## Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 2517

Jim channeled all the strength in his body into this punch, and after falling onto the ground, Malcolm could not even make a sound, much less move any part of his body. He felt as though all his internal organs had shifted from this blow, and he wanted nothing more than to pick himself back up again. He could not. No matter how hard he tried, he could not. Despair and hopelessness enveloped his entire being.

However, Jim did not seem to think this was enough. Instead, he grabbed hold of Malcolm's collar and punched him again.

Malcolm slumped limply on the ground like a fish out of water.

"Anything else you wanted to say?" Joshua shifted into a more comfortable position in his chair and stared down at Malcolm from his towering height. "You should know that you're no longer Malcolm Quinn.

"Malcolm Quinn has been kicked out of Merchant City and is no longer welcomed into this city. Your new identity is Lucifer Howard, a driver and laborer working for Thomas Howard.

"If you die right here, everyone in Merchant City will know that Jim beat one of Thomas' employees to death, but no one will know that you're Malcolm Quinn, and no one will avenge your death." Joshua narrowed his eyes and stared intently at Malcolm. "If Jim continues, I'll have to contact Thomas to send one of his men here to remove your corpse."

Malcolm stared helplessly at the man towering over him like a king.

He knew that he had failed.

He had failed in all of his conquests.

Before this, he thought he had a fighting chance.

Before coming to Swan Lake Chalet, he had intended to use the three children as pawns to threaten Joshua.

When faced with Joshua's wrath and Jim's aggression, he finally knew...that he had failed.

He was no match for Joshua after all.

In the past, he was proud of his intelligence; he had sought out Thomas and

snuck back into Merchant City by changing his identity and had felt victorious over this.

He thought that as long as he returned to Merchant City, he would have a chance to start over At this very moment, he knew that he was wrong. The biggest mistake he had ever committed was changing his identity.

Just as Joshua said, he was no longer Malcolm Quinn but Lucifer Howard instead.

A man with no background Aeo\$/B{ no past, but just someone who worked for Thomas Howard as a laborer and driver.

Even if Jim pulverized him to death, no one would care about such a lowly employer, much less help him seek revenge.

What did he have left?

What else did he have to help him walk out of Swan Lake Chalet alive?

Malcolm closed his eyes and finally had no choice. "I…I didn't bring it with me, so I can't give it to you now." He opened his eyes to glance first at Joshua, then at Jim. "If…if you're willing to show me mercy….!'ll go retrieve it for you right now!" Joshua curled his lips into a smirk. "Okay. We'll go with you right now."

With that, he stood up and strode out the door.

Jim furrowed his brows and quickly followed, asking in a low voice, "What are we going to retrieve?" "The remainder of the poison that was used to kill Bonnie."

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Jim froze, unable to believe his ears. He instinctively inched closer to Joshua and whispered, "Are you saying that... Malcolm kept some of the poison with which he was instructed to kill Bonnie and even stashed it somewhere?"

Joshua nodded, staring out in the direction in front of him.

He persistently prodded and provoked Malcolm so he would finally relent and hand over the poison. Joshua had mentioned that he did not need Malcolm to expose the identity of the mastermind. That was because both he and Jim were capable of finding out who this person was eventually.

Not only that, but he even had a suspicion as to who it was already.

Nonetheless, it was not enough to find this person.

As Malcolm said, this person had minimal contact with him, and even if they managed to find who it was, it would be hard to pin it on her because she had plenty of reasons and evidence that would help her evade responsibility.

Because of this, Joshua had to find even more evidence to prove her crime.

This evidence had to be so concrete that no further explanation was needed. However, only Malcolm possessed the evidence that they needed. Joshua knew Malcolm was a careful man and must have taken some precautions before agreeing to work with this person. Therefore, the only thing Malcolm could have used to protect himself was the poison he was given.

He must have requested more of the poison and kept the extra for himself. If he succeeded in his task, he would be able to use this poison against someone he hated.

If he failed, however, he could also use the remainder of this poison to threaten the person to help him leave the city. Unfortunately for him, Malcolm, thinking this plan was airtight, forgot that there had been another pair of eyes on him this entire time. Joshua was an even more meticulous man than him, and he was always one step ahead.

After listening to Joshua's explanation on their way to retrieve the poison, Jim could not help giving Joshua a thumbs—up. "You're good." It was no wonder this man was such a successful entrepreneur Ad2&{\_Bl no wonder he was able to conquer the entire Merchant City market within a year.

Joshua's mind was so intricate that one could never keep up.

Soon, the car arrived at a small field located behind Quinn Mansion.

Lucas helped a restrained Malcolm out of the car. "It's... It's right under this tree." Malcolm pointed at a tree on the outskirts of the field and said, "Can you... Can you leave a little bit just for me? I still want to..." "What do you want to do with it?" Joshua strode over and kicked Malcolm onto the ground. "Are you going to use it to kill someone else, or are you planning to use it to threaten the person who instructed you to kill Bonnie? Well, in your dreams!

"I won't allow you to hurt another person, and as for your other plan... "Don't you know that as soon as we get our hands on the poison and run an analysis on the contents, we'll be able to find this person's true identity, and she'll be in deep shit? Are you sure she'll be able to protect you then?" The color drained from Malcolm's face upon hearing this. He lowered his head and did not dare to say another word. Jim was right. That woman was no longer capable of protecting him, so who else could he go to? At this rate, he had no one else to rely on...except for Thomas.

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Just as *M*alcolm contemplated the options he had, Lucas and his men dug out a small chest from beneath the tree.

Jim immediately lunged forward to open the chest.

There was a small box engraved with the letter M, in a plastic wrapper inside the chest.

Jim opened the box, frowning, and discovered a small pill wrapped in aluminum foil.

"She had given me only one of these pills, but...I told her I had lost it so that she'd give me another one," Malcolm explained timidly. "Initially, I had planned to use this to escape..." He lifted his head to stare at Joshua. "You mean what you said, right, Mr. Lynch? You told me that as long as I handed over the pill...you'd let me go." "He promised that he'd let you go, but I never did." Jim tucked the box into his pocket, stomped back toward Malcolm, and landed another punch on his already swollen face.

"That's enough." Joshua furrowed his brow, reached out to stop Jim, and said impassively, "We have to stick to our word." He shot Malcolm a contemptuous glance. "Else, how are we different from people like him?"

Malcolm nodded fervently. "That's right, that's right. Mr. Landry, you have to stay calm... If you don't stick to your word, you won't be any different from people like me!"

Maleolm had lost all trace of the pride and entitlement he used to have as heir to the Quinn family fortune. The only thing on his mind was how to decrease the torment inflicted on him as much as possible.

It was not because he was a coward but because he could not bear being beaten by Jim anymore. Malcolm used to think that Jim was a soft–spoken gentleman, but to his sheer horror...

Jim had turned into a menace after what happened to Bonnie!

If he had known Jim would become so violent after that, he would not have

agreed to work with that woman no matter what! Jim furrowed his brow and glanced dubiously at Joshua. "Are you going to let him go just like that?" Time and time again, the things Malcolm had done were enough for Joshua to beat him to death, yet he chose to release him every time.

In the past, Jim could understCg4%{ G| that Joshua was doing this for Samuel's sake.

After all, Samuel had saved Lucy's life and helped her live so many years after her gruesome demise.

Therefore, she owed her life to Samuel, and Joshua was trying to repay Samuel for his kindness.

Regardless, enough was enough. Why was Joshua showing Malcolm mercy at a time like this? Did he think being tricked by Malcolm so many times was not enough?

Malcolm was never going to change his ways; as long as he continued remaining in Merchant City, he would always find a way to hurt them!

"What do you think?" Joshua turned to glance at a furious Jim. "Even if we kill him now, it won't change anything about the past, but..." He narrowed his eyes. "As long as he stays alive and well in Merchant City... someone is bound to go after him."

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Jim fell silent upon hearing this.

He knew that Joshua was right. To find the person who tried to kill Bonnie, they had to do more than find the poison used.

They would have to obey Joshua's plan and make it evident that they had sought out Malcolm, then release him as though nothing had happened. That way, the mastermind behind all this would become flustered and eventually find a way to get rid of Malcolm to prevent herself from being exposed. With this, they could use Malcolm as bait to lure the person into the light. At the thought of this, Jim scoffed and glared at Malcolm. "You got lucky this time!"

Then, he turned and stomped away. After Jim left, Joshua glanced impassively at Malcolm, then ordered Lucas, "Get the news out there about Malcolm's interrogation and make it clear that we released him, even though he didn't offer us any useful information."

Lucas nodded obediently. "Yes, Sir."

Joshua turned to smile at Malcolm. "Good luck."

With that, he left.

Staring at Joshua's retreating figure, Malcolm finally managed to put two and two together. By releasing him, Joshua placed him in a far more dangerous position than before. Even though he did not admit anything to them during the interrogation, they still let him go anyway! That woman would never believe this.

She would find a way to get in touch with him to find out what happened. Worst case scenario? She might even resort to killing him.... Malcolm broke out into cold sweat at the thought of this. He slumped onto the ground weakly, unable to understand how he had gone from Malcolm Quinn, the heir of Quinn Group, to such a lowly position in a matter of months.

He had become nothing but a pawn in Joshua and Jim's game. This... was even worse than death!

At the hospital.

Bonnie's gentle gaze landed on Kate, who was sobbing in a chair next to her bed." Alright, don't cry. It's not your fault they don't believe you saving me was just a coincidence. No matter what..."

She curled her lips into a smile. "No matter what, I appreciate what you did. If it weren't for you, I wouldn't even be here right now."

She gazed in the direction in front of her Ah4){ \_G{ said with a hint of sorrow, "I haven't lived my life to the fullest yet. I haven't gotten the chance to watch Harvey and Shelly grow up, and I haven't…"

She had not gotten the chance to spend the rest of her life with Jim.

He had yet to fulfill all his promises to her, so how could she die just like that? "You're going to survive this..." Kate wiped the tears from her red–rimmed eyes and said, "I just never thought that...saving you by using my family's medicine on accident would be interpreted in the wrong way, and everyone else would think that I'm a murderer."

Tears scrolled down her cheeks.

Staring at Kate, Bonnie suddenly did not know how to console her anymore.

She did not know Kate at all, nor was she close with her.

This girl had approached her after she woke up, claiming that she worked for Luke and that she had saved her...

Bonnie never doubted this at all because Kate had run into Charles and Rosalyn when they came to visit her, and their reactions proved it all.

Even though Charles and Rosalyn appeared to be displeased at Kate, they never denied the fact that Kate had saved her.

However, this was Bonnie's only knowledge about her brush with death. She knew that no matter Joshua, Jim, or Rosalyn...