

No Chance 1251

CHAPTER 1251 SHE COULD NOT STAND SUCH A LIFE

"I've never seen anyone as id*otic as you in this world." Gareth's cold eyes were mocking her. As he was about to leave, he stopped and said, "Don't think you can do whatever you like because Grandma protects you. This is my last warning to you, Elisa. Watch your step."

He left without giving her a glance.

Elisa felt her energy suck out of her as the door shut close. She sat on the bed and only did not collapse because her hand was propping her up.

...

The memory ended at that point.

Now, Elisa was also sitting on the bed. The only difference was her posture. She did not need to prop herself up like she had done the other day. A look of ridicule filled her eyes. Her only memory in the place was endless distress and a suffocating life.

Perhaps she had been unattached for so long that she had forgotten the misery she once felt.

Or it could be that she gradually sealed away her memories because Gareth was treating her differently from before.

But... Now that she was back in the place, she felt that the memories were awakened. The pain and anguish came back to her. It was as though all that she had experienced had just happened yesterday.

A knock was heard on the bedroom door.

She lifted her eyes subconsciously toward the direction, unmoving.

Because she knew that Gareth must be the one who had knocked.

She vaguely remembered dozing off in the car last night but could not remember what happened afterward. He must be the one who had brought her here.

But why did he not wake her up on the way?

Elisa furrowed her eyebrows and said in a low voice, "Come in."

The door opened.

Gareth had a calm expression on his face. It was completely different from her memory of his frosty expression.

"Did you sleep well?"

She looked at him icily. It was also completely different from her usual calmness.

Gareth's gaze faltered. It was evident that he had noticed she was not in a good mood.

Elisa spoke after a pause. "Why did you bring me to this place?"

"You were asleep last night," he replied plainly.

"There was no reason why you couldn't wake me up."

"You looked exhausted. I don't have the passcode to your house, so I brought you here."

Gareth thought she would not find it intolerable since she was familiar with the place.

He would never have guessed what she had remembered.

Elisa's expression was cold. She stood up without a word and went to the bathroom.

Yet...

Her mind was filled with memories the moment she stepped into the room.

At the time, she was washing up in the bathroom. Gareth, just like before, barged in and questioned her. It had something to do with Linda again.

She shut her eyes.

She thought she had let go of the past. But the memories were burrowing in her mind relentlessly. She did not give the past much thought after the divorce. Yet being back in the place reminded her of it repeatedly.

The wave after wave of emotions was harrowing.

She tried her best to keep her emotions under control. She washed up and only went out after calming herself down.

She frowned when she saw that he was still in the room. But it was his house, and he did not seem to have anything to say. She strode out of the room.

She refused to stay there for another second. She could not stand such a life!

Gareth watched as she walked out without a word. His eyes dimmed, but he followed her.

When they went downstairs, it seemed that Elisa was leaving the house. He frowned. "Where are you going?"

CHAPTER 1252 I SAID I'M NOT INTERESTED

"I'm going to work."

"Have breakfast before you go."

Food was already served on the dining table.

But Elisa had no interest in having a meal with him although she was hungry. "I'm not hungry. There's an urgent matter at the company."

It was enough that he was controlling himself from saying or doing anything. She held back because he had gastric cancer.

I shouldn't be bothered by this. I shouldn't have any feelings. It's all in the past. She kept repeating in her head.

All that she had experienced was a result of what she had chosen. There was nothing for her to say.

She should not have any resentment toward anyone because it was her choice. She liked Gareth at first. Even though he had no feelings for her, she chose to marry him without hesitation, thinking it would eventually come to fruition. But the failed marriage became a warning for her and made her see the light.

It did not matter that she went down the wrong path back then. What mattered was that she chose the right decision from now on. Gareth bringing her home enlightened her. She should thank him.

She shut her eyes and took a deep breath. The light was dazzling when she opened her eyes.

It was as though she had completely recovered.

She was finally clear-headed.

It changed her outlook toward Gareth.

Gareth's expression turned sour when he saw she still wanted to leave. "Elisa, what are you avoiding now?"

He strode toward her. He was only a few steps away when she tried to evade him. He swiftly grabbed her.

She frowned but could not escape his grasp. "Let me go."

He looked at her coldly without a word, seemingly waiting for her reply.

She struggled for a while but could not get away. She furrowed her eyebrows. "I have no interest in eating with you. Are you satisfied with that answer?"

His gaze turned colder as he fixed his eyes on her face. "I need an explanation."

"Explanation?" She was suppressing her displeasure but hearing that he was completely clueless, she hit the roof. "This place holds three years of my misery. This place tells me I was foolish for trying to hold on to a silly love. Nothing has changed in this place. Every single corner reminds me all my efforts

were for nothing. It was the worst I've been in my life. Every part of this place reminds me how pathetic and miserable my life was. And all of it was caused by the person before me. Gareth, what other explanation do you want?"

Elisa was worked up. Her voice raised a few decibels toward the end.

Gareth was taken aback. He never expected Elisa to say such things. He pinched his lips silently but did not loosen his grip on her.

She tried to push him away but only managed to swing his arm about. She could not get away from him. "Let go!" She said exasperatingly.

She wanted to leave, far away from the place filled with shadows of her failure.

Inexplicably, Gareth felt irritated but said in a low voice, "Have breakfast first."

Elisa's expression darkened as the man pulled her along forcefully. She struggled and said frustratingly, "I said I'm not interested!"

CHAPTER 1253 I WANT TO APOLOGIZE

"As a doctor, you should care about my physical and emotional well-being. Have breakfast with me."

Elisa was infuriated by his words. She had calmed down, but the man's appearance changed her attitude.

"You're the one that has stomach cancer, not me! Anything anyone does for you will not matter if you don't even care for yourself! Your attitude is despicable, and you don't deserve to live! You might as well croak over now and let someone better take your place."

Gareth felt a vein twitching on his forehead. He cooled his emotions and said, "I will eat if you stay and will also take care of myself."

"Are you using your morals to manipulate me?" Elisa scoffed.

Gareth never cared about her emotional health. He would rather believe a notorious liar than anything she said. She thought about that time and was overwhelmed with annoyance.

Why do I have to care for him? Pity him? Is he worth it?!

Waves of hostility rolled off Elisa. Even though she was a doctor and needed to put the patient's interest first, she only felt infuriation when looking at Gareth.

Gareth sat next to her and held her hand. He looked at her calmly and said, "If you think so."

Elisa gathered her energy to shake his hand off, but his grip held on. She scowled. "I won't care if you die. It doesn't matter to me if you want to eat or not. I was kind enough to save you. Don't ask for more, Gareth. You're not worth it! You're just like a dog in my eyes!"

Elisa was like a porcupine. She blurted out the words without consideration, but her eyes were extraordinarily emotionless. It looked like she had found peace and was speaking after careful consideration. It didn't seem strange to see her mad yet passive.

She was angry because she had been mistreated, and her memories had been awakened.

On the other hand, she was calm because she had accepted everything.

Gareth's grip on her hand seemed to lessen. Gareth could not forget even a single detail of his past with Elisa with his photographic memory. The memories floated in his head, and the root of the problem was Linda Benett.

Although the vein on his forehead was ready to burst, Gareth kept cool and quietly said, "I was wrong."

Elisa's eyes flashed, and she looked at the man suspiciously. Is he apologizing? Is the sun rising from the west?

Elisa quietly stared at him with frosty eyes.

Their breakfast was still on the table, untouched. Neither of them moved.

The man was still holding onto Elisa's wrist. He held on so tight there would probably be a mark once he released her.

Elisa did not want to waste her breath on this man. Yet, she couldn't leave. It was useless to say anymore. She was swarmed with irritation.

"It was my mistake to believe Linda's schemes and her parents' stirring the pot. It was all my fault. I want to apologize."

Elisa was apprehensive. I never knew a day would come when the high and mighty Gareth Wickam would apologize.

She glared at him and asked, "What use is an apology?"

Moreover, Gareth did not realize how much he had hurt Elisa.

CHAPTER 1254 WOULD HE REALLY LISTEN?

Elisa inhaled deeply to compress the frustration within her. "Gareth, I don't need your apology. The events in the past may have involved you, but I'm also to blame. If I wasn't so infatuated with you, I wouldn't have experienced such hurt. I can only blame myself and not you. However, not blaming you doesn't mean I forgive you. I want you to understand how I felt. I remember everything you did to me. I will never be with you in this lifetime! I will not make trouble for myself and repeat the same mistakes!"

Gareth was speechless. Elisa was full of enmity. Yet, Gareth felt a strange and unfamiliar emotion when he heard she didn't blame him. Is this... unsettledness?

Gareth furrowed his brows and remained quiet. He continued to hold onto Elisa's wrist despite her struggles.

Elisa frowned at him. "What can I do to make you release me? I'm watching over your treatment and collaborating with you to make Grandma happy. What else do you want me to do? Don't you think you're pathetic?"

Gareth silently grimaced at the person before him.

Elisa took a deep breath. "What can I do? Will you please tell me? I know you don't like me, so why must you force us together? Grandma is fine with our situation now. Is she not?"

The creases on Gareth's forehead increased. After a moment of silence, he calmly said, "Let's have breakfast first."

"What?"

How have I never noticed how terrifying his stubbornness was? Is he sick in the head? What is he doing, saying nothing and asking me to have breakfast?

Elisa did not move. She glared at Gareth coldly.

Gareth continued to hold onto Elisa's wrist with his right hand while bringing the food to Elisa with his left.

If there were any spectators in the room, they would think they were in an amicable and loving relationship to be holding hands even when eating.

Elisa did not make any movements. She glared at Gareth.

Gareth paused his actions when he felt her glare. "I won't force you to do anything you don't like. But you must have breakfast."

Does he mean I can leave after eating? And he will release her and not hound her to get back together anymore?

Elisa brought up this question to Gareth, "Do you mean that once I have breakfast with you, you'll stop pursuing a relationship with me?"

Gareth frowned but replied, "Yeah."

Elisa was wary of his swift reply. Will he really do that?

"Eat first." Gareth continued to place dishes before Elisa.

Elisa's brows knitted together, but she picked up a fork after a thought.

Whatever. I should just eat. I can't let my stomach go hungry.

Gareth finally released her when he saw her eating.

Elisa ate breakfast without intent to talk to Gareth.

The crease between Gareth's brows smoothed out slightly. He picked up a fork and started eating, too. He didn't know why he wanted to eat with Elisa. Every time he ate with her, he felt like he was enjoying life instead of completing a basic requirement needed for survival.

CHAPTER 1255 CALLING HIM WILL

Very quickly, they finished breakfast. Neither ate much, just enough to keep their stomachs from growling.

Elisa put down her utensils. Her face was a mask of tranquility. She did not spare one glance at Gareth.

On the other hand, Gareth kept his eyes on her. "How biased are you toward me?" He asked her calmly.

"Bias? Do you think everything you have done can account for my bias toward you?" She asked him passively.

Gareth pursed his lips in thought. He looked at a loss and simultaneously agreed with Elisa.

Elisa sneered. She didn't want to waste saliva on him. She got up and said, "There's nothing else for us to say. We don't need to debate on this topic. We can talk about anything if we are not together."

Elisa left immediately after that.

Gareth sat, motionless. He did not hold on to Elisa this time. His expression stayed troubled for a long time.

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Elisa took an Uber to the office and arrived an hour later. Her car was still parked where she had left it yesterday. She needed to get someone to drive it back.

She noticed a text from Thomas when she turned on her phone. He had driven the car back, parked it in the basement, and given the key to her assistant.

Elisa returned a message and put her phone back. She went back to work.

However, her brain was filled with images from this morning's breakfast with Gareth. He hadn't said anything. He seemed even more pitiful than she did.

In a moment, her annoyance rose again. Elisa turned on her computer but couldn't bring herself to work. She laid her arms on the desk and placed her head on them. She closed her eyes in silent meditation.

Elisa's phone suddenly rang and shook her awake. She saw that it was Will calling and composed herself.

"Mr. Darcey."

"Why are you being a stranger?" Will sighed.

Elisa blinked slowly. She ignored his question and asked, "Do you need something?"

"Yeah, a little help. Do you have time for lunch this afternoon?"

Elisa frowned. Grandma seems to be doing better. I don't want to do anything that distresses her or makes her worry. It will affect her recovery. She still needs her medications. Anything could happen, so she needed to be careful.

After pondering, she spoke quietly, "Can you not tell me over the phone?"

"Not really. It's better if I told you in person. But if it's hard for you to be in public, we can meet privately," Will said nonchalantly. He did not want to pressure her.

Elisa thought about it and replied, "Okay. I'll come with my assistant."

She made it implicitly clear that she was meeting him for business, not for personal matters.

Will's eyes narrowed, but he sighed, "Sure."

"I'll see you in the afternoon."

"Okay."

Elisa hung up without replying.

Will look at his phone and heave a sigh of exasperation. He felt he was getting further and further away from acquiring Elisa. She used to call him 'Will,' but now...

CHAPTER 1256 ATTENTIVENESS

Will released a long breath he had been holding.

Will knew he was only making things harder for Elisa by not expressing his true thoughts. However, he didn't want to because he had found some information regarding Gareth's grandmother. He would go ahead with pursuing Elisa once the matter was resolved. He would not let Elisa return to Gareth now that she had finally escaped his hold.

Everyone was busy with work in the morning. When afternoon came, Will did not go pick up Elisa. He knew Elisa wouldn't appreciate that.

When he arrived, Elisa and her assistant were already sitting in a private booth in the restaurant. Elisa nodded and greeted him when she saw him.

Will nodded back. Elisa's assistant stood up and respectfully greeted, "Mr. Darcey."

Will nodded again. Will's assistant, Cole, followed suit and nodded in greeting to Elisa and her assistant.

"Why did you get here so fast?" Will gently asked while sitting opposite her.

Elisa raised a brow and replied, "There wasn't much traffic. We got here quicker than expected."

Elisa's assistant, Patricia, sat down as well. She stayed silent. She followed along because her boss had asked her to. She analyzed Will and realized although he was an elite in the business world, he seemed to be a gentle prince with her boss. He gave off an easygoing vibe. He looked at Elisa with

bright and soft eyes. It was like he only had her eyes, despite the fact that Patricia and Cole were there too.

Patricia and Cole felt like unnecessary extras.

"Let's order."

Elisa passed the menu to Will. Her gesture indicated that she was paying for today's meal.

"Sure," Will naturally accepted.

Patricia gaped at Will. Is he letting a woman pay? That doesn't seem right...

The waitperson entered, and Will ordered eight dishes. Patricia's pupils trembled when she heard what he ordered.

Ahah! So, that's what he's doing... He's ordering everything Ms. Benett likes! He must be really attentive toward her. He's so sweet to Ms. Benett.

Patricia swiped a brief glance of jealousy at Elisa.

Elisa's eyes shifted slightly, but she didn't say anything.

The invitation to lunch was merely a farce. They were here to talk business, not just to eat.

When the waitperson left, Elisa looked at Will and asked, "What are you planning to tell me this time?"

"It's still related to jewelry. Someone has drawn out a marketing plan."

"So fast?" Elisa asked warily. It hasn't been long since we last talked, and everyone is busy with their own work. How did he get it done so fast?

Will smirked in silence.

Cole passed a copy of the plan to Elisa. She took it and placed it between her and Patricia. They perused the plan together.

CHAPTER 1257 STORMY SEAS

They quickly finished scanning the document. When they looked up, there was doubt in both their gazes.

"This plan seems... too risky," Elisa commented.

Patricia stayed silent. She squashed the turmoil rolling within her. It is a risky move!

"Fans might not fall for this kind of gimmick. But if they do, it will surely be a big hit!" It will help boost Rene's career.

The corner of Will's lips lifted in a smirk. "Aren't we playing big? If we don't do something drastic at our level, we won't profit anything."

Elisa could not refute his reasoning. However, it was a little...

Silence encased the booth again. Will did not hurry them; he gave them time to consider.

Patricia chose to remain silent. This gamble is too risky. I had better let Ms. Benett decide for herself.

Elisa did not say anything, even when the waitperson brought their dishes. It was as though they were here for a meal and nothing else. She did not mention the matter.

Will passed a fork and spoon to Elisa. Elisa accepted and started eating. It was a habit that grew from their recent frequent meetings. The plan could wait; they needed to eat first.

Cole and Patricia were basically wallflowers. Neither spoke throughout the entire meal. They were there to run errands and make notes. They left everything else to their bosses.

Once they were done eating, Elisa put down her cutlery and reread the document.

Will was also done eating.

Cole and Patricia noticed the two lead characters putting down their cutlery. They, too, slowly put theirs down.

Will smiled and asked Elisa, "What do you think?"

"It's a huge matter. I need some time to consider it, Mr. Darcey. But I will trust your insight."

Will shook his head in displeasure, "Why are you still treating me like a stranger?"

"It's respect," Elisa raised a brow in response.

"Have I ever demanded your respect?" Will preferred how she used to call him.

Elisa pursed her lips and changed the subject. "The risk we're taking will be big. I need to discuss this with the shareholders. I will convince them to accept."

Will nodded, "I believe you. I'll go through with it if you accept."

"Okay," Elisa nodded.

The public anticipated what pieces would be released. It had been a while since Rene released anything new. Her fans were clamoring and waiting for a perfect design.

They tittered in expectation with the announcement of the release.

"I look forward to working with you," Will smiled.

"Same here," Elisa grinned. She got up and said, "Since it's been discussed, I'll leave the rest to my assistant. I've been busy recently and can't leave my place empty for long. I hope you understand."

"I understand," Will nodded in comprehension. His eyes held a glint of sympathy.

Elisa paused at his gaze. She looked at him.

He understands?

What does he understand?

Could it be...

Does he know about Grandma's condition?

CHAPTER 1259 HOW DARE YOU?

D*mn this b*tch!

If it weren't for Elisa, he wouldn't be living in such misery!

If not for her, his family could have lived a happy life and not been treated like pariahs!

Norman was grateful that he had purchased a property under his mistress' name. Otherwise, he would have been left with nothing!

He took a deep breath and composed himself, returning to his humble tone. "Liz, you've seen my suffering now, living a life worse than a stray. Although there have been misunderstandings in the past, you know that your aunt always had your father's best interests at heart, and she did everything to fulfill his wishes. While I know you're upset, karma has returned to haunt us. Could you give Uncle a chance to start over?"

Elisa sneered coldly, "A chance to start over?"

Norman nodded frantically, his face contorted with remorse, "When I was the chairman, I had to be strict with the employees for the sake of the company's future. Some of them have been bearing grudges against me, and now anyone above or below me in rank would target me. Almost everyone in the company is picking on me now. Uncle's life at work has become painful and humiliating."

Norman's eyes glistened with tears.

He continued, "Your father and I were blood brothers, Liz. Why would I hurt my own brother... It's all because he has an incurable disease..."

Elisa's eyes narrowed to slits.

Incurable disease?

As a doctor, she had saved countless lives but neglected to care for her father. She had never given him regular check-ups. If it weren't for her negligence, those crooks wouldn't have had the opportunity to harm him...

Elisa felt a painful squeeze in her chest, but she held back her emotions and glared at the person before her.

"I, too, wonder how you could bring yourself to do something so despicable to your brother," she said.

Norman immediately shook his head and feigned innocence. "No, Liz. You've misunderstood. I'm telling the truth, every bit of it..."

Elisa snorted and remained silent.

Seeing Elisa refuse to speak made Norman anxious. He looked at her beautiful yet stern face and begged, "Liz, I know I messed up. I don't expect shares or money, but could you help me get a promotion? Uncle Norman is begging you to spare some mercy and kindness; let everyone see you still care about me. Please?"

Elisa's lips curled into a sardonic smile, "Why would I do that? Who do you think you are to make such requests? What do you have to offer in exchange for my help?"

Norman was caught off guard by Elisa's shrewdness and savagery.

Norman knew that mere words wouldn't persuade Elisa, so he paused to gather his thoughts before saying, "Liz, you're becoming more astute by the day. I understand I can't simply ask you for help without offering something in return. It would be unfair to you, and I would feel terrible about it."

Elisa remained stoic at Norman's words. She didn't believe a single word he said.

CHAPTER 1260 THIS IS NOT A SCHEME!

Elisa raised her eyebrow and kept quiet as if waiting for Norman to continue his case.

Norman silently assessed her. Even though he had anticipated her lack of response, he still felt frustrated and conflicted.

Why do I never seem to come out on top with her?

Had he known that this stubborn girl would be so difficult to deal with, he would have eradicated her along with Nelson there and then. Regardless of how difficult it might have been, it would have been wise to deal with her at that time to prevent any kickbacks.

But now?

Now??

It was too late for what-ifs and regrets!

Now, all Norman could do was face reality and watch as Elisa remained indifferent, giving no indication that she would ask anything unless he spoke first. Finally, he sighed and said, "I realize that you may have lost your faith in me, but regardless, we are still blood-related. I am your uncle, Liz. And you must trust me. I never intended to harm you or your father."

Elisa let out a cold snort, turned her gaze to the side, and said indifferently, "There's no need for these pompous claims, Uncle Norman."

Norman was taken aback by her retort.

D*mn this Elisa!

She's stubborn like a mule!

Norman took a deep breath and tried once more. "I may be unable to give you all the specifics, but you must trust me. I've been the chairman of this company for a while now, and we've already caught two spies. I've investigated their backgrounds and am very close to discovering their true identities. I swear this is all true, Liz!" Norman spoke earnestly.

Elisa shot him a brief look before lapsing into silence, leaving Norman wondering what was on her mind. Was she privy to some information? Or was she distrustful of him and suspicious of his motives?

Norman struggled to comprehend Elisa's thoughts. He waited for her response, but she remained silent. He then took a deep breath and inquired, "Why aren't you speaking, Liz? Do you know who those two people are? Or are you still skeptical of Uncle's claims?" Elisa regarded him slowly, her lips slightly curled in disdain.

Norman immediately chimed in, "Liz, whatever I said is legit! Even though I'm no longer the chairman, I have contributed to it. But those two cunning spies have been causing trouble, impeding the company's progress. Finally, I have discovered some leads! Liz, if we don't eliminate those spies, it will significantly affect the Bennett Corporation's future development!"

Norman spoke with great concern as if he was truly dedicated to the Bennett Corporation's success.

He was attempting to bargain with Elisa for his own self-interest. If Elisa refused to promote him, he would hoard the identity and information about the spies.

How could that be considered as a contribution to the company?

Elisa sneered and replied derisively, "I'm sorry, but I'm not interested in your petty schemes, Uncle Norman. It seems like your only skill lies in making deals."

Norman's expression shifted, and he spoke urgently, "Liz, I swear this is not a scheme! These two spies are a threat to our company! We must act now to contain the possible...!"