

The Divorce Prescription Chapter 181

Dressed in a black silk pajama set, Adam stood on the balcony with a cigarette resting between his slender fingers.

The swirling smoke obscured his expression, but his tightly furrowed brows hinted at his inner turmoil. He was smoking fast, the ashes falling in angry clumps, carrying **specks** of crimson sparks to the ground

He thought he was losing his mind.

There was actually nothing wrong with the Terrestrial Suite. He had instructed the resort villa manager to make up that excuse because he simply didn't want

Celine and Nathan to be alone in one room.

The thought of her ordering those things filled **his** mind with images of what she and Nathan might be doing together. His emotions spiraled out of control, no matter how hard he tried to suppress them.

In the dead of night, Adam suddenly became **aware** of the dark and forbidden thoughts he harbored toward Celine. He couldn't let her go. He couldn't stand the

thought of her being with another man

He didn't love her, but he was addicted to the pleasure she gave him. It was just a game to him. And the key problem was that he hadn't had his fill yet. How could he possibly **give** her up to someone else before that?

At that moment, someone hugged him from behind and asked, "Adam, why are you smoking?"

It was Carly. She seldom saw him smoking.

Adam turned around slowly but **didn't**

say a word. Just then, **the** bathroom door clicked open, and Celine walked **out**, fresh from her shower.

Nathan stepped forward and asked, "Celine, you're done?"

She nodded lightly and answered, "Yeah."

Her gaze shifted to the balcony, where she saw Carly hugging Adam from **behind**. A cigarette **was** still burning between his fingers, and the two of them appeared

unusually intimate

After harshly humiliating her earlier, he was back to being with Carly again.

Celine averted her gaze and said, "I'll use the hairdryer."

She sat down at the vanity table, picked up the hairdryer, and began drying her damp, long hair.

Nathan walked over and said, "Celine, let me help you."

Adam's eyes fell on her. She had just taken a shower and was dressed in a white nightgown with a lace-trimmed doll collar, making her look innocent and delicate.

Under the light by the vanity, her makeup-free face, small and fair as porcelain, radiated a soft, sweet charm. Nathan stood behind her, took the hairdryer, **and** began drying her hair.

Adam's gaze darkened as he watched Nathan's long fingers thread through Celine's pure black **hair**. She lifted her clear eyes and **gave** Nathan a bright, gentle smile.

Right then, Adam felt a sharp sting **on** his fingertip as the ember of his cigarette burned him. His expression turned grim as he extinguished the cigarette in the ashtray

Then, with his lips curling slightly, he coldly **asked**, "Celine, don't you have hands of your own?"

She had been about to refuse Nathan's offer but paused when she heard Adam's words. She looked up at Adam, only to meet his icy gaze

He sneered. "Can't you dry your own hair, or do you just like having men do it for you?"

Her face turned pale.

Nathan immediately frowned and retorted, "Adam, what do you even mean? I'm the one who offered to help celine. What's with the attitude?"

Adam **stood** there with his tall and imposing figure. With a cold edge in his deep, magnetic voice, he ordered, "You have hands. Use them and dry your hair **yourself**."

H

Celine reached out to take over the hairdryer, but Nathan didn't let her. Instead, he looked at Adam and said, "Adam, you're really asking for it. Are you itching for a

Fight

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ching for a fight? Adam's gaze turned **sharp**, and the tension between him and Nathan escalated instantly. Invisible sparks flew in the air between the two men.

Carly was stunned. She hadn't expected Nathan **to** consider fighting Adam for Celine's sake. These two had been best friends since childhood, and they practically grew up together like brothers.

She immediately turned to Celine and reprimanded, "Are you happy now, Celine? You've got two men fighting over you, all thanks to your little act of seduction. You're really something, aren't you?"

"That's enough, Carly!" Nathan shouted as he clenched his fists.

Celine **reached** out and pulled Nathan back, saying, "Mr. Lynch, it's fine. I'm not worth the trouble. "

He looked at her, and his expression softened. "No, Celine. You're worth everything I do."

Instantly, she felt a warm current flow through her heat.

He then took his coat and draped it over her shoulders before taking her small hand in his. "Celine, let's go. There's nothing fun about staying here. We're **leaving** " He was determined to take her away.

"Wait a

moment,

He released her hand and watched as she picked up her phone,

"Mr. Lynch, now we can go."

Nathan's lips curved into a smile as he took Celine's hand again. "Let's go."

In no time, the Celestial Suite was left with only **Adam**

and Carly.

She snorted. "Adam, I didn't expect Nathan to disregard your friendship with him for Celine. That woman is truly a vixen!"

The expression on Adam's handsome face was cold and unyielding. Suddenly, he lifted his long leg **and** kicked the trash can forcefully.

With a loud clang, the trash can let out a harsh, grating noise as it hit the floor.

Upon seeing this, she curled her red lips into a smile. In truth, it was she who had called **room** service to deliver the condoms **and** lingerie. **Now**, her goal **had** been achieved.

He placed his hands on his hips white suppressing the anger that was bombing in his chest. "We should get ready to

She was in a great mood. This vacation had gone exceedingly well.

She answered, "Alright. I'll go get Melody."

o leave too,"

Carly stepped out of the room to look for Melody. As she walked down the corridor, she ran into **Willie**, who was approaching with his men. Willie, who was visibly annoyed, barked at his subordinates "Useless idiots! The resort isn't even that big, and you still couldn't find her!"

"Willie, we really searched everywhere, but it's as if that woman **had** vanished into thin air."

"We didn't even get a good look at her face,"

another added. "We only saw her in a red bikini

Carly's steps halted abruptly. A red bildird? Wasn't Celine in a ted bakan? Were these men looking for her?

she watched as Willie led his men into his room.

It was obvious that these men were likely ruthless and dangerous gangsters. If Celine had crossed paths with them, then perhaps she could use them to get rid of her. All she wanted was for Celine to be gone.

Carly then pulled out **her** phone and opened a picture Melody had taken earlier that **day**. In the background of the photo, Celine could be seen clearly in a red bikini The photo would come in handy now

Back in his room, Willie suddenly heard the doorbell ring. He walked over **and** yanked the door open.

However, the hallway was empty. He looked down and noticed a ploto lying on the ground. He bent to pick it up and found a picture of Celine in her red bikini His eyes lit up, **and** a bloodthirsty smile spread across his face.

“We’ve found her

Meanwhile, Nathan was **leading** Celine **out of** the resort villa.

She looked at him apologetically and said, “Mr. Lynch, please don’t let there be any bad blood between you and Mr. Alvarez because of

*Celine, I’ve known **Adam** for many years. His character and manners are impeccable. This is the last time I’ve ever seen him act so harshly toward **a** woman.” Adam’s attitude toward Celine was far too aggressive. He had gone overboard.

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Teow Mr. Alvarez bates me.” she sand.

slooked like he wanted to say something but ultimately held back “Celine, wait here for me. I’ll go to the garage and bring the car around.”

She nodded. “Alright.”

He then left. She stood alone, waiting in the same spot.

At that moment, a figure appeared behind her—it was Adam. He had come downstairs, dressed in a sleek black coat and exuding aloof sophistication.

He glanced at celine, who had her head lowered. She was staring at her toes, lost in thought. He pressed his thin lips together and averted his gaze, turning to leave.

Just then, Willie arrived with his men. The moment he saw Celine’s delicate and ethereal figure, a smile spread across his face.

“That’s her! I wasn’t expecting such a goddess-like beauty,” he remarked.

The men in black beside him grew excited.

One of them exclaimed. “Willie, this beauty is even more stunning than the call girls we’ve seen in the red-light district.”

“Look at her skin, her face, and her figure. Damn, just imagining pinning her down is driving me crazy,” another added.

Ville, why don't we take her back and have some fun with her?

Wille stared at Celine, clearly tempted, but reason prevailed. She had witnessed his affair with his boss's wife, and only the dead could keep secrets.

"Don't mess this up. She can't be allowed to live. Take care of her!"

He gave a quick glance at one of his men, who nodded and immediately drew a sharp dagger from his waist before walking toward her.

Adam was nearly out of sight when he turned his head, catching a glimpse of Willie and his men. His eyes narrowed as he spotted one of them striding swiftly toward Celine with a dagger in hand

The polished leather of his black shoes came to an abrupt stop. His body reacted faster than his mind as he cursed under his breath and ran back

The man in black was closing in on her, with just one silent stab from behind, she would be gone. The dagger gleamed coldly as the man raised it and lunged toward her

A large, well-defined hand suddenly reached out, grabbing the dagger mid-thrust. The man in black froze. Catching a blade barehanded—was this guy insane? Then, he saw Adam.

Adam gripped the dagger tightly, the sharp blade slicing deep into his palm. Blood began dripping steadily onto the ground.

The sudden rum of events stunned the attacker, but before he could react, the dagger was snatched from his grip. Adam delivered a swift kick to his chest, sending him flying several meters away.

The man hit the ground, coughing up blood.

Willie's expression changed the moment he recognized Adam. Panic flickered in **his** eyes, but he quickly barked, "Don't leave any witnesses alive!"

"Understood!"

The other men in black charged toward Celine, knives in hand.

ather with a life.

Still unaware of what was happening, she turned at the commotion behind her. She was greeted by the sight of one of the men lunging at her. She froze, rooted to the spot in shock

Two frantic shouts rang out at the same time. Just as the dagger was about to pierce her, someone suddenly lunged **forward** and pulled her into a tight embrace

She fell into the warmth of the person's arms, but a sickening sound of blade piercing through flesh followed. The noise sent shivers down her spine.

Then, she felt a sudden warmth splatter across her face. It was blood.

She tilted her head up and looked at the man holding her. Her breath hitched as she let out a trembling gasp.

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It was Nathan! He had returned after retrieving the car, and when he saw someone attacking Celine with a knife, he immediately threw himself in front of her. The dagger had plunged into **his** chest.

celine gasped in shock and shouted, "Mr. Lynch!"

Adam **had** been running toward her, but he was still so

some distance away. He **could** only watch helplessly as Nathan took the blow

Furious, Adam **kicked** down two of the black-clad men near him and sprinted toward Celine.

At that moment, Leo arrived with a team of black-suited bodyguards, quickly surrounding the **area**. Willie and his gang were vastly outnumbered and were quickly

subdued

Just then, Carly appeared, rushing over and wrapping her hands around **Adam**.

"Adam!" she screamed.

He was forced to stop in his tracks. He tried to push her aside to get to Celine **and** Natlsan, but she clung to him tightly, refusing to let go. "Adam, don't **leave**

me. I'm scared."

Meanwhile, Nathan collapsed to the ground from the stab wound. Celine knelt beside him, pressing her trembling hands against his wound to stop the bleeding. but the hot blood continued to pour out uncontrollably.

Her hands shook as she struggled to comprehend why he had shielded her from the blade. She was used to people treating her poorly, but kindness always left her feeling at a loss.

“Mr. Lynch, hold on **You’ll** be fine.”

His gaze became unfocused, and soon he fell unconscious.

Then, the ambulance arrived. Doctors and nurses in white coats carefully placed Nathan on a stretcher. Celine got into the ambulance with him, following him to the hospital.

Adam, still held back by Carly, could only **watch** as the two disappeared.

At the hospital, Nathan was rushed into the operating room. The red light of the surgery room lit up while Celine waited outside.

When Adam arrived, **he** saw her pacing anxiously outside the operating room. Her face was pale, her expression uneasy, and there was still blood on her delicate features. Standing there alone, she looked utterly shaken

He strode forward to her with his long legs. **In a** low voice, he reassured her.

“Don’t worry. The surgeon is the best in the city. Nathan will be fine

She glanced at him and immediately noticed the injury on his hand. It was **hard** not to notice. His left hand was covered in blood. The wound was untreated and partially congealed.

Bloodstains dotted his white shirt, and he looked somewhat disheveled.

What happened to his hand?

Noticing her gaze lingering on his injured hand, Adam slightly retracted his fingers. He stepped closer, his tall and upright figure casting a shadow over her pale

and cold form.

“Are you h

“Adam”

Carly’s **voice** interrupted him **as** she rushed **over**, wrapping her arm around Adam’s bicep

The words “Are you hurt? never left his lips.

With Carly’s arrival, Celine’s eyes shifted coldly away from Adam’s bloodied hand, she sat down indifferently on the bench in the corridor, waiting

Adams glanced at Celine, noting her distant demeanor. Blood from Is injured left hand began to fall to the floor again.

Just then, Leo hurried over and quietly reported, “Mr. Alvarez, the situation with Willie has been dealt with. We **also** found a photo at the scene.” “A photo?”

Celine stood up and took the photo from Leo’s **hand**. When she saw herself in the photo, wearing a red bikini, her clear eyes widened with a sharp jolt.

This entire incident had started because she had accidentally stumbled upon **Willie** and his boss’ wife having an affair in the hot spring. **Willie** had recognized her and decided she needed to be silenced

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Celine couldn’t figure out how Willie had recognized her, but now, looking at the photo, everything became clear. She **raised** her head in shock and stared at Carly. “Carly, did **you** give this photo to Willie?”

A flicker of gloom and disappointment passed through Carly’s eyes. Why had Nathan taken the knife for Celine? Why wasn’t it Celine who got hurt?

Now the photo had been discovered, Carly’s expression shifted instantly,

Adam took the photo from Celine’s hand. Two seconds later, he shot a piercing gaze at Carly. His icy, sinister stare cut across her face like a blade.

Carly felt a surge of fear and quickly denied it.

“What photo? I don’t understand what you’re talking about! Celine, I know you’re worried about Nathan’s injury, but don’t make false accusations here!”

Celine let out a cold laugh and replied, “Carly, take a good look at this photo. You’re unbelievably stupid!”

Carly glanced at the photo and was instantly alarmed. In the corner of the image, her phone was clearly visible. She had forgotten to crop it out. Everyone now knew that she had sent the photo to **Willie**.

She looked up at Adam, whose cold, unfathomable eyes now felt like bottomless pits, staring at her with chilling and dangerous intensity.

He **had** never looked at her like this before. Her fear deepened, and she stammered in **panic**.

“**Adam**, it’s not **what** it looks like. Let me explain.

“What’s there to explain?” Celine interupted sharply, her eyes blazing with fury. Her voice rose in accusation as she said, “Carly, I never thought you’d be this crazy. You’re the real culprit!”

As she spoke, she reached **out** and grabbed at Carly, who was so frightened that she immediately hid behind Adam.

“Adam, I’m so scared. Save me!”

Celine couldn’t grab Carly because Adam had stepped before her, shielding her behind him.

Celine stated at the man before her and asked, “Are you planning to protect Carly? She **neatly** killed Nathan!™

Her hands were still trembling, and Nathan’s blood stained her hands and face. He was still in the surgery room fighting for his life, and Carly was the one responsible for it all.

Carly wanted her dead, and she had almost caused Nathan’s death

But now, Adam was protecting Carly. No matter what she **had** done, he would always protect her.

Celine’s pale eyes turned red with anger **as** she stared coldly and resolutely at **Adama**

He looked back at her and **in**

a voice lower than usual, he said, “Celine, I can’t hand Carly over. She can’t be dragged into this.”

Behind him, Carly slowly curled her lips into a smug, not forgetting to flash her triumphant smile at Celine.

Celine raised her hand and slapped Adam across the face. The sharp sound of the slap echoed through the hospital comidor, and his handsome face was turned to the side from the force.

She had hit him with all her strength. Her palm **was** even numb **from** the blow.

Carly gasped as she stared at Celine in disbelief. “Celine, are you crazy? How **dare you** slap Adam?”

He was Adam Alvarez, a man who was coveted by all the women out there. How dare she even put a finger on his face?

Just as those words left Carly's **lips**, another sharp slap rang out. Celine had turned and backhanded Carly across the face.

Carly was left dumbfounded by the blow. Not only had Celine dared to slap p Adam, but she had **also turned** around **and** slapped her.

Adam slowly turned his face back to Celine, who was standing tall, with her slender back straight and her clear eyes resolute. **As** she stared him down coldly, she **said**, "You'd better protect Carly well. Don't let her fall into my hands."

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The atmosphere was heavy and stifling. At that moment, the doors to the **operating** room opened, **and** a doctor in a white **coat** walked out.

Celine quickly stepped forward and asked, "Doctor, how is Nathan?"

"The surgery was very successful. The patient will wake up within 48 hours."

She let out a small sigh of relief. Although she had seen Nathan's wound and knew the blade **hadn't** hit any vital organs or caused any life-threatening wounds, she only felt reassured now.

If anything had truly happened to him because of her, she would have carried the guilt and regret for the rest of her life.

Nathan was wheeled out, and she followed him into the VIP ward. As the door to the ward closed behind them, she didn't even bother sparing Adam or Carly another glance.

Carly reached out to tug at Adam's sleeve and said, "Adam, Celine is outrageous. She slapped you and then me. You must" ||

He pulled his sleeve out of her grasp and parted his thin lips, saying, "Didn't you deserve **it**?"

"

She froze.

His gaze turned icy and sharp as he looked at her. He then flung the photo in his hand at her with a loud smack against her chest.

“**Carly**, I never realized before how stupid and vicious you **are**. This time, you’ve truly disappointed me.”

The blood **drained** from her face at his words.

As fear overwhelmed her, she quickly reached out to grab **his** arm and **pleaded**, “Adam, please listen to me. I admit I don’t like Celine, but I never intended to hurt Nathan. I didn’t know things would get so serious..

Adam shoved her away, the veins on his forehead pulsing with restrained anger.

His voice was cold and impatient when he said, “Carly, this is the last time I’m cleaning up after you. There will not be a next time. You’d better stay put.” “Adam, 1...!!

“I don’t want to see you, and neither does Nathan.

Leave now.”

Carly opened her mouth to say more, but Leo stepped forward and said, “Ms. Tate, this way, please.”

She clenched her fists in frustration. This time, she had truly dug herself a deep hole. Not only had she failed to bring Celine down, but she had also made Adam grow tired of her.

“Ms. Tate, please,” Leo repeated”

She had no choice but to turn **and** leave, unwillingly, with a glaring red slap mark on her face. But she didn’t think she **had** lost. Adam was still standing on her side. As long as he remained protective over her, she believed she wouldn’t ever lose to Celine.

Meanwhile, Adam stood by the door **of** the VIP ward, his figure tall and imposing. Through the glass window, he saw Nathan lying on the bed. Although he was still unconscious, all his vital signs had stabilized.

Celine sat at the bedside, holding his hand, quietly keeping him company.

“Mr. Alvarez, Ms. Tate wanted to use Willie’s **gang** to get rid of Mrs. Alvarez this time. She didn’t mean for Mr. Lynch to get hurt, but she went too far, yet you still protected her. I think Mrs. Alvarez is truly upset this time,” Leo whispered.

Adam’s expression darkened. Carly had changed—so much so that she was becoming unrecognizable. She was nothing like the girl he had once saved in that cave. However, he couldn’t ignore her. He couldn’t let her get dragged into the chaos of the gangsters. He knew Celine was angry at him. The slap she gave him had been forceful, and the sting lingered even now,

**Mr. Alvarez, you should really have your hand treated. The wound is serious.”

Blood was still dripping steadily from his hand. Having caught the blade barehanded, the wound had yet to stop bleeding

He continued to watch the scene inside the ward without saying a word.

Celine stayed by Nathan’s side throughout the night. Eventually, the door to the ward opened, and a nurse came in for rounds. His condition remained stable.

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The nurse left after making sure everything was under control.

From outside the door, Leo’s voice echoed, “Mr. Alvarez, your hand injury can’t wait any longer. You need to get it treated immediately, or it may get worse.”

Celine looked up and saw Adam’s tall, imposing figure standing by the door. He had been there all along.

Leo turned toward **Celine** and pleaded, “Mrs. Alvarez, Mr. Alvarez’s hand has been bleeding this whole time. Please say something.”

Her gaze shifted to the blood pooling on the floor. Judging by the severity of his wound, his hand would likely need numerous stitches. She stood up and walked to

the door.

When Adam saw her approaching, he shifted his broad frame slightly, and a glimmer of hope appeared in his eyes.

Leo exclaimed, “Mrs. Alvarez, I know you still care about Mr. Alvarez. Mr. Alvarez, let’s get your hand-”

Before he could finish, Celine reached out and firmly shut the door in their faces.

The two men were left staring at the closed door, the force of it brushing against their faces. Leo **was** tongue-tied.

The light in Adam’s eyes dimmed instantly. Through the small window, he watched as Celine returned to Nathan’s bedside, held his hand, and rested her head there she closed her eyes, slowly falling asleep.

Adam’s thin lips curled into a self-mocking smile.

A week passed, and Adam knew Nathan had **woken**

up. He had recovered well during this time,

●**and** spa treatments

In the CEO's office, Adam was reviewing documents when his phone rang. It was a call from Mary. Ever since celine had taken her out for latte **at** during their last outing, she had been grounded.

"Hello, Grandma."

"Adam, what have you and Celine been up to lately? **Why** haven't either of you visited me? Bring her back for dinner **tonight**. I miss you both," said **Mary**, her loving voice radiating from the phone.

Adam's left hand was still wrapped in white gauze. He had received 23 stitches, **and** the wound had yet to heal. Holding his phone in his right hand, he remained silent.

He knew that for **the**

or the past week, Celine had stayed at the hospital to **take** care of Nathan without leaving his side.

"Adam, did you hear me? I asked **you**

to bring Celine back for dinner."

His handsome face remained emotionless **as** he answered, "Okay."

That evening, Adam returned to Alvarez Residence. Mary greeted him with excitement, but her joy quickly faded.

"Adam, why **are** you alone? **Where's** Celine?"

He had driven back by himself.

Seeing the disappointment on her face, he replied, "Grandma, she's busy with school. If you miss her, just give her a call **and** ask her to come home for diner." Mary immediately picked up the landline phone in the living room. "Then I'll call her right now,"

Adam sat down on the sofa and casually picked up a business newspaper to read.

The call quickly connected, and Celine's clear, pleasant **voice** came through. "Hello, Grandma "

“Celine, have you been busy lately? Why haven’t you come to see me? I’ve asked the chef to prepare a **spread** tonight. Come back and

Mary smiled and answered, ” luvè dinner with me.”

At that moment, a maid approached and placed a cup of tea beside Adam. “Mr. Alvarez, please have some tea

He didn’t respond. It was as if he hadn’t heard **it**.

Tinged with apology, Celine’s voice came through again “Grandma, I’m sorry. A friend of mine is in the hospital, and I need to **stay** with him tonight, I can’t come backfordinner.”

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Mary paused before smiling quickly and said, “Alright, Celine. You go ahead and accompany your friend. Come back to have dinner with me when you save time.”

“Okay, Grandina.”

With that, the two of them ended the **call**.

.

Mary turned to look at Adam, who was still reading the business newspaper with no expression on his face.

She asked, “**Adam**, did you have a fight with Celine?–

He kept his eyes on the paper and answered, “**No** ”

She chuckled and said, “Do you know this friend of hers? Is it a man or a **woman**?”

He didn’t respond. So, she reached out and snatched the newspaper from his hands and remarked, “Do you even realize you’re holding the paper upside down?” Only then did Adam notice that the paper was indeed upside down. He pressed his thin lips together

Mary sighed and stood up. She said, “I know you’ve always been tangled up with Carly, but no one will wait for you forever. When **Celine** has had enough of being disappointed, she’ll leave.

“A woman as good as her won’t lack admirers. Once she walks away with someone else, don’t come crying about it.”

Alfred walked over and said, “Mrs. Alvarez **Senior**, is Mrs. Alvarez back? Dinner is ready.”

“Celine isn’t coming. I’m not eating anymore, Mary replied and headed upstairs **alone**.

Sensing the odd atmosphere, Alfred turned **to** Adam and said, “Mr. Alvarez, why isn’t Mrs. Alvarez coming? Ever since she started school, she hasn’t visited.

Mrs. Alvarez Senior talks about her every day. Without her here, the house feels so lifeless. Mrs. Alvarez Senior hasn’t smiled in a long time ”

He then sighed and left as well.

Adam sat alone on the sofa. He reached up to loosen his tie, his face clouded and dark. He pulled out his phone and opened Celine’s Whatsapp. With his long fingers, he typed out a single line. It **read**, “Why aren’t you coming?”

After some thought, he deleted the message. He **was** the one who had driven her out of Alvarez Residence. Of course, she wouldn’t return. After slapping him, she had been **staying** by Nathan’s side ever since.

Forget it.

Nathan’s injuries were nearly healed, **and** he would soon be discharged.

That day, Celine returned to the women’s hostel at Yorhine University. A new student, named **Nikki** Bamett, had joined the dorm.

She came from a poor family. Her father was an alcoholic and a gambler while her younger brother **was** still in school. Thus, her family had a hard time making ends

ineet.

She was a pure-looking and pretty woman. She was a student in the performing arts program, and her **dream** was to become a star, e hertate.

kout a bag of homemade snacks and offered them to Celine and Hailey.

She took out a

earning lots of money to change

some cooldes m

made bu

by my mom. We don’t have much money, so all I can share are these home

homemade cookies. I hope you don’t mind.”

“Celine and Halley, these are some

Celine and Halley, of course, didn't mind. Hailey took a bite of the cookie and exclaimed, “Nikki, it's so crunchy! This is delicious.”

Nidd then looked at Celine with anticipation, the smile on her face bright but reserved

Celine tasted one and nodded. “Nikki, your mom's baking is really good

Nikkie finally grinned and said, “I'm glad you like it. I'm heading to the Atlas Hotel tonight because I'm working as a waitress there. I'll see **you** all later.”

with that, she picked up her bag and left. Halley also needed to go to class, so she left shortly after

Celine was sitting alone in her chair when **her** phone rang. It was from Tracy. She pressed **the** answer button, and Tracy's cheerful voice **came** through immediately. “Celine, I've got great news! I met Dr. Cl”

Upon **hearing** this, Celine was at a

talous for words.

love with me at

Tracy was brimming with excitement as she continued, “Turns out, the legendary Dr. Cwith unparalleled medical skills is a man! Celine, he fell in love first sight, and I'm dating him now!”

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What? Celine was confused.

“I can't talk anymore. Come **back** to **Tate** Manor in a few o

a few days,” said Tracy before abruptly hanging up.

Celine immediately realized that Tracy had encountered a scammer!

Afterward, she went to the bathroom to take a hot shower. When she came out, her phone rang **again**. This time, it was Nidd calling

Her helpless, tearful **voice** came through, saying, “Celine, something terrible happened. Could you come and help me?”

Celine tightened her grip on her phone and asked, "Nikki, what's wrong?"

Nikdo answered, "I arrived at Atlas Hotel earlier for my shift, but just now, Mr. Holt saw me and **took** an interest in me. He told me to spend the night with ti got so scared that Thid in the restroom, but his bodyguards are standing outside keeping watch..."

"Celine, I'm terrified, I don't want to sleep with him. I don't know who else to call. I don't **have** any other friends. No one **can** save me..."

Celine said, "Nikki, don't panic. Stay in the restroom, and don't come out. I'm coming to get you right now."

"Celine, thank you so much."

Celine hung up the phone and headed straight to Atlas Hotel

At Atlas Hotel, Celine arrived at the ladies' restroom. Sure enough, there were two bodyguards dressed in black standing outside.

Calm and composed, Celine walked into the ladies' room. Inside, she found Nildd bawling her eyes out. Her face was pale, and she was completely flustered. "Celine, you're finally here."

Celine grabbed her hand and said, "Nildo, don't worry. I'll take out of here right now."

"But Mr. Holt's bodyguards are still outside. How are we going to get out?"

"We'll disguise ourselves "

Celine had brought her bag with her. She took out a dress, a hat, and a pair of sunglasses from inside and handed them to Nikki

"Change into these," she said.

Nikki quickly changed and transformed from a pure, pretty waitress into a bold and stylish party girl. Nobody could recognize **that** it was her. "Nildd, let's go now," said Celine, holding Nild's hand and leading her out

The two bodyguards outside glanced at Nikki. She was so nervous her hands trembled, **afraid** they might recognize her

At that moment, Celine pressed down on her shaking hand and gave her a firm look. Nikid took a deep breath and followed Celine out.

The bodyguards didn't notice anything unusual. The danger was averted, and Nildo let **out**

a sigh of relief.

“**Mildd**, let’s leave quickdy,” Celine urged.

Just then, Nikki realized she had left her bag in the restroom. She stopped abruptly and said, “Celine, I left my bag in the restroom. I need to go back and get it.” Celine stopped her. “Nikk, it’s too dangerous to go back now.”

“I have to go back. My tips **from** tonight are in that **bag**, Nikki insisted, pulling her hand away from Celine and turning to run back

“**Nikki**, you can’t go

go **back!**”

Before Celine could finish her words, Donald Holt appeared with the two bodyguards in tow. Donald, in **his** forties, had a sharp yet greasy demeanor

He sneered and said, “Nik, so

so this is where you ran off to. **Grab** her! Clean her up and send her to my room!”

The two bodyguards reached out to grab Nikd. Her face turned pale with fear.

Seeing her about to be caught, Celine stepped forward without hesitation and shielded Nika behind her. Her **clear**, cold gaze locked onto Donald “Stop! What do you think you’re doing? she demanded.

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Donald froze when he saw Celine. His **eyes** lit up with excitement as he asked, “Where did this beauty come from? She looks like a goddess!”

Nikdd cowered behind Celine in fear and replied, “She’s my classmate... Mr. Holt, we’re both students. We don’t sleep around with men. Please let us go...”

“Students? That’s even better. I love schoolgirls,” **he** said, his eyes greedily fixed on Celine. “Since you’re classmates, the both of you cans

He turned to his bodyguards and ordered, “Take them both

Celine stood protectively in front of the trembling Nildd, her gaze icy as she **stared** down at Donald

“Grabbing women in broad daylight like this is illegal!

i serve me tonight.”

“Illegal?” He burst into arrogant laughter and continued, “**I’m** a man of status in Mercity, I’m someone who can dine at the same table as Mercity’s wealthiest man Adam Alvarez Yer, you’re talking to me about the law?”

Adam Alvarez was the wealthiest man in Mercity. Celine **hadn’t** been in contact with Adam for days. In Mercity, he had unrivaled power, capable of controlling everything with a mere gesture.

“What are you standing around for? Hurry

ry up **and**

grab them!” Donald was growing impatient.

The two bodyguards stepped forward to seize the two women.

Nidoe clung tightly to Celine. Her voice trembled when she asked, “Celine, what should we do?”

As the bodyguards reached for her, Celine furrowed her brows and snapped sharply, “How dare you!”

She fixed her cold gaze on Donald and challenged, “Try touching **us** and see what happens. Do you even know **who** I am?”

Donald hesitated, taken aback by her imposing demeanor. “Who are you?”

She said each word with chilling clarity. “**I** am Adam Alvarez’s wife. You shall call me Mrs. **Alvarez.**”

What? Donald’s eyes widened in disbelief. “You’re Mrs. Alvarez?”

That’s right. If you dare lay a finger on us, Adam won’t spare you!

He was skeptical, his expression wavering between **doubt** and fear. Just then, a **voice** sounded behind him.

“Mr. Alvarez, this **way**, please.”

Celine lifted her head and **saw** a group of prominent business leaders approaching. At the center of the group, surrounded by deference, was a tall, striking figure- Adam

He had **arrived**

!

Tonight, he wore a perfectly tailored black suit, exuding elegance and authority. His steady steps carried him forward **as** the group behind him deferred to his every

The champagne-gold lights of the corridor cast a dazzling glow over his striking features, enhancing **his** already magnetic presence.

Celine's long lashes fluttered slightly. She hadn't expected the world to be this small. He had actually appeared right after they mentioned him.

The manager of Atlas Hotel greeted him respectfully. "Mr. Alvarez, this way, please. Your private room is just ahead."

The business executives following him murmured among themselves. Adam listened passively, his head slightly lowered, as they all moved closer to where she stood.

While she was still in a daze, Donald had already stepped forward. His face was filled with a flattering smile when he greeted, "Mr. Alvarez, nice to meet you." Adam looked up at him and replied with a distant tone. "Hello, Mr. Holt,"

**Mr. Alvarez, I truly didn't mean to disturb you, but I have a young female student here. Perhaps you might recognize her?

Donald then gestured toward Celine. She raised her gaze, only to find Adam's deep, cold eyes settling on her. The executives behind Adam **also** turned to look at her

Celine's slender, pale fingers curled slightly. Moments ago, she had only intended to borrow his name to escape. She never imagined him to actually appear. The last time they had met, she **had** slapped him in the hospital. Their relationship had seemingly reached a breaking point after that.

Now that Donald was asking him if he recognized her, what would he say?

Celine felt a wave **of** awkwardness and discomfort wash over her.

Adam's noble and handsome face remained devoid of emotion as he spoke in a deep, magnetic voice. "I don't know her." He had just said that he didn't **know** her.

with that, he strode forward, his long legs carrying him past her. Behind him,

him, the executives followed as he led them **into** a lu

luxurious private rooms