“Don’t tell me I’ll get poisoned,” Stella joked.

“I mean, there were cases like this in our industry. A singer’s vocal cords were damaged after being poisoned. Now that the internet is more developed, people are less likely to commit crimes like this since they can get caught more easily. Though, they could still trick you into making a fool out of yourself, which will affect our chances at an audition,” Felicity immediately said.

“Felicity is right. You have to make sure that everything someone unfamiliar gives you is safe for use and consumption. Do you guys have a magnet, Felicity? Put one in Stella’s bag,” added Shea.

Stella was a fast learner. “Is it because there could be needles in my outfits?” “Good job, Stella,” Felicity said. “I’ll get you one later.”

Shea was still worried, “Stella, you never know what the other party thinks about competition. So you have to be careful and learn to protect yourself. Keep your friends close, but your enemies closer.” “Got it. I’ll keep that in mind,” Stella replied.

Two days later, Stuart personally called Stella and told her that the male role in Motive of Murder had been finalized. Stella asked curiously, “Who’s going to play my partner in the show?” “You’ll find out on the day of filming.” “Is he tall, dark, and handsome? Does he have abs?” Stella asked tentatively.

The corners of Stuart’s eyes twitched, “Are you interested in an actual partner?” Stella laughed and said, “I’m just asking for a better visual of my coworker. I act better when my partner is handsome.” “You act just fine with or without a handsome partner,”

Stuart said. "The shooting will start in two weeks. I will arrange for a choreographer to teach you some moves. Training starts tomorrow. I'll text you more about the time and place later. Remember to pack some clothes since we've set up an accommodation."

"Okay."

Stella was busy packing her luggage after hanging up the phone when Felicity hurriedly stuffed the "anti-hater goodie bag" she had prepared into Stella's suitcase. In the apartment next door, Vermont could not resist calling Felicity again. 'When are you coming over, miss bandit? Look at the time. Where's my meal? I'm starving in here.' "Stop being dramatic. It's just one meal," Felicity whispered.

Vermont narrowed his eyes, "What did you say?"

Felicity laughed, gritted her teeth, and continued, "I said stop being dramatic. Hold on, okay? I'll be there right away." "Hurry up, I'm already investigating that guy for you," Vermont said with satisfaction.

Chapter 678

After hanging up the phone, Felicity stopped what she was doing and said, 'Stella, I have to go out for a while.' Stella nodded and teased, "Are you going to meet up with Dr. Steven again?" Felicity gave a vague reply, thinking, 'I wish! But it's okay. I have to work hard to collect some information first.'

Felicity changed into some casual clothes and went out the door. She walked straight to apartment 902 on the opposite side of the hallway and rang the doorbell.

The door opened in less than three seconds. 'Didn't I tell you the password last time? Do I have to open the door every time you come here?' Vermont had just finished his workout and had taken a shower. He was only wearing shorts now; his upper body was naked, and a towel was on his head. The water from his hair was dripping down the muscles of his body.

Felicity's scalp tightened, and with a dark face, she pulled the towel from his head and threw it on his chest, "Put on some clothes. You're hurting my eyes!" After saying that, she walked straight past him and entered the house.

Vermont smiled, took the towel, and closed the door. Then, while drying his hair, he walked in and said, "I'm literally giving you a show for free, yet you don't want it?"

Felicity looked like she was about to throw up, "It's only a show for women who are interested in you, but it's called sexual harassment when it's me.' 'You stalk Corbin Steven's posts and even liked photos of his abs. So why isn't that called sexual harassment?' Vermont snorted.

Felicity glanced at him and said, 'He posted those pictures on his social media, which is not the same as you being naked right in front of me.'

The corners of Vermont's mouth twitched, "Hey, miss bandit. I'm telling you, based on my experience, men who like to take pictures of their abs are either scumbags or gay. So remember to keep your eyes out; this applies to 90% of the population."

Felicity looked at him and replied, 'You seem to have a pretty clear understanding of this thing, huh? Since you mentioned switching girlfriends frequently, is it possible that you don't like girls at all? That's why they never last long. On the other hand, I see that you follow Keegan around every day. Could it be that you like him? Is he your childhood crush? Did you decide to stay by his side as a good friend and watch him marry and have children while you fool around to avoid judgment?'

Vermont's face darkened, "Shut up, you. All those years in screenwriting, and this is what you come up with?"

Felicity put on her apron and hummed, "What's wrong with it? People dig this type of story, okay? Otherwise, those drama shows you produce wouldn't have made a penny."

Chapter 679

"I'm showing you what they did!" Felicity glared at him and said, "Come closer. Why the hell are you so tall?" The corners of Vermont's eyes twitched, "You're the one who's short." That being said, he still bent over to cooperate with her.

Felicity caressed Vermont's face. Her fingers slid across his cheeks and landed on his earlobe; she stroked it lightly and put her hand around him to stroke the back of his neck. Her hands were cold, but the body parts she touched felt burning hot. It was like something had ignited a flame in Vermont's heart.

"That was how that man touched Hylde," Felicity stopped touching him and said. "Are you sure that they're related? I mean, would your cousin touch you like that?"

Vermont's heart felt empty when Felicity took off her hands from him. He reached out to scratch the place she had touched and let out a cough. "My sister only hits me. But, according to that theory, it does sound a little bizarre," he said.

"A little? That's fucking weird, okay?!" Felicity glanced at Vermont and frowned. "Did you forget to do a fact check or something? Are you messing with me?" "Of course not," Vermont stated. "I wouldn't have told you if I'm not sure. Hylde is not a local. I had to go to her hometown to learn more about her background. She left the place more than 20 years ago. The people who know her are either dead or in the process of being buried. Do you actually think I have it easy?"

Felicity pursed her lips and said, "Okay, okay. Hurry up, please." "Yeah, yeah," Vermont said while still rubbing his neck. It's been some time, but the burning sensation had not disappeared. In fact, it became stronger.

Vermont froze when he saw the chili pepper on the cutting board, and his eyelids twitched, "Did you just touch my face after touching the chili?" Felicity paused, blinked briefly, and said, "It seems so." Vermont's face darkened. "Fuck," he said as he went to the bathroom to wash his face.

'Serves you right!' Felicity thought. She then continued to chop the ingredients and hummed. Finally, after over half an hour, Felicity put a plate of beef stir-fry and a plate of roasted vegetables on the table. She took off her apron and was about to leave when Vermont walked out with two bowls and two sets of cutlery. Seeing she was about to leave, he asked, 'Aren't you going to eat with me today?' "Stella has dance practice tomorrow. So I'm going back to see if she forgot to pack anything. By the way, I'm going to send her to practice tomorrow. So you'll have to prepare your own meal since I won't be here." After saying that, Felicity put on her shoes, opened the door, and left.

Looking at the food on the table, Vermont suddenly felt it did not smell as good as it had been a few days ago. He picked up his phone and texted Keegan: [Your ex-wife is going to dance practice tomorrow, and she needs a driver.]

Felicity went to take out the trash early the next morning. A hand suddenly stretched out from behind when the elevator door opened and grabbed her waist. Another hand

covered her mouth while the person picked her up and rushed into apartment 902. The man kicked the door open with his long legs and entered the home. After that, Vermont let go of his hand, and Felicity threw the garbage at his head, "Not this again, Stinky Cucumber!"

Vermont dodged her attack nimbly and said with a smile, "Stay with me, miss bandit. I'll carry you in the national server!"

Chapter 680

The corner of Felicity's mouth twitched. "I don't have the time to play video games with you. I have to send Stella to dance practice, remember?" With that said, she turned around and went to open the door. But somehow, she could not turn the doorknob.

Felicity stared at Vermont and said, "Open the door." He was already sitting on the sofa as he replied, "I'm sure you're smart, miss bandit. Your bestie has a driver. You don't have to tag along this time. Don't be a third wheel."

As Vermont said that, he patted the spot next to him and said, "Play video games with me, and I'll bring you shopping later." Felicity understood what he meant by all that. "You told Keegan about Stella's training?"

Vermont's eyes curved as he said, "See, I knew you were smart." Felicity turned green. She grabbed a throw pillow and hit him with it, "You jerk! I told you about the practice because I trusted you; how dare you betray me?! God, I even cook for you! I should have just fed the food to the dogs!"

Vermont knew there was no running for her, so he grabbed her wrist and pressed her against the sofa under him. "Being loyal is a good thing, miss bandit. But sometimes, you have to stop meddling, got it?" "If Stella doesn't like Keegan, she can reject him herself. You don't have to reject him for her. You're in the entertainment business; you should know how challenging it would have been for someone like her to make a name for herself without Keegan's help." "Fuck you!" Felicity gritted her teeth and said. "Stella has the looks and the potential for this. She's going to be a star sooner or later!"

Vermont chuckled, "Many people in the industry have the looks and the potential to make it big, but not many could achieve stardom. Do you really think it's possible to succeed in this place without resorting to different means? Name one person who became famous without any deception whatsoever."

Felicity bit her lip and said nothing.

"The entertainment industry is no fairy tale, and no one becomes famous with a normal background. You and I know how they do it. Why did Stella get signed to Elegant Media? Do you really think that Trevor sees potential in her? No. It's because Keegan poured money into the company."

Felicity was dissatisfied. "So what you're saying is that Stella would not make it if it weren't for Keegan?" "That's not what I meant," Vermont said in a low voice. "I'm just saying that there are easier ways to do things."

In reality, Felicity agreed with Vermont's statement. She had been in the circle for a long time and had witnessed a lot over the years. There used to be an actress who was good-looking and capable, but she was always in the middle of the list because she did not want to get dirty. Suddenly, she started getting more important roles and

gradually became more popular. She began receiving different awards, sponsors, brand deals, and other resources. Then, rumors spread in the circle that she had a sugar daddy. It was not a big deal since it was fairly common in the industry.

Chapter 681

Felicity took a closer look and found the handcuff was covered with pink plush, 'Damn! This is a sex handcuff!'

She blushed and cursed, "You shameless being! Why do you have such a thing in your house!"

After making a tsk-tsk sound, Vermont said, "I'm a grown man. Isn't it normal to have such things at home?"

Of course, Vermont did not have any unique hobbies. A toxic friend gave him this handcuff on his birthday. He took it out and had a look when he moved. Then, he threw it on the couch.

Vermont saw that it was stuck in the couch gap when he was holding Felicity just now. So, he took it out and handcuffed both of them together to keep her from fussing again later. However, looking at Felicity's flushed face, Vermont suddenly thought of teasing her. He whispered and moved closer to Felicity's ear, "Miss bandit, do you want to widen your horizon greatly? How about I show you the full set?"

Vermont thought Felicity would scold him. Instead, Felicity's eyes lit up, and she whispered, "Can I take pictures?"

Vermont was left speechless.

Stella waited a long time for Felicity. She called her, but her phone was left in the house. Seeing that the scheduled car had arrived at the door, Stella had no choice but to leave a message for her and went out alone with the suitcase.

After leaving the apartment complex, Stella called the driver when she did not see the driver's car. In the end, the driver said that his car broke down on the road, and he could not come. Then, he hung up the phone directly.

It was the first time Stella dealt with this kind of driver. He was really not afraid of bad reviews from others. She frowned and had to place an order again.

The training camp was relatively far away, and there were only a few drivers driving that way. So, it was quite difficult for her to book a car.

Stella tried to book a cab for a long time, but no one accepted her booking. When she was thinking about whether she should drive, a Mercedes-Benz slowly stopped in front of her. The car window was lowered, and Aldor greeted with a smile. "What a coincidence, Ma'am."

As he spoke, he glanced at the suitcase at Stella's feet, "Going somewhere fun?" "No. I'm going to the group training camp, and I'm waiting for a car right now."

Aldor said, "It's on the side of North University Town, right? That's really far, and drivers rarely drive there. I happen to go there for some business. Let me drive you there."

After their encounter last time, Stella kept feeling that Keegan was in the car too. So, she glanced at the backseat subconsciously.

Aldor lowered the car window directly. The backseat was empty, and Keegan was not there. Aldor had already gotten out of the car at that time. He took Stella's luggage and put it in the trunk. Then, he said, "Get in the car, madam."

Stella was wondering earlier if this was Keegan's trick to deliberately prevent her from getting a cab and that he would come across her at just the right time. However, seeing that Keegan was not in the car, Stella suddenly felt that she was a little overthinking it.

Stella thanked Aldor and got in the car. She sat alone in the back seat and felt a little empty suddenly. After the car started for a long time, Stella said, "Is the company not busy today?" "Yes, Mr. Kane is on a business trip. So, I'm not that busy."

Stella was stunned and thought, 'It turns out he's on a business trip. It looks like he's really not behind this.'

Stella felt disappointed for no reason. However, she did not notice a miniature lens fully capturing the scene in the car from diagonally above.

Chapter 682

In the Vinci Rivera Group, Keegan looked at the video on his phone. A softness flashed through his eyes.

Vermont sent a WhatsApp message that said, "Look. Retreating to advance is also a good way. Look at your ex-wife's expression. She probably feels disappointed because she didn't see you."

Indeed, Vermont was the one who came up with this bad idea. Originally, Keegan planned to see her off in person. However, Vermont said not to push her all the time. Only when he knew how to be flexible would Stella find it difficult to give up on him. So, this was why he could bear not to see her off. But, when he saw the disappointment in Stella's eyes because of this, it was worth it.

Keegan sent a document to Vermont. Vermont clicked on it and saw that it was a letter of intent for cooperation in a high-tech zone project.

'Shit! I've been begging you for so long, but it's not as good as an expression from Stella! Hoes before bros!' Vermont thought.

"Uncuff me!" Felicity frowned and said, "I need to use the toilet."

Vermont threw his phone aside and smiled. "Just go like this. We're good buddies. What are you afraid of?"

Felicity glared at him and said, "Uncuff me now! Otherwise, I'll turn you into a ladyboy!"

Vermont made a tsk-tsk sound. "You're so rude." He opened a drawer and rummaged through it as he spoke.

Two minutes later, Felicity asked, "Did you find it?" "It looks like it's in the box."

Vermont ran to the packing box and rummaged through it.

After five minutes, Felicity was a little worried, and she asked, "Have you found it yet?"

Vermont scratched his head and said, "Could it be in the bedroom?"

Ten minutes later, Felicity said irritably, "Damn it! Where did you keep the key?"

Vermont said with embarrassment, "I don't remember." Vermont then pulled her and rummaged around together.

After half an hour, Felicity held her urine until her face turned red. "You bastard! Did you mean it!" "I really forgot where I kept it. How about I call the firemen to come and open it?"

Felicity's eyes were red. "Do you want me to be embarrassed to death?"

Vermont resignedly asked, "Then, what do you suggest?"

Felicity's face turned glum. "What can I do? I don't know how to unlock it! Most importantly, I really can't hold it in anymore. I don't know whether I'll be embarrassed as hell, or I'll die because of holding my pee!"

Without saying a word, Felicity held the handcuff with one hand and pulled at it with the other. The handcuff looked like toys, but it was solid. After a while, Felicity's wrists turned red.

Vermont held her hand and said, "Why don't you just go to the toilet? I promise I won't look at you."

Felicity said stubbornly with red eyes, "No!" "Will you not hear if you don't look? How shameless will I be if I go to the toilet in his presence?"

However, Felicity soon found that it was even more uncomfortable to hold her urine to death than to lose face.

Vermont took out a pair of earphones and said, "I'll be wearing this, okay?"

He turned the earphone volume to the maximum as he spoke. Then, he asked Felicity to try it herself, "You really can't hear anything?"

After speaking, Vermont stuffed it into his ear and threw the phone on the coffee table. "Let's go. I can't hear anything."

Felicity wanted to bear it longer, but she really could not. She pulled Vermont and ran to the toilet.

Vermont was wearing earphones with his back facing her. Although he could not see anything, he could feel Felicity's movements.

The music in his ears was loud, stimulating his eardrums. However, his mind kept thinking of the person behind him uncontrollably. Thinking about what she was doing, Vermont had no idea why his ears felt a little hot suddenly. He rubbed his ears awkwardly and focused on the music in the earphones.

Within a few minutes, Felicity got up and washed her hands.

Vermont turned around. He saw that Felicity's eyes were red, and she began to cry when he was about to say something. Vermont was startled. He took off his earphones and whispered, "I was wearing earphones, so I didn't hear anything. Why are you crying?"

Felicity cried even harder.

Chapter 683

Vermont resignedly reached out to wipe away Felicity's tears. It was not that he never saw a woman cry, but she cried as though a floodgate had opened. Her tears were like raindrops, and they kept flowing out. It was both sad and heartbroken.

"I hate you!" She sobbed and said, "Why do you always see me in my embarrassing moment?" "I didn't see it." Vermont paused then said, "I won't tell anyone."

Felicity sobbed and said, "Swear to me."

Vermont immediately raised three fingers and said, "I swear. If I tell anyone, God will punish me by striking lightning on me, okay? Don't cry." "No!" Felicity sobbed and said, "Swear that you'll be infertile but still full of children and grandchildren if you tell anyone."

Vermont's mouth twitched. He thought, 'Isn't this curse too vicious?' "Are you going to swear?" Felicity looked at him with an expression that she would continue to cry if he

did not swear it.

Vermont had no choice. This was the first time he felt terrible for a woman who cried. He raised three fingers, gritted his teeth, and said, 'TH be infertile but full of children and grandchildren if I tell anyone a single word.'

Only then did Felicity stop crying. "I'll trust you this once."

Vermont was speechless. 'Why do I feel I'm being tricked by this girl?' "So, what do we do now?" Felicity looked at the handcuffed hands.

Vermont said, "Let's call a locksmith."

Half an hour later, the locksmith entered the high-end apartment nervously.

He thought he received a big business opportunity. But, when he entered the door and saw the handcuffed hands of the two, his eyelids twitched." You just need to unlock this?"

Vermont nodded. "Unlock it, quick."

The locksmith pursed his lips. He just pulled a place inside the handcuffs without using a single tool, and the handcuff was released.

Vermont and Felicity were left speechless.

"Just... like that?" Felicity could not believe it.

The locksmith said, "This kind of handcuff can be opened without a key just to prevent accidents. Did you buy this thing without reading the manual?"

Felicity immediately glared at Vermont. She grabbed the pillow and threw it on his face. "Bastard!" After speaking, she left angrily.

Vermont was speechless. 'I don't know either, okay?'

The locksmith coughed, "We have handcuffs that can only be opened with a key. It can restrict well. Do you want it?"

Vermont was left speechless.

The choreographer hired for "Motives for Murder" was a professional teacher from Rivera Dance Academy. More than ten actresses participated in the training camp. They gathered in the dance studio for training at a fixed time every day and about six to eight hours. It was a long time.

After a day, everyone was exhausted. They just wanted to lie still when they returned to the dormitory. Stella only felt a little tired. Meanwhile, other actresses, especially those who did not practice regularly, had muscle aches and shrill cries after a day.

Stella was still stretching when everyone was lying on the ground and groaning.

An actress named Yuna asked curiously, "Stella, don't you feel any pain?" "It hurts too, but not that bad. Maybe because I do massage frequently." "How do you massage?"

Stella smiled and replied, "Let me help you. Have a try."

Yuna was very cooperative. Ten minutes later, screams came from the training room.

"Oh, my God! Why does this hurt more than stretching? Ah!"

After twenty minutes, Stella stopped with sweat on her face. She lowered her head and asked, "How was it?"

Yuna moved her body and said in surprise, "It doesn't seem to hurt that much anymore."

Other actresses came over one after another. "How did you do it? Stella, help me too. Look at my dead arms and legs."

Stella smiled. "I can only help another one at most. I'm tired today. I'll help more if I'm

not tired tomorrow. Who wants to go first?" "Me!"

When Bella was back from the bathroom, she saw that Stella was surrounded by everyone like a famous person.

Bella showed a long face immediately. 'These people! I gave them so many things when I came here, yet I never saw them treat me like this.' "Wow, your technique is so professional." Bella walked in with a half-smile.

"Did you learn that in a massage parlor?"

Chapter 684

Those words were very unfriendly, and anyone could feel it. Bella had high popularity, and her fans were crazy too. None of the ordinary actors dared to mess with her.

Although they could not afford to provoke her, at least they could avoid her.

Of course, some actors liked to lick her boots. It was common for anyone to suck up to those with high popularity in show business.

As soon as Bella finished, an actress named Yolanda smiled and went along with her.

"I feel it's really similar now that Bella mentioned it. This technique is more professional than the technician who gave me a massage before."

Yolanda was an artist from another small company called Stardom Entertainment. She was also quite beautiful. She was the glamour type with some popularity.

She was going to audition for the role of Georgia originally, but Stella got the drop on her. In the end, she only got an audition for a minor role named Lulu Clooney, the female classmate who helped the heroine fight against injustices in the practice room during the previous audition.

Yolanda was so angry that she did not want to play the role anymore when she did not get the role of Georgia. The company tried every possible way to persuade her to go there. After all, Stuart's play was aimed at winning an award. Even if it was a minor role, winning an award in this play would be the icing on the cake for her resume.

Although she came, her resentment toward Stella remained in her heart. So, when Bella talked about her, she would surely take the opportunity to attack her.

Stella glanced at both of them, and the corners of her lips curled up. "You two have good eyes. I really learned it, but my technique can only relieve muscle pain. It's nothing like how you two can relieve others' pain by using your private part."

The crowd was left speechless. 'Holy shit! This girl is bold!' everyone thought.

Although Bella's scandal was not confirmed, it was no secret that Yolanda had a sugar daddy. They heard that her sugar daddy had a high status in Rivera. Even though Yolanda was not the most popular in Stardom Entertainment, she was definitely the most arrogant one. Everyone was around her when she was in and out. Of course, all of this was due to her sugar daddy.

Everyone knew about it, but usually, no one would mention it. Stella was bold. She immediately tore off this fig leaf and made the other party embarrassed.

Yolanda's face turned red with anger. "What are you talking about?" "I'm telling the truth." Stella glanced at Bella, who had a sullen face. "Both of you can discuss it. Mine is just a massage. I really don't have that experience."

Yolanda was angry. She stepped forward and wanted to slap Stella with her hand.

However, Stella grabbed her wrist and sneered, "Did you inject rhytidectomy into your head? Don't be used by others."

After she finished her sentence, Stella flung Yolanda and caused her to take a few steps back before standing still. Yolanda was so angry that she wanted to scold her, but the coach came. Bella pulled her to stop her from uttering any words.

A farce came to an abrupt end. After the training and on the way back to the dormitory, Yolanda looked unhappy and said, "Bella, aren't you angry when that bitch said that to you just now?"

Bella glanced at her and said, "She and I belong to the same company. So, we don't need to have a confrontation like that. Besides..." She paused, then said implicitly, "It's hard for a rookie to get such a major role."

Yolanda sneered, "How hard could it be? Isn't it just to fulfill the need of her sugar daddy?"

Bella said nothing.

After taking a shower, Stella was hungry when she was lying on the bed. In fact, she was starving before class was over. With such long training hours every day, she was hungry before nine, even though she ate at six.

With the addition of massaging two actors today, Stella felt even more hungry. She lay on the bed and kept tossing and turning. Stella played a short video and thought about watching eating broadcasts for a while to satisfy her cravings. As a result, she was even more hungry.

The Fettuccine Alfredo, Cincinnati Chili, Grilled Lamb Chops, Liver and Onions, and others. The more Stella looked at it, the more craving she had and the more she could not fall asleep. She opened Twitter, edited a skinny emoji on her head, and posted it with a text.

[I can wolf food down!] "Ding!"

Keegan was working overtime late at night for a meeting, and his phone vibrated. He picked it up, took a look, and a smile appeared on his lips.

The research and development department had been tormented by Keegan recently. They were either in the laboratory or in the conference room every day.

Keegan was a detail-oriented person. He strived for perfection in every aspect of a new product. It caused the research and development department to work overtime 28 days a month. Their heads were halfway bald. Even the workers in the production team were not this busy. If it were not for the high salary offered by Keegan, which was hard to refuse, everyone would have resigned a long time ago.

The tense vibe in the conference room suddenly disappeared when many saw that Keegan was smiling now. Everyone was guessing whose message made Keegan's face full of joy.

Keegan stood up and said calmly, "Dismiss! Tomorrow is a day off."

Chapter 685

After speaking, Keegan left the conference room.

Everyone looked at each other in blank dismay. In the next second, they asked Aldor, "Aldor, who is the angel that has descended to save us, sentient beings? Tell us."

Aldor glanced at everyone. He then coughed and said solemnly, "This is a secret." "Til be the first to ride Ma'am's coattails."

After leaving the company, Keegan told Aldor, "Call The Deli to deliver a table of food." He said after thinking about it, "Make the dishes with less oil. She has training

tomorrow.” “Understood.”

Aldor made a phone call to The Deli’s boss.

They closed long ago at this time. Besides, it was difficult to reserve a seat there, and they never provided delivery service. But, of course, whether they would deliver it depended on who ordered it. They would wake the main chef at midnight for Mr. Kane’s order.

The car soon arrived at the place where Stella was training. Keegan took out his phone and transferred 14000 dollars to her.

[Come down,] he texted.

Stella just got up and drank a glass of water. She almost spat the water out when she sat back on the bed and saw the transfer message. She transferred a dollar to Keegan.

She texted, [?]

Keegan transferred another 14000 dollars.

[Or else, I’ll go in.]

Stella’s mouth twitched. She transferred a dollar again.

[What is wrong with you in the middle of the night?]

Keegan transferred 14000 dollars again.

[I’ll give you three minutes.]

Stella stared at the message and then transferred a dollar.

[You’re crazy!]

Keegan transferred 150 thousand dollars.

[Ten seconds left.] ‘Shit!’ Stella stood up abruptly. With a bang, she hit her head on the upper bunk bed. She gritted her teeth in pain.

Yuna opened her eyes in a daze and whispered, “Stella, why are you up?”

Stella showed a silent gesture to her and whispered, “I want to go to the toilet.”

Yuna said, “Okay.” Then, she muttered, “Sleep early.” Then, she fell asleep again.

Stella wore her slippers, put on a coat, and went out quietly.

At that moment, Yolanda was talking on the phone with her sugar daddy in the corridor. “It’s annoying. There are so many mosquitoes here. Luckily, there are four people in the dormitory. But, I can’t sleep at all because someone is snoring.”

The person over the phone comforted her with a few words. Yolanda then acted coquettishly again. “Alright, I got it. I behaved well here.” She lowered her voice and said charmingly, “Daddy, don’t you miss me?”

The person on the other end quickly remembered her coquettish appearance on the bed. He gritted his teeth and said, “If you tease me again, I’ll spank your ass when you’re back.” “You’re so naughty.”

Yolanda was acting coquettishly. Suddenly, she caught a sneaky figure slipping out of the room. When the person walked to the corner, Yolanda saw clearly that it was Stella.

‘It’s midnight now, and there is a curfew. Where is she going?’

Yolanda hurriedly said goodbye to her sugar daddy and chased after Stella with her phone

Chapter 686

Stella came out from the dormitory building. She thought that the doorman would ask

her some questions when she came out. But, he pretended as though he did not see her. She came out very easily.

Just when she walked to the entrance, the light rays of a car nearby suddenly hit on her body.

The car then slowly drove to her. Someone opened the door from inside the car.

Keegan tilted his head and looked at her.

'Get in,' he said.

Stella did not move. "I came out to say something to you. Go back immediately! Don't make trouble for me here!"

Keegan glanced at Aider, and Aldor immediately honked twice.

The extremely loud sound was very clear on the empty road at night.

The security guard in the guard room poked his head out. He loudly said, 'What are you doing out here? Why aren't you back in the dorm?'

He then grabbed a flashlight and shined it in their direction. Stella felt guilty, and she hurriedly went into the car.

Aldor hastily locked the doors.

Yolanda, who was holding her phone, stared at them from nearby.

'She said that others spoke harshly when she, herself, wasn't even innocent.

'She secretly rendezvouses with a man in the middle of the night!'

She then continuously took a few pictures of the Mercedes-Benz. She wanted to take pictures of the car plate. But, the car swiftly drove away.

Stella turned her head and stared at Keegan after she got in the car. She said, "Why the hell did you come here in the middle of the night?"

Keegan did not speak. He suddenly tilted his body and leaned over her.

Stella was shocked. She stretched her hand out and wanted to block him. But, Keegan merely put his hand over her chest and put on the seatbelt for her. He then turned his head and said to Aldor, "Drive."

Stella came back to her senses. She frowned as she said, "We still have to investigate someone tomorrow morning. Where are you taking me?"

Keegan said, "We didn't get to go for a walk back then. So, let's go now.

Otherwise, I'll keep thinking about it."

Stella's eyelid twitched.

'Is this piece of shit taking revenge on me for locking him outside the door back then?

Is he planning to trick me to go out and dump me by the roadside?'

It seemed as if Keegan knew what she was thinking. He glanced at her as he said, "Don't worry. I won't dump you."

Stella choked.

'I just rolled my eyes, and he knew what I was thinking just like that?'

Stella coughed. "Just tell me how you want to take revenge on me. That way, I can be prepared for it."

Keegan furrowed his eyebrows. "Am I such a vengeful person?"

Stella found an opportunity.

"Aren't you? You just threw the shirt away when my lipstick rubbed on it, back then. Isn't what you did pretty obvious?"

The corners of Keegan's eyes twitched. "I threw it away because I couldn't wash it off." "Then, why did you also throw away my lipstick?"

Keegan glanced at her. "The lipstick broke. Shouldn't you buy a new one? I had Aldor buy you a whole new set after that, didn't I?"

Stella's heart was pounding. She thought, 'Why do I suddenly feel like I'm being flirted with by this straightforward man that is Keegan?'

'No! "Since when did you buy me a new set? Are you trying to trick me because I can't remember things well?"

Keegan frowned as he looked at Aldor.

Aldor then said, "Madam, you were very angry when I gave that to you. You said you didn't want anything that Mr. Kane bought. And, you gave it to Ms. Kane."

Stella was speechless.

A memory vaguely appeared in her mind.

'I think Aldor sent me a box two days after I argued with Keegan. He said that Keegan bought it for me when he went on a business trip.

Chapter 687

Actually, at that time, she was already not angry with Keegan. But, coincidentally, Aurora went to her house to take some documents. She talked sarcastically to Stella. So, out of spite, Stella said she could afford the stuff and that she did not need Keegan to buy it for her.

Aurora took the stuff away after that. Stella did not even know what was in the box. She truly had a bad memory.

Stella pursed her lips in dilemma. She racked her brain and gave another example, "Back then, I accidentally used your fork for planting. And, I bought you a new one. If you didn't like it, you could've just told me. Why did you throw it away?"

The tip of Keegan's tongue started to feel pain when she mentioned that. 'You're one to talk. You spent nine dollars and ninety cents to buy this kind of fork. There was a big spike on the fork. Did you not see that? It scratched my tongue!"

Stella was speechless.

Now, she felt a little guilty. She softly said, "Mine was quite nice to use."

Keegan coldly snorted, "That's because you gave the one that had a spike on it to me."

Stella was left speechless.

"T-That time when Aurora came back, I accompanied you to eat with them. And, you dumped me by the roadside on the way home. What do you have to say about that? I just said I wanted a divorce. Did you have to do that?"

Stella felt increasingly emboldened as she said that. 'I had to walk back in the rain that time!'

Keegan was stunned for a moment. He glanced at her without speaking.

Stella snorted, "Nothing to say? You're a vengeful person!" "Mrs. Kane." Aldor coughed. "Actually, that day Mr. Kane called a driver to fetch you. But, you were carrying a bag that was worth three million dollars. You were afraid that the driver would do something bad to you, and you didn't want to get into the car."

Stella was speechless.

That day, a few minutes after Keegan threw the bag out of the car, he asked Aldor to call the company to send a driver there and fetch Stella home.

But, Stella was carrying the bag that was worth three million dollars. She felt unsafe

around everyone.

That driver was a newly hired employee. He felt that no matter what, he must complete the task that was given to him by his boss. Stella did not want to get in the car. So, he drove the car and unhurriedly followed her.

However, Stella was frightened. She thought that she met a bad guy. She did not dare to get in the car. Then, she ran home while carrying the bag.

The truth overturned her long-held belief, and she looked distracted. She said after pondering, "Stop teaming up with Keegan to fool me."

Aldor laughed, and he did not speak after that.

Stella believed what he said. It was just that she did not want to admit it.

'Other than me, only that driver knew about a car following me that day.

'So, Aldor didn't lie.

'Keegan did actually ask someone to fetch me.'

After knowing the truth, it made Stella feel like there was something stuck in her chest. It was heavy. She felt tingling, numb, and suffocated.

"Anything else?" Keegan asked.

He was winning the argument. He glanced at her with a look of "I want to hear what else you got to say".

Stella felt uncomfortable and thought, 'I'm here to pick faults. Why did I end up feeling like I'm an unreasonable person? I feel like putting my foot in my mouth.'

Then, she stubbornly said, "Let me think!"

It seemed like Keegan laughed. The light in the car was not switched on, and it was dark. So, Stella did not see that.

She just heard Keegan say, "Alright. Take your time to think." He sounded very happy. Soon, they arrived at the beach.

Keegan undid the seatbelt and asked her to get off the car.

Stella reluctantly got off. She noticed that another car was parked nearby.

The doors of that car were opened, and the light inside was switched on.

Keegan walked a few steps forward. He turned his head and saw that she was still dawdling. So, he grabbed her hand and brought her into the car.

Chapter 688

Stella was astounded after she got in the car.

There was a table full of food in the car. There was even a candlestick in the middle of the table. Beside the candlestick, there was a tiny vase with a white rose in it.

Stella spoke without thinking, "You're so old-fashioned. You prepared a candlelit dinner?"

Keegan was speechless.

Stella turned her head and looked at him. Then, she suddenly kept quiet.

She opened her mouth and wanted to say something. But, before she could speak, her stomach growled.

Keegan glanced at her. "Your stomach is more honest than your mouth."

Stella was speechless.

She pulled her hair, and she suddenly felt unaccustomed.

Stella and Keegan knew each other for many years. He was not romantic at all.

One year, on Keegan's birthday, she bought a bunny girl outfit to make him happy.

She wore it. But, Keegan started to discuss whether that outfit was a bunny girl outfit or a fox girl outfit.

Because the ears on the headband were too short, Keegan thought that it was a fox outfit.

Stella was completely speechless. She told him that the tail on the outfit was clearly a bunny tail. It could not be a fox outfit.

Keegan was a serious person. He gathered a significant amount of information to support his claim. He said that the headband was fox ears.

And, he said that the seller probably mixed up the two sets of outfits. That was why the tail on that outfit was a bunny tail.

And later, it was proven that Keegan's theory was right. The outfit and the headband were indeed not a set.

But, only Keegan would hold a tablet and discuss with the other person whether the outfit was a bunny outfit or a fox outfit at a time like that.

Keegan was completely unromantic. When Stella talked to him about reincarnation, he would talk about molecular theory. He would talk about Big Bang and human evolution.

When she brought him to fly lanterns and pray that God would hear her wishes, Keegan would say that the sky lantern would drop when it ran out of fuel. He said that if there was wind, it might endanger the airplanes and high-voltage equipment. It might even cause wildfires. Hethen asked her not to write her name on the lantern to avoid being put in prison if she was caught.

When Stella wanted to walk in the rain with him, he would say that there were too many metal items on her. She would be struck by lightning. He asked her to get in the car. He said it would definitely be safe to stay inside a confined space formed by metals...

It was extremely shocking to Stella that a person like that would prepare a candlelit dinner.

Stella looked around.

Keegan saw that she still had not sat down after a long time, so he asked, "What are you looking for?"

Stella turned her head back and answered, "Shouldn't you have two fire extinguishers beside you? It's so unsafe to light a candle in the car."

Keegan glanced at her. "It's at the back."

Then, Stella was speechless.

'As expected, he's still a straightforward man who prioritizes safety,' she thought.

Keegan stretched his hand to remove the lid of the bowl in the middle of the table. He handed her a spoon and said, "Let's eat."

Before Keegan asked her out, she just drank some water. So, she did not feel that hungry after drinking it. But, her mouth suddenly watered at the smell of the food.

Initially, Stella wanted to pretend to be polite. But, she did not do that. She just took the spoon and started eating.

Inside that bowl was chicken soup. It was fresh and very delicious.

There were six small bowls on the table. Keegan opened the lids of the bowls one by one. The portion of all the dishes was not much. But, they were all exquisite. The dishes were not overly rich. There were both meats and vegetables, and they looked

very appetizing.

Keegan was sitting across from her. He grabbed the fork and constantly took the food for her.

Stella was very serious when she ate. She did not speak at all. Actually, she did not know what to talk about.

Stella saw how well Keegan treated her recently.

But, she had mixed feelings. Sometimes she even intentionally avoided him.

Chapter 689

But, there were things that she could not avoid too.

Stella was full of thoughts as she kept eating.

Keegan looked at her. He suddenly put down his fork as he murmured, ' Stop eating.'

Stella was stunned. She swallowed the food in her mouth before she said, ' You prepared the food for me. But now, you won't let me eat it?'

Keegan gave her a glass of tea. "You ate quite a lot. You'll feel uncomfortable sleeping at night if you continue eating."

Keegan paused before he continued, "Did you intentionally keep eating because you don't want to talk to me?"

Stella was speechless, and she thought, 'Was it that obvious?'

She lowered her eyes without speaking. She grabbed the glass and took a sip.

She was actually very full. If Keegan did not stop her, she would probably feel bloated from overeating.

"Stella," Keegan softly called her. His voice was a little alluring. "There's nothing between Bella and me. I make her famous because she's useful to me. She can help someone who's very important to me. I'll bring that person to meet you in the future. But, not now. There are too many things involved in that matter. I don't want to get you involved."

He stretched his hand across the table and softly held the back of her hand. He then grabbed her hand and kissed it. He raised his eyes which were filled with tenderness and said, "As a husband, I wasn't good enough. And, it's my first time. Growing up... I didn't have a right example that I could look up to. You need to let me make some mistakes along the way. I still... I don't want to break up with you."

Stella's nose felt sour.

That was a moment when she wanted to cry.

But, she stopped herself.

The problems between her and Keegan could not be solved just for these simple reasons.

'We can adapt our tempers by compromising. Even though we argued, I was happy most of the time. I rarely got sad.

'Keegan didn't cheat on me. He didn't have a mistress. Although he isn't very deeply in love with me, he didn't mistreat me.

'Wouldn't it be nice if things were this simple?'

Stella pursed her lips. She withdrew her hand from Keegan.

"Keegan, does grandma know..." Stella paused before she continued, "Does she know that I can't get pregnant?"

Keegan's body abruptly became stiff, and his fingers trembled.

Stella lifted the corners of her lips and smiled. "She doesn't know, right?"

Keegan's mouth trembled. He remained silent.

"If grandma knows that I can't give birth, will she still allow you to marry me?"

Keegan's chin felt tight.

This was the problem that he had been avoiding. This was also the most critical issue.

"You're the eldest grandchild of the Kane family, and you're in charge of the Vinci Rivera Group. You can't just not have a child for the rest of your life.

Grandma won't allow you to do that.

"She doesn't know about my health issue right now. That was why she always wanted us to get back together. What happens when she knows about it? How long can you hide this from her?"

"You can hide this from her for some time. But, what if one day when she knows about it, and she can't accept it? Then, she got so angry that she has health problems because of it? How do you want me to live with that?"

Keegan had a lump in his throat. He said in a husky voice, "I can refuse to have children."

Stella lowered her eyes and laughed. "Everyone thinks differently at different stages of their life. You don't want a child now. But, what about in the future?"

"What if you regret it one or two years later? Or, ten or twenty years later? What if at that time you regret the decision that you made during your younger days when you see others have children and grandchildren?"

"Will you think that you can't have children because of me? And, will I live in guilt for the rest of my life because I can't give you a child? We'll become a rough couple sooner or later."

Stella suppressed the quivering feeling in her chest as she continued, "The matter between me and Dahlia isn't over. I'll definitely take my revenge. It's impossible for you to do nothing when I take action against her, right?"

She took a deep breath. Then, she said in an extremely soft voice, "So... We should end it here. We should end our relationship during the time when we don't hate each other."

Chapter 690

Keegan's lips trembled slightly, and he had bloodshot eyes.

Stella was like a gust of sand. No matter how he tried to grab it, he would lose her through his fingers.

Other than that time when his father passed away, this was the first time he felt powerless. He was flustered and scared.

His voice was hoarse. "Didn't you ask grandma that? She said she didn't mind."

Stella shook her head. "I was just probing grandma. She might not take it seriously. Just think about it. How is it possible for a family like yours to allow you to not have a child? Others will give you weird looks."

Keegan stared at her for a long time. He then said in a deep voice, "You talked about what grandma would think from the beginning until now, and you talked about others. But, what about you? What do you think?"

"You're right. I care about what grandma thinks. But, the one who'll be living with me for the rest of my life is you. Your answer is the most important."

“Children aren’t that important. If you want to get pregnant, we can visit the doctors. If you don’t want to get pregnant, we can adopt kids. You can take your revenge if you want.

“I just want to know what you’re thinking. Are you still willing to get back together with me?”

Aldor was standing next to the car window that they were in, listening to their conversation.

‘The way Mr. Kane talks... has improved. At least he went straight to the point.’

To Keegan, his wife was more important than children and how others perceived him. What Keegan said stirred Stella’s heart.

He had many flaws. He was not thoughtful and gentle enough. He talked harshly and stupidly. Even when he did good things, he would somehow make a mess because of his words.

But, he had a lot of good qualities too. When Aurora bullied her, he would secretly avenge her. Even though she would only know about it after a very long time. It was fine for him to talk harshly to Stella. But, when someone else did that to her, he would definitely find a way to get back at them.

Although those people might not speak as harshly as her, he would still get her out of trouble when she bragged too much. He ordered a neckless for her just because of a sentence that she casually said, he was handsome, and he was completely her aesthetic preference...

She was not a flawless person either. She spoke harsher than Keegan. She was vindictive. When she was good-tempered, things could be resolved when Keegan soothed her. But, when she was bad-tempered, if she was unhappy with Keegan coming home in the middle of the night, she would lock him out of the room. She would not allow him to enter...

Even if Keegan was angry, he would immediately cool off when she cut a plate of strawberries for him the next day. At most, he would just say that the bed in the study room was very hard.

She was petty and unforgiving. She would remember clearly the bad things that Keegan did to her. She always thought that Keegan only married her because he could not be with his first love. And, She always thought that he would never truly love her.

Today, she finally understood what Raine said back then.

‘Mom once said, “To live as a couple, one should focus on the partner’s good qualities instead of his flaws. No one is flawless in this world. If you want your partner to be perfect, you should also think about whether you’re perfect.”’

God was always fair. Humans could not have everything they wanted. Otherwise, humans would be unhappy this way.

Stella asked herself, ‘If Keegan is perfect like Marshall, who is thoughtful in all aspects, gentle, attentive, and flawless, will I like him?’

The answer was no.

That would not be the Keegan she knew. She would feel scared and panicked, and she would think that she did not deserve someone like that.

Reality was different from fairy tales. Things would not just end well just because she was willing to get back with him.

She would never feel safe with him as long as the problems between them remained unsolved.

She would not be at ease. She would be worried that he might regret it and that they might return to their previous state in the end.

Hence, she did not want that.

Stella suppressed her emotions. She raised her eyes and said, "I'm not willing to."

Keegan's face turned a little pale. His lips trembled as he asked, "Why?"

Stella avoided eye contact, as she said, "If I were to remarry, I'll find someone that I like who likes me too. Do you understand?"

Keegan's face was completely pale. His eyes were red, and his voice subconsciously became gloomy. His voice was shaky as he said, "Who do you like?"

Stella was a little anxious. In the end, she said, "It's none of your business."

She just wanted Keegan to give up on her. That was just an excuse she made up.