Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1296

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All the equipment and medicine bottles had fallen onto the floor, with broken shards of glass scattered everywhere.

Luna and Michael, too, were on the floor, covered in blood.

At this moment, Michael was trying desperately to prop himself up, snapping, "What a <u>b*tch! If I hadn't known, I wou1d've thought you were some young virgin! You're already a</u> <u>mother of three; stop pretending like you're still young and fresh!</u>

"Why is Joshua allowed to sleep with you whenever he wants? How is he better than me?" Michael got more and more outraged as he said this. He grabbed a piece of broken glass and brought it down onto Luna—

Luna lay in a pool of blood, trying to catch her breath. She had summoned all the strength in her body to fling both herself and Michael off the edge of the bed.

On top of that, when they landed on the floor, the medical equipment and bottles had crashed onto the floor, scattering broken glass all over her body.

Sweat and blood were mixed together, and they seeped through the cuts on her body.

At this point, Luna was in so much pain that her senses went numb.

She was so wet, covered in sweat and blood, that it was as though she had just been fished out of water.

She gasped for her breath and felt more than lucky to be alive.

Therefore, when she saw Michael bringing the piece of broken glass down upon her body, she could not do anything apart from watching in silence, her eyes full of terror.

She could not even move her arm.

The sharpest point of the broken glass was headed straight toward Luna's bloodstained eyes.

She closed her eyes and anticipated the severe pain that would come.

To her surprise, she did not feel the broken glass piercing her skin. Instead, a few drops of liquid dripped onto her eyelids.

Luna furrowed her brows momentarily, then opened her eyes with some difficulty.

There was a hand holding the piece of broken glass. It was Joshua's hand.

Joshua was gripping the broken glass, stopping Michael from moving the glass even an inch further.

Luna's entire face was stained with blood.

When Aura stormed into the room, the first thing she saw was Joshua holding onto Michael's hand, stopping him from stabbing Luna with the broken glass.

She bit down on her lip at this sight. What a useless b*stard!

If Michael wanted to sleep with Luna, why did he not do it earlier? If he wanted to kill her, why did he not do it cleanly and quickly?

Not only did Luna manage to escape, but he could not even blind her!

Even though she thought this, Aura still plastered a worried expression on her face and wailed, "Oh my God! What are you doing, Michael? Let go of that shard! "

She stormed into the room, avoiding the broken glass on the floor carefully, and found a safe spot to kneel. Then, she pretended to tug on Michael's arm with all her might, yelling, "Let go! If you do this, you'll have to go to jail! "

However, Michael was red with rage and snapped, "Then so be it! If I can't kill Joshua today, then I'll kill Luna instead! After all, she won't live long anyway, so why don't I just give her a quick death?! "

With that, he released the piece of broken glass, picked up a broken medicine bottle with sharp edges on both halves, and brought it down upon Luna—

Luna was so exhausted that she slumped against the ground, unable to move.

Joshua narrowed his eyes and gave Michael such a forceful kick that he fell on the ground.

Michael landed on a large piece of broken glass with a thud, drawing blood immediately, and howled in pain.

However, Joshua ignored his cries of pain and instead lunged forward to grab hold of Michael's collar. He punched Michael over and over again as he snapped, "Has Adrian taught you nothing apart from bullying women all these years?"

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1297

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1297

The havoc coming from the ICU was so loud that even Dr. Janet, who was downstairs, could hear the commotion.

She immediately rushed to Luna's room along with a few nurses and doctors.

When she arrived at the scene, she was so stunned that she could not utter a single word.

Luna was lying on the ground, gasping for air, covered entirely in blood.

Meanwhile, Aura was next to her, pretending to help her up but seemingly failing over and over. Every time she propped Luna up, she would let Luna's body fall back into the shattered glass on the floor.

Every time Luna's body landed on the floor, shards of broken glass would enter her open wounds, causing more blood to seep out.

A short distance away, Joshua clutched Michael by his collar, landing punches on him over and over again until Michael's entire face was swollen.

Dr. Janet was so stunned by the scene before her that her legs gave out, and she almost fell to the ground herself.

Some of the nurses called the police, while the rest quickly entered the room to help Luna, but no one dared to stop Joshua.

Finally, Dr. Janet said tentatively to Joshua, "That's enough, Mr. Lynch. He's already passed out. If you go on, you'll kill him, and I 'm sure you have better things to do than punch him over and over. If he has done something wrong, the cops will punish him. Please don't act impulsively..."

Joshua lifted his head and replied, an expression of ruthlessness that was never before seen on his blood and sweat -stained face, "I 've had enough of this."

If it were not for the fact that he had to obey Luna's wishes and keep the bigger picture in mind...he would not have tolerated Aura as well as Adrian's family for so long!

Joshua had always been a vengeful and ruthless person ever since he took over Lynch Group when he was 17 He had never been one for kindness and vulnerability. After all, this was the richest man in Banyan City, the man who had single-handedly revived Lynch Group from the brink of bankruptcy and transformed it into the top three most profitable companies in the world.

Even though Joshua was a cold-blooded and merciless man to other people, he still had a weakness.

<u>His weakness was Luna.</u>

He and Luna had only recently made up, so Joshua did not want to upset her nor want her to think he did not cherish her.

Therefore, he was willing to listen and obey her wishes. Even if she wanted him to tolerate Aura's wrongdoings, he still did as she asked.

Even if she wanted him to show Adrian's family mercy, at least before Granny Lynch was cured, he still did as she told him to, no matter how difficult it was for him to do so.

It seemed that these people took his mercy for granted!

Joshua turned and glanced at Luna, who was lying on the bed as one of the nurses inserted an IV line while another cleaned up the broken glass all over her body. As soon as he saw this, Joshua felt as though an invisible hand squeezed his heart.

Therefore, he gave Michael a few more punches before releasing him and standing up.

Joshua glanced at Aura, who was watching Luna impassively, and grabbed onto her arm aggressively. Then, he dragged her out of the room.

Aura furrowed her brows. "What are you doing, Joshua?"

"Nothing. Let's go home." Joshua shot her a cold glance. "What's the point of staying here any longer?"

Aura froze for a moment, then bit down on her lip and glanced in Luna's direction. Then, she asked in a low voice, "I thought you wanted to stay here longer. Won't you be worried about Luna if you go home right now?"

"No, I won't. I just couldn't stand watching Michael bully a woman." With that, Joshua wrapped his arm around Aura's shoulder aggressively, like a police holding someone prisoner, and brought her out of the room.

Aura was confused but delighted at the same time.

She was delighted that Joshua did not seem to care about Luna anymore, but at the same time, she was puzzled as to why Joshua held her like this.

This was the most intimate that Joshua had ever treated her in so many years.

However, it felt like she was being restrained by a police officer, and it made her feel extremely uncomfortable.

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1298

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1298

Not only was Aura unable to feel any love or affection, but she felt exhausted and in pain.

Despite this, she refused to let go of Joshua. After all..everything that happened once could happen again.

In a few days, as soon as she and Joshua got used to intimacy like this...then everything would have a fresh start!

Of course, Aura still had doubts about this. Why was Joshua acting so impassive toward Luna, even though he had gotten so upset and furious over her back there?

Initially, Aura thought Joshua had faked his impassiveness and wanted to find an excuse to send Aura home and sneak out to visit Luna by himself, but...

When Aura woke up in the middle of the night— countless times—she discovered that Joshua had been home all this while, fast asleep.

The next morning, Adrian and Celia had arrived at Blue Bay Villa and caused a scene. After sending them off and asking her about the whereabouts of the antidote, Joshua left for work, appearing disgruntled.

At that time, Aura still had her doubts about him, so she followed him to work, but Joshua did not visit Luna.

On top of that, when Aura suggested that they visit Luna after seeing Granny Lynch, he shot down her idea.

Aura could not help but feel terrified yet delighted by this at the same time.

She was delighted that Joshua did not seem to care about Luna anymore and did not even want to bring her up.

On the other end, however...Aura had a feeling that Joshua was not such a cold and heartless person.

She had a gut feeling that Joshua seemed to be hiding something from her...but he had hidden it too well, and she could not get anything out of him no matter how hard she tried.

Because of this, Aura decided not to pursue this matter any further.

She stared at her beautifully made-up face in the mirror and smiled.

This was the day that the antidote would arrive in Banyan City.

Joshua had promised her earlier that as soon as Granny Lynch received the antidote, he would drive Aura to the Civil Affairs Bureau and officially take her as his wife.

The earnest look in his eyes when he said this made Aura blush. She could not help pursing her lips and asking, "Joshua, have you really gotten over Luna? As for the wedding...I don't mind if we wait a little."

Aura's men had been monitoring Luna's condition in the hospital these past few days. They told her that Luna was on the verge of dying soon and that she could not possibly make it past that day.

Therefore...as long as Luna died, Aura did not care when she and Joshua were planning to marry.

Six years ago, Joshua had gotten engaged with Aura after thinking Luna had died, so if Luna truly died this time...it would only be a matter of time Aura became the new Mrs. Lynch.

She was in no rush at all.

<u>"I don't want to wait any longer." Joshua shot Aura an impassive glance and added, "I want to let you become the person you long to be the most. That way, I won't be burdened in the future any longer."</u>

A surge of warmth spread through Aura's heart every time she recalled Joshua's words.

All of a sudden, someone knocked on her door. "Aura, the hospital called just now. Granny Lynch has received the antidote."

"It's time for us to leave, too."

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1299

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1299

"Coming! " Aura quickly put on some lipstick when she heard Joshua knocking on her door.

Finally, she glanced at her reflection again in the mirror.

She looked absolutely stunning. She would be Joshua's most beautiful bride today!

On this day, she would officially become Mrs. Lynch while Luna would die alone in the hospital...

As soon as she thought of this, Aura was so excited that she had an urge to spread this good news all over the world.

The woman that had caused her and her sister misery for so many years was finally going to die!

Even though there were three children that she had yet to get rid of, as long as Luna died, well... Aura knew she would find a way to defeat the children.

After all, they were only six. She could easily take care of three six-year-olds!

As soon as she thought of this, Aura let out an exhale and flung the door open with a smile.

Joshua was wearing a suit, like always. However, instead of his usual black, he donned a suit in sky blue, her favorite color, as though he had chosen it especially for her. The light shade of blue made Joshua look even more striking and handsome than usual.

Aura was so excited that she immediately leaped into Joshua's arms. "Joshua, I 'm over the moon! I never thought you'd choose this color, especially for me! I can tell you value and cherish me very much! "

For the first time ever, Joshua did not shove her away from him. He recalled what Luna had said in her voice message that she sent the night before. "

Wear a sky-blue suit tomorrow; Aura loves that color. And, please be gentle to her. Even though she's a bad person, she has been in love with you for so many years. Show her some kindness for this, at least."

Joshua felt scornful of showing kindness to a woman like Aura, so he did not agree to Luna's request.

However, when he received and put on the suit Luna had prepared for him, he realized that Luna had prepared this especially for him, even though she was still gravely ill...

Therefore, he decided to put it on in the end.

After all, Luna was the one who chose it, and she had not done so in many years.

Joshua let out an exhale and pushed Aura away. " Come on; the driver's already waiting."

Aura grinned and followed him. "Do you think I look beautiful today, Joshua?"

<u>"Of course you do."</u>

"Are we going to the Civil Affairs Bureau right now?"

"Yes."

The black Masevati pulled away from Blue Bay Villa and headed in the direction of Bay Bridge.

As she sat in the car and watched the bridge grow closer and closer, Aura furrowed her brows. "Joshua, did we take the wrong route?"

The Civil Affairs Bureau was in the city center, so why was the car traveling in the direction of the ocean and Bay Bridge instead?

"Of course we didn't." Joshua stared in the direction in front of him. "This is a necessary route to take for our destination."

Aura had a feeling that something was wrong.

Joshua was very good with directions. On top of that, Banyan City was not a big place, so even If Joshua had never been to the Civil Affairs Bureau much, he would not make the mistake of accidentally taking the wrong route.

Besides, even if Joshua had misremembered the route, the driver who was driving them had grown op in Banyan City all his life and knew his way around the city. How could he possibly be wrong, too?

Aura furrowed her brows and stared at Joshua with an expression of caution. "Joshua, are you... are you not willing to marry me?"

Was this why Joshua had deliberately asked the driver to take the wrong route?

"How can that be?" Joshua curled his lips into a smile and put his arm around Aura's shoulder, and learned his body against hers for the first time ever. His aura was so solid and domineering that Aura could not help but feel suffocated. "How could I possibly break my promise to you?

"After all, you and I have been on and off for so many years now. It's about time we put an end to this."

Aura bit down on her lip and glanced outside the window.

The car had already pulled up at Bay Bridge.

Bay Bridge was usually crowded with traffic at this time, but to Aura's surprise...the entire road was empty, so empty that she could even hear the birds chirping.

This was...bizarre.

Just as Aura puzzled over this, the car pulled to a stop.

The color drained from her side as soon as Aura glanced out the window.

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1300

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1300

The spot where the car had stopped...

The color of the barrier here was different from the rest of the bridge.

This particular barrier had been crashed down before and had to undergo maintenance. Because of this, the new barrier was a different color from the previous one.

This...was the place where Luna had fallen into the sea, courtesy of Jason.

Aura stared at the different -colored barrier before her and felt her entire body break out in cold sweats. She lifted her head to stare at Joshua, shaking. " Joshua..."

Joshua curled his lips into a smirk and released her. Then, he pushed the door open and got out of the door.

A split second later, he opened Aura's door and snapped, "Get out of the car. We're here."

Aura trembled so vehemently that her teeth chattered. "Josh...Joshua. Aren't we going to retrieve our marriage certificate? Why... Why did you bring me here?"

"Well, I brought you here to solve things once and for all and give you the outcome you long for the most." Joshua lowered his head to glance at the time, then leaned against the barrier gracefully and smiled at her. "It's hard to accept, isn't it? It's okay.

We still have two minutes, so I'll wait."

Aura forze upon hearing this. What... What did he mean by two minutes?

Before she could even ask, Aura heard the sound of an approaching car. She froze momentarily, then turned to glance in the direction where the sound had come from.

It was Bonnie's red Ferrare.

The Ferrare was like a streak of red shadow racing toward them. It screeched to a halt next to Joshua's car, and the car door opened.

Bonnie got out of the driver's seat, wearing a red trench coat.

The person who got out of the passenger's side...was Luna, dressed head to toe in white. She was still a little weak from her illness, and her face looked pale.

Despite this, she did not look as frail as Aura's men had told her, claiming that Luna would die any day soon.

Aura was so stunned by the scene before her that she was frozen in shock.

What... What was going on? Luna was on the verge of dying! How could she appear before her, unscathed?

This was impossible! Impossible!

Bonnie seemed to notice Aura's bewilderment, so she took off sunglasses, leaned against the hood of her Ferrare, and said, "Did you honestly think that Luna her for a month? Well, too bad, because Luna didn't eat a single bite. She wasn't poisoned at all." Aura widened her eyes in shock. How was this possible? "Then, she..."

Luna gave Aura a faint smile and answered, "You mean my illness? That was a medicine that Dr. Janet formulated especially for me, based on the poison that the Landry family invented. It mimicked the symptoms of the poison but didn't have the same effects at all. Now that the medicine has almost worn off, I'm getting better as well."

Aura's legs gave out from underneath her, and she slumped against the backseat as though she had been struck by lightning. She did not expect that... Luna had been faking her illness all along.

Bonnie curled her lips into a smirk when she saw how pale Aura's face had become. "The only reason Joshua had promised to be together with you was so that you would hand over the antidote for Granny Lynch. Do you think he would've done so otherwise?"

"Aura." Luna let out an exhale. "You've failed, totally and utterly.

<u>"Didn't you mention you hated the fact that I had always been better than you at anything?</u> Well, let me tell you this: it's true. I 'm better than you. You're a n idiot."

Aura's entire body stiffened. Then, a split second later, she flew into a rage and screamed, "Luna! You deserve to die! "

She lunged toward Luna like a deranged person.

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1301

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1301

Before Aura could even graze Luna's body, however, someone grabbed onto her wrist.

Joshua bent her wrist down, and Aura crashed onto the ground with a thud. She slumped on the brick road and glared at Luna. "You b*tch! I should've killed you from the start! You shou1d've died six years ago, along with the three rascals inside your womb! The three scoundrels shouldn't have been born in the first place! "

Aura grew more and more outraged as she snapped, " I made a mistake! I should've nurtured Neil to become a killer and had him kill you! "

Luna furrowed her brows when she heard this.

Bonnie, on the other hand, stepped forward and gave Aura a kick on her mouth.

Aura's beautifully painted lips curled into a grimace, and her entire face was struck to one side from the blow.

Bonnie scoffed as she watched the blood trickle out of the corner of Aura's mouth. "I would've thought you were at least human if your only target was

Luna, but Nigel, Neil, and Nellie are only six! How dare you even bully three six-year-old children like this?"

Aura spat out a mouthful of blood and slumped on the ground weakly, glaring at Bonnie. "I almost forgot you..."

She snickered as she stared at Bonnie's face and continued, "The three scoundrels belong to Luna and Joshua, so what business is it of yours? Did your motherly instincts suddenly emerge because you couldn't find the child you had with that old man? Pity! "

Bonnie erupted in rage as soon as she heard this, and she lunged forward to grab hold of Aura's collar. "Why are you still spouting nonsense at a time like this? Do you think I'm not capable of beating you to death?"

Aura snickered. "Even if you beat me to death, you won't be able to find your child! "

Bonnie bit down on her lip and snapped, "I've never given birth to a child! "

With that, she raised her arm and gave Aura two slaps across her face. She did not show Aura any mercy at all, so Aura's cheeks grew red and swollen almost immediately. She was in pain but had no way of releasing it, so she could only glare at Joshua and Luna. "How can you let me slap me like this? Do you want me to call the police and sue her for assault and vigilantism? You two are also involved as accomplices! "

Joshua raised his eyebrows slightly upon hearing this. "Call the police?"

He took out a stack of documents from the car and tossed it at Aura's feet. "In that case, you'd better take these to the police as well."

When the documents landed at Aura's feet, Bonnie let go of her, and Aura lowered her head to look at the contents as she lay on the ground.

Her eyes widened when she registered what was written on the documents.

It was all evidence of her attempting to kill Luna six years ago. This included pictures of her and Jason making a deal, transcriptions of their recordings, receipts of her transferring money to Jason, as well as invoices for the van rental...

"These... " Aura stared at the evidence before her in shock, feeling as though someone had struck her in the back of her head with a hammer. She felt both in pain and dizzy at the same time.

How could this be...

She had already destroyed the evidence linking her to Luna's murder, so how did Joshua manage to find these? Besides...all of this happened six years ago!