

N Destiny 1671

Chapter 1671

Ellen was slightly angered upon noticing her. "Do you have something. Selena?" "Ellen, I've underestimated you. | never expected you to resemble a white rabbit but a person who schemes behind the scenes." "I don't know what you mean." Ellen frowned.

"Firstly, you lied that you rented your residence. | later found out that the senior management of Presgrave Group arranged the place for you. Secondly, you claimed that President Presgrave has a girlfriend, but | heard he's single. All these are part of your plan because you know that if | don't fight with you over him, you'll be his girlfriend," Selena roared.

Ellen's pretty face flushed as she didn't refute Selena's words. She lied to Selena, but she didn't mean to do so. When Selena saw Ellen's reaction, she broke into a sneer. "What's up? Do you still want to explain things?"

"There are two things | lied to you about," Ellen mentioned as she shook her head and looked at Selena, "I don't want to explain it. And | don't owe any obligation to you to do so."

"Ellen, let me tell you this. Things won't end well for you if you provoke me. Since you dare to lie to me, just you wait!" Selena warned. "Up to you." Ellen met Selena's gaze without any fear. "Move out of my house, please."

"Do you think | even wanted to say there? I'll have you know that my parents are within a distance of us. | intentionally moved to your place, but | never expected you to believe my reasons." Selena couldn't help but mock Ellen's stupidity.

Ellen's face flushed deeper. It was not due to shame but rather anger. She had kindly accepted Selena into her house, but Selena had turned around and criticized that she was stupid for doing so.

At this moment, Selena heard footsteps that sounded like they belonged to a man. Her heart raced as she thought, Could it be President Presgrave?

She also wanted to see whether she could meet him or not. As the footsteps became louder, she peeked out the window to see a handsome figure appearing within view.

Sure enough, God had answered her prayers because Jared had indeed shown up. Jared also noticed her and entered Ellen's Office thereafter.

Selena's heart skipped a beat. My God! He's really here! She felt that this was a good opportunity to ruin Jared's impression of Ellen.

Ellen was also nervous because she had no idea why he swung by. "Do you have anything, President Presgrave?"

Without even waiting for Jared to answer, Selena interrupted and answered, "I need to have a word with you, President Presgrave."

This was enough to make Ellen worrisome as she tried to plead with Selena not to say anything. "It's about Ellen," Selena added. "What is it?" When he heard that it was about Ellen, Jared curiously asked.

Seeing that Ellen had gone pale made Selena proud as her lips curled upward. "President Presgrave, did you know that I have been staying at Ellen's place for the past two days? She's a liar who spreads lies."

"Selena! Please don't say," Ellen begged as she clasped her hands tightly. "I'm still going to say it. I want President Presgrave to see what kind of person you are." Selena seemed to have gotten leverage over Ellen. On the other end, Jared frowned, but he could tell that Selena seemed pleased with what she had done.

She continued, "She lives in the company- provided accommodation, right? When I asked her about it, she lied that it was a rented place. Then, I asked whether our boss was taken, to which she said yes.

You are single, President Presgrave, but she told me the opposite. I want to tell the truth on these two matters so that you can pursue the person you fancy! She's quite a schemer, don't you think?"

Ellen's beautiful eyes dropped when she heard that. She had lied to Selena, which was why she felt helpless when Selena decided to spill the beans. Now that Selena revealed the truth to Jared, Ellen felt ashamed.

Chapter 1672

Jared looked at the silent Ellen before he turned to Selena. Then, he addressed Ellen, "Ellen, do you want to explain things?" "I don't want to because | lied to her," Ellen admitted. "But | want to hear it," Jared insisted in seriousness.

She was startled and turned to look at the solemn man as she felt pressured. Selena snorted because she knew that Jared would see what kind of person Ellen was. Let's see how you'll wriggle your way out!

As Ellen never expected that she'd be forced to explain, she took a deep breath and nodded. "Fine, I'll explain those two matters. Firstly, the Human Resource Department Manager warned me not to tell anyone about the

accommodation part. So, I'm sorry, Selena. | lied to you. As for me saying that President Presgrave has a girlfriend, that's also a lie," she admitted.

"Please. You're full of lies! President Presgrave has no girlfriend, but you spread rumors that he has. What's your intention? Could it be you wanted an exclusive chance with him?" Selena sneered again because Ellen was unqualified to be Jared's girlfriend.

Ellen hurriedly explained, "No, | don't mean that. | just hoped that you won't disturb President Presgrave's work and personal life."

"Who are you to care about his life? You are just President Presgrave's assistant. Did you think you are his girlfriend? Even if he has bad taste, he will not have the hots for you!" Selena shouted at that moment, making it sound like her words made sense.

Ellen's face flushed even redder. She felt that Jared was looking at her and she had the urge to flee the scene in embarrassment. "I'm sorry, Ellen," she apologized sincerely for her lies.

Seeing that she had scolded Ellen to the point where Ellen was so embarrassed, Selena suddenly felt that Jared would hate her too. However, when she turned in his direction, she noticed his gaze was on Ellen, but it wasn't one of annoyance.

Am I hallucinating? He is distressed on her behalf? Selena couldn't help but panic. "President Presgrave, you should know best what kind of person she is. Not only that, but I knew that she tried to seduce you through the messages. She has ulterior motives toward you," she said in her attempt to portray Ellen as a bad person.

"Selena, I admit that I'm in the wrong. Please stop speaking." Ellen raised her head to stop Selena from telling more.

Selena sneered and added, "My cousin is with someone whom my parents introduced as a date, but she won't separate from you, President Presgrave. What a busy person she is!"

This was enough to cause Ellen to snap. "Stop spewing nonsense! Harvey and I are no longer in contact."

"President Presgrave, Ellen has an innocent-looking face, but she actually schemes. She has resorted to all tactics to lie to you." Selena disliked Ellen so much that she wanted to ruin Ellen's reputation.

Jared looked at Selena with a complicated look before he turned to Ellen, who apologized under his gaze. "President Presgrave, I'm sorry. I lied to you." "About what?" He narrowed his eyes.

"Yesterday's messages were all sent by Selena, not me. She took the opportunity to text you when I was away. In the morning, I told you that I was drunk texting you. That was a lie." Ellen was so ashamed that she couldn't look him in the eye, which left him sad.

The expression on Selena's face changed because she never expected Ellen to turn the tables on her. She quickly claimed, "I didn't intend to. I was replying to the text messages that you sent Ellen on impulse, President Presgrave." The frown on Jared's face deepened.

Now that Ellen had finally raised her head and met Jared's gaze with clear eyes, she went on, "I would never dare to show any disrespect to you or possess any fantasies about you, President Presgrave. I just want to do my job. and be the best employee that I can."

These words left him insecure. Why is she expressing her honesty? Did she think I would like it?

Selena sneered. "Ellen, I don't know whether your words are true. You're always by President Presgrave's side, but you dare to claim that you think about him? Don't you have a crush on him or something?" "I know where I stand. I know that my background doesn't match his, so I have my boundaries," Ellen retorted.

"Ohhh! Your denial means you still have tricks up your sleeve, though. Don't think I'm unaware that you want President Presgrave to notice you. You have been dirt poor since young, so you want to rely on him to rise!" Selena was adamant about revealing the reason why Ellen got close to Jared.

Ellen's eyes turned red due to her anger. "Nonsense. I've never thought about this before and never will." As his chest heaved up and down, he finally interrupted and stopped Selena from continuing her attack on Ellen. "Stop it and shut up." Selena was shocked because she hadn't vented enough of her frustrations on Ellen!

It was only at that moment that he turned to look at Ellen and softly said, "Ellen, I've never cared about your background, so you shouldn't either. Nothing is difficult if you set your heart and soul on it. If you don't try, how would you know whether you've succeeded or not?"

Ellen was already rendered confused by the argument with Selena, so she couldn't understand what Jared inferred.

However, Selena did as her eyes widened. She was stunned and looked at Ellen in disbelief because she didn't know what was going on.

At the end of the day, Jared wasn't blaming Ellen even after Selena tried to fan the flames. He looked at Selena before turning to Ellen with doubt. His thin lips were raised as he asked, "Don't you understand what I said?"

Ellen nodded. "I understand!" In actual fact, she didn't. "Don't be my assistant. Be my girlfriend instead!" He cut to the chase.

His words took the breath out of her and she almost fainted. "President Presgrave, how can someone like her be your girlfriend?" an angered Selena demanded.

“You are actually wrong. The relationship between Ellen and me doesn’t stem from her wooing me. Rather, I’m the one who’s after her. It’s just that she’s too dense to even realize what | mean, Jared explained coldly to Selena.

Ellen suddenly felt that she couldn’t continue. with her job and turned to him. ‘I quit, President Presgrave. I’m doing this job.’”

She wanted to return to her previous life where she didn’t have any worries whatsoever. Now that she had a million in her savings, she could do whatever it was that she wanted to do in the past like become a volunteer or work in a pet shop. Heck, | don’t mind returning to my previous job as a barista too!

He suddenly snorted. “Try me! The liquidated damages you have to pay is a million.”

Her hand holding the bag froze. Do you have to be mean? | have a million in savings and you want me to compensate you with it?

Selena was just as shocked because it looked like she was the outsider as he tried to shower Ellen with affection. “You can’t ask me to pay so much.” Ellen tried to negotiate. She couldn’t bear to part with one million.

Selena was obviously unaware of the way Jared and Ellen socialized with each other. Apart from an employer-subordinate relationship, they even had a friendship going on.

“Stay here and work. Don’t go anywhere. You can tell anyone that | have a girlfriend. Heck, even if you were to announce to the world that I’m taken, | won’t blame you. If anyone asks me, I’ll just say that you are my girlfriend. | want you to know what it means to reap what you sow.” He punished Ellen for this lie because he wanted her to be his girlfriend.

“I’m in the wrong, okay? I’m apologizing to you, but | don’t want to be your girlfriend,” Ellen rejected. Being Jared’s girlfriend meant enduring the countless pressure from others, so she would much prefer being single.

Selena almost snapped in jealousy because the man she dreamed of was rejected by Ellen. Jared seemed to expect Ellen’s reaction. He was neither angry nor annoyed; rather, he was merely helpless.

Chapter 1674

Jared said to Selena, "Had you not been recommended by your father, I'd have fired you right now." At this moment, Stanley finally found Jared here after spending a long time looking for the man to no avail. He urged at the door, "President Presgrave, it's time for the meeting."

Jared darted a look at Ellen. Then, he warned her, 'Stay here, before leaving. In the office, Selena's face was livid one moment and pale the next. Looking somewhat ferocious, she looked daggers at Ellen, asking, "What's your relationship with President Presgrave?"

Having seen through this cousin of hers, Ellen didn't bother to answer her question. She retorted, "Is that any of your business?"

Selena looked at the young lady before her, who reeked of poverty from her very bones except for her pretty looks. "This can't be possible! How could you be good enough for President Presgrave? What is it about you that qualifies you to catch his fancy?"

In a rare moment, Ellen's face hardened, though her expression was already frosty in the first place. She pointed to the door, saying, 'Please get out.'

Selena was stunned for a second before she realized she was being chased away-and by Ellen of all people. "J-Just you wait! I'll make you pay for the humiliation | suffered today!" she threatened. With that, she tossed her head and left.

Exhausted, Ellen slumped into the chair as though she had just fought a war. Resting her head in her hands, she felt an overpowering weariness sweep over her. Her brain was fatigued; her cheeks burned again without her knowing when she looked back on what Jared had said just now.

Am | too stupid to notice that he's been courting me all the time? But has he ever courted me? she asked herself inwardly in hindsight. Nothing of the sort! Ah, my mind's confused. Let's not think about this anymore. Just calm down and do some reading instead!

On the other hand, Selena went downstairs and returned to her desk. She looked at her small office, then at Ellen's large, spacious office.

She had never felt so aggrieved before and reflected on what Jared had said. So, Jared fell in love with Ellen first and has been courting her since then? And he said Ellen was stupid for not noticing that?

Selena bit her lip. How could Ellen be so lucky? This made her feel kind of resentful, as though her life had been wasted before this. It was like no matter how hard she tried to get luck on her side, she could never be as lucky as Ellen, who met Jared. Indeed, her family was rich, but it was simply nothing to speak of compared to the Presgraves.

She was really green with jealousy. The Presgrave Family's money had never crossed her mind, but she had always dreamed of having Jared to herself ever since she first laid eyes on him. But now, he actually fell in love with Ellen, a poor relative whom she looked down on the most. That's even more distressing than death, no? Just in what way is Ellen better than me?

She closed her eyes. Just then, her phone rang; she picked it up and took a look. Seeing that it was a phone call from a rich dandy whom she had gotten to know abroad, she immediately composed herself and answered the phone. "Hey, Charlie!"

"Lena, I heard that you're back in the country. I have a dinner party this Friday that I'd like to invite you to join." "A dinner party? What kind of dinner party is that?"

"It's a charity dinner that'll absolutely be fun."

Selena was someone who judged people by their appearances. Charlie Dune's family was rich, but she turned up her nose at him because he was over 220 pounds. This time, however, she wasn't going to give up the opportunity to attend such a dinner party. Hence, she replied with a smile, "Well, then, let's have fun together!"

"Alright. I'll pick you up then, so dress up for the party!"

"Don't worry, I won't make you look bad," Selena replied with a smile before ending the phone call. As soon as she hung up the phone, though, she had goosebumps all over in disgust.

Still, she was really in a foul mood today and had to look for something that would make her happy. Getting off work earlier than she was supposed to, she first went back to Ellen's place to pack her belongings.

Ellen had given Selena the key to her place. At this moment, having packed her belongings there, Selena vented her anger by deliberately messing up the place. Not only that, she even smashed one of its ornaments to pieces.

Seeing how the place looked like it had been ransacked, she couldn't help but laugh gloatingly. However, just when she was about to leave, Ellen pushed the door open and came in from the outside, having returned from work.

Chapter 1675

The two women looked at each other. Then, seeing the chaos all over the place, Ellen clenched her fists and burned with anger, saying, "You've gone too far, Selena!"

Selena looked at her disdainfully. She scoffed, "So what if I'm going too far? | haven't had enough of smashing things yet! Even if I smash everything here, | can afford to pay for it. How's that?"

Ellen clenched her fists even tighter. Seeing the smashed ornament on the floor, she finally lost the last of her patience. Suddenly coming at Selena, she grabbed her by the hair, pinned her to the floor, and started beating her, yelling, "Why did you have to smash everything here? This place isn't mine!"

"Ouch! It hurts! Get your hands off me, damn Ellen!" Selena forgot to fight back; she was momentarily preoccupied with the pain of being straddled by Ellen and pulled by the hair.

Ellen held onto a handful of Selena's hair and refused to let go as she boiled with rage. "So what if you can afford to pay for it? Who let you smash these things?"

Selena had never been treated like this before. She yelled angrily, "Let go of me! Get your hands off me now!" "Apologize for what you did!" Ellen demanded an apology.

Ellen would rather die than say sorry to her, though. "To hell if I'll do that!" "You're not allowed to leave until you apologize," Ellen said, pressuring her while continuing to pull her by the hair.

At last, Selena ignored the pain and fought back, pinching Ellen's waist hard and getting up while the latter was in pain. Then, she struck back by swinging her bag at Ellen, forcing the latter to put up her arms to fend her off. As a result, the metal on her bag instantly cut Ellen's arm, causing several drops of blood to stain the latter's shirt red.

"Aah!" Ellen's face turned pale in pain. Seeing the blood on her arm, Selena stopped her attack, her hair disheveled. At this very moment, she just wanted to leave here as soon as possible lest Ellen went crazy again. "I'll remember this," she didn't forget to threaten before leaving.

Ellen sat on the sofa and opened her shirt. When she saw the cut on her forearm, a sudden bout of grievance washed over her, causing her to burst into tears for a moment. Crying nonstop, she picked up a piece of tissue and wiped the blood away as tears blurred her eyes.

Meanwhile, shortly after Selena left by cab. downstairs, a man took the elevator at the underground parking lot and went upstairs.

Jared got out of the meeting, only to realize that Ellen had left beforehand. He couldn't help worrying that she might actually quit her job, so he had no choice but to come over and talk with her to dissuade her from doing so.

He reached the door to her apartment, but just when he wanted to press the doorbell, he noticed that the door was half open and unlocked. As it turned out, Selena had merely yanked the door shut and gone out while leaving in a great hurry just now. Thanks to inertia, the door closed automatically, but it wasn't locked.

Jared's heart clenched at the sight of this. How could she be so careless as not to close the door properly? This neighborhood is pretty good in terms of security, but it's still dangerous if she comes across bad people. He pushed the door open and came in. The next instant, he saw the mess on the floor and Ellen, who was crying and sitting on the sofa with her hand clamped over her arm.

Noticing that someone had entered, Ellen raised her teary eyes in fright to see her boss come uninvited. Startled, she stood up in a panic. The tissue paper plugging the wound on her arm fell off, revealing a bleeding cut that was almost an inch long.

“What happened? How did you get hurt?” Jared quickly came over and grabbed her arm before examining the wound. Ellen hurriedly shook her head. Not wanting him to worry, she even hid her arm guiltily. “It's nothing. I just hurt myself by accident.”

“What's going on with your place? Was it a break-in or something?” Jared looked around the place. Then, recalling something, he went to the living room cabinet and rummaged around in it. As he had expected, he found a first-aid kit, which he took out before walking up to her. “Sit down and let me bandage your wound.”

Ellen had no choice but to sit down. Jared opened the first-aid kit and took out some cotton balls and a bandage. At this moment, Ellen couldn't be bothered by the pain. She wiped her tears in secret, not wanting to appear too fragile in front of the man.

Chapter 1676

“What in the world happened? How did you get hurt?” Jared asked with a frown, but his hand movements were extremely gentle.

Ellen let him bandage her wound while explaining with a sigh. “Selena messed up my place on purpose before moving out. When I pulled her by the hair and asked her to apologize, she hit me with her bag. The cut on my arm was made by the metal on her bag.”

Jared felt incredibly sick at the thought of Selena. Why is Ellen always surrounded by such ill-bred relatives? “Did she apologize to you. then?” he asked.

Ellen shook her head, saying, “No, she didn't.” Even so, she was glad to have taken action this time. Even though she got hurt as a result, she was at least not weak anymore,

Jared said, “Just stay away from these relatives as much as you can from now on.” After packing the first-aid kit, he began to help Ellen tidy the place.

Ellen was stunned for a few seconds. Is my boss tidying up the place for me? There's no way I could be so lucky. “You don't have to do this, President Presgrave. Let me do it instead.”

Jared stopped her just as she wanted to get up. “Sit there and don't move.” “I can do this. I'm totally fine.” Ellen still wanted to stand up and lend a hand.

The man had no choice but to come over and sit her down on the sofa with an authoritative look in his deep eyes. "Just be a good girl, okay?"

Stupefied, Ellen reclined on the sofa as if she had been rooted to the spot. Looking up at the man, she listened to him. The man tidied up the place dexterously after finishing his speech.

Perhaps Selena wouldn't have expected that Jared would be the one who tidied Ellen's place after all the trouble she had taken to smash it up. Finding the broom and the mop in the storeroom, he cleared the broken pieces of ornament away from the floor. After that, he even went to the master bedroom.

Don't tell me Selena even made a mess of my bed! thought Ellen. She hurried to the master bedroom. When she saw Jared making the bed and folding up the quilt for her, her pretty face instantly turned scarlet.

As it turned out, Selena didn't mess up her bed; it was just that she had gotten up late in the morning and forgotten to fold up the quilt before she left for work. At this moment, seeing how the tall figure stood by her bed while folding up the quilt dexterously with his large hands, she felt incredibly embarrassed."

Jared couldn't help but look around Ellen's master bedroom. The bedroom was clean and tidy, save for the disheveled quilt, which he folded up without any extra effort.

To think he's such a homebody who loves tidying up! His parents must've done a great job of educating him, thought Ellen to herself.

Just then, Jared turned around and said to her, "Alright, it's done. Let's go out and have dinner."

Ellen felt really sorry for the man. Not only had he tidied her place, but he even offered to treat her to dinner. "Thank you, President Presgrave, but never mind about dinner. Please go ahead with your business if you have something to deal with." She was shy of scrounging a free meal off him.

Jared couldn't help but fold his arms across his chest while narrowing his eyes. "Are you chasing me away already?" "No, I'm not chasing you away! It's just that you're very busy, so--"

“Even a busy person has to eat.” Jared cut her short. Then, he ordered, “I’m asking you to have dinner with me, and you're not allowed to say no.”

Ellen blinked her eyes. He really is the most domineering man I’ve ever seen. Consequently, she had no choice but to go out with him for dinner.

At this moment, Selena had driven home. When she arrived home with her suitcase in her hand, Olivia asked in surprise, “Why are you moving back here?”

“I don’t wanna talk about it. Ellen, that little b*tch! I won't let her off for this!” Selena replied angrily. Olivia immediately came over and looked at her daughter with concern. “What happened?”

“She kicked me out of her place, hit me, and even pulled me by the hair! My scalp still hurts right now!” Selena complained furiously.

Olivia flew into a rage instantly. Now that her daughter had gotten hit by Ellen, how could she not be angry? “What? How dare that little brat do this to you!”

“Mom, where’s Dad?” “He isn’t back yet! Tell me first-why did she hit you?” Olivia dragged her to the sofa and sat down with her.

Selena simply lied, “I just broke a vase of hers into pieces by accident when I moved out, yet she thought I was making a mess of her place on purpose! She came at me, pulled me by the hair, and shoved me to the floor. If I hadn't fought back in the end, she would've plucked out all my hair!”

Chapter 1677

“Who allowed that brat to do this to you? Who adopted her and her brother back when her parents died? What an ingrate who bites the hand that feeds her!” Olivia swore loudly before attempting to take out her phone. I’ve got to bite her head off for this!

Selena stopped her, saying, “Mom, don’t call her first. There’s one other thing that I want to tell you.” Olivia sat down again. Selena’s eyes reddened. She said, “Mom, the man I love, he... he actually loves Ellen! I can’t resign myself to this!”

“Who are you talking about?” For a moment, Olivia wasn’t sure who her daughter was in love with
“Who else can it be? It’s our boss, of course!”

Olivia was astounded. “Y-You mean that Young Master Jared? Are you saying he’s in love with Ellen?”

Selena replied, “I didn’t believe it at first, but today... When | went to Ellen in the office this morning, he said he loved her and warned me not to bully her. Mom, in what way am | inferior to her?” She was aggrieved and upset, but at the same time, she was also resentful.

“Stop crying, sweetheart,” Olivia said, comforting Selena while holding her in her arms. At the same time, she looked surprised and anxious. Is there such a coincidence?.

That Young Master Jared is in love with Ellen? Don’t tell me that ghosts really do exist in the world and that this is the work of Ellen’s dead brother? “Your dad is to blame for this, too. | told him not to get Ellen into that company, but he insisted on doing so,” she said resentfully.

Upon hearing this, Selena couldn’t help but look up in surprise. “Mom, what did you say? You mean it was Dad who got Ellen into the Presgrave Group?”

Seeing that she had let it slip, Olivia had no choice but to admit, “Yeah, that’s right. Your dad got Ellen a job at that company while he was pulling strings for you.”

Selena replied, “How could he do that? It was me who wanted to work there. Why did he have to get Ellen into the company as well?” She was beside herself with rage after listening to this. If Ellen hadn't joined the Presgrave Group, she wouldn't have met Jared, and these things wouldn't have happened.

Olivia replied, “It’s your dad’s fault indeed.” She was vexed, too. | should’ve stopped him back then. Now | have shot myself in the foot. To think Ellen and Young Master Jared hit it off so quickly as to fall in love with each other!

No, I can’t let her and Young Master Jared become a couple. no matter what, or what happened before will certainly be found out. “Mom, | hate her guts,” Selena sobbed in Olivia’s arms.

“That little brat will come to a bad end.” Olivia was resentful, too. At the same time, she was even more afraid of Ellen, fearing that she would learn about the truth of what had happened back then and that she would take away everything that they owned right now.

Meanwhile, in the restaurant... Ellen obediently explained the incident in the morning where she had lied to Selena that Jared had a girlfriend.

Jared had forgotten about it long ago. Instead, he thought she was doing the right thing. She’s keeping me from being pestered by other women. “Alright, let bygones be bygones!” he said, ending the subject. Then, he asked, “Are you still gonna quit your job, then?”

Ellen asked him in reply, “Do | really have to pay eight million in breach-of-contract damages if | resign?”

Jared nodded. “The breach-of-contract damages for your job are more than eight million.”

Ellen involuntarily gulped at once. Then, thinking that she wouldn't suffer any losses if she didn't quit her job, she replied with a wave of her hand, “| won't quit my job, then. I'll keep on working until you sack me on your own initiative!” There’s no way | can afford such an exorbitant amount of breach-of-contract damages.

Jared couldn't help but let out a snort of laughter. “Seems like you're quite sensible.” Ellen let out a wry laugh. “I'm just doing what suits me best at the time.” “Are you free this Friday night?” Jared asked her.

Ellen pondered for a moment. She didn't have to work extra hours on Friday night, nor did she have anything else to deal with. So, she nodded, saying, “I am. Is there anything | can do for you, President Presgrave?”

“Attend a dinner party with me.” “What dinner party?” Ellen was startled; she had never attended such an upper-class dinner party. “A charity dinner.”

Ellen’s cheeks burned. She couldn’t help but say honestly, ‘President Presgrave, I’ve never attended dinner parties before, so I’m afraid I’ll make you look bad. Why don’t you invite someone else instead?’

Chapter 1678

Jared was both amused and annoyed by her reply. He said, "How can you possibly embarrass yourself in my presence? This is part of your job, so you have to go with me."

Ellen blinked her eyes before asking for confirmation, "Do | really have to go with you?" "Yes, you have to," Jared asserted in an authoritative tone.

Ellen nodded. Mustering up her courage, she replied, "Okay, I'll go with you." At the end of the dinner, Jared drove her home, telling her on the way to go to bed early and be careful while living alone.

Ellen got out of his car after they arrived downstairs outside her neighborhood. She said with a wave of her hand, "Drive safely on your way home."

Jared told her to enter the neighborhood first. After she had safely entered the neighborhood, he finally made a U-turn and left.

When Ellen returned home and saw how clean and cozy it looked after being tidied, she couldn't help curling her lips into a smile. Recalling how the man even helped her make the bed, she felt both embarrassed and warm at the same time.

Just then, her cell phone rang. Who would call me at such a late hour? she wondered. She picked up the phone, only to see that it was a phone call from Olivia. Her heart clenched. Don't tell me she's gonna give me a dressing-down! Knowing that she couldn't escape from being chastised, she braced herself and answered the phone. "Hi, Aunt Olivia"

"Ellen, all Lena did was break that lousy thing of yours to pieces, no? How dare you hit her and pull her by the hair for that? Don't you have the slightest respect for her? She's your cousin!" Olivia yelled angrily in a reproving tone of voice. Moreover, she even put the blame on Ellen without listening to her side of the story.

Before Ellen could answer, she warned her, "I'm telling you, Ellen, if you dare lay a hand on Lena again, | won't let you get away with it! | was kind enough to keep you and your brother back then, but little did | think you'd grow up to become such an ingrate! | really regret it!"

Seeing how Olivia talked about her kindness in fostering her and her brother, Ellen had no choice but to reply, "Aunt Olivia, I admit that what happened was partly my fault, but it wasn't my fault alone. Selena was in the wrong, too."

Olivia replied, "Ellen, Lena has told me everything. You've got Young Master Jared at your back, so you're turning your nose up at everyone right now, huh? Did you ever think about who was the one that got you into the Presgrave Group? It was your uncle who pulled

strings to get you into the company, remember? If it weren't for our family, you'd probably be working as a waiter in some obscure place now! How ungrateful!" She let out a sneer. "Don't you worry that you'll get your comeuppance for that?"

After she finished her speech, Selena snatched the phone from her, saying, "Mom, let me talk to her." She then said to the other end of the line, "Ellen, I want you to apologize to me."

Hearing that it was Selena, Ellen bit her lip, saying, "I won't apologize to you."

"It was thanks to my dad that you got into the Presgrave Group. If not for my dad, you wouldn't have gotten to know President Presgrave. Without my dad, your resettlement compensation would've been taken by others long ago. Ellen, as long as you apologize to me, I can forget about this." Selena just wanted to see Ellen bow down to her.

"That's a different matter, Selena. What about my wound?"

Selena replied haughtily. "That little wound of yours is nothing. Also, how much is that thing of yours? I'll pay you for that, but you have to apologize to me."

"I won't apologize to you," Ellen said stubbornly.

Selena threatened, "You... Fine, don't come to my place anymore. My parents won't look after you anymore either. From now on, you're on your own!" The words on your own pricked Ellen's heart.

Just then, Olivia took the phone back from Selena. "Ellen, your parents died early, So we fostered you and your brother out of pity. Now that you've grown up, you don't obey us anymore. Not only are you unfilial to us, but you even hit my daughter. Who would dare to marry an ungrateful lady like you in the future? Your husband's family will kick you out if they learn about this."

These words didn't sound unpleasant to the ear, but they were as hurtful as a curse.

Olivia then threatened, "I'm telling you, don't seek us for help in the future when you need your elders to back you up. We don't have such a heartless niece. Either you apologize to my daughter, or we'll sever our relations with you."

Ellen's heart twinged; she felt an overwhelming. pressure weighing down on her.

Chapter 1679

"Apologize, you brat! Didn't you hear what my: mom said?" Selena's voice rang on the other end. Obviously, they were putting the phone call. on speaker.

Ellen took a deep breath and closed her eyes. Then, she said calmly to the other end of the line, "I'll never apologize to you for this." With that, she hung up right away. Her heart was heavy, and it pained her a lot, but she knew that she didn't do anything wrong and thus didn't have to apologize to anyone. Selena let out a snort in anger when the phone call ended. "Mom, she hung up on us."

Olivia was stunned, too. She had thought that once she threatened to sever all relations with Ellen, the latter would immediately be scared into apologizing in order to maintain her relationship with the only relatives she had left.

However, little did she think Ellen would have the nerve to hang up on her instead. "This little brat has got some nerve, huh?" She was angry as well. "Let's see who's gonna care about her when | no longer speak for her in the family."

Just then, Connor came back. The instant Selena saw him, she went up to him angrily, asking. 'Dad, why did you get Ellen into the Presgrave Group? Do you know how she bullied your daughter?'

“Weren't you staying at Ellen's place? Why did you come back?” Connor asked curiously. Olivia chimed in angrily, “How could you still be in the mood to ask about this? Your daughter got pulled by the hair and beaten up by Ellen today!”

“Why would Ellen hit you?” Connor was puzzled. How could Ellen possibly hit someone with her submissive temperament?

“It was just because I accidentally smashed an ornament at her house. She pulled me by the hair and hit me without hesitation! My scalp still hurts right now, you know,” Selena lied, not at all looking guilty.

Knowing what kind of a person Selena was, Connor knew Ellen must've hit her because she had gone too far. “Okay, don't stay at Ellen's place anymore. Just stay home with us.”

Seeing that he wouldn't stick up for her, Selena went upstairs angrily to sulk. Olivia dragged Connor into the small living room on the first floor. Then, she closed the door, saying, “Connor, we have to watch out for Ellen.”

“Why?” Connor asked in puzzlement. Olivia replied, “Lena said Young Master Jared is in love with Ellen, so perhaps Ellen will learn about his heart replacement one day. Won't we be finished when she asks us about it?”

Connor was startled, little did he expect that Ellen and Jared had become so close. “Why Would Young Master Jared fall in love with Ellen?” he asked in surprise. He couldn't understand why Jared would love a commoner like Ellen. After all, the Presgraves were the number-one family of business tycoons in the country.

“In short, Lena heard from Young Master Jared himself that he loves Ellen and wants to court her. Say, Connor, do you think there are supernatural events on earth? Young Master Jared's current heart belonged to Ellen's brother. Could the late Kevin have helped her without us knowing?” Olivia said as a hint of unease and panic flitted across her face.

Connor didn't believe in supernatural events, though. He quickly shot a glare at his wife, saying, “What nonsense are you talking about? How could such a weird thing exist in the world?”

Olivia replied, 'I'm just saying! If not, why would Young Master Jared fall in love with Ellen? What is it about Lena that makes her inferior to Ellen? Why does he love Ellen instead of Lena?'

She simply couldn't wrap her head around this. My daughter wouldn't lose to Ellen in terms of looks and deportment. Could Young Master Jared be blind?

Connor was worried as well, but he thought nothing would happen between Ellen and Jared. As a man, he understood that Jared would end up marrying a lady who matched his wealth and social status.

"Don't worry too much about it. Only we know about Kevin's heart donation back then, so Ellen won't ask about it." "What if Ellen learns about this one day?"

"If she learns about it, we'll give her 20 million as compensation. I'll brace myself and talk to her about it by then." Connor had already come up with a way out of this. And besides, Ellen was his niece, which would make these things even easier to discuss. Surely my niece won't turn against me.

Chapter 1680

"What? You're going to give her 20 million? How much will we have left, then? We just asked the Presgrave Family for 50 million three years ago. We can't ask them for more in the future!"

Connor counted the money he had earned from his investments and concluded, "By then, you and Lena can just cut down on your expenses!"

"How is that possible? I've already gotten used to this life. I can't start being thrifty now. Besides, Lena still has to get married and needs at least 10 million for her dowry!"

"Okay, okay, I'll work hard to save up." "Do you think you can find a profitable project with your skills? I don't believe it!" Olivia said disdainfully Connor's mood soured. "Either way, it's decided."

Upon seeing her husband swing the door open and leave, Olivia couldn't help but place her hands on her waist and thought that she would never let Ellen find out. If not, her 20 million would disappear into thin air.

In the blink of an eye, it was Friday. As Ellen sent a cup of coffee to Jared's office, he handed her a name card right as she was about to leave. "Go to this place at three this afternoon."

Curious, she took the name card and saw that it belonged to a dress shop. "I've already notified the owner of this shop. You can just go and try the gowns on and pick whichever you like. I'll pick you up for the party at half past five."

Ellen had been worried about this, but she was surprised to see that he had already taken care of everything for her. "Okay." She nodded.

Jared glanced at his watch and asked, "I'm going to have lunch with a few clients. How about you?"

Ellen smiled. "The cafeteria, of course! The food there is hearty and delicious." As the president, Jared had never tried the cafeteria food, mostly due to his status.

"Really? In that case, take me to try it out one day."

"Sure!" Ellen agreed, more than willing to take him there. "All right, remember to be there at three," Jared reminded as if fearing that she would forget.

However, she would never forget, and she was even looking forward to it. After leaving his office, she searched the shop's location and saw that it was not that far away.

Selena had been at work these days as well, but she was just a little distracted. Fortunately, she had a knack for controlling men, so her work was covered by her male colleagues. For lunch, she dined with the wealthy Charlie as she had to accompany him to the dinner party that night, and she managed to borrow an evening gown from him for the occasion.

Charlie had been pursuing Selena for quite some time. To him, women were only fun when they were new, and Selena had been leaving him hanging, which kept him interested.

"I'll take care of your gown. My aunt has a dress shop, so you can just go over and pick one."

“Are we buying it or renting it?” Selena asked with a smile. “Of course, we’re renting it! There’s no need to buy it when you're only going to wear it once.”

Although Selena was filled with contempt at his words, she still said ingratiatingly, “You’re so kind, Charlie”

“All of the people who will be present at the party tonight aren’t ordinary folks. I had to rely on my dad’s connection to get an invitation too.”

Hearing that, Selena felt her heart skip a beat, wondering if Jared would be there. “In that case, all of the guests tonight are the influential people of Averno” “That's right. You'll meet many powerful people.”

The person Selena wanted to see the most was Jared. She hoped to meet him tonight, and she would be wearing a beautiful dress as well, so she would surprise him with something different. Even if she couldn't see Jared, she could still make use of Charlie's position to meet other rich people, so she had a backup plan.

At around three, Ellen took a cab to the dress shop. The car stopped at the entrance, and she gasped at the shop's grandeur upon seeing the majestic building.

She had just entered when one of the staff greeted her. “Good afternoon, Miss. Are you here to try on some gowns?”

“Yes!” “May I know your name, Miss?”