#### No Escape 301

# Chapter 301

Lola was really doing this? Had she gone crazy? Harry remembered clearly that Zoria Private Hospital had 32 floors.

He knew that Lola had a fear of heights. She must be determined to take her life, or else she wouldn't go there.

Harry hung up the phone and abruptly left the office. He was so worried.

When he arrived at the Zoria Private Hospital, he saw that the gate of the hospital was already crowded. People were talking about something, and the firefighters had already laid an air cushion.

He immediately looked up and saw Lola sitting on the edge of the roof.

He didn't want to lose Lola again. Not like this. Feeling worried, scared and angry, he ran into the hospital. There's no time to even think about his feelings.

When he reached the top of the building, Lola had stood up and stretched her arms to breathe some fresh air.

Even if she didn't jump down by herself, it was very likely that she would fall.

Joseph tried to persuade her but his voice was already trembling. "Lola, it's very stupid of you to give up your family for a man! You still have Nicole. If you jump down, Nicole will lose her mommy. You're still concerned of your daughter, right?"

What Joseph said made Harry so sad. He realized that he had been too hard on Lola. He walked a few steps forward and stopped.

"Lola." He said with caution.

Lola looked back at him. Her eyes felt empty and blank. It was as if she was looking at someone she didn't know.

"Enough is enough." His voice depressed her even more.

With a bright smile, Lola answered, "Harry, you should be working in the company right now. What brings you here? Do you want to witness my death? Or do you have something else in mind?"

Lola no longer looked at him and went a few steps forward, startling the three men.

Harry couldn't bear to see her bright smile. It was really strange and eerie. "Stand still there. I will take Nicole here. Wait for me." He had to make a sacrifice. His love for Lola was unwavering.

Lola looked at him in disdain. "No need. I feel relieved to have my daughter taken care of by you and Cherry. I am already contented with that. You're a good daddy. I don't need to worry about that."

Once again, she sat on the edge of the building. She didn't hesitate. The truth was she was just waiting. But she didn't know what exactly she was waiting for.

"Why don't you consider the people who worry about you? Stop this, Lola." Harry said with a stern look.

Lola asked, "Well, do you worry about me?"

Harry hesitated. Lola laughed and stood up again.

"It's done with. Harry, no matter what happens today, I will never see you again." Harry even refused to listen to her explain her side on what happened. It broke her heart.

Those wonderful memories were gone with the wind.

"Okay, it's time. Goodbye, my dear daughter and loved ones! Please forgive me!"

She glanced emotionally at Harry, trying to memorize his face in her mind.

Harry realized she would jump down, so he anxiously ran straight towards her.

However, Lola stretched her arms and jumped off. It was too late.

"Sister!"

"Lola!" Lola heard their frantic words the moment she jumped off.

No matter whether it was heaven or the hell, she wouldn't regret what she just did.

Along with the screams of the people downstairs, she fell on a rain shed. The rain shed broke, and she was still falling down quickly.

Another rain shed was broken, then she finally fell on the air cushion.

All the medical personnel nearby immediately lifted her to the stretcher.

Then they took some first aid measures.

In the emergency room

After getting everything ready, Chuck entered the operating room to heal Lola's internal wounds.

Harry and Joseph were sadly staring at Lola before the door of the emergency room was closed.

Joseph sat on a chair and prayed silently for Lola's operation to be successful.

After Lola was wheeled to the operating room, Harry reluctantly left the hospital without looking back. Everything was coming down at him like an avalanche. Fast and unexpected.

The surgery was finally over after three hours.

Chuck came out first. Joseph immediately walked over to him, but he was too scared to speak.

Chuck took off his mask. "Don't worry. Lola will be safe now." Joseph felt greatly relieved.

Chuck continued, "But intracranial hemorrhage leads to moderate coma and left leg fracture."

Joseph asked with concern in his tone, "Moderate coma? Is it serious? What could be the consequences?"

Chuck shook his head. "I have already performed an intracranial decompression surgery for her. She is okay. She will wake up in a week or so. As for her left leg fractures, she needs some time to

recuperate. She will undergo therapy sessions for her leg injuries."

Joseph breathed a sigh of relief. Luckily, Lola just suffered from moderate coma and fracture even after she jumped off from the 32nd floor.

"Those two rain sheds she first landed indeed lessened the impact, or else she would die even with the air cushion." After finishing his words, Chuck took one last look at the unconscious Lola and left.

With tubes all over her body, Lola was wheeled out from the emergency room. She was immediately transferred to the ICU. The nurse put her on a respirator and did some essential routines.

Standing outside the ward, Joseph had mixed feelings as he stared at her sister.

He took out his phone and called Jordan.

As soon as Jordan arrived in Uthana, he rushed to the hospital.

Joseph told him over the phone that Lola had jumped off from the building. However, she was safe now and was regularly monitored in the ICU.

He called Wendy, but he didn't tell her that Lola was suffering from moderate coma. He just said that Lola's leg was fractured. He didn't want to further upset her.

Wendy breathed a sigh of relief and went to sleep after eating a little.

However, Jordan still decided to keep his family in the dark for the time being. As soon as Lola came to her senses and got better, he would transfer her immediately to Ascea.

Then he would tell his family. With this, his family, especially his grandfather, would not be so worried.

After Lola's wedding was ruined, none of them could sleep sound anymore. Therefore, to free them from worry, he had to keep them in the dark even if he had to lie about it.

However, the public didn't know that Lola shot Rose dead, her wedding was ruined and she jumped off from the building. They had been successful in preventing the media to cover these unfortunate events.

Only he had the power to hide such news from the public.

On the third day after Lola fell in a coma, her indicators gradually became stable. She was transferred to the senior ward.

That night

With the help of the nurses, Jordan didn't need to stay up late to take care of Lola. He went to the next ward to rest. It was already past one in the midnight.

Soon after he left, a noble man clad in a black woolen coat appeared outside the ward.

He wore sunglasses to cover his tired and swollen eyes.

Standing outside the ward for a while, he smoked a cigarette before he walked into the ward.

He saw Lola lying on the bed, still in a coma.

#### Chapter 302

A touch of anguish flashed through his eyes.

It was just like yesterday when he was picturing out a beautiful blueprint for their life together. He didn't know why it ended like this.

He remembered saying, "Lola, I love you."

And she would always answer, "Harry, I love you so much that it pains my heart."

But a moment passed and everything changed. He recalled saying, "From now on, the ties between us will be severed forever."

Even she would not back down and said to him before she jumped off, "Whether I will be alive or dead, I will not appear in front of you forever."

So, probably the ties between them were severed once and for all because of Rose's death.

He twitched his fingers. But he eventually left the ward without even touching her.

Just as he came here silently, he left without a single trace.

After seven days, Lola finally woke up from the coma. If she was still unconscious, Jordan and his brother really didn't know how to explain to their mother and father who will fly out here soon.

Jordan immediately decided to transfer her to another hospital. They went back to Ascea the day after Lola woke up.

Lola, looked at her brothers beside the bed, knowing that she went back to life again.

Why didn't she die? She was frustrated. Why would she stay in this world just to suffer all the tortures and pain it offered?

Her eyes became red with tears. She didn't say anything and followed her brothers to Ascea.

She did not go to the Zoria Private Hospital. She found another hospital near her house and stayed there for treatment.

Everything went well every day except the fact that she missed her daughter so much.

The only change was that she became more silent, sometimes even quieter than Jordan. She has become so emotionless.

Every day, she was either playing the cellphone mindlessly or just sitting on the wheelchair and watching the scenery at the park.

She got all the news about the world outside from her cellphone. She didn't dare go out to public places.

She also received the news about Nicole's birthday just on her cellphone. It was reported online that Harry had held a grand birthday party in a five-star hotel to celebrate his daughter's fourth birthday.

The daughter of the mayor, Cherry, was invited. The gossip and rumors also came out immediately that Harry and Cherry's wedding day was already drawing near.

As a matter of fact, many gossipers, while hating Lola and Yolanda, also felt sympathy for Harry.

The weddings with these two women both went to ultimate failure.

Days went by passively. After two months, Lola was still on the wheelchair.

She had been in the house for these two months. Sometimes, she chatted with Wendy and Lillian in the yard.

How she would spend the night and how much she missed her daughter were things that she would keep only to herself.

The winter finally came. Lola sat by the window, with her thick jacket on. She was watching the first snow of Ascea.

She remembered the first drop of snow in last year's winter. Nicole was still very little. She has just learnt the words, "Mommy", while showing her cute teeth.

Things had been totally different this year. Nicole was away from her and there was no chance that she can see her.

She boringly took out the cellphone and browsed on Weibo.

On the hot topics, the first tweet turned out to be the tweet of Harry. There was only a picture, showing Nicole and Cherry holding each other.

So Nicole had accepted another woman to be her stepmother already?

Tears ran down her face. She had never thought that one day, her own daughter would call another woman as her own mom.

She saved the picture and cropped Cherry off, only leaving her daughter on it. Then she set the picture of her daughter as the wallpaper on her screen.

Before the Spring Festival. President Howard's daughter got married, and he invited all the people in the Newman's family to attend the wedding ceremony.

With the army welcoming the leaders of other countries that day, Harold, Angie and Jordan didn't attend the proceedings.

Landon already aged and was in bad health. He caught a cold so he didn't come, either.

At last, only Lillian, who was three months pregnant, and Lola who was on the wheel chair, went to the wedding ceremony.

Lola had intended not to go. Her situation now would cause much trouble to others.

But Mr. Howard said to Harold that his daughter wanted to see Lola. So Lola obediently changed her clothes and went to the ceremony with Lillian.

With the driver's help, Lola went to the hotel.

She looked outside the window blankly, and remembered that when Mr. Howard took office, Harry had come to celebrate.

Would he show up again with Nicole this time around?

It didn't matter whether he would show up or not. She only cared about her daughter. She really missed her, and each day without her had been slowly tearing her heart apart.

"Sister, what are you thinking?" Lillian noticed that Lola was only staring outside blankly and asked her in a worried tone.

Lola came to her senses and shook her head, "Nothing. It has been too long since I went out last time. Everything outside seemed strange to me."

Lillian sighed in her heart. The news about her failed wedding had also gotten a lot of attention recently.

Although the news had been kept in secret online, there were still a lot of people gossiping in private.

Basically, many people heard about the news that Lola had killed Harry's mother with a gun. But the statement that came from Harry's side was in a different version. People wanted to discuss it but were afraid of talking too much. The police and the government had both kept their mouths shut about the topic.

"Don't think too much. I will be with you." She didn't want to think about Rose's death. But she really hoped that Lola didn't kill her. She still believed that Lola was actually innocent.

Lola turned back her head and smiled at her, "I'm okay. It's only... That I missed Nicole a little." It's

much more than little. She herself did not know how to describe how much she longed to be with her daughter.

When they arrived at the hotel, the driver helped Lola get out of the car. She sat on the wheelchair with Lillian volunteering to push it for her.

A pair of sisters, one in green dress, and the other in a blue one, appeared at the gate of the hotel. They instantly attracted the gaze of many people.

Lillian was dressed in a sky blue down jacket. Because of the pregnancy, she ate a lot of nutritious food, and her skin brightened and became smoother.

Lola was clad in a green coat. She got thinner these past two months. Her eyes were not as bright and clear as they were before. It gave people the impression that Lola had been depressed.

"Miss... Newman?" The voice halted Lola and Lillian. She realized that Joshua was actually greeting the guests at the gate of the hotel. He was dressed formally in a suit and there was a brooch bearing the word 'bridegroom' on his chest.

... Joshua was the son-in-law of President Howard? Lola was extremely surprised.

It was not long since she saw him last time. Now, he would be married to the daughter of Mr. Howard!

"You... Congratulations, Joshua! I'm so happy for you!" Lola had intended to ask him about his marriage, but finally she just offered her congratulations.

Joshua nodded shyly, "How are you doing lately, Miss Newman? I have missed talking to you." He had

heard about the issues and conflicts of Lola. He heard that she had failed to commit a suicide after killing a person. He had also heard that she became paralyzed.

It turned out that it was true as he saw her on the wheelchair.

Lola smiled in bitterness, "Except my legs, I'm all well." She pointed to her legs while smiling lightly.

"Have you recovered?"

"Yes. I think I'm better now." She tried her best to speak with a light and casual tone. After all, today was supposed to be a happy day for the couple. She should not spoil the atmosphere.

Joshua nodded at her and Lillian. "Here, let me help you!" He took over the handle of the wheelchair and pushed Lola into the hotel.

"Thank you. I'm really sorry for the trouble." Lola felt a little ashamed. She was not used to these gestures.

### Chapter 303

Neglecting the people's bewildered looks, Joshua offered her a chair and said, "You're welcome. It's my definite pleasure." Lola had helped him when he was treated unjustly last time in the company. This was a way for him to pay her back.

As the wheelchair was as high as the chair, Lola just stayed on her wheelchair.

Lillian sat beside her and helped Joshua put the chair away.

"I know you're busy tonight. Thank you for your help! Don't worry, Lillian is here!" Lola reassured Joshua.

As there were so many guests that day, Joshua politely nodded and left.

After Joshua made his way out, Lola noticed that many people was looking at her. She didn't mind them and had a cup of tea and enjoyed looking at the elegant decorations of the wedding ceremony.

It's about to begin but Nicole was still not here. Lola began to worry because she really wanted to see her daughter today.

Would she still see Nicole here today?

It's already 10:50, just ten minutes before the start of the wedding ceremony.

Just then, a group of handsome and beautiful people entered the hall, attracting everybody's attention.

A handsome man dressed in a handmade dark blue suit and a pair of black sophisticated Italian leather shoes, a lady with a rose red woolen dress and a lovely child in the middle of them.

That's Nicole!

Nicole seemed to have grown taller after 2 months. Her hair was longer and was tied into a cute bun.

She was wearing a pink jacket and a pair of white boots.

That's her Nicole, her baby, her sweetheart.. The one she gave birth to after 9 difficult months.

Lola was about to cry. Her baby, who she could hug and play with before was so distant to her now.

She and her father had shown up in public with another lady.

No one cared who was her real mother. They only knew that Nicole's father was Harry, the most powerful businessman in the country.

Lillian gave her a tissue paper which she used to wipe her tears.

She decided to ignore them and say goodbye to the past.

Maybe it was already enough for her to see her daughter like that.

Nicole was sitting on the other side of the platform. She could see Nicole's back as she kept looking at them.

"Don't you plan to talk to your daughter, sister?" Lillian said in a low voice.

After some thinking, Lola shook her head.

She was afraid that Harry be angry if she talked to Nicole without asking for his permission.

Soon, the wedding ceremony began. The bride was really beautiful.

With her standing beside Joshua, they both looked like a perfect match.

With a microphone in hand, the host expressed his deep wishes to the couple. They both smiled happily on the stage.

If not for Rose's death, her wedding with Harry would have continued and she would be happy like this couple...

Then it came to the last moment. The groom finally kissed the bride. All the guests applauded excitedly. This commemorated the end of the ceremony.

When the new couple began the toast, a man suddenly appeared from the gates of the hotel.

He passed through all the guests and stopped in front of the special lady.

But at that time, Lola was eating her food as the man found an empty seat and stood beside her.

But she didn't notice anything because she cared about nothing at all.

"How's everything going?" The man beside her asked politely.

Lola's hands froze, and was shocked to see Thomas beside her. He smiled and said, "I'm fine. Did you just arrive?"

He seemed to age a bit since the last time they met. Maybe because of working so hard, he was already a little tired.

She looked at him up and down. Thomas did this, too.

In fact, she was not fine. She was so thin and her eyes did not have their usual spark. Only the bright coat she wore reflected her fine skin. But she was still sitting on a wheelchair.

Thomas observed all of these and was definitely worried.

It was said that Lola attempted to commit suicide after killing a person. He was so busy to care about that rumor. But as for that, he only thought it was ridiculous!

However, her paralyzed legs confirmed this suspicion. He immediately felt anxious for Lola's wellness.

What on earth happened to the good girl? How could she kill someone and attempt to take her own life? He felt really distressed just by looking at her.

"Yes. There were some affairs that needed to be solved on the way here. Is the wedding ceremony already done?"

Lola nodded but said nothing. She just continued eating.

Lillian looked at Thomas, and then looked at the emotionless Lola.

She thought Thomas was a good person who was also gentle, mature and charming. Moreover, she sensed that he truly cared for Lola.

But why did Lola choose that hot-tempered Harry?

Though he was not that bad, he was so cold that nobody dared to be close to him. Everyone always asked for his permission first before approaching him.

At that time, President Howard came to their table with his daughter and son-in-law. They would have a toast.

Everyone stood up with the exception of Lola. She stayed glued to her wheelchair.

Hence, more people gazed on them and talked about her.

"Who's the lady on the wheelchair? She seems so familiar!"

"Absolutely! She is Lola! She has been reported on television several times already!"

"Yes! That's the lady who tried to take her life but failed. No wonder she is sitting on the wheelchair. Is she permanently paralyzed?"

"Who knows? She was so heartless that she had tried to kill her mother-in-law. Nobody should care about her!"

...

Hearing the people's gossips, Harry expressionlessly looked at the wine in the glass and pretended to hear nothing.

Cherry had also heard all that. She turned to see Harry's reaction but found that he kept a poker face.

Didn't Harry love Lola anymore? Really?

But, no matter whether he loved her or not, it's none of her business now.

Because no man would love a person who had killed someone.

"Nicole, do you want some cheese corn?" Cherry sweetly asked the child beside her. Nicole was so cute that she was so fond of her. She would be very kind to her even though she was not her real daughter.

Nicole nodded but said nothing.

During that time, Nicole seemed to be normal and was in her usual self. But Harry had felt that his daughter had become very silent. She had never been like this before.

Recently, she always wanted to sleep in her bedroom alone.

Maybe she was angry because he didn't allow her mother to see her!

Cherry took a spoonful of corn for Nicole. Seeing that, Harry thought deeply.

He remembered that long before, Lola had also fed him corn in the mansion.

Harry closed his eyes, leaned on the chair and touched the watch on his left wrist. Cherry noticed his strange behavior and wondered what he was thinking about.

## Chapter 304

Vera Howard, the daughter of Mr. Howard, was so happy to see Lola that she talked a little bit more with her.

And when she knew her husband and Lola once worked in the same company, she regretted about not being able to meet Joshua earlier in her life.

She really liked Lola, even if she knew that Lola had long been out of the entertainment circle.

"Excuse me, Mr. Herren, Miss Newman and Mrs. Newman. We will be proposing a toast to the next table. Please forgive us for being a bad host, and enjoy your meal!" After saying those beautiful words with a proud and triumphant look, Mr. Howard proceeded to take his daughter and son-in-law to another table.

Lola wanted to go to the bathroom so she gently whispered to Thomas, "Excuse me, I'd like to go out for a while."

Thomas wasn't keen of letting her go. He was kind of afraid that she might go to Harry. "Where are you going? I will take you there."

Lola blushed, and answered, "No, thank you. Lillian will be there for me. I'll be right back."

Looking at her blushing face, Thomas seemed to understand her point. "Well, take care. I'll stay here." He said to her tenderly.

Lillian helped Lola towards the bathroom in the corner of the hall, and tried not to attract attention from the people. Yet, there were still quite a few who whispered to one another behind their back when they passed by.

In the bathroom

Lola painfully moved herself from the wheelchair to the stool. Then, Lillian pushed the wheelchair outside and closed the door.

Lillian waited for her outside. A few minutes later, Lola called to her and she came in.

With Lillian's help, Lola managed to sit back in the wheelchair.

Her left leg was much better now, but she still couldn't make walk without a crutch or a wheelchair.

Outside the bathroom, Lola accidentally saw the back garden of the hotel.

"Lillian, I'd like to stay in the garden for a while. Will that be okay?"

"Sure, Lola. Take your time." Then, Lillian slowly wheeled her up to the garden.

As two women passed by and saw Lola, they pointed at her and said something.

"What a vicious woman she is to kill her fiance's mother! How dare she have the guts to even come here?"

"Undoubtedly, she must have no sense of shame! She should be embarrassed of herself!"

At the corner of the corridor, a man was smoking a cigarette in secret. He was indifferently listening to all these.

He guessed that Lola must be near.

"What bullshit are you talking about? Fuck off!!" Lola was not the one who got angry though. Lillian lost her temper first and fiercely stared at the two women.

Tugging at Lillian's clothes, Lola shook her head and said, "Let's go to the garden. Don't mind them."

She didn't give a damn to whatever she will hear. She was used to it already.

Sometimes, Lola really felt she was disillusioned in this world. She even thought of becoming a nun.

When they approached the gate of the back garden, Lola caught a glimpse of a familiar figure from the corner of her eye.

A man in black woolen overcoat was lazily leaning against the wall. He was indifferently smoking a cigarette.

Lola withdrew her sight, suddenly becoming conscious of what she saw, and left.

She chose a place where wintersweet flowers were in blossom nearby an artificial lake. She asked Lillian to go back first, and sat there alone.

Thomas noticed that only Lillian came back, so he asked, "Where is she?"

"My sister would like to be alone in the garden. She will just call me later." Lola had made it a habit to sit for a long time while doing nothing. In fact, she became comfortable with it.

She might actually get ill if she continued living like this.

"I'm going to check her out." Then Thomas stood up, and walked towards the back garden in search for Lola.

Although it was already in the middle of the winter, there was still no snow. Yet. people were still shivering from the cold weather. However, Lola couldn't feel any coldness at all. She had become numb from all these.

She was watching the winterflower petals, one by one softly falling then floating on the water.

All she could think of was her daughter, Nicole. How on earth could she get her again?

Living life for two months like a walking dead, she was almost on the brink of numbness. Without Harry... And without Nicole, her life was dark and her future was lost.

Thomas saw the lonely woman from a distance, then marched off towards her.

"Aren't you feeling cold?" A gentle voice of a man came from above her. This pulled Lola back into reality.

She shook her head slightly. What was coldness? What was pain? She didn't feel a thing anymore. Her emotions had failed her.

Thomas held her slim hands and found out, not surprisingly, that they were bitterly cold.

With both of her hands wrapped in his warm palms, Lola felt a warm current run through her body. She raised her head and looked at Thomas. Bathed in the majestic winter sunshine, he seemed to be more brilliant and charming.

She tried to free her hands, but Thomas didn't let her go.

Kneeling close to her, his eyes were parallel with hers.

Thomas watched her beautiful eyes, and said, "Lola, follow me. I will take you away from here." He would take her by his side, and protect her from any harm. He would do that from now on.

Lola blankly watched his affectionate eyes, and said blankly, "I killed a person. How could you want to be with me?" Actually, only she knew whether she killed Rose or not.

Thomas smiled, making her feel quite comfortable. "Whatever it is, I will fix it for you. You don't need to worry about it." He just wanted to hold her in his arms, take care of her and make her happy.

As the cold winds blew, Lola became teary-eyed.

They gazed at each other, as if there was no one else in the world.

"Mommy." All of a sudden, a sweet little voice echoed from behind her.

Lola turned back surprisingly. Sure enough! It was Nicole standing from a distance and looking at her.

At that very moment, tears streamed down her cheeks like raindrops. Lola was trembling and her voice was shaking, "Nicole..." Her voice was a little bit hoarse.

Nicole ran towards Lola quickly. She could not hold it much longer.

Yet, without noticing a rock under her feet, she fell down to the ground.

As Lola saw her daughter about to trip on a rock, she hurriedly stood up from the wheelchair and made her first step.

Yet on her second step, she fell down to the ground as well.

As there was grass at this side, she didn't feel much pain.

However, Nicole fell on the gravel road. This made Lola feel extremely bad.

So she couldn't wait for Thomas to lift her up. She pushed him to Nicole's way. "Go check Nicole!" For heaven's sake! Nicole must be all right!

She hoped she didn't injure her legs...

Nevertheless, Thomas still lifted her into her wheelchair first, then picked the little girl up. Nicole was already on the ground.

Nicole was actually suffering from great pain, yet she managed to hold back her tears.

Seeing mommy looking at her, she knew that she was already heartbroken. If mommy saw her crying, it would break mommy's heart even more.

Thomas carried Nicole in front of Lola and then sweetly put her into Lola's arms.

As if carrying a treasure, Lola held her daughter proudly in her arms, whom she had been longing for dozens of days and nights.

"Mommy, don't cry! Please!" Nicole sweetly wiped Lola's tears away, and then put her arms around her mom's neck tightly.

Thomas could tell that Lola probably hadn't seen her daughter for quite a long time. He immediately felt really sad.

That guy was indeed heartless. Though he knew that this woman and her daughter would miss each other deeply, he still stopped them from seeing each other. Did he really love her? Otherwise, how could he be so hard on her?

Standing behind Lola, Thomas patted her on the shoulder and comforted her gently. "Don't cry. Isn't it a happy thing to see your daughter?"

#### Chapter 305

The warm sunshine splendidly shone on them, putting them in such majestic scene. The picture was so warm and sweet that it seemed as if they were a real family of three.

This scene reddened the eyes of the man who kept smoking at the windowsill just nearby.

Lola, how did it feel to lose your loved one? How did it feel to miss someone who you could not see anymore?

"Nicole, mommy's so happy to see you again. When you go back, do listen to your daddy and obey him always. When you grow up, come and find mommy. Okay? I'll be waiting for you." She caressed her daughter's little face lovingly and said those sad words.

Nicole nodded but did not fully understand everything. When she grew up and could make money by herself, she would come and find her mother and be with her forever.

The time they spent together was so short. It was just less than ten minutes before Harry had lost his patience.

He coldly glanced at Cherry next to him and she immediately went to the garden.

He must still love that woman. She could see it in his eyes. If not, why did he have to take Nicole here on purpose?

"Nicole." She stood where Nicole had fallen down and softly called the girl's name.

It was the second time that Cherry had met Thomas. The first time was at the birthday party of her grandmother. They nodded to each other politely.

When she saw Cherry, Lola knew that it was time to say goodbye to Nicole. She held her daughter tightly to her chest. "Nicole, call mommy when you are free." Then she read her phone number to Nicole for several times in hopes that she would memorize it.

Nicole was very clever. She had already memorized it when Lola read it twice to her.

Lola kissed her daughter on the forehead and Nicole did the same to her mom.

Nicole was about to cry and reluctantly parted from her mother.

Looking at her daughter's back, Lola told herself not to cry. Nicole would be safe with her father. Why should she cry? She didn't have anything to worry about.

The man next to her crouched down again. Looking in her direction, he saw that Nicole had finally entered the back door of the hotel.

"I'm leaving Ascea this afternoon. I want to take you with me. I hope you come and join me." He expressed his idea again to her.

Lola did not refuse, nor promised. She just said, "Please go back by yourself this time. When my leg recovers, we can talk about it again. Okay?"

It didn't sound like a rejection, but she implied something like it.

Looking at her pale face, he suddenly lost his temper and asked in a slightly sharper tone, "Lola, he

has treated you so badly already. Why can't you forget him and just have a fresh start?"

Lola looked at him in silence. She didn't get angry. She said to him and also to herself, "There will never be a possibility that Harry and me will be together. The reason I do not accept your invitation is that I haven't completely freed myself from that relationship yet. It's not fair for you."

Thomas heard it and knelt in front of her. "OK, I'll give you time. When you recover from your injury, I'll come back for you."

She looked at him too, but still did not promise anything to him.

"I'll call you, Herren." She would call him no matter whether she promised him or not.

Thomas lowered his head, closed his eyes and gave in again, "OK, I'll wait for your call."

When they returned, many people had already left. Lillian was answering Joseph's call, and was sitting on the sofa. She smiled happily.

On seeing Lola pushed in by Thomas, Lillian hurriedly hung up and approached them.

"Let's go!" Lola looked at Lillian and smiled to her hesitatingly.

It seemed like everyone was happy. What about her? Where was her happiness? Was it gone forever? In Leroy Manor in Uthana

It was around ten o'clock when Harry carried Nicole off the car and went to the mansion. Nicole was already sleeping and Cherry was following them.

Cherry watched Harry cuddle Nicole in the children's room. He took off her shoes, coat and trousers.

It would be nice if Nicole was their child. She must be very happy.

Harry closed the door after he settled Nicole down. He turned to Cherry and said, "It's late. Pick a room so you could rest."

Cherry nodded, repressing her inner joy. It was said that no woman had ever lived here except Lola.

Cherry chose the room closest to her. But as soon as she opened the door, Harry shouted at her, "Anyone except that one!" The voice was so cold that Cherry fearfully closed the door immediately.

Even so, she had seen the inside of the room through the light in the corridor.

She chose another room after Harry went to his bedroom. Just now did she dare to think of that room.

She saw a wall full of photos, a piano in the middle, a number of photo frames stacked on a table and a hanging chair in front of the French window.

Whose photos were those? Why did that room exist? And why did Harry kept it from her?

It might have something to do with Lola.

Thinking of this, Cherry smiled bitterly. Did she make a right choice? She knew exactly how much Harry loved that woman.

Even if they could not be together, he would not cease to love her.

But, she said to herself, "Cherry, now that you have made your choice, you could not give up. Come on!"

Deep in the night

The man in the study stood at the window, looking at the sea outside and smoking incessantly.

He still couldn't figure out why she killed Rose. What had happened between them in the restroom that day?

He knew that his mother did not like Lola. But what had she done or what had she said that forced Lola to kill her?

He believed in Lola, but how could his mom tell a lie before she died? She would not lie anymore. It's of no use.

Besides, there were only the two of them in that room and his mom couldn't go so far as to say that she killed herself.

He had sent the gun to be verified and it did have Lola's fingerprints on it.

So the question came back again. What had Rose done that caused Lola to be crazy enough to kill her?

Or maybe Lola had always been an evil woman and she hid this personality from everyone?

That was impossible. He believed in his own instincts that Lola was not a vicious woman.

It annoyed him that he was even thinking of this problem. Harry took the spirit bottle from the bar and served himself a full glass.

Bottoms up.

He refilled the glass again and again.

The alcohol was beginning to paralyze his brain.

He unconsciously went out of the study and opened the door of the room which no one was allowed to enter.

The room was still full of her personal belongings. There were her clothes, cosmetics, handbags and shoes. And there were also their wedding photos. The balcony deck chair where they had held each other for thousands of times was still intact.

He put the hanging chair in front of the French window especially for her and she had only sat there once. Harry felt a deep longing in his heart.

Chapter 306

Harry made his way over to the chair and sat on it. As he gazed into the distance, he noticed that the thin ice had already formed on top of the ocean.

His mind was full of her. He even memorized the way she smiled and the way she frowned. He even thought about how cute she looked when she was mad at him...

He slammed his fists so hard on the window that the bullet-proof glass moved a little.

Lola, how could you hurt me so much? How could you do this? Now he felt hundred times more hurt than that time when she was not around in those four years!

What a mean woman! What kind of spell had she cast on him that he was now suffering in great agony?

She made him suffer like this! He wouldn't let it be easy for her as well!

It was the night before the Chinese New Year's Eve. Lola was now able to walk on her own for a few steps.

Wendy and Lillian were busy helping Angie making traditional dumplings in the kitchen. The two women have been trying so hard to move around because of their baby bumps.

Lola stood on the second floor, staring at her cellphone screen aimlessly. The picture with Nicole and Cherry on the phone hurt her eyes and heart. They were smiling happily together on the picture. Cherry had posted it on Weibo.

Lola had been reading Cherry's Weibo. Through this, she was able to get hold of her daughter's updates.

From numerous tabloids, she could also read about how Cherry and Harry went to parties and banquets shoulder to shoulder. They were already a sweet couple.

The papers were reporting that the two would soon tie the knot. Harry was about to marry the daughter of Mayor Lawrence.

Some of the papers even published reports about when Cherry stayed overnight at Harry's mansion. One of the paparazzi even took a picture of her leaving the property. It seemed that everything was real, not something made-up.

Lola also found a place close to home to open a small cafe. The cafe was cozy and decent.

She had paid all the necessary funds and planned to refurbish the store as soon as the New Year was over.

She cast a quick glance at the card lying on the table. It was a gift money from Harry. The total sum was a shocking 666.66 million.

However, she never touched a penny of it. Lola was trying to figure out a way to give back the money to him.

She hoped to give it back when she saw Nicole or Cherry next time. That was her only opportunity.

This was the first time that the Newman family celebrated the Chinese New Year without Nicole. The

mood was not as joyful and festive as before. They could not deny that Nicole was the energizer of the family, especially in feasts like this.

Fortunately, Angie was still pleased over the fact that both her daughter-in-laws were pregnant and would give her more grandchildren.

Just then, Lola's phone rang. She felt instantly nervous.

She anxiously prayed for it to be Nicole.

It worked! The familiar number was indeed from Nicole.

Lola excitedly pressed the speaker's button. "Hey, Nicole!"

"Mommy!" Harry was not home. Nicole took the chance and called her mom immediately.

"Nicole, did you miss me or not? How are you?" Lola's voice was transmitted to Harry's office in SL Group's headquarter through a monitor. The technology had been upgraded in Harry's company. He could hear everything loud and clear.

"Mommy, of course I miss you greatly! Tell you what, daddy is going to Ascea after the New Year to attend some important meetings. Anyway, daddy is taking me to Ascea!" Harry puffed on his cigarette as he listened carefully to the dialogue. He was amused that his daughter was turning into a little traitor. She was just like her mother.

Lola tried to hold back her emotions and not sound over-excited. She answered, "My dear baby, can we meet up in private?"

Nicole shouted with joy as she quickly agreed: "Sure thing! But mommy, how can we meet up?" She was over the moon when she realized that she could meet her mother soon!

Lola knew for a fact that Harry would send someone to look after Nicole all the time because she was still young. So she simply said, "I will come and find you. You may ask your daddy where he will be going to take you. If he won't tell you that, it is still okay. You just let me know your whereabouts when you are actually in Ascea."

"Alright, mommy. I really miss you. I hope I can see you soon." The little girl's voice suddenly sounded very sad and was full of longing.

Lola felt sad as well. She sniffed and replied, "Don't worry baby, you still got your daddy and a pretty auntie with you. Just be a good girl." Through the monitor, Harry could clearly sense the sadness from her voice.

A pretty auntie? Was she referring to Cherry? But the only woman he viewed as pretty was actually...

"But mommy, I wish you and daddy can be together. Plus me..."

Lola almost burst into tears when she heard this from Nicole herself. She cleared her voice, tried to control her emotions, and said, "Nicole, stop thinking like that. Daddy and Mommy are not going to be together. Not anymore. It will never be possible... When you grow up a little bit, come and visit

mommy." With these words, she could no longer hold back her tears. They both started weeping over the phone.

Never possible... Harry puffed on his cigarettes one after another. He was getting sad, too.

"Nicole, don't cry. You will be very happy living with your daddy. You can have everything you want, right? I will visit you whenever it will be possible. Will that be okay?" Whenever possible? Lola felt her chest cringe as she did not really know for sure when she would get a chance to visit Nicole.

Nicole sobbed as she reluctantly agreed with her mother, "I will listen to your words, mommy. How is your leg?"

Lola was pleased by Nicole's words. Her baby daughter was growing up so fast that she now knew how to comfort others. Her daughter cared for her! "It is getting better. When I fully recover, I will visit you in private. How about that?" She just decided to visit her in private so that she would not cause further inconvenience.

"Sure! Mommy, I love you!" Nicole imaginatively blew a kiss to Lola over the phone.

Lola smiled through her tears. What an adorable girl! "I love you, too. My dearest Nicole. You are my baby!" Nicole was the apple of her eye. That will never change anymore.

The phone finally ended. Harry put down his cellphone and fell into deep thoughts. The cigarette was burning between his fingers, yet he did not notice anything but his thoughts of Lola. He was so carried away by his own feelings.

The New Year ended. Lola was recovering rapidly. She was now able to walk normally but not for long period of time.

After the 15th, Lola received another call from Nicole.

Nicole told her that the next day, they were coming to Ascea. She left her the hotel address that they would be staying at.

Lola wrapped herself in a black long winter coat. She also had a hat and a pair of sunglasses on her head so that nobody could recognize her.

She learned from Nicole that they were staying at that hotel for the first night.

Without any hesitation, Lola quickly headed to the hotel.

She was already half-way there when Nicole called her again. "Mommy, come here quickly! Daddy went out."

Harry was away? That's strange... Lola frowned: "How could he leave you alone in the hotel room?"

"No mommy. The nanny is with me. I will send her away when you arrive." Nicole spoke to her in a very low voice.

Lola quickly ended the call and raced to the hotel. She was so excited at the thought of seeing Nicole soon!

As soon as she was in front of the hotel, she called Nicole again to confirm. Nicole sent the nanny away as agreed and left the door slightly open for Lola.

Lola lowered the brim of her hat and looked around vigilantly. She did not see any men around so she walked straight into the hotel.

A SSC supercar was parked right in front of the hotel. Inside the car, a man squinted at Lola's back as she stepped into the hotel. He saw everything coming.

Lola eventually located the room with the help of Nicole's directions. The moment she pushed open the door, Nicole excitedly jumped into her arms.

"Mommy!"

"Oh, my baby!" Lola held her girl tightly against her chest. She kissed her face with love.

She sat down on the sofa with Nicole on her lap. The two started chatting and laughing nonstop.

Nicole told her that she would be staying here for three days. Tomorrow, they would return to the villa and stay there.

They agreed to meet up again tomorrow as soon as Harry go out for a banquet.

## Chapter 307

After visiting her daughter for an hour or so, Lola realized that she had to leave. But she really wanted to accompany this lovely girl. She was at crossroads with this.

But at that very moment, the door was suddenly opened.

A tall man with a dark blue coat went inside the room.

Lola and Nicole looked at him with a surprised expression, while Harry just stared at them with silence and indifference.

Looking at Lola, he thought to himself, "I have gave her one hour for visiting my daughter. Why is she still here? She should even be thankful to me."

Lola instantly became sad and heartbroken. This was the man she once loved. She gave her daughter kisses on both sides of her cheeks and said goodbye to her.

After doing these, she put on her hat and glasses, and made her way to the door.

"Miss Newman", he called her. He was neither friendly nor warm. His voice was very cold and indifferent.

Lola was stunned. She didn't imagine Harry saying her name again. She didn't look back nor talk to him.

"Well, I mean, you should stay away from my daughter. Do you know what I'll do if you don't obey me?" Lola was so hurt by the tone of his voice.

She tried to ease her emotions and strode to the door in silence.

But he just stared at her and then blocked her way out.

"I'm sorry, okay?" Lola said softly. She just wished she could get out of here as fast as she can. She didn't want to spend time with this man who has hurt her again and again.

She felt sorry? It was exactly kind of ironic that she said sorry. Harry gritted his teeth and suppressed his anger.

"If you try to visit my daughter again without my permission, Miss Newman, I will accuse you of murder. You know I could." He said in a threatening voice. This was just a reminder that the woman in front of him had killed his mother.

The mood in the room immediately became heated. Nicole didn't want her father fighting with her mother. So she frantically grabbed Harry's leg, "Don't blame my mommy please. I want to see her because I miss her so much. Don't be angry." Nicole cried out.

Harry calmed down when he saw her daughter's lovely face.

Then he took Nicole in his arms, and went further inside.

Then Lola opened the door and ran out before the man came back.

She didn't stop running until she reached the elevator. Lola thought she already had the ability to let this relationship go. But when she met Harry again, she knew that she still loved him.

Maybe she just couldn't forget her strong feelings towards Harry. But he didn't trust her anymore, she should give up this relationship.

Going out the gates of the hotel, Lola put on a scarf and went to the car.

But she was suddenly pulled aside by really strong hands as she was just reaching for the door of her car.

His strength forced her to be slammed painfully to the car.

Damn it! Lola cursed in her thoughts. She got so frustrated and upset.

It was so painful that she could hardly keep her eyes open.

She sensed familiarity as she could recognize him without even opening her eyes.

"Let me go!" Lola shouted with a shrill. Hearing her words, the man froze in an instant.

"How could she say that? She killed my mother. Why didn't she feel guilty at all? Was she really guilty?" He thought to himself.

"Who do you think you are? How dare you order me like that! Show some respect!" He shouted angrily. His voice had a hint of desperation.

Lola and Harry were both going through disappointment and heartbreak. But they still kept torturing each other. It was just like a cycle.

"You are nothing to me. How dare you touch me?" Lola defied him with a contempt. She opened her eyes and stared blankly at him.

Harry pinched her chin and forced her to stare at him. His look was very serious and grim.

It was as though he would break her bones. But Lola just gritted her teeth.

The two quarreled bitterly as neither of them admitted defeat nor made a compromise.

"Lola, your good days will soon be gone as you provoke me." He said with a threatening look. He started to step forward. Lola tried to take a step backwards but there was no way back. She was pinned on the side of the car.

With his body pressed close against hers, Harry looked at Lola with a terrifying face.

Lola closed her eyes in agony and said, "I'm sorry. I'm not deliberately provoking you. I just miss my daughter."

"She is not your daughter!" He blurted out. "Since she shot his mother, Nicole had lost her mother already. I will not allow Nicole to have a malicious mother." He thought.

"Harry, you can't deny that I have given birth to Nicole. You didn't even give me a chance to explain." she argued. "You can change everything you want, but you can't deny that I have kinship with Nicole!" Lola added angrily. Her voice became louder and louder, until she was almost shouting. Her anxiety had been overwhelming her.

"Yes, I can't change that but I will never let you see my daughter again!" said Harry, looking furiously at her

Lola tried her best to push him away as she heard these words. Harry had to open his fingers and let her go.

Lola went straight to the car as she didn't want to stay with Harry anymore. Not a second more.

Harry prevented her from closing the door. "Lola, you're walking on thin ice. Don't provoke me, or I'll end every memory I have of you!" said Harry, with a cruel and cold voice.

"Oh, you will?" said Lola with a sneer. She was so sick of looking at him. "Get out of here!" replied Lola as she was already feeling indifferent.

Get out? "You are no longer the one who I loved." He sneered. "I will leave if you pay the price, an expensive price." said Harry slyly in a soft whisper. Lola was pulled roughly by Harry without any regard.

She couldn't catch herself and started to fall.

But he quickly caught her in his arms.

Lola immediately stood up, held her right hand and slapped Harry in the face.

But Harry was too fast. He caught her hand before she could slap him.

Lola tried to disengage herself from his grip. She wanted to slap him even more when she watched his cold face. She was overwhelmed. "What do I look forward to? Am I still enchanted with him? Do I still love him?" She asked herself.

"You want to hit me?" He shouted with anger. Then he tried to do something that made her so terrified.

He pulled Lola to him and pushed her into the car.

"Damn it, let me go, you sick bastard!" She cried out. Lola struggled and tried to kick and hit him. She took him as a vent for her fear and her anger.

What did he want? Did he want to rape her? Or strangle her?

But he was so angry that he grasped both of her hands and tore up her coat.

"Get away from me..." Lola tried to say something. But she ended with a groan as Harry suddenly kissed her lips.

...

After few more hours, the door of the car was opened. But it was locked immediately with a loud slam.

He put on his coat, and quickly went inside the hotel.

Lola laid on the seat of the car. She was frightened and ashamed. Tears filled her eyes.

She trembled and hurriedly put on her clothes, thinking about the last words of the man she once

loved: "If you want to see Nicole, you must sleep with me!"

So she could meet Nicole if she pleased him?

Should she thank him for forgiving her, for not minding his hatred of killing his mother. Should she also thank him for his generosity? Lola pondered about this inside the car. How ironic!

She sneered uncomfortably. It is not surprising that the man has a very keen interest in sex.

He slept with someone who had killed his mother!

"Harry, you sick bastard! Shame on you!" Lola said to herself as her knees started to tremble.

## Chapter 308

Lola curled up at the back seat for half an hour before she went back to the driver's seat. As soon as she got comfortable in the seat, she drove away quickly.

She felt all kinds of pain everywhere on her body. That monster was so cruel!

She was so much in pain...

She finally arrived home and bumped into Lillian who was walking downstairs to fetch some water.

Lillian curiously looked at Lola. She saw that her face was pale and sorrowful.

"What's the matter, sister? What happened?" She put down her glass and embraced Lola.

Lola waved her hand immediately and reassured her, "I'm okay. I will go the upstairs. I'm just kind of tired." She felt that her ears was swollen because of his bite. She didn't want it to be noticed by anyone.

So she tried her best to hide it and then went upstairs.

Looking at her back, Lillian felt that Lola was acting very strange. She asked, "Sister, did your leg ache again? You shouldn't exert too much weight on it." She called out to Lola, who was already in the middle of the stairs.

Lola was moved by her concern. She turned her head and replied, "I'm okay. I just went to see Nicole... I was probably a little excited and emotional." Lillian understood why she was like this when she heard about Nicole.

She just nodded and answered, "Then have a good rest." The poor mother and daughter... they missed each other so much but could not see each other. She has pestered Harry about this matter. She suddenly felt so guilty.

Watching Lola disappear into the hall, Lillian decided in her mind that she would always take care of her in the future.

But Lola was sleepless and restless that night. She was troubled and anxious as to whether she could see Nicole tomorrow or not. If she went to see Nicole, she would be caught up again with Harry.

Which she didn't want. She was growing tired of that man... She really didn't want this. She thought that Harry has gone too far this time.

A few years ago, the lack of faith and trust between them led to the divorce. Then she left.

Four years later after the divorce, it was still because of his lack of trust that led to her ruined wedding day.

Right there and then, she decided not to go to see Nicole, because she can't see Harry anymore.

But Nicole needed to see her real mother too. How can she get rid of Harry?

On the early morning the next day, Lola went to the hospital first to get some medicine. Then, she went to her coffee shop.

The store has already started decorating the interior. She has hired a professional designer to create the blueprint for the refined decoration.

Nicole called her again that day. But she made an excuse that she could not make it to see her. It really broke her heart that her voice trembled a bit.

Nicole seemed very angry and disappointed. She immediately hung up the phone after hearing it.

Lola sat there looking at her cellphone, thinking deeply.

Was she too selfish? In order to avoid seeing Harry, she gave up the chance of seeing her daughter.

A month went by in mere sadness.

The store has finished the decoration process, and Lola named it LN.

The meaning was very clear: Lola and Nicole. Her daughter would always be her inspiration in running the business.

The weather was very fine on the opening day. She simply put several flower baskets at the door and declared it open.

She hired several young girls and boys as crew. They were all very nice and hardworking. She felt so satisfied.

Joshua heard about the news that Lola has opened her own coffee shop. He took his wife to the store and advertised it in the company.

But only a few people came. Because everyone has heard the news about the scandal that Lola killed the mother of her fiance, most people hesitated to support Lola.

They all tried to avoid being connected with her. But Lola didn't mind at all. She has foreseen this already.

In the SL Group, Uthana

Harry sat in the chair with cigarette in his hand while he listened to Joey's update. "Lola opened a coffee store in Ascea. Her store seemed to be gathering popularity... Joey wiped the sweat on his forehead.

He wondered why these two loving people would end up like this. They were just about to get married some time ago.

Harry kept silent after hearing the news. He lit another cigarette and ordered, "Open a new coffee store just opposite hers with lower price and better decorations."

...

Joey looked at his boss, feeling puzzled. Was he going to corner Lola to defeat?

"Didn't you hear what I said? I'm serious about this." He was becoming a little furious. He coldly looked at Joey who was still in a daze.

Joey nodded, and obediently went out of the office without saying anything more. Harry has his bad temper again just like he was after Lola left Dreles.

But this time, he became even more irritable and unreasonable.

To open another coffee store just in across Lola's coffee store? Rich and rash! What a man!

In the LN Coffee Shop

Lola sat quietly on a couch in the corner of the store. She held the computer in her arms, looked at the park behind the store and thought about the sales of the store yesterday.

Many guests who came into this store would see a beautiful woman sitting on the cacolet at the corner of the store.

They noticed that Lola would just normally sit there for hours in silence, only occasionally drinking a cup of coffee or milk tea.

They later knew that the woman was the boss of the store.

One day, Lola went to the store as usual. She noticed that the place across her store was under construction.

But she didn't pay any attention to it and just went inside her shop.

The employees at the store were busy doing the cleaning. Seeing that Lola has come, the cashier told her, "Miss Newman, someone is waiting for you over there."

Lola looked at the place where the cashier pointed at. In the seat by the window, there was a man smiling at her.

Although the face was half covered by the sunglasses he was wearing, she recognized him on just first sight.

Lola went over and sat in his opposite seat and asked, "When did you come back?"

Her lips colored with lip gloss were slightly pursed. It was shining brightly under the sunshine.

A month ago, she called him once to tell him her plans and ideas.

She didn't want to go anywhere. She decided to open a coffee store in Ascea and led a peaceful life here.

Thomas smiled, "I arrived yesterday. I went to the old house first." Then he sipped the coffee and made a compliment, "This freshly brewed coffee is really good!"

She laughed softly. "When do you plan to leave? How about having lunch together?"

"It's my pleasure. I will leave now. Do you want to take a walk with me?" It was a rare opportunity for Thomas to have time to relax and he didn't want to pass the chance by.

They walked out the coffee shop together and they went inside Herren's car.

Just across the store, a foreman was taking photos of the half finished facade room from different angles. He would send them to the boss later.

He captured a picture of a woman getting on the car of a man by chance. He thought of deleting it later.

Then he took several more photos of the renovating store, and totally forgot about deleting the unrelated picture.

He directly sent the pictures to Joey, who simply glanced over the first few pictures and then sent them to Harry.

Harry examined the pictures closely from the beginning to the end. When it came to the last picture, his hands immediately froze.

The picture captured the majestic early spring, and a charming woman in pink coat and white trousers was going inside the a man's Benz.

Beside the Benz stood Thomas in a casual suit. The sunglasses failed to cover his gentle and sweet gaze at the woman.

He tightened his grip on the mouse of the computer, feeling so unhappy.

Lola wanted to be with Thomas?

She was dreaming!

Had she truly loved him when they were together before?

If she really loved him, why was she so ignorant of him?

At the Cinema

Lola looked at the cinema front, then stared at the man beside her.

Thomas nodded in approval and said, "Wait for me here. I'm going to buy the tickets."

Then he walked to the ticket counter.

Looking at his back, Lola lowered her head and thought about something. She was really caught in a dilemma. She didn't know what to feel anymore.

# Chapter 309

Should I try to love this man?

Thomas did not return until he bought the popcorn. Then, he held her hand and they walked to the ticket barrier.

This was the second time that they would watch a movie together. Thomas chose one that was starred by Joseph.

It was a good action movie.

They sat in the middle of the last row, waiting patiently for the movie to start.

"How was your life there? How was work?" It was the first time that Lola initiated to ask about his situation there.

He was surprised at this sweet gesture. He replied, "Everything was fine except that I was really busy." As for the treacherous things, it was unnecessary to tell her.

She slightly nodded and just continued eating the popcorn in the bucket.

"Could I go there with you this afternoon? Will that be possible?"

. . . . . .

Lola saw the shock on Thomas's face for the first time.

"You..... should not take it the wrong way, please. I just want to relax there for two days and to refresh myself." She explained to her shyly and wished that he did not expect too much.

Thomas shook his head and he was happy as long as she was with him.

"I would bring you with me. Don't worry about it."

After the movie ended, they had an early lunch.

Then, Lola returned home to pack her clothes and informed her family this news. After that, she boarded the plane to Zacrye with Thomas.

But Lola never imagined that she would stay there for a long time.

Thomas' living place was offered by Zacrye. When Lola was there, he arranged for her to live in his own flat.

Since then, no matter how busy he was, he would always happily come back to the flat as long as he was not on a business trip.

Harry unintentionally knew that Lola had went to Zacrye with Thomas. Joseph had received the news and relayed it to his boss.

At that time, Lola had been in Zacrye for a week and was having a good time in Kazza Lake. It offered really scenic views where it seemed like the water and the sky formed a straight line.

That night, Thomas picked her up to the flat in person.

Looking at her scruffy long hair because of playing, Thomas sweetly fixed it.

He caressed her hair and then drove back.

In the flat, Lola immediately took her shoes off and walked into the bedroom with bare feet.

It was already April in spring and was not that cold anymore. As there were carpets on the floor, it was warm inside the room.

On seeing her bare feet, Thomas grasped her hand, held her by the waist and entered the bedroom with her.

Lola was startled and draped her arms around his neck in a hurry since she was concerned that she might fall down.

Placing her on her bed, Thomas returned to take her slippers, squatted in front of her and put them on her feet.

Looking at him, Lola was so familiar to it as Harry once put shoes on her feet like this.

After this, Thomas saw that Lola was in a daze and her eyes were already welling with tears.

He had no idea on what she was thinking about and his hands propped up on the bed beside her.

"You must be very tired today. You should sleep early!"

She stared at the handsome face in front of her and wondered whether she would forget Harry if she tried to love Thomas back.

Then, Lola gathered courage and raised her head to imprint a kiss on his lips.

Yet, she didn't feel anything...

Herren's eyes suddenly concentrated on hers.

He was not a man who undoubtedly adhered to moral rules, so he did not intend to waste her initiative.

He held her in his arms and kissed her back.

As he was about to get even deeper, Lola gripped his hands.

She shook her head, "I'm so sorry." She was not yet ready for this.

Thomas tightly closed his eyes and calmed himself down.

He did not blame her and was actually excited that she was willing to take their relationship to the next level.

"Sleep early!" He abruptly left her bedroom and went back to his own bathroom.

Seeing the door close, Lola was in a trance.

Why didn't she think of Thomas even when she kissed him already?

Time passed and Lola had been there for almost a month without even being conscious of it. She suddenly received a WeChat message from the manager of her coffee shop: "Miss Newman, a new coffee shop was opened just across ours."

Lola felt that there was something amiss about this. Thomas sent her back to Ascea the next day.

Lola went to the coffee shop directly.

Inside the car, Lola looked at the man beside her. "Thomas, thank you for the care and attention you have given me during this difficult time." Zacrye was beautiful and she would always love that place.

Although Thomas was busy every day, he would always think of her.

Lola got off the car and headed for her coffee shop. Thomas asked her to stop for a while.

She turned around. He held her in his arms and planted a soft kiss on her lips.

"We could stay in touch through our phones. Go inside now!" Lola watched his tenderness and was confused. She just nodded as she had no idea on how to respond.

When the man turned around and got on the car, Lola shouted, "Thomas, thank you!"

Looking at her, Thomas smiled. Actually, he was not willing to let her leave him. But if he really loved her, he would wait for her.

He nodded as a gesture of farewell. Then, he slowly drove away.

Lola watched Thomas drive away until the car has disappeared from her sight. However, she saw a man with ice-cold eyes after that.

That man stood quietly over the other side of the wide road, one hand in his pocket and the other hand holding a cigarette.

Lola turned around to enter the coffee shop and blinked.

When she closed the glass door, the man had disappeared already.

It should have been the peak hours in coffee shop. But now, there were only customers on just two tables.

She turned around and looked at the opposite side of the road through the glass. There suddenly stood an establishment of two floors on the place which was an empty land before.

The establishment was decorated with luxurious European style designs and a long signboard. It bore the word 'Dominator'.

Lola knew the meaning of this English word. It meant someone who controlled people and things.

The style and the signboard were obviously Harry's. She could sense it immediately.

Thinking of the man she saw just now, she understood what was happening.

Apart from Harry, no one would and could open a coffee shop in such a short time.

She checked the sales income the past few days and found that it was the usual the day before yesterday. However, her coffee shop's sales suffered a disastrous decline after the shop across them opened yesterday.

What did he want to point out by doing this? A business tycoon in Uthana suddenly operated a coffee shop on the opposite of her shop in Ascea.

She heard that their price was the lowest in the industry and they also had a menu of many flavors. Was he aiming to kill her business?

Standing in front of the window with her hands clenched, Lola saw that more and more customers entered Harry's shop. It was as if Lola's cafe did not exist.

After over 20 minutes, Joey pushed the door of the coffee shop open, and was followed by an expressionless man.

Joey also opened the door of Maybach parked just along the road for his boss. He bent his head and waist and then got on the car.

The car window was half-opened. Lola could clearly saw his expression. He just glanced at the location where she stood with cold eyes. He was obviously looking at her.

He opened his mouth, said two words and slowly drove away.

# Chapter 310

Ever since that day, Lola's cafe was in a steady decline.

Fortunately, she bought the property with full cash already so she did not need to pay rent to anyone. She only needed to worry about paying salaries to the staff on time.

At that moment, she was doing okay. She still had some savings from her work at SL Group. She also had money from him... when he paid her for the medical expenses.

Lola was able to use the money to pay the salaries of her crew.

Her business had been at a loss for two consecutive months. One day, Lola wearily came to the store. All the worries and anxieties have exhausted her.

She looked around and noticed that the first floor had four occupied tables, the best business within the last two months.

She would also notice a young man named Minmin Cruz working tirelessly in the cafe. His diligence caught her attention.

She always saw him running around fetching stuff for the customers. When the cafe was not busy, he would do cleaning or simply just browse through the books on the shelves.

Lola observed him for days and found him very hardworking. He looked sincere and polite. Many customers even praised him for his outstanding service.

There was another female staff working in the cafe. She was a really young-looking girl. Lola specifically checked her ID and confirmed that she was already 21.

The girl was also hardworking. She even paid more attention to details than Minmin.

Lola paid 3000 to her staff as basic salary. With bonuses and incentives, they could earn more than 4000. Lola also provided meals and accommodation for her staff. The whole payment package was indeed very decent and reasonable.

Her staff were loyal to her despite the decline of the business. It was because their boss has taken care of them well.

Lola thought to herself that she should pay them another 1000 as extra bonus this month.

1000 might not be much to her as she lived a lavish life. Her single dress would easily cost more than 1000.

But for her staff, the sum equaled half a month of their work and maybe even one month's living cost.

Lola sat on the swing as she browsed through her Weibo updates. One picture posted by Cherry caught her attention. It was a lovely picture of a heart and a ring.

She did not tell who the ring was from. But underneath her post, a lot of people had sent their congratulations to her and Harry.

The ring was from a diamond brand belonging to the SL Group.

Lola had no doubt that Harry bought it for Cherry.

The ring reminded Lola of her own, the one Harry gave to her when he proposed. Even though they weren't together anymore, she had kept the ring in the bottom drawer of her room.

Just then, someone called out to her and pulled her back to reality. "Hey sis, I am here!" Joseph came in with a warm and excited greeting.

Lola was slightly surprised as she gazed at Joseph and Lillian!

"Hey! You're so lost in your thoughts again. What were you thinking about?" Lillian's baby bump was getting bigger. She peeped at Lola's computer and noticed the picture with the diamond ring in it. Whose ring was that?

Half a minute later, Lola finally pulled herself out of her wild thoughts. She turned off the laptop and stood up from the swing.

She helped Lillian sit comfortably in the chair next to her and just said, "You need to be careful when you are carrying a child. Avoid running around. It might harm the child." As Wendy was due to labor in the next two days, the family had sent her to the maternity ward already. Lola will go to the hospital to keep her accompanied that evening.

Joseph was a little bit upset when he saw Lola only talk to his wife. He deliberately put on a stiff face and interrupted them. "I am full of superstar power now. How come you did not notice me at all?"

Lola cast a glance at her brother. Behind him, some of the cafe staff were discussing and giggling at him. He was always so popular with the girls.

"You are of no good. Your wife is pregnant but you are seldom home to accompany her. Take a leave from work already, Joseph."

Lillian smiled gracefully at her words. Joseph instantly defended himself. "I am busy earning money. For the sake of the child, I am trying to make more money. We have to buy diapers and stuff, right?" He hugged Lillian on her shoulder to further show his love. "Don't listen to my sister. I love you very much."

..... The two women exchanged strange looks and felt amused by his words. Joseph had a honey tongue as he could easily say sweet words without even trying so hard!

"Just go away already. My young crew of girls have been fancying you so much. Why don't you go there and give them your autographs. Or even take pictures with them?" Lola chased Joseph away, then she turned around and poured Lillian a glass of water.

Joseph did what Lola suggested. Surprisingly, the business boomed for a while because a word has spread that he was there.

In the hospital

Joseph went to park the car. Lola held Lillian's arm as they walked into the lift.

In the VIP ward

Wendy was slightly annoyed as she did not understand why she was in the hospital already.

However, Jordan ignored all her complaints.

She threw a pillow at him out of anger. Jordan finally opened his mouth to calm her down: "Honey, you shouldn't be mad. I'm just concerned for you."

Wendy stared at him with widened eyes. "I am due in the next four days. But you brought me here already and forbid me from doing anything. If you were in my shoes, wouldn't you go mad?"

Jordan laughed as he caressed her hair. "Don't worry. It will be quick. Those four days will pass by so fast and soon, it will be over."

Four days? Wendy was not stupid! "Then four days later, after I give birth, you will tell me to be bedridden for another month to recover. It will be even more boring!" She knew what was coming! She had read a lot on the maternity books. But she dreaded the fact that she needed to rest for a long time.

He quickly kissed her soft lips and answered, "I will always be there and accompany you. You won't feel bored at all." For her, he would do anything. He had specifically asked for half a month of leave. It was the first time that he will be out from work for a long period of time.

Wendy cast a glance on his face and thought for some time. Eventually. she calmed down.

Just then, the ward door was pushed open. Lola and Lillian walked in with warm greetings and lovely smiles. Wendy instantly cheered up.

"Lola, Lillian! You guys are here!" How wonderful! She was not bored anymore! Finally!

Lola walked up to her bed with a big grin. "Brother, you really shouldn't have brought Wendy here so early. She is due only in four days' time. Now you have bored her to tears."

Jordan smiled and said nothing. He did this for Wendy as he was very cautious. To be honest, when Lola gave birth to Nicole, it was such an unpleasant scene that he was nervous that it might also happen to his wife.

Back then, Lola was three days earlier than the due date. It was midnight when she doubled up in pain. She was quickly sent to the hospital. There, she was informed by the doctors that natural birth was not ideal for her due to her situation.

She had to go for the C-section. It ended up in messy bleeding. Two hours after Nicole was born, the doctors were still trying to revive Lola in the emergency room.

The family were freaked out. They prayed for her, hoping she would survive the operation. Eventually, Lola was rescued by the doctors and safely sent to the ward so she could rest.

"Lola. Lillian come here and sit with me. Let me tell you how unfair he has been to me!" They laughed as they sat down next to her. The atmosphere in the room was really warm and full of glee.

Jordan decided to give them some space and walked outside for a smoke.

"Brother, Wendy will soon be in labor. How come you haven't quit smoking yet? It will be harmful for your child." On his way out, he heard Lola's voice.

Jordan nodded: "I try to! Don't judge me!" He was actually cutting down on his cigarettes. But he was doing it slowly and gradually.

Gazing at his back, Lola unconsciously thought of another man who smoked even more than her older

brother. Thomas, on the other hand, did not smoke much at all. He did not have any bad habits.

Jordan bumped into Joseph as he was stepping out of the ward. He said to him, "Let's go. Leave the room to the chatting women."

Joseph peeped inside through the glass panel and agreed to walk away with his brother.

The three women had a really close relationship with one another and were very good friends. Whenever they got a chance, they would gather up and talk for like forever.

Nothing would stop them from chatting. So the brothers decided to leave them so they could go to somewhere quiet and peaceful.

Inside the ward, the three women were having a heated discussion about child, birth and other related topics. It was all feminine and fun.