

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 243-274

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 243-At the mention of Jackson, Norma rolled her eyes. "One word-pervert." "He's a pervert?" "Yeah. He'd even give a female fly a second look, not to mention women." Olivia felt even more confused. Could someone like him be the mastermind?

"Did he mess with you, Ms. Fordham?" Norma asked, studying Olivia's expression.

"No, I was just curious." Norma thought quickly, then said, "Thanks to you, we got another partnership in the bag. This means that we've completed the sales mission. He'll be here soon." As she spoke, Norma pointed at a man in a suit and tie, who was standing at a corner. "Look, there he is." Olivia looked in the direction Norma was pointing. Jackson seemed to be around 35 years old. He had a common stature, and his eyes had a cunning shine to them.

When their gazes met, Jackson studied Olivia from head to toe.

"Oh, you're that newcomer, aren't you? The one who bagged a huge project as soon as she joined. You're something." Jackson reached out to pat Olivia on the shoulder.

He was boldly trying to take advantage of her. Before he touched her shoulder, Olivia subtly dodged him. She said, calmly yet politely, "You're too kind, Mr.

Yancey." She met Jackson's gaze, trying to figure something out from the look in his eyes.

He didn't even hide his intentions. It was obvious that he wanted to harass her.

"You have a bright future ahead of you, Olivia!" Jackson chatted a little before leaving. Before he left, he even tried to ask Olivia out for dinner after work.

Jackson had just left when Norma spoke up. "I told you, he's a pervert. You should stay away from him, Ms. Fordham." "Yeah." Looking at Jackson, Olivia grew suspicious. She had seen the photos he sent in Sophia's chat history. If not, she would've thought that she was overthinking it.

This man was good at pretending.

“Help me with something, Norma.” Hearing Olivia asking something of her, Norma immediately agreed. “What is it, Ms. Fordham?” Olivia whispered in Norma’s ear. Without another thought, Norma replied, “Leave this to me. I swear that by tomorrow morning, I’ll have all the information on Jackson.

“I won’t miss any details.” Olivia reminded her, “Remember, don’t let anyone else know about this.” Norma thought that there were some personal grudges between them. She hastily gestured, zipping her mouth. “Don’t worry, Ms. Fordham. My lips are sealed.” Not long after Olivia settled the project, Ethan heard news of it.

He leaned against his chair, supporting his head with a hand as he spoke mockingly.

“I just wanted to tame her a little with this tough job, but I never thought that she would get it done in two days. Are the others too useless, or is she simply too talented?” Brent poured out a cup of tea for him. “Of course, Mrs. Miller is amazing. But luck is in play as well. You’ve also met the newly appointed general manager of Peak Group before.” “Who is it?” “The puppy on the cruise.” Ethan might not remember much of other things, but the mention of this incident sparked his memory.

He remembered what that person almost did to Olivia that night. If that huge incident hadn’t happened, Ethan wouldn’t have let him off the hook Ethan rubbed his temples. “His last name is Moriarty, isn’t it?” “Colin Moriarty, yes.” “What can a mere child do?” Ethan didn’t mind him in the least.

Half an hour later, Ethan saw Olivia getting into a Maserati. The person who opened the car door for her was none other than Colin, who was wearing a white suit.

The two smiled at each other. It had been a long while since Ethan last saw Olivia smile like that.

Ethan’s gaze turned dark. He gripped his phone so hard that he almost broke it.

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 244-In the hospital, Jeff was lying on the hospital bed as always. Every day, he survived on nutrient solutions and various equipment.

His body had weakened at a noticeable rate. His limbs had begun to shrink. He was like a flower that had lost its vigor and was clinging to the last bits of nutrients in the soil. He was barely hanging on.

Olivia hadn't visited him in a while. Every time she saw her father like this, she would feel even worse.

Jeff's face was already sunken. Olivia's tears dripped onto the back of his dry hand.

"Dad..." She wished that a miracle would happen one day, and Jeff would wake up and look at her. She yearned for just a glance from him, and maybe a few words too.

"Don't be sad, Olivia." Colin patted her gently on the back. Olivia lowered her head, not wanting anyone to see her at her weakest moments.

Sobbing, Olivia covered her face. When she looked up again, she saw Colin listening to Jeff's heartbeat with a stethoscope.

"Colin?" Putting the stethoscope down, Colin smiled at Olivia. "I was a med student, remember? I wanted to have a look at Mr. Fordham." "Sorry for the trouble." "You're too kind, Olivia." Colin gave Jeff a regular check-up. Watching his movements, Olivia didn't think he was a mere student.

"Olivia, can I have a look at Mr. Fordham's latest medical report?" "Sure." Olivia found all the reports and showed them to Colin. Colin read every detail.

Time ticked by. A moment later, Colin finally looked up at her. The look in his eyes was wiss the usual look in his eyes.

eep. It was different from "Olivia, there's still hope for Mr. Fordham's illness. If Leo carries out the operation, the chances of success are very high." Olivia sighed. "That's true. We've tried everything we could, but we still can't find him." "Don't worry, Olivia. I'll help you look for him. I'll ask my connections overseas for help." Sitting by the bed, Olivia wiped Jeff's body clean with a hot towel. "I don't know if my dad can hang on until then." "He will." Olivia turned around, meeting Colin's gaze. There was a determined look in his dark eyes.

After leaving the hospital, Colin regained his youthful attitude. "Can you treat me to a meal, Olivia? I'm starving." "Sure. What would you like to eat?" Olivia was an only child. Since young, she had always wished for siblings. In her

eyes, Colin was a younger brother to her; one that was obedient and adorable.

“There’s a night market nearby. Let’s get some snacks there, Olivia.” “That works too.” The night market in the area was a tourist attraction.

In a corner of the busy street, Olivia was holding a milkshake in one hand and candy in another. Assorted snacks hung from her wrist in plastic bags.

Amidst the lights, Olivia smiled like an innocent child. There were no ulterior motives or sorrows behind her smile.

It had been too long since she last hung out like this, snacking on her favorite foods like a normal young woman.

“I remember you smiling a lot when you were young, Olivia. You look lovely when you smile. You’re so young, but you have to pretend to be an experienced woman.” Olivia shook her head. “I’m not pretending. I was just crushed by the weight of life.” “Olivia, will you return to your old self if Mr. Fordham wakes up?” A gust of wind blew past them. The lights hanging on strings above them swayed in the wind. The vintage vibes made the place look even prettier.

Olivia smiled. “I want to, but I can’t go back anymore.” Flower petals fluttered in the wind, and it looked like they were in a movie. A petal landed on Olivia’s hair.

“Don’t move, Olivia.” Olivia was stunned. Reaching out, Colin removed the petal from her hair.

His approach cast shadows on her face. It was only then that Olivia realized something.

The timid little boy who used to follow her everywhere had now grown up. He was even taller than her.

As the light from the lights shone on his face, he lifted the petal and said softly, “Look. The whole world is trying to heal you. Only you refuse to have mercy on yourself.”

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 245-Colin sent Olivia to her apartment. He had the innocence of a youth, but he also had the gentlemanly air of an older man.

He opened the car door for Olivia. Then, he wrapped the scarf he just purchased around Olivia's neck.

"It's okay, I'm not feeling cold," Olivia said.

"This is a new scarf. You should keep yourself warm," he explained.

"Alright. Take care on your way back. Thanks." Colin was still smiling. "The snacks tonight don't count. You still owe me a proper meal, Olivia." "Oh, you." Reaching out, Olivia caressed his head. "You've never changed since you were young." She once promised to give him a present back then. He remembered it and would keep asking her for the present from time to time.

"Let's meet up sometime." "Sure." Olivia watched as the car drove away. Then, she turned around and got into the elevator.

Colin was right. She shouldn't be so pessimistic.

She looked at the snacks she was holding. She never thought that Colin still remembered her preferences after so many years.

Olivia and Colin got to know each other when they were young. Later on, Colin went overseas to study, but the two frequently chatted online.

"When did we become distant from each other?" she wondered.

It was probably a few years ago when she started dating Ethan. She had given all her time to Ethan, so naturally, her relationship with Colin faded out.

She still remembered Colin as the little boy who was so scared of cats that he climbed up the tree at her house.

When Olivia thought of that innocent little face, she smiled.

Nights weren't so bad, after all. The darker the night, the brighter the moon and stars would be. She decided to take some time off to get her stomach checked. She was slowly regaining the will to live.

Upon opening the door to the house, Olivia tapped on the touchscreen to turn on the lights.

When she looked up, her smile froze.

A man was sitting on the couch with his legs slightly apart. His hands lay casually on the armrests, and he had the lazy attitude of a host.

Cigarette stubs filled the ashtray in front of him. He had been waiting for a long time.

“Why are you here, Mr. Miller?” Ethan looked at her with a cold gaze. His voice was calm. “Where did you go?” He looked like he was interrogating his wife who had cheated on him.

Olivia was sick of his antics. He was getting engaged to Marina, but he still refused to let go of her.

But she dared not go up against Ethan for now.

“I went to visit my dad with my childhood friend.” Olivia took off her high heels, massaging her sore ankles. She placed the bags aside and then put on a pair of plush slippers.

Going to the bathroom, she removed her makeup. She treated Ethan like he wasn't there.

She scooped up some water to wash her face. When she raised her head again, her face was clean.

Olivia's face looked like it was painted. It was pretty and exquisite, but it lacked color. She looked a little sickly.

She looked at the pair of dark eyes that were reflected in the mirror. “Is there something else, Mr. Miller?” Ethan scoffed. “Olivia, I never thought you were someone like this. If you need something from me, you'd call me Ethan. If not, you'd just call me Mr. Miller.” Olivia dried her face with a towel before turning around. “Mr. Miller, I just went to the hospital with a kid. I didn't break our promise. Why do you look like I've wronged you?” “A kid? Have you forgotten what he tried to do to you on the cruise?” “He was drugged by your fiancée back then. Instead of blaming him, you should ask your fiancée about it.”

Olivia wasn't mad at first. But when the past was mentioned, she could barely hold in her anger.

The man in front of her walked closer to her, trapping her against the basin. With a dark look on his face, he said coldly, "Olivia, why are you so dissatisfied?"

"I was the one who caused Fordham Group to go bankrupt, but I've already invested in it so that it would be rebuilt. I hate your father, yes, but him being hospitalized isn't my doing!" Olivia replied, "I know." "You're worried about the island, so I contributed funds to improve the islanders' lives. I even handed the Fordham residence to you.

"I'm not holding a grudge against those two kids, and I even helped them settle in. When you wanted to join the company, I let you in without another word." Ethan gripped her shoulders. "As promised, I don't touch you without your permission. I told you, I can give you everything aside from the title of Mrs.

Miller.

"What more do you want from me?" □

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 246-Olivia smiled. It was an extremely mocking smile.

She pried Ethan's fingers off her. "Mr. Miller, I've never wanted anything from you. I can even let go of the title of Mrs. Miller without any issues." Under Ethan's gleaming gaze, Olivia smiled faintly. She said calmly, "In the past, I thought that nothing could rival you. But then I stood still, waiting "I waited as leaves budded, then cicadas started crying in the summer. The leaves then turned yellow in fall, and lastly, the wind began to howl in winter.

"I couldn't wait any longer, so I had no choice but to drag my tired body forward.

Then, I realized something.

"The spring breeze, the summer cicadas, the leaves in the fall, and even the winter snow... All those things are better than you." She lifted her hands, her slender fingers touching the face she used to love with all her heart.

“Ethan, I admit that I haven’t completely forgotten about you. Maybe I won’t be able to wipe you from memory even after many years.

“You’ll still affect my mood and change my thoughts, but... I don’t have the energy to miss you anymore.” In the end, her fingers touched his lips. “Ethan, aren’t you tired of all those grudges? I am. I don’t want to waste more time on you and Marina.

“I don’t want to be upset because of people that don’t matter to me anymore.

Let’s just go on our separate paths, alright?” Her face was reflected in Ethan’s eyes. She was supposed to be familiar, but now, he felt that she was a stranger. He felt like he had never seen her before.

Gritting his teeth, he said in a cold voice, “Olivia, are you so desperate to cut off ties with me?” Olivia met his gaze. At that moment, she wasn’t afraid, nor was she pretending.

“Yes. If I weren’t looking for Leo, I wouldn’t have gone to you. I don’t like Marina, and I don’t want to be a second Marina either. I don’t want to get involved with you while you’re married.

“Divorce isn’t just a contract written on a piece of paper; it’s a decision made by two adults to respect your own choice.” He released her shoulders. “I hope you don’t regret your decision today.” Olivia thought that she would be scared and helpless.

But when the time came, she realized that she was much calmer than expected.

the only thing you have to “In the past, I was scared of the dark. I was scared that you would leave me and not love me anymore. I would close my eyes and block my ears.

“I stopped where I was. I dared not take another step. But now, I realized that it was scary because I didn’t dare face the problem.

“When I accepted the truth and stopped caring, I realized that you’re the one I fear losing the most. But now that I’ve already lost you, what is left for me to be scared of?” Ethan parted his lips. He wanted to explain, but in the end, he didn’t know where to start.

He could only let his arms fall by his sides. He looked at Olivia with a complicated expression.

“Have you truly made up your mind?” Olivia tried her best to smile. “Ethan, I earnestly tried before. I kept believing this certain saying.

212 “When you’ve decided to give up on your dreams, tell yourself to hang on. For one more day, one more week, one more month, and even one more year.

“You’ll be surprised with the results from just hanging on.” Lifting her hand, she held up her index and middle fingers. “Because of this saying, I persisted for two years. I kept waiting for a miracle to happen.

“You don’t know how I felt when I watched the sun setting alone at home. The moon was already in the sky, and the food was reheated over and over again.

“I was waiting for someone who would never return.

“You’ll never understand what it felt like when the Fordhams went bankrupt.

When my father got into an accident, and when I lost my lover and child. When I lost everything.

“Back then, I rushed to and from the hospital. When I needed you the most, you were spending time with Marina.” There were tears in Olivia’s eyes, but she remained smiling. “I’ve experienced heartbreak and knives stabbing through my heart. I’ve been betrayed by everyone close to me.

“I struggled in the mud for two whole years, but what did I get in the end? What can I do about it? You don’t need me, so why should I stay?” Gripping Ethan’s arms, she continued, “I can now feel that you don’t hate me anymore. Since you don’t want to hurt me, Ethan, can you please let me go?

For the sake of old times?” Ethan didn’t say a word. He simply pried her hands away.

That day, he closed the door gently.

Those words had come true. When he was leaving for real, he would close the door at the lowest volume possible.

Olivia slid down along the wall of the bathroom. Tears streamed out from between her fingers.

She had let go of the love of her life. This pain was like splashing cold water on a pile of burning coal, putting it out.

If she worked hard, she would succeed. If they loved each other, they would be together. Those lies supported her when she was still passionate about life. She had thrown herself into his embrace.

The fairytales weren't wrong. The prince and the princess did live happily ever after.

But no fairytale mentioned what life was like for the princess after getting married. There were too many things she couldn't. Even if she still had a place in Ethan's heart, she couldn't accept the fact that he had eyes on another woman as well.

So, she let go. She had completely let go.

She wanted to rediscover her past self.

Olivia dialed a number. Then, she heard a voice she hadn't heard in forever.

"How are you?" "I'm fine, Keith," Olivia said, smiling.

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 247-Keith and Olivia chatted a little about what was going on in their lives. Olivia had always felt guilty for the fact that Ethan had banished Keith because of her.

Keith's voice was as gentle as always. He was studying overseas, and he had already gotten used to the new surroundings.

He even got himself a nice girlfriend. When he returned in a few years, he would take over the position of head of the hospital. So, his studies weren't entirely a bad thing. He arranged a stomach check-up for Olivia tomorrow.

"Olivia, I'm truly glad that you can move on and start life anew." "I'll try my best to live a good life, Keith. Be it a day or a month, I'll welcome tomorrow with hope." A woman's voice sounded from the other end of the line. "Keith, I messed up again..." Smiling, Olivia ended the call. "Go ahead, Keith." That night, she finally relaxed. She went and took a bath.

She even poured out some wine for herself after that. Standing on the balcony, she listened to the sea breeze as she raised her glass.

She shouted at the sea, "Olivia, you have to live on!" Early the next morning, she took the day off. She put on a simple white dress, then got Everly to come along to visit their old school.

It had only been a few years, but the surroundings had changed a lot. There were more shops and buildings near the school now.

The morning breeze ruffled the girls' ponytails and the green shoots on the trees. The birds twittered as they flew across the blue sky.

Steam rolled out of the roadside stalls, and the delicious smell of food wafted in the air.

The sunlight bounced on Olivia's bright face. Everything was just right, and she could finally fall in love with this broken world again.

Everly chatted with Olivia, talking about interesting things in the past. When she mentioned Josh, a look of disappointment would appear on Everly's face.

Olivia patted her on the shoulder. "Eve..." Everly quickly put on a smile. "I'm fine. I'm not as weak as you think.

"I've been quite busy these days. I'm busy signing stuff and getting used to the new company. I'm also trying hard to get close to my colleagues and improve myself.

"I thought I would be sad, but the sadness is taken over by the trivial things in life. I've even started to forget the things I thought I would remember forever." Everly took Olivia's hand. "Liv, I believe you can do it too. Give yourself some time. You deserve the best." "Yes, I believe it too." Going to a nearby flower shop, Olivia bought two bouquets. She gave one to Everly. Then, they held the bouquets against each other.

"Cheers to our wonderful life." Olivia had her check-up done with the doctor Keith had arranged for her. Once back home, she put the flowers into a vase.

Looking at the pretty flowers, she smiled.

Chapter 247 2/2 When she gave herself the flowers, she also vowed to pursue freedom.

The results would be out in 28 hours. Olivia slept soundly that night. The dark sea no longer swallowed her in her dreams.

Instead, she saw a child running toward her in a field of flowers. The child placed a flower crown on her head.

“Please be happy, Mommy.” Olivia hugged the child. But when she looked at the child’s face, she found herself gazing into Connor’s eyes.

The dream ended suddenly. Olivia looked at the sunlight outside the window, smiling in exasperation. “Why did I dream of that child again?” she wondered.

She drew the curtains back, then reached out to touch the sunlight shining in.

When her heart was warm, she noticed that the sunlight was warm as well.

After getting ready, she went to the company. She was ready for her new journey.

In the lobby, she saw Ethan, who was surrounded by people. It was a stark contrast to her, who was all alone.

Like many other employees, she greeted him politely, “Mr. Miller.” He nodded, then looked away. He passed by her without emotion.

It was as if the two never knew each other.

She walked toward the crowded elevators meant for everyone else. Ethan headed for his exclusive elevator instead.

They were like parallel lines that would never meet. This was the relationship they should have.

It was only then that she understood. The most cruel words in this world weren’t “I’m sorry” or “I hate you”. They were “We can never go back to how it was before”.

Olivia pressed the button to close the elevator doors. She completely shut Ethan’s figure out of her life.

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 248-As soon as Olivia entered Team C's office, everyone greeted her enthusiastically.

Seeing this, Olivia felt that it was quite amusing. If they knew that she no longer had a backer, would they still be smiling so brightly?

Even Sophia didn't mind her taking on the project alone. Patting her shoulder, Sophia said, "Give it your all, Olivia!" Norma hastily pulled Olivia to the side. In a deserted place, she reported her findings to Olivia.

"Ms. Fordham, Jackson hung out with a woman from his department last night.

He had a lot of fun." "And?" Norma replied, "Fortunately, I'm quite close to that woman. She helped me ask him a few questions.

"Jackson said that you look pretty and have a nice figure. Your skin is great too.

He said that one day, he would ... Well ..." She didn't relay the indecent words that came after that.

Norma concluded, "Other than that, Jackson doesn't have any grudges against you. He didn't behave as if he knew you before this." Olivia frowned. "Then the photos..." "She asked him about it. He saw the photos. He said that if Mr. Lincoln can do it, then so can he. He didn't know that he was the one who started it." Olivia thought about his chat history with Sophia. Other than the photos, there wasn't anything else.

"Ms. Fordham, this is what I know of Mr. Yancey. He's good at work, but other than that, his brain is only filled with indecent stuff.

"He holds no grudges against you, so he doesn't have a reason to do that." Olivia wondered aloud, "If he didn't do it, then why did the photos come from him?" "He's a perverted man. Anyone can bait him as long as they show some skin.

Maybe some woman used his phone, then sent the photos from his phone to Ms. Linden." Olivia's eyes lit up. "You're right." The mastermind wouldn't expose themselves of their own accord. If Olivia wanted to investigate this matter, she would put her focus on Jackson.

That was cunning.

Now, if Olivia could figure out who had gotten in touch with Jackson, the truth would be revealed.

Thinking that she was one step closer to the truth, Olivia felt her heart beating wildly.

The hospital called her up as well. “Ms. Fordham, we received your report ahead of time.

“The chemotherapy was very effective, and the cancer cells are visibly under control. They’ve stopped multiplying. Also, the tumor has shrunk.” Olivia looked at the blue sky. Her mood was instantly lifted. “It’s good news.”

“Judging by the data, you can go for an operation now. Still, you need a specialist to have a look at you. I’ll prepare the best treatment plan for you.”

“Okay, Dr. Scott. Thank you so much.” Olivia ended the call. Staying alive wasn’t such a bad thing, after all.

Chapter 248 212 The woman was wearing respectable clothes, and she had exquisite makeup on her face. The receptionist didn’t trouble her too much.

“Ma’am, who are you looking for?” “I’m looking for my daughter.” “Who’s your daughter?” “Olivia Fordham.” Chloe’s gaze searched the whole office. Then, she locked onto Olivia’s figure.

Olivia didn’t think Chloe was here to chat about old times.

When they parted at the hospital that day, Olivia had blacklisted Chloe.

Norma spoke up. “Wow, Ms. Fordham, your mother is so young and pretty! No wonder she could give birth to such a beautiful Before Norma could finish praising Olivia, Chloe stomped up to Olivia in her high heels. Without another word, Chloe delivered a slap to her face.

“You shameless woman. You’ve even tracked him to the company!

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 249-It wasn’t that Olivia couldn’t dodge it. Instead, Chloe was simply too fast. Olivia also didn’t expect her to do that in public.

Olivia was stunned by the slap.

In her memories, Chloe was a distant person who had always been cold to Olivia.

No matter what, Chloe had received lessons on manners since she was young.

How could she hit Olivia in public?

– Olivia covered her face, taking a deep breath to suppress the rage in her heart.

“Mrs. Carlton, I think you owe me an explanation.” “If I had known you would turn out as shameless as this, Olivia, I wouldn’t have given birth to you. I’m very disappointed in you!” Chloe’s slap had ruined Olivia’s good mood for the past two days.

Olivia’s colleagues looked on curiously. Olivia couldn’t handle the embarrassment.

“If you have something to say, let’s talk outside.” Chloe swept her hand away. “What’s the matter? Are you scared that I’ll expose what you did? I have no idea how your father raised you. I can’t believe you’ve resorted to such tactics!

“He has already cut off ties with you, but you ran after him and even joined his company!” Olivia understood what was going on now. Marina knew that she couldn’t change Ethan’s decision, so she urged Chloe to make an appearance.

Chloe would shame Olivia in public. Then, Olivia would feel so embarrassed that she would leave the company on her own.

This plot wasn’t too cunning, but it was the most hurtful.

Olivia looked at Chloe with a hurt look on her face. “But you’re my mother.” She couldn’t understand it. Chloe was her biological mother, but she kept siding with Marina.

Chloe knew that Marina had ruined her family, but she never scolded Marina for it. Instead, she played along with Marina’s plot and came to the company to cause trouble.

Marina must have told Chloe something. Chloe's face was filled with rage as she said, "I don't have a shameless daughter like you!" With that, she grabbed Olivia's hair. "Come with me. You shouldn't be here!" The people around them couldn't help even if they wanted to. They never thought that Olivia's mother would be so fierce.

At that moment, they still didn't know Chloe's identity.

When people from the other departments heard of this incident, they stopped working. They crowded at the entrance of the office to watch the show.

"Go and tell Mr. Miller that you're resigning right now. Don't you dare go out and embarrass yourself ever again." "Let go!" Olivia pushed Chloe away with all her might.

Losing her balance, Chloe fell onto the ground.

She didn't make a fuss on the ground, but her words were still hurtful.

Scrambling to get up, she scolded Olivia for ruining someone else's family.

A few days ago, people were still spreading rumors that Olivia was involved with Ethan. Chloe's visit had proven this rumor.

As Chloe complained, everyone looked at Olivia in disdain.

Chapter 249 Home-wreckers were rampant these days, and many people hated them as well.

Everyone whispered among themselves. Olivia could hear the horrible words they were saying.

The words flew at her from all directions like piercing daggers.

Those weren't the worst; the worst came from her own mother's mouth.

Chloe would destroy Olivia for Marina's sake!

Rumors were like knives that would steal people's lives.

Olivia couldn't defend herself. Under such circumstances, anything she said would be wrong.

No matter what she said, her mother's words would still win over hers.

Clenching her fingers into fists, she asked Chloe a question, "What good do you get out of this?"

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 250-Olivia couldn't understand what Chloe was thinking. She didn't know why Chloe abandoned her and went overseas back then.

She had been gone for many years. Now that she had come back, shouldn't she make it up to her poor daughter?

If Chloe ruined Olivia's reputation, it would have a bad effect on her reputation as a mother too. What was she trying to do?

Chloe was stunned for a moment. Then, she became even fiercer. "Olivia, I told you to be a blameless person. Aren't you scared of the consequences when you do these things?" Blood was oozing out of Olivia's clenched fists. "Why should I be scared? She's the one who should be scared..." Before she could finish speaking, a calm man's voice rang out. "Mrs. Carlton, the CEO wishes to see you two." News of this incident had already reached the CEO's office. Brent, who was standing respectfully at the side, led the two away.

Olivia lowered her head, staring at Chloe's back. The sight wasn't much different from what she remembered.

She felt pathetic. If she had known that her mother was someone like this, would she still have held onto hope as she waited for Chloe's return?

Opening the door, Brent respectfully led Chloe in. "Have a seat, Ma'am." Chloe sat down. Brent was about to ask Olivia to take a seat when Olivia interrupted him, "It's okay, I'll stand." Putting down the document in his hands, Ethan stood up. He moved swiftly.

When he walked past Olivia, she felt a breeze picking up.

Ethan sat down opposite Chloe. He didn't say a word, and there was cold air coming from him.

Be it Jeff or Chris, both had only ever shown Chloe their gentle sides. So, she wasn't used to the suppressing feeling coming from someone younger than her.

“Ms. Parker, you should inform me beforehand if you’re coming to the company.

I could send someone to welcome you.” Ethan began to boil some water for tea.

He also rinsed the cups while he was at it. His movements were so skilled that he looked like a master.

Chloe wasn’t as arrogant as she had been just now. Placing her hands on her knees, she behaved like a proper lady.

“I had something to talk to my daughter about.” Ethan’s voice wasn’t loud, and his tone was steady as well. His well-defined hands took the cups, rinsing them thoroughly. His movements were elegant and graceful.

“Ms. Parker, you can make as much fuss as you’d like. Young people like us have no right to intervene. Still...” He placed the cups firmly on the table, producing a loud sound. Ethan stared at Chloe. “Isn’t it inappropriate for you to cause trouble at my company?” Chloe could feel the majestic air of a higher-up coming from him. She gulped, having never thought that a younger person could be so powerful.

“Ethan, I’m doing this for your sake. I know that Liv has been pestering you all this while. She has already gotten divorced from you, but she’s still sticking to you.

“You’re about to be engaged to Marina, so I was just trying to help you.” Olivia was furious. She was about to say something when Ethan spoke up before she did. “Ms. Parker, I think you’ve misunderstood something.

Ethan placed the cup in front of her. “Ever since the beginning, I’ve been the one pestering your daughter.” His words were like an invisible slap delivered to Chloe’s face.

Chapter 250 2/2 For a long while, Chloe was stunned. She stuttered as she said, “How can this be?”

“I heard that you two had a rocky relationship. You two are divorced, too. You even have a child with Marina. I thought ...” Ethan replied, “Ms. Parker, sometimes, the truth differs from what you see.

Moreover, all those are just rumors. I can't interfere in your family matters, but I should remind you about something.

"She's your biological daughter. Why would you believe your stepdaughter instead of listening to your biological daughter?" □

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 251-Ethan's words struck a chord in Olivia's heart. He knew the expectations Olivia had of her mother.

Chloe was the person Olivia had longed for, after all. But when Chloe came back, this was how she treated Olivia. Ethan knew how sad Olivia must have felt.

But Chloe didn't.

She didn't like Jeff, so she treated his daughter coldly as well.

Marina wasn't quite respectful to her, especially when Chris wasn't around.

Marina had plotted against Chloe many times.

Human nature could be terrible. People would usually show their gentlest sides to outsiders, but they treated their closest relatives with anger and hatred.

Over the years, it had become a habit of Chloe's to try and please Marina.

Likewise, she ignored Olivia out of habit. She didn't care about Olivia and even abandoned her without consideration.

Ethan's words didn't make her reflect on her actions. She said stubbornly to him, "I only know that you're getting engaged to Marina today. Your relationship with Liv belongs to the past.

"Liv, I'm begging you, just stay away from Ethan. Don't ruin Marina's family, please." Olivia was heartbroken. She had finally regained her desire to live, but Chloe had destroyed it all.

"Is everything I do a mistake, Mrs. Carlton?" "If you have a sense of shame, you'd stay away from Ethan instead of working at his company. Marina is being ridiculed because of you." Olivia looked at the cold expression on Chloe's face. She remembered that when she was a young child, she would try her best to get good grades.

When she showed Chloe her answer sheet with great results, Chloe would react just like this.

Chloe had never cared.

“Oh, alright. Now wash your hands and get ready for lunch. In the afternoon, take piano lessons at home by yourself. I’m going to the beauty salon.” Olivia had never received the praise she looked forward to. She didn’t know what went wrong.

Her classmates said that every parent would love children who got good grades.

“So why won’t Mom praise me?” Olivia used to wonder.

She thought that she wasn’t good enough, so she had to work harder.

Olivia had always been a smart person. She didn’t waste her talent, and she worked harder than anyone else.

She received praise from everyone around her, except for Chloe.

It was only at this moment that she realized something. When someone didn’t like a person, they would find fault even with the person’s breathing.

Chloe didn’t like Olivia. She even treated Olivia like a stain that caused her to betray her first love.

Even if Olivia plucked the stars from the sky and presented them to Chloe, the latter would remain indifferent. She would just think that the things Olivia gave her were dirty.

When Olivia was young, she could still fantasize and convince herself that Chloe must have a reason for her actions. She would tell herself that Chloe still loved her.

She paid a price for growing up. She finally realized the sort of person Chloe was, and she learned that Chloe had never loved Chapter 251 her.

Marina wasn’t related to Chloe by blood, but Chloe loved and pampered her because she was the daughter of Chloe’s sweetheart.

Olivia raised her head, trying to hold back the tears.

At that moment, her stomach acted up again. After lying low for a few days, that same spot began to ache again.

Seeing that Olivia hadn't spoken a word, Chloe softened her tone. "Liv, you can't blame me for playing favorites. Marina hasn't been in good health since she was young.

2/2 "Now, she finally managed to marry the person she likes. We're family, so do this even if it's just for my sake. Please get out of this relationship that's no longer yours. Let everyone be happy, alright?" Olivia sneered. "Did you just say that she's not in good health?" "Yes, Marina has insomnia. She can't sleep well most of the time. You know how important sleep is. If you don't sleep well, it'll affect your health." Olivia took a step back, her smile heartbreaking. "Hah, how badly will it affect her health? Is it lethal?" Chloe retorted, "Don't say that. Marina will live to a ripe old age. Do you think Marina is as healthy as you?"

"We're all family here. Why do you keep going up against her? Why can't you step aside for once?" Olivia was so mad that she grabbed Chloe by the collar. "She can live to a ripe old age, but what about me? Do I deserve to die young? We're all humans here.

"Why should I step aside for her?" Chloe trembled in fury. Raising her hand, she brought it toward Olivia's face.

"You're so rude! Is this how you speak to your mother?" A hand grabbed Chloe's wrist, preventing the slap from finding its target.

□

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 252-Olivia looked up. A strong body had appeared before her. Ethan was grabbing Chloe's hand.

If he had been respectful of Chloe before, he wasn't now. He didn't bother to hide the coldness in his eyes. "Aren't you going too far, Ms. Parker?" Chloe had always lived in a pampered environment. Ethan's grip was hurting her wrist so much that she frowned. "Ethan, I'm helping you here. What are you doing?" "Helping me?" Ethan sneered, but he didn't let go. Instead, he tightened his grip.

He said, "I don't like anyone meddling in my affairs, understand?" Chloe was in so much pain that tears welled up in her eyes. She nodded repeatedly.

“Yes, I get it now. Just let go of me.” “Ms. Parker, look properly at the person in front of you. She’s your real daughter!” With that, Ethan pushed her hand away.

Two trails of tears appeared on Chloe’s face. It was all because of Ethan.

She looked at Olivia with an even fiercer expression. She transferred the pain Ethan caused her onto Olivia.

“Look, it’s all your fault. If you could stay out of trouble like Marina does, I wouldn’t have to worry about you.” Putting a hand over her stomach, Olivia was so pissed that her blood boiled.

“You’ve been gone from my life for more than a decade. Tell me, when have you ever worried about me?” Instead of feeling guilty, Chloe got even angrier. “No matter what, you’re still my daughter. I think about you every day. How can you be so heartless? Goodness, how did Jeff raise you—” This time, before Chloe could finish her sentence, Olivia grabbed a cup from the table. It was still hot to the touch.

She didn’t care, though. She just wished that she could just slam it on Chloe.

But when she aimed it at Chloe’s face, she hesitated.

“I’m warning you, don’t mention my dad. You’re not worthy!” Startled by Olivia’s actions, Chloe couldn’t say a word.

“Y-You... Are you trying to hit me?” “If you mention my dad again, this cup will land right on your head. I mean it.” Putting a hand to her chest, Chloe went pale as she pointed at Olivia’s face.

“You terrible daughter!” Ethan knew that Chloe had heart problems. Realizing that the situation had worsened, he pulled Olivia to the side and sat her down.

“Ms. Parker, drink some tea and calm down. I’ll explain this matter to you later.” Seeing that even Chloe’s lips had changed color, Olivia stopped herself from speaking.

Also, she was quite interested in Ethan’s explanation.

Taking a sip of tea, Chloe calmed down.

“Ethan, forgive me for being nosy, but men should be loyal. Since you’ve already chosen Marina, you should stop hesitating. It’s harmful for both women.’ ” After a pause, she continued, “I know that you’re a devoted man. Perhaps you can’t let go of Liv, and you think that you’ve wronged her.

“You can make it up to her in other ways that won’t hurt Marina. You have to understand that Liv is someone from your past now. Marina is the only woman you should spend the rest of your life with.” Suppressing the annoyance in his heart, Ethan let out a heavy sigh. He interrupted Chloe’s words that didn’t seem to end as he 1/2 12 Chapter 252 2/2 couldn’t stand to hear them.

“Ms. Parker, I understand. You think that Olivia’s presence will cause discomfort, right? Then she won’t have to come to work starting tomorrow.” Olivia turned to look at him. “What did you say?” Ethan said slowly, “You’re fired.”

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 253-When Chloe heard that, her expression softened considerably. “I knew it. This woman was indeed pestering you. You hear that, Liv? Now gather your things and go home with me.” Chloe reached out to grab Olivia’s hand. “I was a little worked up just now, so don’t take my words to heart. I’m doing this for your good.

“Since you’re already divorced, you should completely cut ties with him. Clinging on will only hurt everyone...” Olivia pushed her hand away. “You’re right, you should completely cut ties after a divorce. When your ex-husband is about to die on the sick bed, you don’t have to visit him-not even once.” Chloe froze. When she thought about it, she truly hadn’t taken the initiative to visit Jeff since her return.

“Are you blaming me? When I came back, your dad was in the ICU, so outsiders weren’t allowed to visit.” Olivia found her explanation pathetic. “Ms. Parker, I’m seriously doubting your sincerity. When the Parker family was almost going bankrupt, Dad was the one who saved them.

“You didn’t want to marry him, so he waited for you. But when you did marry him, you did it reluctantly. You even thought of that marriage as a disgrace.

“But what has my dad done against you? Once your true love returned, you left without a trace. But even now, my dad has never married another woman.

“You can complain about anyone in this world, but you have no right to complain about my dad.” Olivia’s words caused Chloe’s face to redden. Olivia was just one step away from calling Chibe an ingrate.

With that, Olivia looked at Ethan. “I didn’t do anything wrong. Why did you fire me?” Ethan looked at her coldly. “Because you caused quite a lot of trouble in the few days you were here. You’ve affected the company’s image. Miller Group doesn’t need an employee like you.

“I’ll ask HR to pay you three times your salary, as per the contract. You can go downstairs and eat it now.” Olivia was frustrated. She was so close to figuring out the truth, but this had to happen.

Also, she had just said that she had nothing to do with Ethan. She couldn’t plead with him to change his mind.

Ethan studied her expression. She looked like she was holding something back.

He said with intention, “Isn’t this what you want?” Olivia clenched her fists, then let go in the end.

“Yes. Understood.” Now that Chloe’s goal was achieved, she instantly turned gentle again.

“Liv, tell me if you need money. The Carltons have a lot of assets. If there’s anything you’d like, I’ll have it arranged for you.” “I’m not worthy.” Olivia nodded slightly at Ethan, then left without looking back.

When Olivia went back to Team C, everyone looked at her with curious gazes.

Some even looked like they were eager for gossip. Seeing that Olivia was gathering her things, Norma didn’t mock her for once.

“Are you leaving, Ms. Fordham?” “Yes,” Olivia didn’t have many things in the first place, so she was done in a few minutes. Norma saw her off at the entrance.

“Ms. Fordham, why don’t you talk it over with Mr. Miller? You’re such an excellent employee. How can he fire you just like that?” Chapter 253 2/2 Olivia knew what Norma was thinking. She had finally gotten on Olivia’s good side, but Olivia was already leaving. The efforts she put in had gone to waste.

But Olivia still had some use for Norma, so her attitude was gentle.

“It’s okay, I’ll be back.” With the shares she currently owned, she was one of the biggest shareholders of Miller Group. When she came back next time, she would be attending the shareholders’ meeting.

Olivia revealed the information to Norma so that Norma could keep working for her.

“Now that my mom has caused a ruckus here, Mr. Miller has to avoid suspicion somehow. You know how it is.” Norma instantly understood. “Oh, yes. Mr. Miller is about to get engaged, so he doesn’t want any rumors to spread. Hang in there, Ms. Fordham.

“Mr. Miller pampers you so much. You won’t have to worry.’ Olivia said, troubled, “But I’m worried about the case with Jackson...” “Don’t worry, Ms. Fordham. Leave it to me. I’ll investigate this matter for you.

“We’ll see who’s the wretch that’s trying to harm you.” Olivia patted Norma on the shoulder. “I’m counting on you.” It wasn’t like the teasing from before. Norma could already see herself at the height of her life just by clinging to Olivia “I promise that I’ll complete my mission.” Olivia made a gesture of zipping her mouth. Norma immediately replied with an “OK” gesture.

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 254-Olivia walked toward the elevator with her cardboard box in hand. An imposing woman walked toward her. The woman was the leader of Team B.

The woman crossed her arms as a look of disdain appeared on her face.

“What did I say? The position you get from sleeping around won’t last.

People showed their ugliest sides to those they had never talked to before. With just a few words, they could show the greatest malice toward strangers.

Clara was one such person. Olivia achieved something she couldn’t. So, she tried to harm Olivia on several occasions.

Olivia was mad at the moment. Straightening herself, she retorted, “Did you forget to brush your teeth before leaving the house today? It stinks.” “What did you say?” Clara’s sleek eyebrows creased as the look in her eyes turned sharp.

Olivia met her gaze coldly. “Of all the skills you could pick up, you decided to have a sharp and nasty tongue. Do I even know you? Why do you keep insulting me?”

“Can you hear me this time? If not, I’ll get someone to carve my words on your tombstone.” Clara was a team leader, after all. She had never met a newbie who talked to her like this. Her expression instantly changed.

Olivia couldn’t be bothered with her. Shoving her aside, Olivia went inside the elevator.

When Olivia left the building, even the weather was bad. It was supposed to be a sunny day, but it suddenly started raining. Olivia turned around to look at the building that reached the skies. She knew that he was looking at her through the floor-to-ceiling windows on the top floor.

She couldn’t see his figure from that height.

It felt like a barrier that kept them apart. Since the beginning, they weren’t meant for each other.

Olivia smiled. Love was wonderful because it pushed all the troubles and problems onto marriage was no more than a scattered mess.

She came alone, and she would leave just like that as well.

For the next few days, Olivia’s life slowed down. Every day, she would spend long hours staying by Jeff’s side.

Her treatment plan was ready as well. After her surgery, she would have to go through two cycles of chemo and 28 rounds of radiation therapy.

Dr. Scott pushed the glasses on his nose as he explained patiently to her, “Ms.

Fordham, even though your condition isn’t great, your body tolerates medication well.

“After all, just one round of chemo yielded amazing effects. You just need to strengthen your body a little after the surgery. Then, your chances of surviving the next five years will increase.” For cancer patients, five years was a critical

period. If they didn't relapse within five years after the treatment, they could relax and take it easy.

"When is the surgery?" Dr. Scott replied, "This Friday. Our hospital was originally lacking in resources to deal with tumors. But Dr. Rogers had asked that you be treated well, after all.

"Moreover, your condition can't afford any delays, so we managed to adjust the schedule for you." Olivia mumbled, "Friday... It was also the day of Ethan and Marina's engagement." Chapter 254 "Is there a problem, Ms. Fordham?" "No." 2/2 "That's good to hear. Here are some things you should look out for. Please be careful for the next few days." Dr. Scott gave her a few sheets of paper. As if remembering something, he asked, "I heard that your father is staying in the hospital as well.

"When the time comes, you'll need a family member to sign the risk acknowledgment letter. Who will be signing for you, Ms. Fordham?" Chloe's face flashed across Olivia's mind. She suppressed the bitterness welling up in her throat. "I don't have any family. Are friends okay?" "It would be best if it's a direct relative or a lover. You're married, right? What about your husband?" "I'm divorced." "Then- " Olivia interrupted coldly, "I don't have an ex-husband. I'm a widow." Dr. Scott touched his nose awkwardly. "I'm sorry for bringing up a hard past.

" There wasn't an expression on Olivia's face. She didn't look sad at all. "It's okay.

I'm quite happy that he died."

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 255-Olivia and Dr. Scott confirmed the time. The surgery would be held on that Friday. Holding an umbrella, Olivia watched the rain as she dialed Everly's number.

Everly sounded exhausted. As soon as the call went through, she started complaining.

"Goodness, I've been staying up for two nights in a row. What's wrong with the new boss? What a workaholic." -Covering her mouth, Olivia chuckled. "I remember you telling me how handsome he was just a few days ago." "So what if he is? He's not my boyfriend, anyway. I shouldn't have switched jobs. It wasn't too bad to laze around in my previous company." ||

After Everly broke up, Josh went to her previous company every day to beg for forgiveness. In her fury, Everly resigned from her job.

She didn't want to work for people anymore. Declining Ethan's offer, she went to work at an outstanding real estate company. As a result, she cursed her boss every day for being nitpicky. He was extremely harsh toward his employees.

"By the way, Eve, are you free this Friday?" "Nope. The exploiter wants me to go on a business trip with him to Belford.

What's up?" Olivia knew that Everly strived for strength. She seemed to be cursing her boss, but in reality, she wanted to make it big in life.

She was currently in a period of growth in her job. Of course, she would have to focus on work.

Olivia swallowed the words she was about to say. "Nothing, I just wanted to invite you to a meal. Maybe next time." "Sure. We have all the time in the world, anyway. I'll bring back local snacks from Belford for you, Liv." Everly didn't say much before hanging up. She was asked to revise the proposal again.

Smiling, Olivia bade her goodbye.

Olivia looked at the blurry view in the rain. Reaching out, she felt the raindrops on her palm.

The cool moisture gave her a sense of reality. She felt like she was truly alive.

Like a child with no home to return to, Olivia crouched under the tree. She hugged her knees as she looked at the busy street.

The world was so huge, but she couldn't find anyone to sign the letter for her.

Drops of rain rolled down her umbrella, splashing into the little puddle in front of her.

A huge screen opposite her showed the venue for Ethan's engagement ceremony.

It was a cherry field, and cherry blossoms were in full bloom.

Ethan would be welcoming his bride in his suit and leather shoes.

Meanwhile, Olivia would be lying on the operating table, wishing she were dead.

Olivia flipped through the call records on her phone. Her gaze paused for a moment when she saw the contact labeled as “Mom Chloe’s face filled her thoughts as she recalled what Chloe had said before.

“Marina will live to a ripe old age. Do you think Marina is as healthy as you?”

“Marina hasn’t been in good health since she was young.

“Now, she finally managed to marry the person she likes. Please get out of this relationship that’s no longer yours. Let everyone be happy, alright?”

Chapter 255 Olivia spread open her palms. There were still marks from her nails digging into her skin.

She suddenly felt a prickle in her nose. Her dad was lying on a sick bed, while her mom didn’t even think of her as her daughter.

The man who once swore to protect her for life was soon about to take another woman as his bride.

She was left alone.

Looking at the rain pelting above her, she wished she could just die.

Chloe’s slap had shattered her desire to survive, which Olivia took great pains to regain.

A seed would take decades to grow into a big tree, but it took only a moment for a big tree to be destroyed.

A single sentence could easily destroy all the effort she had put in to scramble out of the mud. Realizing that she was being negative, Olivia shook her head.

She had to stay alive. As long as the mastermind wasn’t captured, she mustn’t die. She wouldn’t die. She wiped her tears frantically.

Out of the corner of her eye, she spotted someone getting out of a car that had pulled up.

A pair of luxurious handmade leather shoes stepped on the concrete. Someone was walking toward her.

Olivia looked up in hope, but she was met with a pained gaze.

“Olivia, are you lost?” A look of disappointment flashed across Olivia’s eyes. “It’s you.”

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 256-Colin didn’t look like he noticed the disappointment in Olivia’s eyes. He reached out to her. “I was passing by when I spotted you, Olivia. Did you get lost, or did you sprain your ankle?” Declining his offer to help, Olivia got up on her own. Then, she smiled helplessly. “I was just thinking about something. I stopped here without realizing it.” “My house is nearby. If you don’t mind, Olivia, you can go visit Snowball.

Snowball misses you.” Because of this reason, Olivia couldn’t bring herself to decline.

The warm interior of the car formed a stark contrast to the cold outside. Colin passed to Olivia an untouched cup of coffee.

“I was thinking of drinking it when I got home. Here, it’ll warm you up.”

Olivia looked down. It was spiced coffee.

“Thank you.” “No need for thanks.” Smiling, Colin turned the steering wheel with one hand.

Olivia felt that something was off. She had the feeling that the spiced coffee was bought specially for her, and he didn’t run into her by accident.

But the youth’s expression was honest. He didn’t look like he was planning anything.

Olivia chased away the unrealistic imaginations in her head.

“Why are you looking at me like that, Olivia?” Holding the warm spiced coffee, Olivia took a sip. “I was just thinking that time flies. The kid from back then is all grown up now.” The innocence and baby fat was gone from his face. His firm jawline had a smooth contour that revealed a hint of sharpness. It was completely smooth shaven, though.

As he turned the steering wheel, the watch on his wrist glittered.

It was a weird feeling.

Colin had the innocence of youth mixed in with the maturity of an adult. The two seemingly in harmony when it came to him.

He pulled up by the road, smiling. "Wait for me, Olivia." With that, he dashed into the heavy rain. Ten minutes later, he came back with shopping bags.

There were fresh fruits and also a change of women's clothing.

While stuffing the bags into Olivia's arms, he explained smilingly, "Olivia, I noticed that the hem of your skirt was wet just now. I bought some clothes, but I eyeballed the size.

"If they're the wrong size, you'll have to put up with them.

"Also, here are some freshly cut fruits. You can eat some in case you feel hungry." Olivia was stunned as she looked at the youth's drenched body. The young man's expression froze. "Do you not like them, Olivia?" She held the bags, shaking her head. "That's not it. It's been a while since the last time someone was this nice to me." Colin was stunned for an instant. Then, he smiled. "It's okay. Now that I'm back, I'll treat you well in the future, Olivia." The car came to a stop. It was only then that she noticed something. Colin lived somewhere near the Fordham residence, and if she gazed in the direction of Fordham residence from here, she could see the flowering tree. It was poking out of the walls Chapter 256 around the yard.

Colin opened the gates of his house. The small yard was quite minimalistic.

Two white stones formed a simple path in the yard while water flowed gently in the fountain. There were a few cherry trees in the yard, and their petals were scattered all over the ground.

Before Olivia could admire the scenery, she heard a familiar meow.

A white figure leaped into her arms.

There was a small cut on the white cat's ears. A mouse had bitten her when she was young. Olivia patted Snowball's fluffy head as both sorrow and joy filled her heart.

“I’m so sorry for losing you.” Snowball rubbed against her cheek with a meow.

Olivia recalled the time she had spent with Snowball. Snowball was an old cat that had lived for more than a decade. She had stayed with Olivia for almost two-thirds of her life.

They used to be inseparable. Because she had gotten married, she drifted away from Snowball. Now, Olivia rarely got to see the cat.

Stepping forward, Colin held an umbrella over Olivia’s head. “Olivia, let’s get out of the rain. Snowball won’t be leaving, so you have all the time in the world to play with her.” Olivia thought, “All the time in the world?” She smiled self-mockingly.

The surgery couldn’t cure her completely. Also, she had seen the clinical evidence. Many people experienced their cancer cells spreading even faster after the surgery.

She had no idea whether death or tomorrow would come first.

To her, every day was her last day in this world.

She smiled gently. “Alright. I’ll go in, then.”

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 257-Olivia felt that human hearts were quite simple. Colin’s cooking managed to heal the hurt she received from Ethan and Chloe.

The more she needed love, the easier she was touched by small acts of kindness.

In the end, Colin still noticed her sorrow. He asked, “Olivia, is there something you’re upset about?” “I need to undergo surgery, but when I look back in my life, I realize that I have no one to sign the risk acknowledgment letter for me. Am I a failure?” Olivia spoke nonchalantly, but a pained look flashed across Colin’s eyes.

“Olivia, everyone has a different definition of failure. To me, you’re an outstanding woman, so you’re not a failure. An unhappy marriage can only be a mistake at most.

“But we have long lives. No one can predict the future and avoid making mistakes.” Olivia frowned a little. “You know about what happened to me?” “Back on the cruise, I knew that Mr. Miller was holding you. I was among the crowd at the hospital that day, so I overheard your fight. Sorry, I didn’t mean to eavesdrop.” Olivia smiled helplessly. No wonder he took so long to get food.

“It’s okay. It’s the truth, after all.” Colin placed a dessert in front of her. “Olivia, if you don’t mind, I can sign the letter for you. What surgery are you getting?” Olivia said lightly, “Stomach removal surgery.” The calmness in Colin’s expression was disturbed. “Olivia, are you…” “It’s exactly what you think it is.” “How can it be? You’re so young. How could you get a terminal illness like that?” Seeing his panicked expression, Olivia reached out and patted his head. “It’s okay, Colin. I’ve prepared myself.

“Also, it’s not as bad as you think it is. I went through chemo once, and it was very effective.” The young man’s face was like a sheet of paper. His emotions were written clearly on his face.

His pale face was filled with worry. The corners of his eyes reddened as he choked. “You’re the nicest person in the world, Olivia. You’ll be okay.” In reality, she was a little pessimistic. But her words had turned into words of comfort instead.

“Yes, I think so too.” “Olivia…” “It’s okay, it’ll be fine,” Olivia mumbled. No one knew if she was convincing Colin or comforting herself.

For the next few days, she prepared herself according to the doctor’s instructions. She cut off almost all contact with the outside world.

She even paused her investigation into Jackson’s matter. She didn’t want these unrelated things to affect her mood.

The only person she was worried about was Jack. His phone had been turned off ever since he left. There was no news of him even now, and no one knew if he was dead or alive.

The weather had been nice lately. Seagulls soared above the sea, and the cherry trees in the residential area had bloomed.

Olivia would go downstairs for a walk sometimes. It seemed to be raining petals, and the scenery was breathtaking to watch.

She would subconsciously think of Ethan and Marina's engagement ceremony.

It would definitely be extremely luxurious and Chapter 257 beautiful.

Since that day, Ethan never came to visit. They finally returned to their respective lives.

Even though she consciously avoided any news of them, she could still hear rumors about them from passersby.

Ethan was the perfect man in their eyes.

When the women discussed in excitement how nice he was to Marina, Olivia walked past them calmly.

It was as if she didn't know the subjects of their conversation.

2/2 Opening her palm, Olivia caught a petal in her hand. She thought that the cherry trees on the island must be in bloom as well.

Sensing someone watching her from behind, Olivia turned around warily. She met a pair of dark eyes that contained a lingering hint of emotion.

□

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 258-Ethan stared quietly at Olivia. She hadn't done anything out of the ordinary in the past few days.

The most she did was spend long hours at the hospital a few days ago. Jeff was getting weaker by the day. It was only reasonable for Olivia to want to spend as much time with him as possible.

For the past few days, she didn't go anywhere outside of the residential area.

Everly didn't come over either.

She was wearing a beige lace dress. The breeze caressed her face as flower petals danced around her. She was exceedingly beautiful.

Ethan realized how gentle Olivia could be when she kept her distance from him.

Olivia looked him in the eye from a distance away. She nodded in place of a greeting. Then, she left without even turning back.

Ethan felt upset. He had made a decision and given her a promise, but he kept breaking his own rules for Olivia's sake.

Seeing that she was about to leave, he stepped forward and grabbed her wrist.

Olivia looked at him calmly, then sounded a warning. "Mr. Miller." Ethan was wearing his usual suit and leather shoes, but his tie was a little lopsided. A strand of his usually neat hair hung on his forehead.

This wasn't like him.

He was getting engaged tomorrow. Logically speaking, he should be on cloud nine at the moment. "So why does he look so sad?" Olivia wondered.

Ethan gulped. "I just feel uneasy." He knew he shouldn't come looking for Olivia, but the uneasiness had been gnawing at him for days.

"Oh." Olivia blinked, then looked calmly at him.

The sky darkened, and the streetlights above them quietly turned on.

His tall figure was bathed in the light from the streetlights. The calmness was gone from his face.

"Are you hiding something from me?" Ethan didn't know why he had that feeling. The last time he felt this uneasiness was two years ago, the day before Olivia fell into the ocean.

He felt that something was about to happen.

Olivia looked up into his eyes. Her voice was quiet as she said, "No. Can you let go of me, Mr. Miller?" Her face seemed to be covered in fog. He couldn't figure out her true thoughts.

"After all, I don't want your fiancée to misunderstand." "If..." Ethan hesitantly spoke up. "If you need anything, you can tell me." "I need a man. Will you give me that?" Olivia smiled, watching Ethan's expression turn cold.

“See? If you can’t do it, don’t make promises so casually. Mr. Miller, you probably don’t understand this. But the higher your hopes are, the bigger your disappointment will be.” Reaching out, she pried his fingers off her wrist. “You once said that I’m the only woman in your life, but in the end, you didn’t keep your word.” “1...” Chapter 258 When Ethan’s last finger was pried away, Olivia turned her back to him. “Ethan, don’t talk to me anymore. My life has nothing to do with you anymore.” With that, Olivia ran into the distance.

The petals seemed to be raining down, drowning her figure bit by bit.

Ethan wanted to run after her, but he suddenly realized that he had lost even the right to go after her.

He thought, “What can I say even if I catch up to her? Can I change anything in the end?” He put a hand to his chest, where his heart was throbbing. “Why do I still feel so uneasy?” he wondered.

Olivia ran into the elevator and then pressed the button to her floor. She gasped heavily for air.

“Things have already come to this point. Why did he come here despite that?” she thought.

When the elevator doors opened with a ding, she slowly walked out. She saw someone standing at the entrance of her home.

Olivia only glanced at the person before turning around and going back into the elevator.

“Liv, don’t go.”

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 259-The person standing at the door was none other than Chloe. She was once the person Olivia longed the most for, but now, even a glance at her hurt Olivia’s heart.

Ethan was simply getting engaged. But because of that, Olivia managed to meet all the people she didn’t want to see in one go. “Liv, just give me five minutes.” “You’re not getting even five seconds.” Olivia’s expression was cold.

Coincidentally, a neighbor was leaving their house, Olivia didn’t want to be criticized, so she had no choice but to open the door and let Chloe in.

This was Chloe's first time coming to Olivia's house after returning to the country.

If it were before, Olivia would've welcomed her with open arms. But today, she didn't do that. She changed her shoes calmly, then got a glass of water for herself. Her throat was dry.

"Go ahead." Chloe looked around her. The apartment wasn't too big. She could see the whole place in just a glance, "Liv, I heard from Marina that she bought the Fordham residence for you. Why didn't you move back? This place is so small. How can you live here?" Olivia put down her glass. There were so many faults with that sentence that she didn't know where to start.

"Right, you've always been a pampered lady since you were young. You live in mansions and wear branded clothing, you go places in luxury vehicles.

"In your eyes, a small apartment like this is more like a rescue station. You're not me, so how would you know what I've experienced?" Hastily stepping forward, Chloe took Olivia's hand. "Liv, the Fordhams aren't the greatest family in the country. But you never lacked anything since young "I didn't know that the Fordhams would go bankrupt. If I did, I would've brought you with me.

Olivia quickly took her hand away, she knew that Chloe had never had a hard day in her life. Nothing she said could make Chloe understand "Quit pretending Tell me, why are you here? Let me guess, it has something to do with Marina, doesn't it?" It was quite pathetic when she thought about it. Every time her mother came looking for her, it was always about her stepdaughter.

Chloe wasn't good at hiding her emotions. An awkward look flashed across her face "I'm here to apologize to you for what happened last time. I know I went too far, but you have to consider my situation.

"In reality, in all those years I was married to Chris, he was good to me. But Marina never thought of me as her mother Even Mr. Carlton Senior didn't like me. I had a terrible time in that family" Chloe sighed. "It's not like I'm selfish or anything. You and Ethan are already divorced. If you keep getting involved with him, I'll affect your reputation too.

"I'm doing this to help Marina so that she won't criticize me again. I'm also helping you at the same time.

“You’re all young, so you’ll meet someone even better. You need to completely break off your previous relationship” Olivia thought, “And she’s saying that she’s not selfish? Should I make a sign with the word ‘selfish’ and hang it around her? She was so mad that she could only laugh in exasperation. “You sacrificed your biological daughter’s reputation for the sake of your so called happiness” Chapter 25 2/2 “You did it just to maintain your position in that family. Amazing.

“1 Chloe replied, “Liv, you’re still young, so you don’t know what I’m facing. I’m doing this for your good. You lost Ethan, but you still have the Carltons.

“The Carltons have a wide network. No matter what you want to do in the future, they can help you.” Olivia retorted, “So I should thank you?” Chloe didn’t notice the sarcasm in Olivia’s voice. “If you talk to Chris more often, you’ll find that he’s a good person. Liv, he earnestly wants to be your dad.” Olivia held a hand against her stomach. Noticing her silence, Chloe rattled on.

“The Carltons welcome your arrival. It’s Marina and Ethan’s engagement ceremony tomorrow. Attend the ceremony as her sister and give the couple your blessing, okay?”

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 260-Olivia didn’t know how Chris managed to charm Chloe. She thought, “She’s already so old, so how can she still be so naive?” She replied, “Why should I bless them? Marina is the reason I ended up like this today. I haven’t even made her pay for what she’s done to me, but I’m supposed to give her my blessing now? What’s the logic behind this?” Chloe said, “I also heard about what happened between you two. Liv, what happened to your child was an accident.

“Marina also fell into the sea, and she almost ended up like you. But she was fortunate enough to have given birth to the child. You can’t blame her.” Olivia knew that Marina had been spinning tales in front of Chloe again.

No matter what Marina said, Chloe would believe her and reprimand Olivia instead.

“Mrs. Carlton, your generosity knows no bounds. Have you considered doing charity work?” Chloe said in exasperation, “Liv, I’m sincerely inviting you to attend their engagement ceremony. What’s with your attitude? Why are you still holding on at this point?”

“Can’t you be a good girl so that I can stop worrying about you?” Every word Chloe said was like salt rubbed into Olivia’s wound. Sadly, Chloe didn’t know how much Olivia suffered. She even kept rubbing it in, hurting Olivia even more.

Marina had won by a landslide.

She not only got the man, but even Olivia’s mother had taken her side as well.

Olivia didn’t want to explain any further. She asked lightly, “Tell me. If Marina and I were in danger, and only one of us would survive, who would you choose?” “You, of course. You’re my daughter. Everything I do is for your good.” Chloe sighed. “You might think that my words are foul, but I’m truly doing all this so that you can be happier. You were once a part of me, after all. I truly love you.” “That’s enough. It’s not like Marina and I have opposing views, but you can’t ask us to get along with each other. Getting out of each other’s path is the only way we can coexist.

“I hope this is the last time I see you,” Olivia said.

“Liv, I-” “Please leave, Mrs. Carlton. There’s nothing more to say between us. We simply have different principles.” Olivia wasn’t mad. Instead, she treated Chloe in the coldest way possible.

Seeing that Olivia refused to speak any further, Chloe could only sigh. She placed the gift she brought Olivia on the dining table. Then, she left.

The gift box contained a teddy phone watch.

It was no use to Olivia now. But more than a decade ago, she made a promise with her mother. If she got first place in the finals, her mother had to buy her the popular teddy phone watch.

On the day the results were released, her mother left with another man.

Olivia looked at the teddy phone watch from more than ten years ago. She had complicated feelings in her heart.

She charged the watch, then wore it on her slender wrist.

That night, she felt like a satisfied child. She kept caressing the watch as she slowly fell asleep. The sun rose, and it was a new day again.

She had to go to the hospital early in the morning for various examinations.

Olivia looked at the sun shining brightly outside and cheered herself up.

She was determined to get better.

After gathering her stuff, she was about to go out when a familiar number flashed on the screen of her phone. Olivia paused. The contact name read "Ryan Woods".

Chapter 260 Olivia didn't know how Chris managed to charm Chloe. She thought, "She's already so old, so how can she still be so naive?" She replied, "Why should I bless them? Marina is the reason I ended up like this today. I haven't even made her pay for what she's done to me, but I'm supposed to give her my blessing now? What's the logic behind this?" Chloe said, "I also heard about what happened between you two. Liv, what happened to your child was an accident.

"Marina also fell into the sea, and she almost ended up like you. But she was fortunate enough to have given birth to the child. You can't blame her." Olivia knew that Marina had been spinning tales in front of Chloe again.

No matter what Marina said, Chloe would believe her and reprimand Olivia instead.

"Mrs. Carlton, your generosity knows no bounds. Have you considered doing charity work?" Chloe said in exasperation, "Liv, I'm sincerely inviting you to attend their engagement ceremony. What's with your attitude? Why are you still holding on at this point?"

"Can't you be a good girl so that I can stop worrying about you?" Every word Chloe said was like salt rubbed into Olivia's wound. Sadly, Chloe didn't know how much Olivia suffered. She even kept rubbing it in, hurting Olivia even more.

Marina had won by a landslide.

She not only got the man, but even Olivia's mother had taken her side as well.

Olivia didn't want to explain any further. She asked lightly, "Tell me. If Marina and I were in danger, and only one of us would survive, who would you choose?" "You, of course. You're my daughter. Everything I do is for your

good.” Chloe sighed. “You might think that my words are foul, but I’m truly doing all this so that you can be happier. You were once a part of me, after all. I truly love you.” “That’s enough. It’s not like Marina and I have opposing views, but you can’t ask us to get along with each other. Getting out of each other’s path is the only way we can coexist.

“I hope this is the last time I see you,” Olivia said.

“Liv, I-” “Please leave, Mrs. Carlton. There’s nothing more to say between us. We simply have different principles.” Olivia wasn’t mad. Instead, she treated Chloe in the coldest way possible.

Seeing that Olivia refused to speak any further, Chloe could only sigh. She placed the gift she brought Olivia on the dining table. Then, she left.

The gift box contained a teddy phone watch.

It was no use to Olivia now. But more than a decade ago, she made a promise with her mother. If she got first place in the finals, her mother had to buy her the popular teddy phone watch.

On the day the results were released, her mother left with another man.

Olivia looked at the teddy phone watch from more than ten years ago. She had complicated feelings in her heart.

She charged the watch, then wore it on her slender wrist.

That night, she felt like a satisfied child. She kept caressing the watch as she slowly fell asleep. The sun rose, and it was a new day again.

She had to go to the hospital early in the morning for various examinations.

Olivia looked at the sun shining brightly outside and cheered herself up.

She was determined to get better.

After gathering her stuff, she was about to go out when a familiar number flashed on the screen of her phone. Olivia paused. The contact name read “Ryan Woods”.

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 261-Olivia had also thought about talking to Ryan these days. She could continue the investigation through his case.

But she feared that it might alert the mastermind, so she never took action.

She didn't expect Ryan to reach out to her first.

Olivia pressed the button to answer the call. "Hello, Ryan." "Ms. Fordham, where are you right now? You asked me to investigate Jodie, remember? I found something!" Ryan's voice sounded anxious, and there was no trace of him faking it.

Olivia probed, "What is it?" "Jodie's phone! But it's already broken. I remember you being interested, so I'm calling to ask if you want it." "I heard that her original home has been rented to someone else. Her body was found in the ocean. Where did the phone come from? If it's already broken, how can you be sure that it's Jodie's?" Olivia was smart, and she soon found the key point.

Ryan thought that she would latch onto the clue without hesitation. He didn't expect her to figure out the flaw so soon.

While Ryan was stunned, Olivia spoke up. "Ryan, I don't know what your goal is, but my dad funded your studies.

"You wouldn't be where you are today without him. I don't ask you to repay his kindness, but can you not bite the hand that fed you?" "Tsk." Ryan clicked his tongue. "As expected, you've already caught on." Olivia remembered what Jack said to her. He told her not to do anything reckless and to wait for his return.

Today was Ethan's engagement ceremony. What was the mastermind trying to do by baiting her at that moment?

"Ryan, I don't know who you work for, but you should listen to your conscience.

"If you're doing this for money, I can pay you double if you work with me. I can offer you more double if you want." Ryan replied, "Alright then. Come to Silent Coffee. We'll talk." "I'm busy today, so I'm afraid I can't go. If you truly have a clue, let's meet another time. For the reward, you can ask for as much money

as you want.” “Looks like you’re not coming, then.” “I’m sorry.” “Then there’s nothing to discuss. Ms. Fordham, you won’t be able to escape.” Olivia was about to say something when the call ended. She closed her eyes.

By the looks of it, she couldn’t keep things under wraps anymore.

The mastermind was trying to challenge her head-on. They had stopped playing nice today.

Olivia was exasperated. “Why today, of all days?” she thought.

She had a feeling that something big was about to happen.

She had already left Ethan alone and distanced herself as much as possible.

That person should’ve given up by now, but they didn’t.

Fortunately, before Jack left, she had arranged for someone to protect Jeff.

Their salary was a bit high, but at least Jeff was safe.

While it was true that Jeff would be safe, Olivia was in danger.

Chapter 261 Olivia didn’t take the bait from Ryan, so there must be another bait waiting for her.

But she had to have surgery today.

“What do I do?” Olivia wondered.

She stared at the door, feeling like everything beyond the door was dangerous.

Before she realized it, her palms were sweating.

Taking out her phone, she subconsciously wanted to talk to someone.

She didn’t even realize that the first person she tried to call was Ethan.

It was a terrible move.

She hastily tried to end the call.

Just a second before she pressed the button, his clear voice rang out from the other end of the line.

Ethan had picked up right away!

“Hello.” His low voice reached Olivia’s ears.

Olivia was stunned. She never thought that he would answer her call right away, not on this day.

After a long period of silence, Ethan said in annoyance, “Say something.” Olivia thought, “Say something? What should I say? Do I ask for some of his men to protect me?” She had said to him just a few days ago that they shouldn’t talk to each other anymore.” If she spoke to him on the day of his engagement ceremony, he would think that she was looking for attention. Olivia quickly came to her senses and said, “Happy engagement.”

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 262-They weren’t talking in person. But Olivia felt like the atmosphere between them was extremely awkward.

Ethan’s voice was filled with dissatisfaction. “Is that all you wanted to say?” She had already spoken, so it was too late to take back her words. Calming herself, Olivia said, “Yes. We’re not strangers, after all. I feel like I should congratulate you on a day like this.” Ethan gritted his teeth. “Thanks.” With that, he hung up. Listening to the beeps coming from her phone, Olivia sighed helplessly.

He was the one who was getting engaged, but he behaved as if she was forcing him to be engaged. He sounded so reluctant.

She wouldn’t tell Ethan about this, or it would ruin his engagement ceremony.

Not just Marina, but even Chloe would annoy her to no end.

Just then, Colin happened to call her. Olivia felt like she had seen the light.

“Colin.” “Good morning, Olivia.” “Can you come over and pick me up?” Olivia carefully asked for help.

“Of course. I’m already on my way. I’ll be at the entrance of your residential area in a minute.” “I’ll be right there.” Checking the surveillance camera, Olivia

made sure that there was no danger outside. Then, she grabbed her stuff and dashed out, getting into the elevator right away.

There were usually people getting in and out of the elevator. It only took a few minutes, so the mastermind wouldn't be that bold.

Watching the number on the elevator decrease, Olivia grew even uneasier.

"Eight, seven, six..." Olivia gripped her phone tightly. Colin sent her a message, telling her that he was already at the er He even sent her an emoji. Then, he told her to take her time gathering her things, as it was still e..

The cute emoji on the screen made Olivia relax a little. A faint smile appeared on her lips.

When she looked up, she realized that the elevator didn't stop on the first floor.

But she knew that she had already pressed the button for the first floor. Yet the elevator was still descending.

An uneasy feeling invaded her heart. "Did someone do something to the elevator?" she thought.

She sent Colin a voice message right away. "Colin, I'm in the elevator.

Something went wrong with it. I think someone messed with it." She had just finished speaking when the elevator doors opened.

When Olivia saw the person standing at the door, her expression shifted. She tried to close the doors in a frenzy.

Colin listened to the voice message from Olivia. In the closed space, the woman's voice was trembling. She was in extreme fear.

Turning off the engine, he got out of the car. Another voice message was sent to his phone.

It was a man's voice.

"Ms. Fordham, I told you that you won't be able to escape." Right after that, Colin heard Olivia's cries for help. "Help! Call the police!" Chapter 262 2/2
When Colin dialed Olivia's number, the call didn't go through.

“Olivia!” When Colin arrived at the scene, the elevator was empty. There was no one around.

Crouching down, he found shattered pieces of a phone.

He could see that the tempered glass on Olivia’s phone was broken.

Olivia was already taken away from the basement parking lot!

“Damn it!” After hanging up on Olivia, Ethan angrily tossed his phone to the side. “She’s getting better at provoking me,” he thought.

“Mr. Miller, it’s time. The helicopter is on stand-by. We’re going to the island soon,” Brent urged.

Looking at the azure sky, Ethan took a deep breath. Brent didn’t know what he was thinking about.

Only Ethan knew that the uneasiness had been gnawing at him for days. When he woke up this morning, it grew even stronger.

He kept feeling like something was about to happen.

But he had just heard Olivia’s voice over the phone, and she sounded fine.

“What’s the worst that can happen?” he thought. “Let’s go.” He boarded the helicopter.

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 263-Olivia woke up, regaining consciousness. She had a spitting headache in the elevator, someone had covered her nose and mouth with a drugged handkerchief. The effects of the drug still lingered. Olivia felt weak and sore all over her body. Her eyes were covered with a thick piece of black cloth; she couldn’t see any light. Her wrists and ankles were tightly bound as well. Tied up firmly, she couldn’t move. She was trapped in a narrow space, and she could smell something stinking. She tried to feel around and soon realized that she was packed tightly, and there wasn’t much space for her to move. Mound soon, she figured out where she was: she was in the trunk of a car. For some reason, she suddenly thought about the t Jode was strangled to death better greeting teased by the sense all the swelling. “Is it my turn now?” Olivia wondered. Candy assumed when her booty was distorted from. She must have provoked the mastermind by working at Millie

She was trapped in a narrow space, and she could smell something rotting.

She tried to feel around. She soon realized that she was squeezed tightly, and there wasn't much space for her to move around.

Soon, she figured out where she was. She was in the trunk of a car.

For some reason, she suddenly thought about how Jodie died.

Jodie was strangled to death before getting tossed into the ocean. She was only discovered when her body was distorted from all the swelling.

"Is it my turn now?" Olivia wondered.

She must have provoked the mastermind by working at Miller Group. They wanted to end this game prematurely, so they decided to attack her on the day of Ethan's engagement ceremony.

But she didn't want to die yet.

Olivia sensed that there was danger before she left. So, she hid a pocket knife under her clothes.

Fortunately, her body was quite flexible. Olivia bent her body into a semicircle.

Then, she felt the inside of her coat with her finger.

She had been trapped in a closed space for a long time. So, her body was drenched in sweat.

The car was going at a steady pace without stopping, so they must be on the expressway right now. This meant that they wouldn't be reaching their destination so soon.

She still had time.

Enduring the pain, she patiently rubbed at her coat with all her might. All her strength was focused on fingertips.

When she touched the surface of the pocket knife, her heart skipped a beat.

"Found it!" she exclaimed in her mind.

She slowly moved the knife out. Then, she sawed it lightly against the rope.

Olivia didn't dare to make it too obvious. In the direction of her wrists, she sliced through two-thirds of each length of rope.

On the surface, she looked like she was still tightly bound. But if she used enough strength to struggle, she could completely break free.

After dealing with the ropes, she twisted her body so that it looked like a shrimp was being pulled backward. Every time she sawed the ropes, she had to use up all her strength.

Her vision was dark, and oxygen was running low. Her head was spinning.

Still, Olivia managed to perk up. She refused to waste even a second.

Based on what she knew of the mastermind, they paid attention to detail, and they hid their traces very well. They were also quite cruel.

For example, there was that one time she went to the mental hospital. She received news of Belle's death right after that.

Belle's body was in such a horrible state that Olivia still couldn't forget about it.

Chapter 263 2/2 So, that person would never give Ethan a chance to save Olivia.

Olivia feared that when Ethan noticed something, she would already be dead.

Her gaze was stern. She couldn't die. She couldn't let those people go unpunished!

Because of the excessive tugging, the joints in her body kept popping. Enduring the pain, Olivia continued her work.

It was a pitch-black environment, so she was her only rescue.

After driving along for a while, the car finally stopped.

Olivia had hidden the blade early on.

She had a feeling that she could finally meet that person.

No matter how outstanding they were, they would appear right before their enemy died. They would gloat about their victory in their enemy's face.

Someone opened the trunk. A cold wind rushed in, bringing the unique scent of the sea with it.

They were by the sea.

As expected, the mastermind wanted Olivia to die the way Jodie did.

□

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 264-The cold air dispersed the moldy smell in the trunk. Olivia felt her mind getting a little clearer.

She shouted anxiously on purpose, "Who are you? Let me go!" It was true that she was anxious, but she convinced herself to stay calm. Only by staying calm could she spot an opening.

Ryan's familiar voice sounded. "Ms. Fordham, you've always wanted to know how Jodie died, right? Why don't I tell you myself?" Olivia felt another piece of rope hanging around her neck. Ryan's voice was no longer the gentlemanly voice he had when they first met.

Instead, it sounded like a venomous snake hissing in her ear.

"She died from getting strangled, just like this. By the way, the expression on her face was just like yours before she died. She kept struggling with her limbs.

"She wanted to call for help with all her might, but she couldn't even form a complete sentence. She could only look at me in fear and despair. Then, she slowly lost her breath." In the darkness, Olivia's senses were sharpened. Ryan's voice allowed her imagination to run wild.

She felt like she could sense the despair Jodie felt before she died. She could also feel the helplessness as Jodie's life slowly ebbed away.

"My dad wasn't the person who killed Jodie!" Everything she did had been right all along. Jeff was a good man, so he couldn't have done such horrible things.

“The child in her tummy did belong to your father.” “You beasts! What have the Fordhams ever done to you? You didn’t even show mercy to a pregnant woman!” Olivia’s tears fell uncontrollably. If that child hadn’t died, would she have a younger sibling?

In all the years Chloe was gone, Olivia hoped that Jeff would find another woman he loved.

“He did nothing wrong,” Olivia thought.

She said, “Jodie is Ethan’s biological sister. If he knew the truth, he wouldn’t let you off the hook!” “Hah.” Ryan sneered in disdain. “If he knew the truth, you wouldn’t be here in the first place.” Olivia fell silent. Leia was like an untouchable wound on Ethan’s heart.

He was already upset whenever Olivia mentioned Leia to him. So, it was even less likely that he would reinvestigate the matter.

Every time Leia was mentioned, the wound in Ethan’s heart would be reopened.

If the incident had to be reinvestigated, it would be like rubbing salt in his wound.

“Why? Why would you do this?” Olivia lowered her head in defeat.

“You only have yourself to blame.” Olivia thought, “Me? What did I do?” “Your existence is your biggest mistake.” Ryan picked her up. Putting her on his shoulder like a sack, he walked away.

Olivia had been feeling sick after getting locked up for so long. When he carried her like that, her dizziness only worsened. Her stomach was churning.

The sound of the sea breeze gradually turned soft. They must be indoors now. It felt like a spacious room as well, for she could hear Ryan’s voice clearly.

Chapter 264 2/2 Her body was tossed to the ground. Olivia felt that she had hit something and that something moved. She realized that she was at the feet of a person.

“Is this person the mastermind?” she wondered.

At that thought, all the blood in Olivia's body seemed to have rushed to her head. Her body trembled uncontrollably.

Various complex emotions surged in her heart.

Olivia said in hatred, "Are you the one pulling the strings behind the scenes?"

You caused the Fordhams to go bankrupt, and now my dad is dying in the hospital because of you!" She sensed someone crouching down. Then, a hand lifted her chin. A genderless voice rang out. "It's me.

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 265-The person's voice was deliberately disguised so that it couldn't be distinguished. But when the person tilted Olivia's chin with their fingers, Olivia caught a faint scent of herbs.

Olivia had only studied modern medicine, so she had little knowledge of herbal medicine. She wasn't able to tell what kind of herbs she was smelling or even if it was a mixture of several herbs.

"Do you plan to kill me?" Olivia asked directly.

"Your life is not in my hands." Olivia frowned, confused. She didn't understand what other motive the person would have for bringing her to a place like this.

"What do you mean?" Olivia felt more uneasy after she learned that she wouldn't be killed. If they were keeping her alive, it would surely have something to do with Ethan.

"I'm already divorced from him. I have nothing now. What else do you want from me?" The person's fingers tightened around Olivia's chin. Olivia winced in pain, but she didn't make a sound.

"You're a smart woman. I can see why he likes you so much." The person saw through Olivia's intent to get more information out of her. She didn't bring up a single word about her plans for Ethan.

Olivia saw that the person didn't take the bait. "With the way things are now, I know I won't be able to leave here alive. If my guess is correct, this must be an abandoned house near the ocean. Ethan won't be able to come here in time to save me." "That's right." "I have one request before I die. Can you show me your face? I want to see the face of the person that brought my family to ruins." The fingers on Olivia's chin tightened once more. "You have

no right to request anything from me.” The person did not let up and added, “I told you, you might not be the one to die today.” Olivia wanted to say something more, but she heard the sound of a phone vibrating.

The person picked up the phone and said with a laid-back tone, “I’m just playing around. Are you mad that I hurt her?” The room was quiet. Olivia thought she heard the voice of a man coming from the other end of the phone. Before she could listen closely, the person let go of her chin.

The person walked away to continue their conversation on the phone. Olivia could hear the nonchalance in that person’s tone. It was as if Olivia’s life had no value to them.

Olivia tried to calm herself. She was blindfolded, so she couldn’t inspect her surroundings. She didn’t dare to break through the ropes around her hands.

She held onto the pen knife in her palm tightly. Even if she didn’t walk out of here today, she was determined to go down with that person.

This was the best chance she had for revenge. It would be hard for her to find the person again on her own.

Olivia would also like to see what tricks the person had hidden up their sleeve.

She kept telling herself she couldn’t be rash. But she couldn’t control the massive throbbing pain in her stomach.

She curled up in a ball due to the pain. Her body was covered in sweat. It was just one thing after another for her.

She bit her lip as she tried to wrestle with the pain. Suddenly, she felt something cool on her lips. It seemed to be a cup.

Olivia didn’t dare to drink from it. A cold voice said, “You’re already here anyway.

Why would we drug you?” “Dr. Galloway?” Chapter 205 2/2 Dr. Galloway didn’t deny it. She said, “Drink it, now.” Olivia quiddy took two sips. It was warm chamomile tea.

“Dr. Galloway, did you kill Belle?” Olivia took the chance to ask her a question.

“Stop talking” Dr. Galloway didn’t answer.

“Dr. Galloway, I went to see Belle’s body. She died a horrible death. Do you have a grudge against her? Did she really have to die like that? That’s a life you took Won’t it keep you up at night?”

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 266-Olivia’s words seemed to have angered Dr. Galloway. Her emotions changed drastically. “Why would it keep me up at night? I have nothing to be afraid of!

She was a lunatic anyway. She would’ve died a few years ago if not for my care.

I only sent her off. Her life was a living hell when she was there.” “So you’re the one who pushed her off the building?” “So what if I was? It’s all your fault. She could’ve lived if you hadn’t gone to the psychiatric hospital. It’s your fault for meddling in our business.” Olivia suddenly thought that Dr. Galloway should be the one under psychiatric care. Her mental state was clearly problematic.

She wondered what had happened between Dr. Galloway and Belle. Why would she have such a huge reaction when Belle was mentioned?

“What about Belle’s baby? Do you know where the child is now?” “What baby? I don’t know anything about that.” “I had someone examine her body. She had stretch marks on her body. There were also signs of her having given birth in the uterus.” Dr. Galloway shrieked at Olivia, “Does it matter if she had a baby or not?”

Belle...” Olivia was about to ask her more questions about Belle when Ryan ran in and wrapped his arms around Dr. Galloway. “Calm down, Jennifer. It’s all in the past now. There’s no need to talk to her about that.” Olivia wondered why Ryan had to say that. Did Belle’s death take a toll on Dr.

Galloway? Why would that be the case?

She was the one who wanted Belle dead. Why would she go into a frenzy at the mention of Belle’s death?

Ryan took her away, and everything fell quiet once more.

Nothing made a sound in the huge room. It was so quiet that Olivia could hear the beating of her own heart. She could also make out the sound of some mice scurrying around.

She used to be afraid of mice. But she was dying soon, so she had no more energy to care about rodents.

It was as if the mice sensed that she was still alive. They only sniffed around her body but never dared to come closer.

Olivia's face was pressed against the uneven floor. It wasn't wood or floor tiles.

It felt like it was the floor of an unfinished house. She could also smell some chemicals in the air.

Olivia put the information she had together. It was an abandoned factory, and she was at the seaside. She guessed that she was probably at Eastside Harbor.

This used to be a very prosperous area. The cargo transportation business thrived here due to the harbor. Many large chemical plants were constructed here as well.

However, due to government planning and the southward shift of economic focus-along with the pollution caused by the chemical plants-many companies relocated.

As a result, this area gradually became a wasteland.

No one would know even if someone died here and their corpse was rotting.

Olivia subtly pulled on her sleeve to hide the phone watch that Chloe gifted her.

It was her only chance to call for help. She had to make it count.

Meanwhile, Ethan was on a helicopter that was flying away from the urban area.

He felt like something was weighing down on his chest. It only grew heavier as time went on.

He felt lost and uneasy. It was like there was a voice in his mind screaming for him to go back. He looked at his phone and tapped on Olivia's picture on WhatsApp. She had blocked him a long time ago. Their conversation stopped at the missed video calls six months ago.

Chapter 266 212 He scrolled up to look at the messages. Most of them were from Olivia. He would only reply occasionally between dozens of messages. He could feel the indifference he had for her through the texts on his phone.

He didn't know why, but he had taken everything for granted in the past. And now, all he felt was guilt. Olivia used to be the love of his life. He swore to love her forever. In the end, he was the one who hurt her most.

The helicopter was approaching an island. It was planted full of cherry blossoms, a sight to behold.

It was also the cherry blossom season when the flowers were in full bloom.

Every single flower was showing off its beauty.

Ethan could only sigh even when faced with such a beautiful sight.

The cherry blossoms were meant to be a gift for Olivia, but it was just not meant to be. The helicopter slowly descended. A huge group of guests and media personnel were already gathered on the island.

Marina wanted to declare her victory to the public, so she invited a lot of reporters and influencers to witness the happiest moment of her life.

The influencers were all over the place. They were live-streaming and interacting with their viewers. Every one of them had a lot of traffic on their live streams.

Ethan looked everywhere but didn't see Marina. He said in an annoyed tone, "Where's Marina?"

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 267-The Carltons were already on the scene. Chloe stood out the most. She wore a cocktail dress paired with a shawl, looking elegant and dignified.

She held onto Chris' arm and had a bright smile on her face. It was as if her biological daughter was the one getting engaged.

Ethan felt uncomfortable when he looked at her smile.

Brent quickly replied to Ethan's question, "Mr. and Mrs. Carlton came ahead of time. They're here to mingle with the guests. Something went wrong with Ms.

Carlton's dress, so the people worked overtime last night to get it fixed.

"Ms. Carlton went to get her makeup done and tried the dress on early this morning. She should be here soon." Ethan knew Marina well. It was the engagement party that she had wanted so badly. She wouldn't be late if she could help it. She would want to come as soon as possible and show off. But it was getting late and she still hadn't arrived.

Ethan found that to be weird.

All the equipment on site had been checked several times. Everything was set.

Everyone was waiting for Marina to arrive so that the engagement ceremony could begin.

The scent of fresh flowers was in the air. Guests in all sorts of formal attire were everywhere. Some of them were talking, others were taking pictures.

There were also children happily running around under the cherry blossom trees. Overall, it was a very harmonious scene.

Connor was being carried in Mina's arms. He looked curiously at the cherry blossom petals overhead. Petals were slowly falling even when there wasn't any wind.

Connor wanted to grab some petals, but a petal fell on his nose just as he raised his head. He stopped moving immediately. He didn't want the petal to fall off. It was a very adorable moment.

Chloe looked around and didn't see Marina anywhere. She tugged at Chris' arm, saying worriedly, "Why isn't Marina here yet? Could something have happened to her?" "She loves dolling herself up. She even had her dress returned and worked on for some minor issues. She's probably throwing a fit about the dress right now," Chris said sheepishly.

"This won't do. The ceremony is about to begin. She can't afford to make a blunder now. I'll go and ask her to hurry up." Chloe was about to walk away when Chris grabbed her hand. "Don't overexert yourself. You were just discharged from the hospital a few days ago. You've also been working yourself to the bone for this ceremony. I know Marina has always held a

grudge against you.” Chloe smiled gently and said, “Her mother passed away when she was young.

You didn’t care for her much when she was a child. Understandably, she harbors some resentment. I’ll try my best to make it up to her.” “Chloe, I’m so lucky I’m able to marry a woman like you. Olivia isn’t here today.

Is she still mad at us? Jeff is still comatose in the hospital. Olivia’s your only flesh and blood. I truly want to take good care of her.” “I know you’re a kind man. She’s just been spoiled by her father as a kid. She’s also resentful that her marriage failed. You don’t have to pay her any mind.

She’ll understand when she gets older.” Chloe felt a little bitterness when she thought about her falling out with Olivia last night. Most of her encounters with Olivia ended with arguments since she returned from overseas.

She thought Olivia was being too heartless considering she was trying her best to care for her. In Chloe’s eyes, Olivia was like a rebellious child. She decided to have a heart-to-heart with Olivia after she was past this rebellious phase.

“I’ll go contact Marina. Keep an eye on things here.” “Alright, but don’t work yourself too hard.” Chloe went under the shade of a cherry blossom tree and dialed Marina’s number. She wasn’t able to get through. Chloe Chapter 267 wondered if Marina was already on the helicopter.

She began to contact people who worked for Marina, and she received an unexpected reply. One of the staff told her that Marina had already boarded a helicopter two hours ago.

2/2 The flight from Aldenvine to the island should only take around 30 minutes. If Marina boarded a helicopter two hours ago, where was she?

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 268-Marina was still whining when she got on the helicopter. “What a lousy designer.

I spent so much money and I got a defective dress. It’s all his fault I wasted so much time on such an important day.” Marina had been feeling irritated since yesterday because of the dress. She didn’t get a wink of sleep last night. She begins to doze off as soon as she got on the helicopter.

Little did she know, she was headed straight to hell on earth.

Marina woke up to complete darkness. She was blindfolded, and her limbs were tied up. Where was the island? What about Ethan? What about the ceremony?

Marina started to panic. "Where is this place? Do you know who I am? I'm Mrs.

Miller! How dare you kidnap me? My husband will have all of your heads!" When she opened her mouth, she realized her voice resonated in the room. She also smelled something unpleasant.

"Somebody! Help!" "Save your breath. If yelling could help, kidnappers would be out of a job." Upon hearing the voice, Marina yelled angrily, "Olivia Fordham, you bitch. I knew it had to be you. You're jealous because I'm getting married to Ethan, so you resorted to dirty tricks like this..

Olivia smirked at her frustration. "Are you delusional? You should become an author with that imagination of yours. Do you still not understand what happened? Honestly, I'm curious. What does than like about you?*"

Marina panicked and began yelling. The more she screamed, the more confused Olivia was. Ofta had been with uitam for many years. She knew his personality well.

Olivia knew that Marina wasn't Ethan's type at all, be it looks or personality. He could've picked someone better if he wanted a lover to agitate her.

Someone started clapping, and the sound pulled Marina back to reality "Thanks for putting up a show for me," a distorted voice said Marina was stunned. She could instantly tell that it was the mysterious person she tallest with owen Marina relaxed a little, thinking the person was on her alde Ane "It's you." She said with a dissatisfied tone, "Are you insane? Is this part of the plan that you said that to endure some suffering for? 15/s my engagement ceremony today!" The fact that Olivia was captured didn't bring Marina any joy. She could bully Olivia at any time, but she would be done for if she missed the ceremony.

She had worked so hard to make this ceremony a reality. It had also been delayed many tunes. She had a bad feeling about this "Let me go now. I don't care about what you do to this bitch, but Ethan is waiting for me. I have to go now!" "Leave?" Marina could hear the person chuckle. Since she couldn't see anything, the sinister chuckle sent a shiver down her spike The person

continued, "Only one of you will be leaving here alive." Marina had pulled all sorts of tricks before, but she had never been put through something set this. She asked fearfully, "W-What happens to the other person!" Olivia was dumbstruck by this question, she wondered if Marina had lost her mind. The outcome of the other person apparent. This person had already killed Belle Naturally, they would be fine with doing the same to Marina on Officia Chapter 268 2/2 "Who knows? Maybe she'll be devoured by fishes or ... end up as a mutilated corpse." The person's voice was very soft. It was like the whisper of the devil.

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 269-Marina was stunned by what the person said. She understood what the person wanted to do.

"What's the meaning of this? Didn't you tell me that you wanted to work with me?" "Work with you? Someone like you isn't worth my time," the person said with a smirk.

Fear began to consume Marina, and her expression paled. Her lips quivered as she said, "Don't ... Don't you know who I am? My husband is Ethan Miller. He won't let you off easily if you lay a hand on me." Marina felt a sudden pain on her torso. A foot was pressing down on her waist.

She had never been humiliated like this except for the time Olivia attacked her.

"I'm warning you. You'd better be prepared to put your life on the line if you want to hurt me...' Before Marina could finish her sentence, the foot pressed down harder on her waist. She winced in pain.

"You're the one who should know your place. Olivia is smarter than you. She didn't try to anger me." Marina finally understood that she was in the same predicament as Olivia. "So your target was never Olivia alone but the both of us?" "That's right." The person's gender couldn't be discerned from their voice. Marina could only come to two conclusions. The person hated Olivia and herself because they stood in the way of their love.

It could also be that the person was Ethan's enemy, and they were captured so they could use them to threaten Ethan.

No matter what the person was after, Marina knew her chances for survival were slim.

She started to panic. She quickly dropped her arrogant act and began to beg for her life, "Please let me go. I don't want to die! I still have two kids. I can't leave them alone." Her attitude changed as she added, "Kill Olivia if you have to. She's Ethan's ex-wife and the love of his life." Marina's words struck a chord with Olivia. She never thought she would see the day when a prideful woman like Marina would admit Ethan loved her more.

Olivia could hear the person grunt. She could hear the disdain in their tone.

"What a joke. A woman who's about to be engaged to Ethan is admitting that she's not his true love?" "It's true! I'm not lying. Even though we're engaged, he doesn't love me at all." Marina no longer cared about her pride or appearance. She just wanted to live.

"Why would he get engaged to you if he doesn't love you?" "Because... I got pregnant with his children by accident. He has no choice but to do so." Marina almost blurted out the truth. She paused for a moment, then changed her statement.

The person patted Marina on her face. "You don't have to be so pessimistic.

Ethan will be the one to decide if you live or die." Marina asked in surprise, "What do you mean?" "Aren't you the one who loves making people choose between two options?"

That's what we'll be doing today. Honestly, I'm more curious-" The person dragged their tone, then continued, "If the same thing happens, will Ethan make the same choice he made back then?" Both Olivia and Marina's faces paled. They understood what the person wanted to do.

The person took their foot off Marina.

Chapter 269 Marina knew the person wasn't joking. She broke into tears and kept begging for her life.

The person said softly, "Don't be afraid. I just want to play a game with you. A game... of life and death."

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 270-Marina was panicking, but Olivia was relatively calmer. Olivia was sure the outcome would be the same if Ethan had to pick between them.

She could feel herself back in the freezing waters of the ocean when she closed her eyes. She could picture Ethan swimming resolutely toward Marina.

That incident haunted Olivia for an entire year. She had just gotten over it. She was about to start over.

“Why...” Olivia muttered.

“Why what?” the person asked.

Olivia raised her chin slightly. Even though she was sprawled on the floor in a humiliating position, she maintained her defiance.

“Why do you have to play games with us? Do you get a kick out of it?” The person chuckled. “Of course, it’s fun for me. I think seeing Ethan kill the woman he loves with his own hands will be very amusing.” Olivia wanted to break through the ropes around her hands several times but held back. She knew it would be all over as soon as she broke free.

“If you have feelings for someone, you should compete fairly. What do you stand to gain from these schemes?” Olivia was disgusted by the person.

The person hid it well, but Olivia leaned more toward the possibility that they were a woman.

If it was a man who had a grudge against Ethan, the person’s methods would’ve been more violent and direct. A man wouldn’t waste years setting up a plot. Nor would a man waste so much effort to capture her and Marina just to force Ethan to pick between them.

She was sure all of it was the handiwork of a woman. Not only was this woman cruel, but she was also mentally ill.

There was one thing that puzzled Olivia. This woman targeted the women close to Ethan, so why didn’t she try to take her place when her relationship with him was at rock bottom these two years? Why was Marina the one who got together with Ethan instead?

This woman knew Ethan so well. She would have an easier time getting closer to Ethan than Marina if she wanted to.

But Marina was the only woman who managed to get close to Ethan in these two years. There were no other women. If this woman wasn't trying to get with Ethan, why would she plot against Ethan's women?

Olivia had many questions she wanted answers to. She wanted to rip off her blindfold to see who the woman was.

The woman appeared to have guessed what she was thinking. She said coldly, "I'll be happier than you can imagine. Do you know why I haven't killed you yet?"

Dying is too easy. I want to see you struggle. I want you to experience all the hardships the world has to offer." For the longest time, Olivia could only guess what the woman's motive was. It was even more terrifying now that she heard it.

Olivia knew she had never harmed anyone in her life. She didn't know why this woman would harbor so much hatred for her.

"Do we know each other? Why do you hate me so much?" Olivia couldn't help but ask.

This woman hated her so much that she thought death would be a gift for her.

The woman hated her so much she wanted her to live in agony.

"Save your questions for after you're dead." "I know you want me dead. At least let me know why. Tell me if I've ever caused you harm. I don't want to die with guilt and unanswered questions." "Dumbass, I don't have time for chit-chat. The game is about to start." Meanwhile, at the venue of the engagement ceremony, all the media personnel were ready. No one expected Marina to be late. It was already time for the ceremony, yet she was nowhere to be seen.

Chloe held the hem of her dress as she ran toward Ethan. She had lost her usual elegance.

"Ethan! Something's wrong, Marina has gone missing!" The screen that had been showing pictures of Marina was cut off abruptly.

An unfamiliar voice came from the speakers. "Hello, has the ceremony started yet? I'm not late, am I?"

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 271-The voice from the speakers caught everyone's attention instantly. All the media personnel pointed their cameras at the screen.

They could see the sea on the screen. A person wearing a panda costume appeared on the feed. Nothing could be discerned from the person's voice or figure.

Kelvin ran to Ethan and reported, "Our computers have been hacked." Ethan signaled to Brent with his eyes. He instantly knew what he had to do.

Marina had yet to show up. It was apparent that something had gone wrong.

Ethan stood with his hands behind his back and a stormy expression on his face. He didn't expect something to happen today. To pick this particular day to take action, the culprit had gone to great lengths to plan their move.

Ethan instantly thought up several ways to handle the situation. Brent quietly moved away. He was going to try and track the broadcasting signal to locate the enemy.

In the meantime, Ethan would be responsible for buying time. He stared coldly at the screen and asked, "Do you have her?" Ethan was sure they must have left some communication device on location, like the spy cameras they had planted in his office. Ethan had found some leads, but as soon as his men went looking, they would already be gone.

He had been waiting for the mastermind to show themselves. But he didn't expect it to happen during his engagement ceremony.

The guests realized something was wrong. They were wondering what happened. They found it hard to believe that Marina had been kidnapped.

The guests felt tense but excited at the same time. A live kidnapping was not something they got to see every day.

No one dared to talk, not even the influencers that were live-streaming. They were quietly filming everything that was happening.

The person in the panda costume said cockily, "Who are you asking about?" The question sent shockwaves into the crowd. The guests didn't expect someone to kidnap Ethan's fiancée, much less one more person.

.Ethan started to lose his cool. He suddenly recalled Olivia congratulating him on his engagement. He had thought something was off this morning. It wasn't like Olivia to call him and mock him.

What she would've done was stay away from him. After all, she never wanted to see him again. She had acted weird, and Ethan had even wondered if something happened to her.

Ethan's hands clenched harder behind his back as the thought crossed his mind. He asked icily, "What do you mean by that?" The person in the panda costume shrugged. "It's exactly what you think it is. I've taken your fiancée." The crowd burst into a commotion instantly.

Amidst the chaos, the person added, "Not only do I have your fiancée, but I also have your ex-wife," "What? When did Ethan have an ex-wife?" "Didn't he save himself for ten years for his true love? Where did this ex-wife come from?" "He was seen being intimate with a woman on the cruise ship a while ago. And now it turns out that he has an ex-wife. This man is trash." "He has never announced any information about his ex-wife. She must be someone he's embarrassed of." "Rather than the kidnapping, I'm more curious about who Ethan's ex-wife is." Chapter 271 The guests on location and the live-stream viewers began gossiping about Ethan's relationships.

The camera abruptly cut away from the person in the panda costume. The feed showed the ocean, clear skies, and seagulls flying. It would be a peaceful scene if not for the two women dangling on ropes.

Marina was wearing her expensive dress. The guests could see the tears flowing from her eyes even though she was blindfolded. She was in shock.

The woman next to her had the same treatment. The upper half of her face was covered up. Only her chin and lips were visible. Ethan clenched his fists so hard his palms were bleeding.

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 272-Marina could feel everyone's gaze even though she couldn't see.

She cried for help, "Ethan! Dad! Help me! You have to save me. I don't want to die." Olivia wasn't feeling good. She had yet to eat breakfast, and her stomach had been aching for a while. Her forehead was covered in sweat, making the ocean breeze feel more chilly.

She didn't have the energy to call for help like Marina. The rope around her waist made it hard for her to breathe. She was sure the outcome would be the same either way.

Ethan chose Marina a year ago, and she knew his choice wouldn't change. She wasn't disappointed because she never had any hope to begin with.

As she was in despair and thinking of her chances of escaping, she heard some noise. The audio from the audience's side was being broadcasted to them.

Chloe's weeping was especially loud. "Marina, Olivia, are you two okay?" Olivia slowly opened her lifeless eyes. She tried to look toward Chloe's voice even though she was blindfolded.

Chloe's voice further intensified Marina's emotions. She cried, "Mom, please save me!" "Don't worry, Marina. Your dad will get you out of this." Olivia's stomach was in a lot of pain. Her lips were chapped. She licked them, but she didn't say a word.

She realized that she cared more about Chloe's choice than Ethan's. Chloe was her mother, after all. Olivia touched her phone watch, feeling uneasy.

She was like a student waiting for her grades, anxious and unsettled.

In her mind, even though Chloe had abandoned her for so many years, she was still just Marina's stepmother. Surely, she would pick her biological daughter over her stepdaughter, right?

The answer should have been obvious, but Olivia was so nervous she could barely breathe.

Chloe pleaded in a shaky voice, "I beg of you, please let my daughters go.

They've never done you any harm. If you want money, just name your price.

We'll give you any amount you want. Just don't hurt them. We can give you anything you want." Chloe's sorrowful voice shook Olivia. Olivia knew Chloe had never experienced much hardships in her life. She must be so terrified now. She also had a heart condition. Olivia was worried that she might faint.

Even she didn't realize that she was only thinking of Chloe.

Ethan finally spoke up. "What do you want?" He felt very uncertain. He hoped that the people who kidnapped Olivia and Marina weren't the ones who were after him.

If it was, Olivia and Marina would be doomed. They might even die horrible deaths.

The incident was being streamed on the internet. It matched those people's way of doing things. Those people excelled at creating commotions. They liked to humiliate, torture, and even dismember their victims publicly.

Ethan had experienced countless trials and tribulations in his life. He had forged an indomitable will over the years. But he was trembling right now. Every single one of his fingers were shaking uncontrollably.

He had seen many dead bodies, and he was prepared to die at any time. But he didn't want the people close to him to experience such misfortune.

He spent many years trying to leave his dark past behind. It took great effort for him to become who he was. He didn't know how he was exposed.

He wondered if he had attracted the attention of those people when he went to the island to save Olivia and Connor.

Chapter 272 He knew there was no point in pondering about that. He tried his best to hide all traces of worry and fear on his face. The guests were all panicking, but they saw Ethan standing with his hands behind his back.

Ethan said calmly, "Let them go. Your demands will be fulfilled."

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 273-If the kidnappers were after money, the Carltons and Millers could easily fulfill their demands. Ethan feared that they might want something even more precious than money.

Otto was in his wheelchair. His hands gripped the armrests so tightly that his veins were popping. Chris had a severe expression. The on-lookers might not know, but they did. Money was not an issue, but they could not risk exposing Ethan's true identity.

Even if they had to give up on Marina, they had to protect Ethan's secret. Otto and Chris looked each other in the eye and instantly came to an agreement.

Even though their family member's life was still at risk, they had no choice. They had to keep the secret at all costs.

Chloe didn't know anything. She kept weeping and said, "Tell us! Please tell us what you want. We'll give you any amount of money you want." "Mrs. Carlton, your tears are truly touching. Even a stranger like me can't help but feel moved," the person said. Although the words were spoken with a tone of regret, it sounded chilling to those who heard it.

The person then added, "I wonder who those tears are for. Are they for your biological daughter or your stepdaughter?" Chloe sniffed and said, "They're both my daughters. What difference does it make?" The person chuckled. "Of course, there's a difference. Even if you think you love them equally, there has to be a difference. I don't want anything. I just want to play a game.

"I trust everyone has seen bomb squads defusing bombs in TV shows, right?

There are always two wires. Cutting the right one diffuses the bomb, but the wrong one ... Bang!" The person imitated the sound of a bomb exploding, startling everyone.

"Here's what's going to happen. The two of them are tied in red and blue ropes respectively. In one minute, you have to pick one for me to cut." These words caused an uproar among the guests.

"What do you mean by that? Cutting one of them loose? You want them to choose who dies?" "You're rotten to the core, asking someone to choose one of their family members to kill!" "Who gave you the right to decide if they live or die?" Ethan and the Carltons were also stunned. They didn't expect such an outrageous demand.

Even though Ethan's secret would be safe, this situation wasn't much better.

Marina screamed, "Ethan, I'm your fiancée and Connor's mother. Save me! You have to save me!" Chris fell silent. Marina was his daughter, so naturally, he wanted Ethan to save Marina. But he couldn't bring himself to say those words out loud.

Otto didn't even hesitate. "Save Marina. It's clearly the right option." Otto was sure it was an easy choice to make. Olivia was the woman Ethan had already abandoned, while Marina was the fiancée who could bring him status and wealth.

The person said, "Mrs. Carlton, what about you? Who will you choose?" "Me?" Chloe's face was filled with panic.

"That's right. One is the stepdaughter you love; the other is the daughter you abandoned. I'm really curious who you'll choose.

Chapter 273 2/2 People in the crowd began to chatter.

"Isn't that obvious? She'd definitely pick her own flesh and blood: How could a stepdaughter compare to the child she bore for ten months?" "But she's hesitating

Olivia Fordham And Ethan Miller Chapter 274-Marina was facing the camera. It was as if the person was trying to be considerate.

She adjusted the camera to give the audience a close-up view of Marina and Olivia.

Everyone could clearly see the state Marina and Olivia were in.

The diamonds on Marina's fancy dress reflected the sunlight and created a dazzling glow.

The black blindfold on her face was soaked by her tears. The makeup she spent so much time putting on was ruined by her tears.

Marina no longer cared about how she looked. She just wanted to live.

On the other hand, Olivia was the complete opposite.

It was impossible to tell how she felt since most of her face was covered. Her lips were pursed.

She didn't call for help from the beginning. She didn't even say a word.

Some people thought she had fainted. Others noticed the sweat on her forehead. They thought it was weird that she sweated but didn't cry.

Olivia didn't have any makeup on, but her complexion was ashen. Even her lips were unnaturally pale.

“Isn’t the ex-wife too calm? It’s a matter of life and death. Why isn’t she panicking at all?” “Is she not scared of death?” “Marina is calling for help because she knows there’s a chance she will live.

“Olivia probably kept her lips sealed because she knew she would be sacrificed.

If the outcome was the same either way, it would be pointless for her to call for help.” The on-lookers began to formulate all sorts of theories. Some felt sad for this ex-wife who had never shown herself in public. Olivia broke her silence as the crowd was still guessing. “Mom, I also want to know who you’d pick between the two of us.’ She didn’t address Chloe as Mrs. Carlton this time. She called her “mom”.

Olivia said calmly, “I don’t blame you for neglecting me since I was young. I don’t blame you for leaving so abruptly. “Because Dad said that you weren’t happy when you were with him. You didn’t leave us behind. You just went to pursue your own happiness.

s bastard.

“You cut ties with Dad and were gone for years. I had been pushed to the ground. People called me a moth “None of that matters. I don’t blame you. I just want to know one thing. Did you also forsake our bond?” Olivia smiled faintly and continued, “I’m not afraid of dying. But I want to know if the mother I waited for more than ten years ever cared about me. Even if it’s just this once.” Everyone’s gaze fell on Chloe.

Marina was still shouting. “Mom, you said you would protect me! You said you would treat me like I was your own even if we aren’t blood-related.” Olivia didn’t care about what would happen to her. Her cancer was getting worse. She didn’t know how much longer she had to live.

All she wanted was to see her mother once again before she died, her mother, who would love her.

Olivia was like a child abandoned in the snow. She had been battered by the wind and snow. She was on her dying breath.

She held on to life because she was waiting for her mother to come get her.

Chapter 214 2/2 She wanted to prove to the bullies that she wasn't a motherless bastard.

She wanted to prove to the world that she also had a mother. And that her mother was the most gentle woman who loved her the most.

"Mom, you'll pick me, right?" Olivia said as tears welled up in her eyes.