

## Night of Love 281

### [Chapter 281 Remember To Keep A Distance](#)

Crystal should be happy, but she didn't feel that way.

Her investigations revealed that Adroit Law Firm didn't stop sponsoring Lara.

Brushing a finger across the window, she muttered to herself, "What a b'stard. What should I do?"

Right then, someone knocked on the door outside. "Miss Winters!"

"Come in!"

The person who came in was Ryan, the vice president of Seeas Corporation. He gave her an important document. "I need your signature on this, Miss Winters."

Crystal took the document from him and read it twice carefully before signing her name on it.

Ryan took the document but didn't leave her office instantly. Flashing a smile, he said, "Miss Winters, if there isn't a business dinner tonight, you should consider taking a break. Your favorite actress has a performance this evening!"

Crystal's brows twitched.

It wasn't hard to guess what Ryan was getting at. After all, she was a mature woman.

However, he had never crossed the line, so Crystal couldn't reject him directly.

Feigning ignorance, she replied cheerfully, "Are you talking about the one who sings the soprano beautifully? Henry asked me to watch her performance together earlier, but I'm not free, unfortunately."

Ryan walked out of her office with a faint smile.

Half past four that afternoon, Henry's car rolled to a stop in front of Seeas Corporation. After he got out, the employees who saw him bowed to him and greeted, "Mr. Miller!"

Henry nodded silently and went to the gym on the second floor.

It was snowing in Barnwood, but Crystal was sweating because of her yoga session. Beads of sweat dotted her nose, too.

Hearing his footsteps, Crystal turned over her shoulder and looked at him quietly.

Dressed in a black turtleneck and matching slacks, complemented by a gray coat, the man with defined features exuded a distinct air of elegance under the light.

Crystal, on the other hand, was dressed sexily. Even her damp hair looked alluring.

She gave him a smile and told him to take a seat before continuing with her training.

Feeling displeased with her reaction, Henry took off his coat and placed it on the bar as he asked casually. "Where are your bodyguards and assistant?"

"I'm at work, so I don't need that many people following me around." After completing a set of moves, Crystal stopped and leaned against the bar. "How was last night?"

Henry's gaze turned dark. already there, yet she still asked the obvious.

Instead of finding that annoying, however, he was charmed.

Crystal knew men well.

Henry wasn't that lustful. He guessed that she had found out about Lara leaving the law firm but she was still able to keep her cool.

Did he teach her to be this calm?

Henry approached her and held her waist.

"Do you have any plans for tonight? Crystal, what do I have to do for us to reconcile, and for you to consider returning with me to the mansion?"

Crystal was no longer an innocent young lady.

She knew better than to trust a man's words. He was only interested in her body and had no interest to know her more.

Looking disinterested, she patted his handsome face. "Next time. I really have work to do."

Henry knew when to stop.

They were at the office, not at home where they could do whatever they wanted. Besides, he had only come here to see her, as she had ignited his desire last night.

Crystal got Edith to serve him a cup of coffee and get him a selection of magazines and newspapers to ensure he wouldn't be bored while waiting for her.

Nevertheless, Henry's gaze was fixed on her.

Crystal wasn't just joking when she worked out.

No matter how complicated the moves were, she didn't stop and persevered.

One hour went by in the blink of an eye.

Edith came in and said, "Miss Winters, the car is ready!"

Crystal nodded and turned to Henry. "Unfortunately, I'll have to get prepared. I don't want to be late."

Henry had driven for an hour to reach here, yet she was about to depart for a business dinner, leaving them with hardly any time to converse.

Henry, who had a privileged background, had never courted any woman. It was the women who had always flocked to him. He had also never encountered a scenario where one had to court their spouse merely to share a bed, and his attempts had proven futile.

Nevertheless, when men want to conquer someone, they won't give up easily.

Instead of flying into a rage, he acted like a gentleman as he said, "Sure, go ahead. Remember to tell the driver to drive slowly." He pulled her closer and planted a kiss on her lips. "You look good when you sweat."

Crystal's cheeks flushed pink.

Henry was pleased with her reaction. When he walked out of the gym, another man walked past him. It was Ryan.

"Mr. Miller."

Henry cast a quick glance at his former subordinate, who was impeccably dressed for a business dinner. A peculiar sense of unease crept over Henry, causing him to furrow his brow before offering Ryan a brisk nod.

Crystal was unaware of the tension between them.

She said softly, "Ryan, wait for me in the car."

Ryan...

Henry's fists involuntarily tightened. She's actually on a first-name basis with him.

After taking a shower, Crystal put on a dress and wore a loose white coat.

Edith accompanied her to the first floor.

Henry was leaning against the black Maybach, smoking casually. When he spotted Crystal, he put out his cigarette and said, "It's snowing heavily. Let me give you a ride there!"

Crystal glanced at the other car. Ryan should be inside that car.

She turned back to look at Henry and held her own forehead. Is he jealous?

It was snowing.

Crystal walked over to the sedan and grasped the door handle. "I'll take the company car. You should head back home to spend time with Skyler and Remi. Remi has been able to focus on objects just twenty centimeters away for a few days now. You should practice with him."

Henry placed his hand on top of hers. "I asked the driver. It's on my way."

Crystal chuckled and turned around slightly. "Mr. Miller, it seems that everywhere I go is on your way."

Henry knew she was mocking him.

He abandoned the pretense and leaned in closer to her. "Don't ever ride in the same car with him again. Mrs. Miller. Remember to keep a distance from him."

Crystal made him a promise thinking that it was important to reward a diligent man sometimes.

She got into his car and sat next to him. Henry glanced at her and remarked, "This outfit suits you well." She looks nice under that outfit too.

Crystal lowered her gaze. "You used to say that a lot, Henry."

Henry's gaze dimmed. A moment later, he broke into a grin. "It looks like my taste has never changed!"

Crystal averted her gaze. "That's because I've always been pretty."

She sounded as though she was acting coy.

Henry's heart skipped a beat. He smiled and said nothing else.

The snowfall made everything seem romantic.

Crystal wondered how good their relationship would be at that moment if Audrey hadn't received medical parole, if none of that had happened, and if Henry hadn't lost his memories.

Tears welled up in her eyes.

The car suddenly came to an abrupt stop.

Henry muttered a curse under his breath and swiftly opened the door. He stepped out and moved to the front of the vehicle.

Crystal was taken aback, but she quickly got out of the car, too.

The car had run into a young lady. It was cold, but she was only clad in a thin jacket, her long hair covering her face.

Henry helped her up.

The young lady's voice was soft. "I'm sorry. I didn't mean to run into you."

She raised her head, shocking both Henry and Crystal.

It was Lara.

She appeared particularly forlorn as she had crashed with Henry's car. She even made sure her injuries were minor, limited to a few scrapes.

Crystal wasn't usually mean, but she couldn't help mocking. "Miss Chamber, luck seems to be on your side today."

Lara cringed.

She bit her lip and said, "I'm sorry, Mrs. Miller. I didn't mean it!"

Crystal didn't want to talk to her. She said to Henry, "She's fine. Let's get back into the car."

Henry didn't move.

His attention remained fixed on a turquoise pendant dangling from Lara's neck. He had seen the exact same one on someone else.

That individual had mentioned having a younger sister in their biological family, but she was brought to the mountains.

He couldn't help but recall that person.

Crystal stole a glance at him, detecting a fleeting trace of nostalgia in his eyes, which swiftly transformed into repulsion. It evoked a complex mixture of emotions within him.

At that moment, another young woman hurried over to assist Lara in walking away.

The delicate snowflakes danced in the air silently.

Henry spun on his heels and said to Crystal gently, "You should take the company car. Something cropped up and I need to head back to the law firm."

Crystal stood in the snow and offered him a smile, her complexion appearing even paler than the snow itself.

Henry didn't realize that. He helped her to the black sedan before getting into his own car.

In the backseat, Ryan hesitated briefly before saying, "Miss Winters."

"I'm fine," Crystal assured him.

The car slowly picked up speed, and she saw Henry sitting in his car looking confused.

She could guess what was going on and couldn't help laughing at herself.

How could I forget? Crystal, I won't let you down again! That was what he used to say the most. Henry, you told me not to give up, but have you ever considered how much I could take?

Looking down, Crystal ordered coldly, "Investigate Lara Chamber thoroughly!"

### [Chapter 282 Delicate](#)

Upon his return to the law firm, Henry found himself engrossed in his work. An hour later, a file was delivered to him.

Lara Chamber was twenty-two years old. She was brought to Mount Lorcroft during her formative years. Her adoptive parents passed away when she was twelve, and she was left to fend for herself.

The detective retrieved a cigarette and positioned it between his lips. "Something unpleasant happened to this girl when she was sixteen, so her biological family refused to acknowledge her despite finding her."

Something unpleasant...

Henry could make a reasonable assumption.

As he was silent, the detective asked, "How shall we proceed? Should we bring her in?"

"No." Henry responded in a measured tone. "Secure a suitable part-time job for her, but exclude any mention of me."

As a mature individual, he could discern the admiration he detected in Lara's gaze toward him. Although he sympathized with her situation, he did not want to entangle himself in intricate affairs. After all, he and Crystal were still not on good terms.

Having spent time with Crystal for more than half a year, he had figured out her temperament-she was undeniably possessive.

With matters addressed, he found himself alone in his office, lost in his thoughts.

Beyond the windowpane, snowflakes continued to fall from the sky.

He examined his feelings.

Recollections of the late Audrey and his current wife, Crystal, occupied his thoughts. Amidst this introspection, he acknowledged a degree of fondness for Crystal, even if a significant portion of this sentiment was tied to her physical attributes.

By the time he returned to reality, it was already nine at night.

The night sky lay shrouded in darkness, illuminated solely by the falling snow.

Henry grabbed his coat and left the law firm. On his way back to the Miller residence, he spotted a florist still open. He stopped and bought a bouquet of champagne roses.

He mused that women always had an affinity for flowers.

At ten, his car pulled up before the Miller residence.

By then, lights were already off at the Miller residence, and the living room was dimly lit. As he began to remove his coat with intentions to head upstairs, a low voice rang out. "Where have you been? It's so late already."

The room lights were switched on, forcing Henry to shield his eyes momentarily before adjusting to the newfound brightness.

Seated on the couch with legs crossed and a disgruntled expression was David. "You've finally decided to grace us with your presence, huh? If I were your wife, I'd have left you. Oh? You even bought flowers? Do you think your wife is in need of bouquets when she has an abundance of them?"

A sense of helplessness overcame Henry. "Dad, let's talk about this tomorrow."

Just as he was about to make his way upstairs, David sneered, "Your wife isn't back yet. If I were her, I wouldn't return either! Only you could do such a thing as leaving your wife behind on a snowy day! Henry, let me offer you a piece of advice. Keep up with your reckless behavior and your wife's patience will wane sooner or later. There are plenty of people out there who are interested in your wife. Don't overestimate yourself."

Henry went back down the stairs and slipped on his coat.

"Where are you off to?"

"The mansion."

His motivations eluded him; he wasn't certain why he was proceeding in this manner. He acknowledged Crystal's maturity and the fact that she possessed her own drivers and security personnel. Her safety was not a concern. Yet, that night, his yearning compelled him to see her.

Deep into the night, his car halted at the mansion.

He got out of the vehicle and saw that the lights were on, on the second floor.

Crystal was there.

He walked into the living room with the flowers. The housekeeper took his coat and said, "Mrs. Miller has been in the study for quite some time. She skipped dinner."

Henry nodded in acknowledgement and went up the stairs.

She must be angry. I told her I would send her to the dinner, but I left midway. Yes. Women often seek reassurance.

In the study on the second floor, Crystal was holding a file containing Lara's background information. Lara was Audrey's biological sister.

She smoked, dated, and even had an abortion despite her young age.

Crystal lowered her gaze, her lips forming a chilly smile.

She has had an interesting life, and yet, she now assumes the role of an innocent young woman. Even my husband feels pity for her, offering her a respectable job for the sake of a dead woman.

A sense of suffocation overcame Crystal.

She would not allow a young woman like Lara to approach Henry. She did not want anyone to harm her loved ones again.

She sat down slowly and reached out for a lighter and set the file aflame.

The ashes burnt her hand.

Just then, the door opened, and Henry frowned at her. "What are you burning?"

Crystal raised her head to meet his gaze.

He donned a designer coat and looked handsome as always.

He was her beloved husband, and yet, he was like a stranger to her.

After a long while, she answered softly, "Something from the past."

Henry came over to her and offered her the bouquet. She accepted it and inhaled its fragrance.

"Do you like them?"

"No woman dislikes flowers."

Henry moved to the back of the desk, leaning in for a long kiss. His lips still on hers, he asked, "Are you upset?"

"Yeah," Crystal responded dazedly.

A gentle chuckle escaped Henry's lips. He found her honesty quite endearing. Sometimes, she had an adorable charm to her.

The room was warm on that snowy night.

He kissed her, and sparks flew.

While they were lost in the moment, Crystal felt a square object in his pocket. A realization hit her. Forty- two days had passed since she had given birth. It dawned on her that his hurried return tonight likely harbored amorous intentions.

A sneer grew on Crystal's lips.

Extracting the small item from his pocket, she placed it on the desk. Under the dim light, she uttered slowly, "Henry, I've said before that love involving three people is overly complicated. I still believe that if you can't move on from the past, we can't proceed."

Henry, a prideful man, was a little frustrated.

He knew Crystal had uncovered the truth.

Suppressing his annoyance, he responded, "There's nothing going on between us. I have no interest in a young woman like her."

Crystal looked up slowly, her eyes red.

"You're giving her false hope. She might believe that your attention comes from your regard for her sister, Audrey. She might even aim to replace Audrey's position in your heart." Crystal traced his chest with her fingers. "Henry, if you genuinely care, then helping her is not the right way. I will not wait for you forever."

Henry's tone took on the tenderness of a lover's whisper. "What do you want me to do?"

Crystal went straight to the point. "She's an adult, fully capable of surviving on her own. Withdraw any special treatment and support for her."

Henry's gaze darkened.

"I believe you've already done your investigation on her tragic past, Crystal, you're a woman with billions. Can't you show leniency to someone who only has a monthly salary of five thousand?"

"She's after my husband. Am I supposed to sympathize with her?"

Henry straightened his posture slowly, his gaze fixed on her. The expression he wore shattered Crystal's heart into fragments.

He pushed open the door and left.

Crystal did not run after him. She did not want to live a worthless life.

She sat in silence for a considerable time, eventually retrieving the journal Henry had left for her from the drawer. As she turned its pages methodically, her vision became increasingly blurred.



Henry probably won't treat me this way. Before he left, his wife and daughter had been his priority. A random woman named Lara wouldn't make him enrage me.

That night, Crystal chose not to return to their shared bedroom.

The two spent the night separately, lost in their own thoughts.

When morning arrived, Henry awoke to find an empty space beside him.

Crystal did not come back to the room.

After freshening up, he descended the stairs. In a bin near the staircase, he noticed the discarded bouquet of roses.

"Mrs. Miller went to the office early this morning," a housekeeper informed.

"All right," Henry responded placidly.

His gaze fell on the piano. He recognized it as the same one played by Ludwig, and he knew that its name was Morning Dew.

"Crystal, do you like it? Crystal, you're my morning dew."

Pain pulsed through Henry's head. It was almost unbearable. Those words kept echoing in his mind. However, he couldn't remember anything when he returned to his senses.

Taking in his expression, the housekeeper muttered, "I heard this piano was a gift from you to Mrs. Miller. It was quite pricey." She made a gesture. "It was six hundred million."

Six hundred million? Did I lose my mind?

Henry walked over to the piano and lifted the lid. Without hesitation, he played the tune of Moonlight Lovers.

Outside the window, the gentle snow continued to fall.

He played the piece twice.

Finally, he looked at his own hands and mumbled under his breath, "Did I truly love her that much?"

Crystal began giving him the cold shoulder. She refused to pick up his calls and avoided seeing him in person. Other than the occasional glimpse of her at the Miller residence, he mostly encountered his wife through newspaper articles.

However, she was not Mrs. Miller. She was Miss Winters, the CEO of Seeas Corporation.

Henry was a busy person as well. He returned to the legal profession and took on endless big cases.

His schedule was often filled with business trips, leaving limited opportunities for their paths to cross.

During this period, Lara made a visit to his office once.

He chose not to meet her in person; instead, through his secretary, he relayed a message for her not to return.

At times, when moments of tranquility allowed, his thoughts would inevitably wander to Crystal.

Reflecting on their heated argument that fateful night, he came to realize that he should not have allowed someone as inconsequential as Lara to jeopardize their relationship. However, Henry's distaste for being manipulated by women extended even to his own wife.

As the year drew to a close, Crystal skillfully managed Secas Corporation, carving her distinct presence in the upper echelons of Barnwood society. No longer just an accessory to Henry, she stood as an accomplished individual in her own

On the night of Christmas Eve, she attended a lavish banquet, the heady atmosphere taking a toll and leaving her a bit lightheaded as she stepped outside into the frigid weather.

Her tipsiness vanished in an instant.

At the sight of her, Joel quickly walked over and draped a coat around her. "You should have worn this coat inside. Being young doesn't mean you should disregard your health by exposing yourself. If you catch a cold, Mr. and Mrs. Miller will certainly have my head!"

For a moment, Crystal was taken aback.,

Then, she recalled that "Mr. and Mrs. Miller" referred to David and Julia.

With a placid smile, she replied, "I've been working out lately, so I'm feeling quite healthy."

"But you just gave birth to Mr. Remi two months ago. A woman's body is delicate, so please take good care of yourself."

Crystal felt a warmth in her heart.

"Thank you, Joel. I'll keep that in mind."

As he opened the car door for her, he said in a more cheerful tone, "Let's get back soon. It's almost Christmas, and there's a lot happening at home!"

Just as she prepared to step into the car, a voice rang out from behind.

"Mrs. Miller!"

Crystal's body stiffened, and she turned around slowly.

Not far away stood Lara, who was dressed in little clothes despite the cold.

As she approached Crystal, she was stopped by several imposing bodyguards who had formed a barrier between them.

Lara's lips trembled, and she fixed her gaze on Crystal.

The wind was strong tonight.

Crystal was dressed in a red dress beneath her coat. She was all bundled up.

Behind her was an expensive sedan, and she wore expensive jewelry.

Despite enjoying the things that Henry had given to her, to Lara, Crystal seemed ungrateful. Her lips quivered, and she said, "Mrs. Miller, you shouldn't treat Mr. Miller that way."

### [Chapter 283 Nothing Going On](#)

A faint smile appeared on Crystal's face as she removed her coat gently.

"Does how I treat my husband have anything to do with you, Miss Chamber?"

Lara bit her lip, putting on an innocent expression. "You're his wife. You shouldn't keep putting yourself out there and making him feel bad!"

Crystal scoffed. "Why, did my husband complain to you about this? Did he tell you how miserable his life is from having a wife like me?"

Before Lara could answer, Crystal warned, "Think about the consequences before you lie." She took two steps forward, gazing at Lara. "It must've been hard for you to get to where you are now. If I were you, I'd cherish my current life instead of trying to seduce someone else's husband with that face."

Lara's lips quivered. "You looked me up?"

Crystal patted her own coat. Dealing with a girl like her was akin to merely lifting a finger.

She was only being merciful out of consideration for Henry.

"You're too aggressive, Mrs. Miller!" Lara whined. "Mr. Miller will never fall for a woman like you."

Crystal smirked. "What kind of woman do you think he'd like, then? One who cheats and sleeps around with other men from a young age? Or a troublemaker who smokes, drinks, and takes money from her clients?"

She understood Henry.

He used to like Audrey's fiery passion when he was younger.

Now that he was more grown up, he preferred a docile woman, especially one who obeyed him in bed. Of course, he certainly didn't mind a few occasional surprises.

The man always had good taste.

Crystal's smile vanished. "I'm giving you one last chance, Miss Chamber. Don't ever appear in front of my family and me from now on. That includes Henry. There's a limit to my patience."

With that, she signaled Joel to open the car door.

The way Joel bowed while subserviently opening the door for her annoyed and tickled her at the same time, and she shot him a glare.

The other bodyguards hopped into their respective vehicles.

Then, the few luxurious sedans departed one after another, leaving a thinly-clothed Lara standing outside and shivering from the cold.

She had miscalculated her moves.

She had assumed Henry would be unable to resist a young woman's temptations and easily crawl into bed with her.

Yet, she could barely even meet him, let alone sleep with him.

That was why she had no choice but to come look for Crystal, but the latter was a lot smarter than she had expected.

She'd never attack me no matter how much I provoked her. If she doesn't do anything to me, how am I going to act like a victim and gain Henry's sympathy?

Crystal remained silent inside the car.

She felt rather disgusted.

"It's normal for women to go after a man like Henry, but this young lady's just too much!" Joel, who was in the driver's seat, grumbled.

Crystal turned to him. "She's Audrey's younger sister."

That explained how similar the two women were.

Joel was rendered speechless for a second. "That just makes things worse! What is Henry doing about this?"

Crystal was stumped.

"It doesn't matter if he knows how much Audrey hurt us. He never experienced what she did firsthand. He won't understand."

That was why he had no qualms about helping Lara.

Feeling sullen, Crystal said nothing more.

The car arrived in front of the Miller residence half an hour later, and she spotted someone upon alighting the vehicle.

It was Henry.

"You're back," Crystal said, adjusting her coat.

It had been a week since they had last seen each other.

"Yeah," the man answered softly.

He could smell a hint of red wine emanating from her; that, combined with her perfume, formed a unique scent pleasing to his senses.

To him, Crystal was like a ripened fruit, tantalizing and ready to be relished.

However, he couldn't help but worry when he saw her slightly ashen face, "Don't force yourself to drink. With your status, you're not obligated to socialize if you don't want to."

Crystal smiled faintly and shut the car door.

Joel followed after her. "Mrs. Miller was having quite a bit of fun until she bumped into an oddball just as she was about to leave. That killed her mood instantly!"

Crystal touched her forehead, pretending to look upset. "Don't even mention it."

Henry grabbed her hand just as she was about to walk away. "What happened?"

"Nothing. I just bumped into someone completely irrelevant."

"It was a woman called Lara," Joel blurted. "She wouldn't stop going on about how she feels sorry for you. because Mrs. Miller keeps putting herself out there and doesn't care about you!"

Henry was visibly surprised.

She came looking for Crystal?

"There's nothing going on between us," the man explained.

Crystal sneered. "The fact that you take such good care of her means there's something going on! Why else would she keep trying to get on my nerves? I don't care if you're still thinking about Audrey or if you feel

sorry for this girl, Henry, but let me warn you. If she dares lay a finger on any of my family, I'm going to break her legs!"

With that, she strode into the mansion.

She wouldn't allow another Audrey to disrupt her life.

Henry watched her leave, aware of how livid she was. He took a cigarette out of his chest pocket and lit it.

Joel leaned over, shamelessly asking for a cigarette too.

The two men smoked together.

"Has she always been this ill-tempered?" Henry asked out of the blue after a long moment of silence.

Joel chuckled. "Always! You two have broken up and gotten back together so many times over the years. You were the one who'd always gone after her. Then later she got pregnant, and you two got married."

I was the one who had always gone after her?

Henry puffed out a cloud of smoke.

"Mrs. Miller really loves you," Joel added, turning solemn all of a sudden. "She had a very hard time during the months you lost your memories."

Not wanting to recall those days anymore, Joel left with a wave.

After he was done smoking, Henry slowly made his way into the living hall where everyone interacted harmoniously.

Alfred had rushed over from Coldbridge claiming to want to see the kids, but everyone knew he was only using this opportunity to meet Melora.

Their relationship had remained ambiguous for the past six months.

Crystal hugged him gently the moment she walked in and saw him. "You're here, Uncle Alfred."

The man touched her cheek and turned to David. "She's had quite a bit to drink."

David chuckled. "Crys is like our heroine now. She carries herself so well among the other ladies. I'd say she surpasses Julia in this regard!" He then turned to his wife. "Don't you agree?"

Julia wasn't jealous about that.

She adored her daughter-in-law and personally had a housekeeper bring her something to cure her hangover. "Be careful not to drink too much. You're still nursing Remi."

Crystal nodded obediently. "I didn't. Dad's just messing around."

David instructed someone to set up a table so he could play some cards.

By the time Crystal got changed and returned downstairs, David, Henry, and Alfred were already seated at the table.

Henry's gaze appeared slightly dark.

He had walked into the living room just in time to see Alfred's hand on the woman's face. Sure, he's her uncle, but he's so young and good-looking. As if my sister isn't enough, he even wants to touch my wife now?

As soon as Crystal sat down with them, David tossed her a fifty-million check.

"It's my gift to you," the older man said with a grin. "I've given Skyler and Remi a little something too, but not Henry. I've got your back!"

Crystal accepted the check with open arms.

Henry glanced at her bare face, noting how attractive she looked despite not having any makeup on, "Let me hold some of that money, Crystal," he said softly.

"I have nothing for you, and it's not like I manage any of your money," the woman replied blandly while holding her cards.

In response, Henry took a wallet out of his pocket and gave it to her.

"In that case, you can do whatever you want with my money from now on."

Even the elders couldn't help but blush at his bold declaration of love,

Pretending not to care, Crystal opened the wallet and found a photo of her and the children inside.

She also found a little square item.

"I've had it for half a month. I haven't used it yet," he said, even sounding slightly aggrieved.

He's so shameless!

Her cheeks burning, she threw the wallet back at him. "Look after your own things."

She knew he was just trying to appease her after what Lara had done, and that made her unhappy. What's the point? If Audrey still lives in him, then what is Lara to him? An ignorant and misguided young lady? She remained aloof all night despite him going easy on her during their card game. In the end, she was the only one who won big, and David was so envious that he chastised his own son for being so inept.

When the clock struck midnight, Henry threw his cards down. "I've lost too much. I'm done for today." He turned to Crystal. "Shall we head upstairs and get some rest?"

Knowing he had something to talk to her about, Crystal said, "I'm feeling quite tired, indeed. Don't stay up too late, Dad. You too, Uncle Alfred."

### [Chapter 284 The Cold Shoulder](#)

Late that night, the two of them went upstairs together.

As soon as they entered the bedroom, Henry closed the door behind them and pulled Crystal into his embrace.

Her face lightly hit his shoulder.

While rubbing her face against his shirt, she caught a whiff of the faint tobacco smell on his body.

Crystal knew what he wanted from her, and she had to admit that she missed his scent.

However, that wasn't the right time, and she wasn't in the mood. She asked softly, "What do you want to say to me?"

Henry lowered his gaze to look at her.

At that moment, she looked rather gentle.

"I will never fall for that girl! Don't be mad, okay?"

Crystal leaned on his shoulder and said softly, "Well, she cares a lot about you."

Crystal didn't bother to kick up a big fuss because she wanted him to handle the matter on his own and give her a satisfactory decision.

He was a smart man, so she thought he should know what she wanted.

Henry froze momentarily and caressed her face. "She doesn't matter to me! Crystal, you should know who I'm truly into! Let's move back to the mansion after New Year's! Everything was great back then, no?"

Henry was trying to be as patient as he could when he said those tender words.

Yet, Crystal couldn't help feeling disappointed.

Although the heater in the room was switched on, she still felt her body going cold.

Her voice was filled with exhaustion when she uttered, "Henry, you still don't get it!" She pushed him away and walked toward the door. Holding the doorknob, she said indifferently, "I'm sleeping with the kids. Goodnight!"

"Crystal!" Henry called out.

Crystal lowered her gaze and opened the door to leave the room.

Henry stood still for a while before he slowly made his way toward the couch and sat down. He had a lot of work matters to attend to that night, but he didn't have the mood for it. All he wanted at that moment was to sleep with Crystal. This is perhaps one of the deep-seated flaws of men. Once we get a taste of it, we'll find it extremely hard to resist it. At first, I was against the marriage. After having sex with Crystal, however, I ended up liking married life! I even thought it was nice having a family of my own! But I don't understand what's on her mind. I don't fancy Lara one bit! I merely did her a small favor. If anything, I guess I feel bad for Lara, but that's all there is!

In the end, he still flipped through his documents for two hours before going to bed.

He was sleeping soundly when he was awakened by a child's fluffy hair tickling his chest. He reached out and pulled Skyler into his embrace. With her cold feet pressing against his tummy, Skyler mumbled, "Warm my feet for me, Daddy!"

Henry remained in bed and switched on one of the bedside lamps.

Skyler had her arms wrapped around his neck, and her fluffy, curly hair was all over his face. She pressed her tender cheek against him and warmed his heart with her hot breaths.

Henry placed his hand on her fleshy waist and couldn't help glancing at it. Skyler's waist looks like Crystal's, but she's a hundred times cuter!

Early the next morning, Crystal went to the bedroom to get changed.

The moment she opened the door, she saw Skyler sleeping soundly in Henry's arms.

That scene reminded Crystal of the past.

She walked toward the bed and sat on the edge of the bed to gaze at Henry. At that moment, they weren't fighting, and she wasn't bothered by his loss of memories. She didn't even have to worry about whether he loved her or not.

As if she had gone back in time, Crystal murmured, "Henry..."

Henry woke up at once and saw Crystal before she could wipe out the gentle look in her eyes.

Startled, she tried to run away.

Henry, of course, wouldn't let her off the hook that easily.

He immediately grabbed her hand and pulled her in. "Crystal, it's been a while since you've called my name so sweetly."

Being forced to lean against his chest, Crystal turned to look at Skyler, who was deep asleep nearby.



“You’ll wake her up!” Crystal struggled slightly.

Henry stared at her fixedly for a while before moving Skyler further away. After that, he flipped over eagerly and trapped Crystal under him.

While Henry was kissing her, Crystal pounded his chest and grumbled, “Have you gone mad, Henry?” Henry paused and lifted his chin slightly to reveal his lustful eyes.

Gently, he pinched her chin and bit her on the lip. “You’re my wife. What’s wrong with having sex with me? If you don’t have sex with me, who are you going to have sex with? You must have your needs too! I wanted to take things slow, but you wouldn’t give me the chance. Since that’s the case, I’ll just do it with you now! After all, we’ve been married for a few years, and you should be used to it by now!”

He’s such a despicable jerk! Crystal saw red and kicked him. How can he do this when Skyler is right beside us?

As Crystal struggled to free herself, she protested in a hoarse voice, “Let me go! I don’t want to have sex with you!”

Henry wouldn’t give in and was eager to proceed.

“I want it, though! In fact, I’ve been wanting it for the past few nights!” Henry said while staring down at her. She has been giving me the cold shoulder ever since our daughter turned one month old. Now, I’m going to have her!

Right when Crystal was about to wake Skyler up, a housekeeper knocked on the bedroom door and said, “Mr. Miller, a woman has arrived to send you a Christmas gift. Would you like to see her?”

Henry froze momentarily and stared at the woman in his arms. “Tell her to wait for me!” he instructed the housekeeper.

Henry’s clients from the law firm would usually visit him around Christmas, and he had never turned them away.

He got up, glanced at Skyler, and ran his palm down Crystal’s back. “We’ll continue later!” Upon deliberation, he added, “Wait for me in the guest room, okay?”

Obviously, Crystal wouldn’t do that. We wouldn’t have kissed if he didn’t trap me under his body just now!

She got out of bed swiftly and fled toward the walk-in closet.

Henry couldn’t help smiling when he saw that.

After freshening up, Henry got changed and slowly made his way toward the stairs. However, the moment he arrived at the stairwell, he furrowed his brows when he saw the person sitting in the living room. That’s Lara! She went to look for Crystal yesterday, and she’s here today! What is she trying to do?

Henry was certain he didn’t lead her on, and he was displeased when he recalled the things she did. “You’re no longer an intern at the law firm. What are you doing here?” he questioned in a frigid tone.

Lara heard it and lifted her head.

There, she saw Henry, a tall and handsome man, walking down the stairs.

Since he was at home, he was dressed casually in a black turtleneck and a pair of grey wool trousers.

He looks magnificent! Lara glanced around and saw that the mansion was filled with housekeepers. This is the life I dreamed of since I was a child! Crystal is living my dream!

Lara hurriedly picked up a fruit basket beside her and uttered uneasily, "Mr. Miller, I heard that you were the one who recommended me for the job. I'm also grateful for your financial support."

She reached out to pass him the fruit basket.

Henry refused to accept it because he was annoyed. I was just about to have a good time with Crystal, but Lara just had to interrupt us!

Judging by the look in her eyes and her actions, Henry knew exactly what Lara had in mind.

Henry sat opposite her and ordered the housekeeper to serve him a cup of coffee. "I think I need to be clear with you. You don't have to thank me and send me gifts! Don't ever come here again! And don't look for my wife! She's not happy with you."

"She told you?" Lara croaked.

Henry drank half of the coffee and asked flatly, "About what?"

Lara was caught in an embarrassing situation. Although the man before her eyes knew she was into him, he had no interest in her.

All he had for her was sympathy, and that was merely because of her appearance.

Lara wanted to express her feelings, but she knew Henry was annoyed at her. She bit her lip and said in a trembling voice, "I have no other intentions. I'll go now, Mr. Miller. I won't pester you or your wife again!"

She rose to her feet and seemed to be sobbing as she left with a hand over her mouth.

Crystal was on the second floor and she saw the scene unfold before her eyes. Lara appeared like how Audrey did back then. However, Lara is smarter and not as stubborn as Audrey. She clearly knows her limits and strengths. She's a smart little two-faced girl, isn't she?

Henry saw Crystal and went upstairs to hug her from behind.

Right when he was about to kiss her, she shoved him aside and said, "I'm not feeling it anymore!"

Henry grabbed her hand. "Crystal, she means nothing to me! You saw it yourself, no? Why should we let a puny matter like that ruin our relationship?"

"Do we even have a relationship? She went after me yesterday, and she came to our house today. Is she planning to bring you back to her rented home in the near future? You're clearly underestimating her! I said it before, Henry. If you don't state your standpoint, we're done!" Crystal turned around and walked

off. Not only do I want to deal with Lara myself, but I'm also looking forward to making her life a living hell! That's the least she deserves!

A while later, she went downstairs after changing her clothes, and she seemed to be heading out.

Henry was reading the newspapers in the living room. Seeing that she was changing her shoes, he asked, "Where are you heading to so early in the morning? You don't have to go to work today, right?"

"I'm going for my postpartum checkup! Obviously, you've forgotten about it," Crystal replied flatly. Crystal felt aggrieved after she said that. Henry is merely interested in my body.

Henry was visibly taken aback when he heard that. Oh! I've forgotten about that! Jamie left Crystal's examination schedule on my desk that day, and I merely took a glance at it. I bet Crystal is missing the other me dearly.

"I'll go with you!" Henry said without hesitation.

Crystal didn't object.

They were in a fight, but she wouldn't stop him from performing his duty as a husband

When they got into the car, Crystal sat in the backseat and kept silent.

At that moment, Henry was eager to patch things up with her.

Although they didn't get to have sex that morning, his desires were stirred. He even hoped Crystal would one day do what he did to her. I won't mind it one bit! After all, I like Skyler and Remi.

Evidently, he was starting to cherish his marriage.

After some contemplation, Henry decided to submit to her.

He gently stroked her cheek and asked softly, "Are you still angry at me? She means nothing to me. From now on, the law firm will stop sponsoring her. As for the part-time job, I can't possibly call up to get her fired, right, Crystal?"

"If she comes to look for you again, don't let her in!"

"I've already told the butler not to let her in again."

Henry was determined to make up with Crystal, so he called Jamie and told her to stop the That way, he would have nothing to do with Lara anymore.

Crystal's expression eventually softened. She didn't want to get Lara fired, either. She just didn't want Henry to get involved with other women. That was especially the case with Lara because she was Audrey's sister.

Noticing that Crystal had visibly relaxed, he mumbled sweetly, "I'll keep you company during the examination, and we'll take note of the things we need to look out for together!" He wrapped his arm around her slender waist. "I heard that women are bound to undergo physical changes after giving birth. Yet, you still look the same! As a matter of fact, your skin condition is even better than women younger than you!"

“How many younger women have you been with?” Crystal shot him a look.

### [Chapter 285 I Want To Kiss You](#)

Henry chuckled gently.

If anything, he did not actually remember.

However, as a man, Henry definitely wouldn't say it. He casually patted his trousers and asked, “You've been married to me for quite some time now. Haven't you an inkling of the things I've seen?” Henry reached up to pinch her face slightly. “You're so jealous! You must know.”

Crystal gave him a gentle smile.

Henry's heart could not help but melt as he gazed upon her demure visage. In a low voice, he said, “Let's stop arguing and live well in the future, all right?”

He reckoned that at his age, along with Crystal's recovery, he could definitely aim for a third child.

However, he would wait for another two years. After all, he needed to know if that was what Crystal wanted as well.

It was likely due to his proclamation that the relationship between the couple had improved significantly. Henry handled the matters pertaining to Crystal's visit to the hospital, which prompted Joel to say, “Mr. Miller seems half as caring as before!”

Crystal sat on the bench, holding a glass of warm water.

She gave Henry a gentle smile when she saw him walking toward her. Henry murmured, “Excellent! I think you've made a full recovery!”

Crystal felt a blush creep onto her cheeks.

She pretended to glance at the report casually before putting it into her bag.

Henry took another step forward. He reached over to put an arm around her waist. “Why don't you accompany me to do some shopping? Dad gave me a long list of tasks for fear that I wouldn't be tired enough.”

Crystal raised her head to look at him. She couldn't help but stroke his handsome face. “You asked for it! Dad has a lot to say about you lately!”

Henry grabbed her hand.

He lowered his voice and asked, “Why does he spoil you so much?”

Henry was well aware of his father's temperament. It was exactly like his own. David loved Crystal more than Melora. But for some reason, Melora was not the least bit jealous. If anything, she was also particularly fond of Crystal.

Just how much power does this woman have?

Crystal sauntered toward the elevator and retorted, “It's obviously because I'm nice.”

Joel had gone downstairs first, so Crystal and Henry were the only ones in the elevator. Henry pinned Crystal against the elevator wall and used his charms to tease her. "Why don't you show me exactly how nice you are, Miss Winters?" purred Henry into Crystal's ear.

Crystal's face flushed beet-red.

Henry's shamelessness had far exceeded what she had in mind.

I wonder if all men have taught themselves to be this way.

Crystal remained calm.

In fact, she wanted it too. She was deeply in love with the man before her. How could she not want to be intimate with him?

Yet, Crystal knew that if she surrendered, she would have no cards to play.

This would be an easy conquest for him.

How could she live with herself if he got tired of her someday?

Crystal trailed her hand, which was on his shoulder, to his belt. She toyed with his belt buckle teasingly as she said, "That depends on how you behave."

This made Henry excited, who in turn, nibbled on her ear.

"That's bad behavior!"

Fortunately, Henry understood the notion of propriety in public and did not go too far.

They spent the whole day out buying things that were on the shopping list. Apart from that, they also bought new clothes for the children to celebrate Christmas. Crystal even picked out two outfits for Christopher and asked the shopkeeper to have them delivered to the Ziegler household.

On the way back, it was Henry who decided to drive.

Halfway through the journey, he suddenly broke the silence by asking. "Do you like Christopher that much?"

Crystal nodded. "He's handsome and also very smart."

Henry gripped the steering wheel and cleared his throat. "You call that handsome?"

Crystal shot him a look.

She understood where Henry was going with this. He was trying to ask if she found him handsome too.

Of course, Henry was a very handsome man.

Crystal could safely say that Henry was the most good-looking man she had ever seen.

"Well, you're quite good-looking like this," said Crystal encouragingly.

Henry smirked and reached out to touch the windshield of the car. "It's snowing again. If it gets any heavier, we might have to spend Christmas at home. Are there any movies you haven't watched yet? We can do that at home."

The light snowfall gradually grew heavier.

Crystal used her fingertips to gently tap the car window.

With this weather, she felt quite moved at being able to enjoy the snowy landscape with him in the car like this.

At the next red light, Crystal gently called out his name, "Henry?"

He grunted in response.

After that, he stopped at the side of the road.

Soon, a soft clicking sound could be heard.

Henry unfastened the seat belt and gently carried Crystal into his embrace. Her coat had come undone, leaving only a thin red sweater that clung to her delicate frame.

Henry did not kiss her directly.

He pinned her against the steering wheel, stroking her slender waist with his warm palms.

"What do you want to say?"

Crystal's hair had come undone as well. Her brown waist-length hair cascaded over her body, carrying the faint fragrance of gardenia.

She put her arms around Henry's neck, parted her red lips slightly, and said in a seductive voice, "Henry, I want to kiss you."

Henry was so badly teased by her that there was a faint blush on his neck. His blue veins were also protruding against his fair skin, which made him look even more sensual.

Henry leaned over and promptly kissed her on the lips.

Once the flames of desire were lit between a man and a woman, a simple kiss would not suffice.

Fortunately, it was dark outside.

Crystal had always been timid. She was not willing to be with him in the car, let alone on the side of the road.

Henry, on the other hand, could not take it anymore. He put his lips to her ear and said hoarsely, "Don't move. I'll be good to you. If I don't do it well enough, just tell me."

After all, this was unfamiliar territory to him. As far as he could remember, he had never slept with a woman before.

However, he wanted to please Crystal.

In the end, they were both a mess.

Crystal was blushing hard as her heart raced. She wanted to button up her wool sweater, but she could not. do it for a long time.

Henry sorted himself out.

When he saw Crystal looking like that, he took over what she was trying to do and helped her button up her sweater.

There was unconcealed longing in their gazes when their eyes met.

Neither of them had had enough.

“Let’s go home for dinner. Dad has left quite a number of calls.” Henry’s voice was low and hoarse.

They never picked up any of the calls because they could not stop.

Crystal sat in the passenger seat, not daring to even spare him a glance. Her checks were flushed and

Henry buckled his seatbelt and stepped on the gas. With a smirk, he said. “Why are you behaving like a little girl? Haven’t we done this out in the open before?”

“Absolutely not!”

Crystal was so flushed that she had to wind down the window.

However, he quickly wound it back up again. “Don’t open the window. It may feel nice now, but you’ll catch a cold by the time we get back. You won’t be able to feed Remi if you’re sick.”

Crystal gently toyed with her long tresses. “You feel sorry for him?”

“I feel even worse for you. I’m worried you’d end up sick!”

This was how they spoke, occasionally lapsing into silence.

It was a little sweet.

The snow continued to fall outside the car.

In the car, it felt cozy as they sat next to each other.

When the car window became foggy, Crystal wrote his name.

His phone had been ringing.

Henry was driving, so he had Crystal take a look. She recognized it was Lara’s number because she had read her files before.

Crystal replied calmly, “It’s just a stranger.”

Henry chuckled. “Did you block the caller? I think there are plenty of these telemarketing calls trying to promote new products since it’s Christmas.”

[Chapter 286 A Good Husband](#)

Crystal quickly and firmly placed Lara's number on Henry's blacklist.

The task was accomplished, but her feelings still felt a little bruised. She was somewhat absent-minded when Henry tried to converse with her.

Their car finally rolled to a stop at the mansion.

Unbuckling his seatbelt, Henry turned toward Crystal, his voice laced with tenderness as he asked, "Why are you so quiet?"

Men always like to compare.

Henry pondered for a while. "Did I hurt you just now?"

Crystal shook her head.

She opened the door and got out, sidestepping the topic. "They're waiting for us."

They hadn't gone far when Henry looped his arm around her waist, pulling her close from behind, and she fell into his embrace.

The snow fell all around them, wetting their coats, but neither of them seemed to mind. It was rare for them to warmly embrace each other like this on a cold winter night.

"Crystal, I'm thinking I could actually become a good husband to you," he whispered, his breath a gentle caress against her ear.

He decided to discard any preconceived notions about her, aiming to accept her completely.

No matter if it was due to his desires as a man or her kind nature, he believed she'd make an exceptional lover, wife, and mother.

Leaning against his shoulder, Crystal murmured, "Really? What is it that you like about me?"

Henry patted her back. "I'll tell you tonight!"

"This is all going a bit too fast..."

Henry's fingers glided along the curve of her spine. Her entire body felt soft to the touch, and he was happy to stay this way with her.

At the entrance of the mansion stood David and Alfred, who were puffing away on cigarettes.

David's eyes widened as he asked, "Do you see that couple embracing each other over there? Is that Henry and Crystal?"

Lowering his head, Alfred lit his cigarette and took a long drag from it. He was the embodiment of rugged charm.

Casting a glance their way, he confirmed, "There's no doubt about it!"

David grew anxious.



With the cigarette hanging from his mouth, he marched through the falling snow and shouted, "Henry, have you lost your marbles? Why are you frolicking in the snow on a freezing day like this? Even if you and your thick skin can handle it, your wife just gave birth two months ago. How could you drag her out in the snow with you?"

Alfred's cigarette came close to searing his fingers.

Crystal gently removed herself from Henry's embrace, feeling embarrassed. "Dad's coming over!"

Henry, realizing the inappropriateness of standing in the snow like this, slipped off his coat and draped it over her shoulders. He pulled her into his embrace and said, "Okay, let's head inside. I told you that

Dad loves you to bits."

David had come over right then.

He handed a large black umbrella to Crystal and launched into a tirade against his wayward son.

Henry fished a cigarette from his pocket, ignited it amidst the delicate snowfall, and then threw Crystal a smirk.

He was clearly teasing her with that smirk.

Truth be told, this version of Henry appealed to Crystal. However, with the elders around, she didn't dare to flirt with him, so she quickly walked into the living room.

David proceeded to lecture his son about taking proper care of women who had just given birth.

In the end, he waved his hand dismissively and said, "Go on and attend to your wife. Looking at you gets on my nerves!"

Henry nonchalantly finished his cigarette, then followed Crystal indoors.

As he stepped inside, he saw Crystal taking off her coat and drying her hair with a towel.

Clad in a delicate dress made from wool that set off her fair skin, she radiated softness and elegance.

Henry's voice took on a tender tone as he said, "We've got half an hour until dinner. How about upstairs for a shower? I'll go check on Remi!"

Skyler, holding his hand, said eagerly, "I'll go with you, Daddy!"

Bending down, Henry lifted the little one and planted a kiss on her forehead.

Skyler beamed as she wrapped her arm around his neck with happiness.

Crystal's gaze softened at the sight of the father and daughter.

Julia took the towel from her hand and said gently, "He'll settle down eventually. You two have such a deep bond."

Crystal murmured an acknowledgment.

It did not matter whether or not he could remember the past.

What mattered was their future.

Crystal headed upstairs for her shower while the ground floor of the Miller residence buzzed with activity.

Servants bustled about, serving sumptuous dishes. The dining hall radiated a festive air of Christmas. After checking on Remi, Henry descended the stairs with Skyler in tow.

It was already half-past seven in the evening.

Fireworks had begun illuminating the sky.

Dressed in her pretty little dress, Skyler ran around Henry, whose heart melted. He scooped up his daughter in his arms once more.

His eyes would wander from his financial magazine to her delicate and fair little face.

She resembled Crystal a lot.

Feeling embarrassed under her father's intense gaze, Skyler fiddled with her fingers. "Daddy, you're good-looking, but I think Christopher is more handsome!"

Henry patted her on her buttocks.

With her cheeks flushed, Skyler leaned on Henry's shoulder.

Alfred entered with David right then, looking pensive.

The relationship he shared with Berthold wasn't as close as this. That boy was rather shy,

At that moment, Melora and Berthold came down the stairs.

She had been thriving recently, no longer grappling with the challenges of making ends meet. With her parents helping her take care of the child, she regained her former radiance. There was an added touch of womanly allure about her too.

Alfred missed her, but he understood his place.

He bent down and said to the two children. "Come here and get your Christmas gifts!"

Skyler eagerly rushed forward, and she was rewarded with a large gift.

Berthold seemed bashful. He always perceived Alfred as a stern man. "Go on!" Melora reassured him with a pat on his shoulder.

Berthold summoned his courage and approached Alfred. "Great-Uncle Alfred!"

The atmosphere grew a little awkward.

A hint of embarrassment crossed Alfred's face, but he tenderly patted the boy's head and handed over the gift. He said in a gruff voice. "You should call me Daddy!"

Berthold nodded, seemingly understanding yet not quite. "Daddy!"

Skyler swooped in, explaining in a clear voice, "Great-uncle Alfred is Mommy's uncle, so I call him Great-uncle Alfred. But Great-uncle Alfred and Aunt Melora are a couple, and they gave birth to you. Berthold. So, you need to call him Daddy!"

Alfred ruffled Skyler's hair.

What a clever child! She takes after her father.

Skyler tugged Berthold along to open their gifts together.

Melora slowly descended the stairs.

Alfred retrieved a box from his pocket, then presented it to her. "Here's your Christmas gift!"

Melora refused to accept it.

Alfred said, "Your brother addresses me as Uncle Alfred, so consider it a gift from your elder! Take it. I rarely come over, and I'll be leaving tomorrow. Who knows when I'll be back again?"

Melora accepted the box and opened it.

Inside the box lay a pearl necklace that looked expensive at first glance.

She quickly rejected it, but Alfred shrugged it off, downplaying its value.

What he didn't reveal was that this piece was a cherished heirloom of the Lodge family that was passed down through generations to each successive wife of the Lodge family head.

He and Melora faced an uncertain future, yet at this moment, he impulsively wanted to extend this promise to her.

As the air crackled with emotion, Henry looked on from a distance.

He wasn't as obtuse as his sister and knew the true value of that pearl necklace, but he didn't expose it. At this moment, his phone rang in his pocket.

The number was unfamiliar to him.

He thought for a while before deciding to answer it. The voice on the other end was filled with desperation. "Mr. Miller, please, you have to help Lara! She lost her financial support, so she went back to her hometown to work. It's snowing today, and her hometown is situated in the mountains. She slipped off a cliff, and rescue is near impossible now... Mr. Miller, I know she made mistakes and offended Mrs. Miller, but now it's hard to rescue her without a helicopter, and she might freeze to death out there! She tried calling you several times, but you didn't pick up! Mr. Miller, I'm begging you to help her!"

The person on the line was Emily.

Henry clutched the phone.

Several missed calls... After that, Crystal blacklisted the number. A life is on the line...

Without hesitation, Henry agreed to help. He asked for details about the situation and assured Emily that he would handle it.

After hanging up, he raised his gaze to find Crystal coming midway down the stairs.

She looked relaxed after her shower, but her face was unusually pale.

“Are you heading out?”

Her gaze met his as he donned his coat, ready to step outside.

Henry nodded.

“It’s got something to do with us, Crystal. I’ll be back after dealing with it.”

“But dinner is ready! Uncle Alfred is leaving tomorrow morning!”

Crystal clutched the banister and descended slowly.

She appeared composed, but only she knew how much her hands were trembling.

Finally, she stood before him and said softly, “We’ll ask Uncle Alfred to arrange a helicopter through his connections. I don’t think it’s that difficult for him to do so.”

Henry turned to Alfred.

Alfred was smoking leisurely, a faint smile tugging at his lips. “I can help.”

His gaze shifted to Crystal.

Her smile was gentle as she said, “With Uncle Alfred’s help, you can trust it’ll be fine. Henry, you promised not to get involved with Lara anymore. Let me handle this, okay?”

She wasn’t naïve.

This was too much of a coincidence.

Lara was just playing the victim.

However, she was daring enough and willing to trap herself in such a perilous situation. After all, if the helicopter didn’t arrive, she would really freeze to death in the mountains.

Crystal didn’t care about Lara’s life, but she did care about family harmony.

She stared at Henry.

Henry extended his hand, brushing her cheek tenderly. In a gentle voice, he said. “It’s not often that Uncle Alfred comes here. Let him enjoy dinner with you guys. I’ll go take a look and will be back tomorrow morning.”

With that, he turned to leave.

Crystal caught his hand. “Are all these loved ones and this festive atmosphere not enough to keep you here? Or is it that you don’t trust me? Do you think I blacklisted her on purpose?”

A faint frown crossed Henry's face.

"Crystal, I didn't think so."

Crystal lowered her gaze, not wanting to alarm Skyler. She didn't want to create an awkward situation for the elders during Christmas either.

She choked out, "You were just talking about being a good husband and about making things better... Yet now, just a short while later, you're off to find a woman who is clearly interested in you. Henry, are you truly trying to do what's right or are you just too in love with that face?"

She said it. She finally spoke her mind.

Henry looked serious. "Crystal, stop it."

Crystal let go of his hand, feeling a bit dazed as she did so.

She forced a cheerful smile, walked over to scoop up Skyler, and took a seat at the dining table.

She whispered to Skyler, "Daddy has something to take care of. How about we have dinner with Grandma and Grandpa first?"

Skyler let out a small whimper, clearly disappointed.

Crystal continued to soothe her.

She didn't cast another glance in Henry's way.

It was obvious that she was filled with disappointment.

David couldn't stand it any longer. He said sternly, "Henry, if you leave, I'll break your legs!"

"Dad, a life is at stake here." Henry's tone remained calm.

His gaze then shifted to Crystal.

He wished she would say something to him, even if it was a rebuke, or even if it was just a look. But she didn't. She seemed to have given up and was fully focused on caring for the children.

David was about to break his son's legs..

"Dad, let him go," Crystal said.

David felt sorry for Crystal. He had asked her to wait for Henry, and yet the man who had returned was such a terrible one.

Ultimately, Henry left.

As he stepped out of the Miller residence, the snow fell heavily around him, covering him in a blanket of ice.

He sat in the car and arranged for the helicopter rescue. Although progress was made, he didn't leave immediately. Instead, he stared blankly at his phone. After a while, he dialed Crystal's number.

The call connected, but there was no answer.

She was clearly angry.

After a moment's thought, he sent her a message that read: I'll be back tomorrow morning.

He then ignited a cigarette and waited, but even after he finished the cigarette, she didn't respond.

He extinguished his cigarette and glanced at the brightly lit mansion with a warm atmosphere before winding up the car window expressionlessly.

Then he drove off.

His departure meant he might not make it back anytime soon

Once Lara was rescued, she was sent to the ICU.

The next morning, when Crystal awoke in her bed, she lay still and traced the gentle patterns on her pillow with her fingers.

The grandfather clock downstairs chimed eight times.

She slowly got up, freshened up, fed Remi, and spent time with Skyler.

At ten in the morning, she handed out large gifts to all the household staff. They were very happy and made well wishes about her marriage.

Crystal smiled softly and called over two of the long-serving housekeepers. "Help me get ready a bedroom. across from the children's room. The furniture company will deliver some furniture for this room this afternoon."

She had already had the design done.

It was to be her suite, where she would move in later. In other words, she and Henry were going to sleep in separate rooms.

The housekeeper was surprised, but they dared not say much.

They discreetly informed Melora about it.

Melora made a secret call to Henry from her bedroom.

Henry was still in Tellmoore.

He answered the call in the hospital corridor and asked, "How's Crystal? Is she still angry?"

Crystal hadn't answered his calls or responded to his messages for the past few days.

He knew that it would take a long time for him to pacify her.

Melora's voice quivered as she replied, "Dad's really furious! Crystal cleared out a room for herself. I think she wants to draw boundaries between you two. Henry, you need to come back now!"

Crystal wants to stay away from me?

Henry was clearly taken aback.

"I understand. Let's talk later."

He hung up and immediately dialed Crystal's number.

Unexpectedly, Crystal picked up.

For a moment, he was at a loss for words. His voice was hoarse when he finally spoke. "Merry Christmas!"

Crystal remained silent for a while before responding. "Merry Christmas to you too!"

Henry hurriedly added, "I'll be back this afternoon."

He then explained further in a hushed voice.

On the other end of the line, Crystal was overseeing the placement of furniture. She lowered her head and chuckled coldly. "Sure, whatever."

### [Chapter 287 Cold Shoulder](#)

After saying that, Crystal hung up the phone.

She directed the workers, thoroughly tidying the suite in less than half a day.

After arranging everything, she leaned on the couch to rest.

In the afternoon, she refused to meet anyone, staying in her private space and reading the diary Henry left for her with tears brimming in her eyes.

She missed him and the relationship they had.

At four o'clock in the afternoon, a black Maybach slowly came to a halt, and Henry got out of the car.

David and his wife had left the house with the children, so the mansion was so quiet that it didn't feel like Christmas. Henry stopped a housekeeper and spoke in a slightly hoarse voice. "Where's Mrs. Miller?"

Knowing Henry and Crystal had a fight, the housekeeper hesitated briefly before replying. "She's upstairs." Henry nodded and slowly headed upstairs.

He was still wearing the clothes from two or three days ago, unwashed. He should have taken a shower before doing anything else as he was a clean freak, but he yearned to see Crystal first.

Henry found Crystal very soon.

The sight of her sleeping on the couch under the dim yellow light caused a stir in his heart.

He stepped forward and noticed the corner of her eyes were glistening with tears.

Did she cry?

Gul welled up in his heart. He placed one hand beside her to support himself while bending over to kiss her S

Adltat noment, Crystal woke up.

Her long eyelashes trembled slightly, and she met his gaze the next second. She quickly regained her senses and sat up. "You're back?"

Henry responded with indifference in her tone.

He looked around the room and noticed it was comfortably decorated and furnished, clearly meant for a long-term stay.

Therefore, he lowered his head and murmured, "You're mad at me, but you still can't bear to leave me, right? The fact that you haven't moved out shows that you still care about our marriage."

Crystal leisurely closed her book. An icy expression spread across her countenance as she sneered, "Mr. Miller, don't feel good about yourself. I'm only doing this for Skyler. Don't tell me you've forgotten about her physical condition?"

An icy expression spread across her countenance as she sneered, "Mr. Miller, don't flatter yourself. I'm only doing this for Skyler. Don't tell me you've forgotten about her physical condition?"

Henry was visibly taken aback. Skyler has autism. So, she's only maintaining this marriage for Skyler.

Crystal uttered softly, "That's all. You can leave now."

She was treating him as if he was a complete stranger. It was just a few days ago that she had sat in his car expressing her wish to kiss him with an infatuated look on her face.

Henry didn't leave.

Not only did he not leave, but he also grabbed Crystal's wrist, preventing her from having the chance to escape. He wanted to kiss her, but when he leaned over, she turned her face away.

"Don't touch me!"

Henry insisted on kissing her, but she put up greater resistance,

Suddenly, her eyes fixed on something, and she pulled a thin, long hair from his shoulder with her slender fingers.

The black hair strand was clearly not Crystal's.

Henry furrowed his brows.

He hadn't been with any other woman, so the hair was definitely not left behind by some random woman. Lara caught me off guard when she suddenly hugged me at the hospital. Did the hair stick to me at that moment?

Crystal flashed a nonchalant smile. "You're truly disgusting!"

She knew that was a trick Lara pulled to drive a wedge between her and Henry, but it was only made possible because Henry had given Lara the opportunity to do so.

Henry was tired and didn't wish to deal with that anymore.



Henry could sense her weariness from the look on her face, so he patiently coaxed her. "I don't know when the hair stuck to me. Please believe me for I haven't done anything disloyal to you or the children, okay?"

He certainly is smart, deliberately mentioning our children in such a casual manner to appease me. Crystal curled her lips into a contemptuous smile.

Henry found that expression displeasing, prompting him to want to kiss her as he didn't want that facial expression to linger on her countenance. She appeared as if she was about to give up on him.

The next second, a loud slap sounded.

Crystal's hand stung. Unable to bear with him anymore, she snapped, "Get out!"

Henry was stunned.

When he came to his senses, he grimaced and stared at her while enunciating, "Crystal, this matter concerns someone's life!"

She shut her eyes in exhaustion and muttered a response. "You regard her life with such importance, but what about mine and Skyler's? Henry, do you think I'm cold-blooded? Is that it? Well, I'll be honest with you. I genuinely hope that she dies! Once she's dead, she won't-

"Crystal!" he interjected sternly, forbidding her from finishing her sentence.

However, Crystal was unfazed, continuing to speak the harshest words with her gentlest tone. "She'd better not step a toe out of line. Otherwise, I don't mind challenging the law, Mr. Miller!"

Henry somewhat fathomed her intention.

He bored his eyes into her, breathing heavily as his chest heaved. He was silent for a few moments before replying in an undertone. "Crystal, which is the real you? Take a good hard look at yourself now. Where's the tenderness you once had?"

Crystal hurled a magazine at him. "In that case, you can consider me an evil woman!"

Henry gritted his pearly white teeth.

In the end, he left the room, slamming the door behind him.

Henry returned to the master bedroom to take a shower.

Frustrated, he took off his coat and noticed the hair clinging to his outerwear.

Without a second thought, he tossed the hair into the trash can.

Henry was taken aback when he accidentally opened the wardrobe, which used to hold both men's and women's clothing. However, it was half empty now. Only men's suits and shirts were left, and Crystal's beautiful dresses were nowhere to be seen. She has moved all her things!

At that moment, clarity washed over Henry. Crystal wasn't joking. She's still staying in the Miller residence, but to her, our children are the only reason she's still married to me.

While washing his face and shaving, he looked in the mirror and caressed his face.

Eser, though they stayed in the same house, the two rarely saw each other, as Crystal intentionally avoided Henry

Whenever he accompanied Skyler, she would retreat to her bedroom. Even while she breastfed Remi Crystal would politely ask Henry to leave, treating him like a stranger.

Henry took the initiative to prepare milk for Skyler.

When he pushed open the door, he saw Crystal's serene countenance bathe in a soft glow.

Skyler was nestled in her mother's embrace, tightly embracing Crystal while listening to the latter reading a fairy tale.

„Crystal's voice was pleasant to the ears, soft but carried a hint of huskiness. Listening to it caused Henry to

ably recall the intimate nights when she pleaded in a raspy voice beneath him.

He couldn't help but gulp, gently placing the milk bottle in Skyler's arms.

Skyler held the bottle and drank from it

After consuming more than half of the milk in the bottle, she started feeling sleepy and dozed off with her head lolling sideways

Crystal's voice grew softer...

Late at night, she patted Skyler's shoulder while humming a lullaby.

Henry leaned closer, whispering. "She's asleep."

Crystal carefully laid the little girl down, kissing her forehead, then got out of bed.

Afterward, she went to the room next door to check on Remi.

Remi now slept alone in the baby's room. At night, two nannies would take turns to care for him. After taking a look at her son, Crystal exited the room with Henry treading on her heels. In the deserted corridor, he grabbed her hand and pinned her against the wall. "Crystal, how long do you plan to give me the cold shoulder? Nothing will ever happen between me and Lara!"

Crystal braced against his shoulder and pushed him away. Then, she walked toward her room.

Henry once again grasped her wrist. "Let's talk!"

Crystal stopped short. Her slender figure appeared even more exquisite under the dim yellow light.

In just a few days, she had slimmed down significantly and did not resemble a woman who had just delivered a baby just two months ago.

Crystal's voice was slightly hoarse as she spoke. "Do you think we have anything left to discuss? From the moment Lara showed up, I've expressed my repulsion and dislike toward her. If you had any feelings for me and truly take me as your wife, you would never have made this decision."

After saying that, she continued striding toward her bedroom.

The faint sound of the door closing reverberated in the corridor, much like the sense of loss brimming in Henry's chest.

### [Chapter 288 Enough Of That](#)

The next morning, only Henry and Crystal were present in the dining room.

The housekeeper smiled. "Mr. and Mrs. Miller brought the children out!"

Henry was aware that his parents were creating an opportunity for him to be alone with Crystal. As such, he went along with their wishes and turned to Crystal. "There's a concert at two in the afternoon later. Should we attend it after you feed Remi?"

Crystal was enjoying her meal silently.

A moment later, she said, "I want to stay at home!"

Staring at her, Henry said, "It has stopped snowing outside, though. Don't you want to head outdoors?"

"Not really!" said Crystal.

Henry was slightly taken aback by her response.

As he was born with a silver spoon in his mouth, he was very prideful. As such, he never expected he'd be rejected by any woman.

This woman... Feeling slightly embarrassed, he didn't insist on her going and planned to check on a case upstairs later.

Just as he was about to rise, his phone rang.

It was from Lara.

Henry glanced at his phone, then at Crystal, and hung up the call.

Again, the phone rang and he still ignored it.

Then, he turned to Crystal, whispering, "I won't contact her again once her life is no longer in danger."

Crystal settled her cutlery down and stared at him. "Why did you remove her from your blacklist? Are you pitying her?"

"Crystal

"If she able to lie at the bottom of the mountain this time, she can jump off of a building next, Henry. If you don't answer her call, she'll ask her classmate to pass her message to you. When that time comes, the whole ruanon on will repeat itself." A faint smile settled on Crystal's countenance. "If it happened once, it'll happen over and over again."

As she was too lazy to speak further, she returned to the bedroom to do some reading.

At noon, she didn't dine with him.

When afternoon arrived, she practiced yoga in the basement, sweating all over.

Standing at the entrance, Henry held her phone. "Someone's calling you."

Crystal was stretching her leg when she heard that. Without delay, she went to him and thanked him.

Upon checking her phone, she saw it was from Madison.

Madison invited Crystal to an event as she had heard certain gossip from somewhere.

However, Crystal was feeling a little too lazy to accept the invitation.

Madison lay her head on Charles' shoulder and touched his tall nose. "It'll just be some old friends! You're living the best life any of us can hope for compared to the rest of us. You've got several hundred billion in terms of wealth, a handsome husband, as well as a daughter and son. Come and join us. There'll be a mysterious guest there."

Crystal chuckled. "Who is it? Why are you making them out to be so important?"

Madison refused to reveal anything.

Wiping her sweat away, Crystal said. "Fine. Is it still the same clubhouse?"

"Yeah," answered Madison impishly. Then, she lowered her voice. "Please doll up, okay? It'll absolutely be well worth the trouble."

Crystal couldn't help but laugh. It's nice to have a friend like Madison by my side throughout all these years.

Her mood was lifted as she ended the call.

However, Henry scowled with jealousy. Though he couldn't pick up everything that was mentioned in the call, he could still guess that Crystal had agreed to join a social event.

As such, he leaned on the treadmill, displeased. "You said you weren't free when I invited you to a concert, yet you seem to have time when Madison suggests you two head out together. I want to come with you!"

Crystal continued to jog on the treadmill, and said to him, "Madison didn't invite you!"

"Bring me along!"

Crystal merely grinned, her intentions obvious.

After staring for a few seconds, Henry left.

It seems he has quite a temper.

At seven in the evening, Crystal prepared to depart.

Abruptly, Henry opened the bedroom door and stared at her.

She was wearing a golden dress with thin shoulder straps.

Ashe did wear any stockings, her slender, fair legs were shimmering slightly under the light.

She had a fur coat and a pair of high heels of matching colors

si that moment. Crystal looked especially gorgeous

Henry gulped and uttered in a deep hoarse voice, "I'll send you there!"

"No need for Joel's waiting for the already," said Crystal

"Are you sure you want to attend the reunion in this? You're a married woman, Crystal!"

Crystal smiled faintly. A married woman? Is he treating me like his wife? I bet that I'm just a pretty good sex partner or the Miller family's perfect daughter-in-law to him. It has nothing to do with love.

Without hesitation, she turned around and left.

When she got in the car, Joel praised, "You're absolutely stunning tonight, Mrs. Miller!"

Distracted, Crystal said. "I am attending a dinner."

Half an hour later, the vehicle arrived at Orchid Club.

Upon entering the building, Crystal spotted many old friends, exactly as Madison said.

It was a great opportunity for her to relax and have fun.

Merrily, Crystal removed her coat, settled on the couch at the corner, and chatted with Madison.

As much as she was trying to keep a low profile, plenty of people still aimed their gazes at her.

They were awed by her net worth and were curious about her marriage to Henry.

Madison, having heard about Lara, leaned toward Crystal and whispered, "How about you... you know, get rid of her?"

Under the dim light, Crystal swirled her champagne glass.

A moment later, Crystal lifted her coffee-colored hair and grinned. "I'll wait until she's discharged from the hospital."

that moment, the atmosphere was pretty pleasant.

Madison was dragged into the restroom by Charles for some intimate actions. Despite sitting alone there, Crystal still relished the moment.

"Crystal!" A slender figure called out in a familiar voice and appeared before Crystal.

Rising her sight, she saw Robert. It's been a long while since I met him.

Lifting his chin slightly, Robert asked, "Can I sit here?"

Their past no longer bothered Crystal, so she replied, "Go ahead."

Robert settled down beside her, but not too close.

They had known each other for too many years. They had loved as well as harmed each other before. Hence, the fact that they could peacefully drink together touched him. "Are you doing all right. Crystal?" Crystal grinned. "I'm doing pretty good. What about you? Have you gotten married yet?"

In response, Robert stretched his hands, revealing there was nothing on them.

Silence was Crystal's response.

Hoarsely, Robert informed, "I was up north doing business some time ago. When I returned a few days

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ago, I heard things weren't going particularly well for you. Crystal, we aren't spring chicken anymore, so I won't beat around the bush. Even though I've met plenty of women over the years. I must admit that I have always loved you only." I genuinely regretted my actions. Why did I abandon the woman who was by my side during my darkest moments and was willing to care for me every day? I feel like I've been wandering aimlessly for the past few years. Meanwhile, Crystal has been having trouble with her marriage.

He begged Madison to provide him the opportunity to meet with Crystal. As such, he continued, not wanting to waste the chance. "Henry lost his memory, didn't he? He had forgotten that he loved you. If it's too hard for you, Crystal, perhaps you can consider returning to my side. I will treat Skyler and Remi as my flesh and blood."

After ending his sentence, he gazed at her quietly.

Still leaning back on the couch, Crystal swirled her glass.

Seconds later, she smirked. "Are you interested in bringing up someone else's children because you're infertile, Robert? I suggest you visit an andrologist for your problem, or perhaps even a neurologist." What's there left to consider between us?

With her mood ruined, Crystal grabbed her handbag, ready to leave.

At the last second, Robert clutched her tender wrist.

In response, Crystal flung his hand away. "I shouldn't have spoken to you!"

A bitter smile was plastered on Robert's countenance.

Regardless of his sincerity, he was not someone trustworthy as far as Crystal was concerned. As he gazed at her stunning figure, he uttered, "You've changed a lot, Crystal."

The photo album in his phone still had the picture of her resting by the dinner table, waiting for his urn late at night.

That was the best relationship he had ever had.

Instead of reminiscing about the past with him, she left rapidly.

In the elevator, Crystal called Madison. However, the latter's voice was trembling, likely because she was stiff having an intimate moment with her partner. "You're leaving? D-Don't. I'll... I'll be right there with you."

Crystal was both enraged and amused. Oh, my...

After exiting the clubhouse, she realized she left her fur coat inside the building.

Holding her fair, tender arms, she thought about asking Joel to grab it for her because she didn't want to meet Robert again.

Suddenly, a black Rolls-Royce Phantom parked beside her before someone stepped out.

It was Henry.

He looked really good under the neon lights.

Drunk, Crystal took a while to find her voice again and sneered, "Why is it you?"

Upon removing his coat, Henry placed it on her.

After struggling twice, Crystal was ultimately covered by his giant coat, his pleasant scent traveling from the coat into her nose.

Henry hugged her tightly, then he pressed his lips on her ear and uttered unhappily. "That's enough for tonight, Mrs. Miller."

"Leave me alone! Let me go!"

"No, I won't!"

At that moment. Robert sauntered out of the clubhouse.

He held Crystal's fur coat in his hand. Upon witnessing the couple, he smiled and informed in a gentle voice, "You left your coat behind, Crystal."

Crystal froze slightly.

That situation was the last thing she wanted to get caught in.

Henry grew even more furious.

Henry glared at Robert as he hugged his wife.

Fearlessly, Robert stepped forward.

Turning sideways, Henry opened the door, stuffed Crystal into his car, and sneered at Robert. "Thanks for that, Mr. Sloan."

He tried to grab Crystal's coat, but Robert refused to loosen his grip on it.

The two men were clearly battling each other, though Robert eventually relented.

Henry mocked, "If you're feeling lonely, you should go for more blind dates, Mr. Sloan!"

Lowering his head with a grin, Robert lit a cigarette. "Even though Crystal's married, she's still lonely enough to visit a clubhouse for fun. If she truly loves you, you wouldn't be looking like her driver right now, Henry

Henry scoffed, "This is still better than you yearning for another man's wife!"

Smoking Robert shot a glance at Henry. "That is true. Which is why I'll start pursuing her passionately from tomorrow onward! Perhaps I'll move her one day!"

He was

only half lying, but he knew, deep down, that Crystal would never accept him again.

Henry didn't want to waste any more time on Robert.

Thus he marched to the driver's seat and tossed the coat into the backseat. He was really bothered by Robert's words.

He lost much of his memories and didn't know how much Crystal and Robert did during their relationship.

As such, he wondered if they had kissed or even had sex before.

Henry drove at high speed.

Slowly, Crystal noticed something was wrong. Clutching her chest, she whispered, "Where are you bringing me to?"

Henry remained silent.

His facial features appeared especially stern in the night

It reminded her of what he was like when they first met.

#### [Chapter 289 She Just Wants To Hurt Him.](#)

An hour later, the car arrived at the mansion they used to reside. There wasn't anyone inside, and the housekeepers had gone on vacation.

Henry unbuckled his seatbelt before dragging Crystal down the car.

Crystal refused to get down, so he carried her like a princess, ignoring her attempts to try to break free.

As he ambled into the building, he turned on the lights, illuminating the mansion.

After arriving at their bedroom, he tossed Crystal onto the bed.

Her squishy body bounced lightly on the soft bed. Just as she tried to flee, her arms were pinned to the bed by Henry.

In his eyes, she was particularly beautiful at that moment because she was enraged. The way she looked and she breathed heavily looked extremely enticing to him.



Henry was acting pretty impulsively because he was provoked by Robert in addition to his naturally strong sexual urge. With one hand, he clutched Crystal's wrists. Meanwhile, he gripped her chin with another hand, forcing a kiss on her.

His intense sexual desire poured into the steamy, overwhelming kiss.

Crystal didn't want any of it, so she vigorously shook her head, attempting to avoid his kiss. "Don't touch me, Henry!"

Panting, Henry lifted his body and spat, "We're married. Why can't I touch you?"

Crystal struggled so much that she was feeling drained.

Her body sunk into the soft mattress, and she muttered, "Because I'm disgusted with you!"

Henry was stunned, gazing at the woman beneath him, clearly not expecting her to say such a thing. She's... disgusted with me? Doesn't she love me?

Crystal's lips trembled, and her nose reddened, but she insisted on holding back her tears. "If you had loved me even just a little bit, you would've known how much Audrey had harmed. me and Skyler, Henry! Skyler almost lost her life! Yet, you're tending to her sister now! You abandoned your family during Christmas and stayed in the mountain area for days! Mr. Miller, oh, Mr. Miller. You sure are a charming man. Women are willing to give up for you!"

In response, Henry released her, and he slowly backed away before sitting down on her lower legs.

An urge to smoke arose in his mind.

Henry stared at Crystal for a while before asking, "If women are willing to throw their lives. away for me, what about you? Who am I in your heart?"

There was only a single thought in Crystal's noggin as she lay on the big bed. I just want to hurt you!

Smirking, she said, "Haven't you been dying to know how you compare to him' in my heart? Well, I'll tell you. You're not even half as good as the Henry I knew! In fact, you don't even deserve that apartment and the memories I share with him! Truth be told, I really hate the fact that you're occupying his body!"

Henry froze before rage exploded in his heart. Even though she's lying on my bed, she dares to enrage me!

Leaning toward her, he gently traced his finger from her head to her abdomen and sneered, "You don't seem to hate our sex. After all, you still moaned like crazy and were immersed in pleasure. Why are you acting all high-and-mighty, Mrs. Miller?"

Crystal's chest rose and fell heavily.

Sitting up, she patted his handsome mug and mocked, "Yes, it was great! However, I don't want it anymore."

"Really?"

Glowering, Henry kissed her lips and said, "Your body doesn't seem to agree with your words."

He was furious she said that to him.

At that moment, Crystal's phone rang.

It was from Skyler, and she spoke the moment the call connected. "Mommy, when are you coming home with Daddy?"

Crystal pushed her hair away before turning her back.

Her soft voice sounded a bit broken as she said. "I'll be back soon!"

Skyler continued, "I want Daddy to read me fairytales!"

"Mhm." Crystal lowered her voice. "I miss you."

"I miss you too, Mommy!" answered Skyler, smiling sweetly.

Henry was watching from the side. It's like she just turned into another person. The way she treats me and Skyler is vastly different.

Henry was still bothered by her words earlier, so he lost interest in having sex with her and lay on the bed with his shoes still on. Improperly, he smoked without saying a word...

Crystal proposed, "Let's tidy up and go home."

Henry understood her intention that they should collect themselves before returning home, treating each other as coldly as before. It was to prevent their elders and children from noticing their quarrel.

Spitting out a ring of smoke, he asked, "Aren't you tired, Crystal?"

"I am!" exclaimed Crystal. "However, I don't have any choice. If possible, I'll choose freedom. too." I've too much burden on me. Aside from Henry, there is still so much that I'm unwilling to let

Standing up, she changed into a wool dress in the walk-in closet. When she exited it, Henry sneered, "What? Are you afraid of my parents seeing you in that outfit?"

Crystal lifted her hair, responding casually, "If you like it, I'll wear it every day."

That ticked Henry off. What the f\*ck!

However, she was already heading outside. "We'll return home half an hour later."

After she descended the stairs, she turned off the lights and sat before Morning Dew. Closing her eyes, she played Moonlight Lovers.

Moonlight reflected on Crystal's gentle countenance. She wore an expression of sorrow with tears welling at the corner of her eye.

Is she crying? Henry stared at her on the staircase.

Earlier, he suspected that she still had feelings for Robert. However, at that moment, he was certain she was deeply in love with the past version of "Henry Miller".

It made him feel jealous and very uncomfortable.

However, he couldn't peel his eyes away from her because she looked brilliant while playing the piano.

Outside the floor-to-ceiling window was a starry night, but its beauty couldn't be to hers.

Crystal continued to give Henry the cold shoulder.

They were busy after Christmas, and neither of them wanted to break the ice.

When February arrived, the weather turned warm.

Crystal was sitting in the office when Edith delivered her a bouquet with a smile. "There are flowers for you, Miss Winters!"

Instead of lifting her head, Crystal ordered, "Throw it into the trashcan."

Edith coughed. "We've taken care of Mr. Sloan's flowers. This is from Mr. Miller."

In response, Crystal glanced at her assistant. "Let me take a look!"

In response, Edith settled the bouquet on the desk.

Staring at the champagne-colored roses wordlessly, Crystal removed the card inside it, which had a sentence written on it.

"Happy Valentine's Day, Mrs. Miller!"

It's Valentine's Day already? Feeling morose, Crystal stared at Edith. "Announce to everyone that they're allowed to leave the office two hours earlier than usual so they can celebrate. Valentine's Day."

Edith smiled. "You're so nice, Miss Winters! Everyone will definitely be delighted to hear that!"

Crystal nodded before gesturing for her assistant to leave.

After that, she read the newspaper at the side. The headline featured Henry winning a big case in Hulcaster.

In the picture, he was smiling and holding a champagne glass at the celebratory banquet.

Then, her phone buzzed because she received a WhatsApp message from him: Crystal, I really want to share this joyous moment with you!

### [Chapter 290 Crystal Counterattacks](#)

After watching for a long time, Crystal didn't go home.

She knew Henry's budding feelings for her, but it wasn't enough to be relied upon. Audrey was still buried deeply in his subconscious mind, and she couldn't turn a blind eye to his breaching of her threshold.

Although she had given herself to him too easily, their marriage and children were still collateral she could use.

After tidying up her office, she headed off to pick Skyler up, leaving the bouquet of flowers. Henry had gotten her behind.

Upon arriving on the ground floor, she heard a commotion in the lobby.

The security guards were preventing two girls from coming in, but they continued to clamor for a meeting with Crystal.

Edith whispered, "It's such a disgraceful scene. I'll get rid of them."

When Crystal's eyes fell upon Lara, the latter returned the look.

An invisible clash seemed to occur through the crowd the moment their gazes locked.

Thereafter, Crystal instructed, "Take them to the reception room."

Five minutes later, Lara walked into the reception room with her classmate, Emily.

The sight of the massive and opulent room cowed the both of them, especially Emily who gave Lara's sleeve a tug and said, "Why don't we just forget it? Mrs. Miller is clearly someone. not to be trifled with!"

Lara's lips pursed in response.

After Crystal took a seat on the opposite couch, she observed Lara carefully as Edith served her coffee.

Her legs have yet to recover, and her hands are still bandaged, yet she insists on stealing my man.

Crystal lowered her gaze. Being poor has probably driven her crazy.

Meanwhile, Lara, too, was scrutinizing Crystal.

She's gorgeous, exudes a sense of elegance, and has a stunning figure, but so what? Age is on my side!

The defiant Lara refused to sit down. Instead, she placed a stack of cash on the coffee table.

"Mrs. Miller, I'm here to pay this back. Mr. Miller has paid for my three hundred thousand medical bills, but there's a balance of sixty thousand. I feel that it's necessary for me to return it to you."

While Lara rambled on, Crystal sipped her coffee and listened quietly.

Finally, she put her cup down gently as a slight grin emerged on her face.

"Miss Chamber, you have gotten your numbers wrong."

The words stunned Lara.

Crystal took the money in her hand and began counting. "Shouldn't you be paying me back. three hundred thousand? I remember you mentioning that my husband paid three hundred thousand on your behalf."

Lara was caught off-guard by the calculative Crystal.

With her haughty air now shattered, Lara felt her lips begin to tremble. "Mrs. Miller, Mr. Miller made that payment for me. You have no right to ask me to return it."

The reply elicited a snigger from Crystal.

“Is that so? But our assets are co-mingled as a married couple. That’s why it’s my prerogative to demand you pay me back. Besides, if you hadn’t appeared, I wouldn’t have known about the three hundred thousand. Answer me now. Have you slept with each other?”

Lips shaking, Lara couldn’t bring herself to lie.

Thereafter, Crystal chucked the money back on the table and sneered, “You can have the money if you had slept with him. Treat it as payment for your services. However, since you haven’t, I have no choice but to have you clear the debt of three hundred thousand within this month.”

Crystal’s demand left Lara utterly humiliated.

Meanwhile, faced with Crystal’s anger, Emily advised her softly, “I shouldn’t have let come. Just apologize to Mrs. Miller. I’m sure she’ll forgive you.”

In spite of the words, Lara straightened her back defiantly and decided not to hold back.

“Mrs. Miller, I like Mr. Miller. I’m sure he feels something for me, too. Otherwise, he wouldn’t have accompanied me at the hospital for a few days. I know this unsettles. there’s nothing you can do to stop it! Mrs. Miller, I’m not looking to be officially acknowledged. All I want is to stay by his side. Can’t you even grant me this mercy?”

Edith couldn’t believe her ears.

What a brazen girl!

As for Crystal, she lowered her gaze as a frosty glint flashed across her eyes.

Now that Lara had clearly crossed her red lines, her hostility was directed at Lara alone, for the matter wasn’t Henry’s fault at all.

When Crystal raised her head again, a faint smile flashed across her face. “I obviously have the magnanimity to do so! From now on, I will not only stop resenting you but also treat you well!”

Lara was dumbfounded by the answer.

When Crystal raised her hand subsequently, Edith inquired cordially, “What can I do for you, Miss Winters?”

Crystal ordered matter-of-factly, “Pick a few of our best bodyguards and provide round-the-clock protection for Miss Chamber. Make sure she comes to no harm and that she can still pay me back the three hundred thousand. As for her friend, Emily, she seems to be pretty capable.”

Crystal paused before getting up. “Send a recording of our conversation to their school’s principal. I wonder if they’ll still be allowed to stay in school after knowingly trying to steal someone’s husband.”

Edith nodded at once. “Yes, Miss Winters!”

Lara was completely shocked by the turn of events.

It had never occurred to her that the backlash from Crystal would be so ruthless. Isn’t she worried about angering Mr. Miller?

When Crystal subsequently left the room, Lara hobbled after her, dragging her crippled leg. along. “Mrs. Miller, you have no right to do this to us. Someone as cold-blooded as you will never understand my feelings for Mr. Miller. Do you really love him? No! What you’re really interested in is Seeas Corporation!”

Stopping in her tracks abruptly, Crystal snapped, “Lara, don’t test my patience any further!”

With that, she disappeared through the door, leaving the dazed Lara looking as if her soul. had left her.

The latter had come to provoke Crystal and insult her, hoping to sow discord between Crystal and Henry.

Unfortunately, she had underestimated what one in power could do. Crystal just refused to react according to her plan.

Clenching her fist, she refused to believe that Crystal would really go through with her. threats.

At that moment, Edith came forward and pointed to two burly bodyguards standing by the side.

She informed Lara politely, “Miss Chamber, from today onward, these two men will follow. you wherever you go, be it eating, sleeping, or even going to the washroom. They will stay by your side to ensure your safety. Please cooperate with them and not spurn Miss Winters’ good intentions.”

Driven mad by rage, Lara attempted to smash a vase by her side.

“This vase is a precious antique that costs two million one hundred and sixty thousand,” Edith reminded out of goodwill.

With her eyes turning red, Lara mustered what was left of her pride and yelled, “I don’t need your protection. All you’re trying to do is monitor me so that you can do me in!”

A faint smirk emerged across Edith’s lips, for she looked down upon the girl standing in front of her.

She might have decent looks, but what gives her the confidence to challenge Miss Winters? It’s true that Mr. Miller gifted Seeas Corporation to the latter, but it wouldn’t work without her having the capability to manage it. Ever since Miss Winters took over, Seeas Corporation’s sales increased progressively, leaving all its shareholders satisfied.

Thereafter, Edith pulled out a recording pen from her pocket gleefully. “Whatever to say, you can tell them to your principal.”

Lara, whose face drastically darkened from the outrage she felt, stormed out of Seeas. Corporation.

With bystanders gossiping about them, both girls left the building under the escort of the two bodyguards.

Emily was the first to cry from the stress.

Offending Crystal had become one of the biggest regrets of her life.