

The Divorce Prescription Chapter 71

Benjamin gasped twas this country bumpkin who shamelessly married Adam talking about? She would teach him a lesson on behalf of Adam? What had this world come to?

What w

Adam was the only person in Mercy who dared to him an infamous troublemaker like him!

Celine buggedon Robin's hand. "Robin, let's go."

The two started walking out. But just as they reached the door, Adam grabbed Celine's hand

The moment their skin touched, it felt as if electricity surged between them, bringing both of their minds back to that night at Westwood Villa, when he had cornered her **against** the wall.

Celine quick pulled her hand back

Adam stared at her and swallowed hard. "Celine, this won't happen again."

Celine met his **gaze**. "**Mr.** Alvarez, **please** settle things with your grandma as soon as possible. I'm ready **to** divorce you anytime. I've been wanting to give the title back to Carly

With that, Celine walked out with Robin

Adam frowned at her retreating figure

Benjamin complained loudly, "Adam, what's with Celine acting all high and mighty?"

Adam shot him **a** glare.

Benjamin pouted. "She won against me in a game earlier!!

Adam raised an eyebrow in surprise. "She won?"

He knew Benjamin's gaming skills. It was rare **for** anyone to beat him.

Benjamin sulked. "No way, I have to play her **agam**."

He pulled out his phone and sent Celine **a** challenge in the game.

Celine was still online and accepted his request.

Soon, the match began.

This t

s time, Benjamin didn't waste time showing off. He charged at her **with**

his sword. "Take this!"

The game over screen popped up.

*Damn it!" Benjamin shot to his feet.

Just as he was charging, Celine once again descended from above, her glowing are taking him out in one clean hit

He lost again.

Benjamin was on the verge of a meltdown as he **had** been utterly dominated in the game. How could this happen? He was supposed to be a pro!

Adam's eyes flickered with interest. He hadn't expected Celine to be this good at gaming Her reflexes were fast. And Benjamin didn't stand a chance

Adam thought about the genius student from university. Her speed was unmatched during a programming competition. Could there be a connection between the two? Impossible! Adam quickly dismissed the idea

Just then, Benjamin yelled, "Adam, look at what Celine just sent me!"

Adam glanced at Benjamin's phone

Online had messaged him in the game "You're so bad at the game."

He was bad at the game? Benjamin was furious. "This is outrageous! An **insult** to my dignity! She's looking down on me!"

Adamchuckled. She was **quite** interesting

Adam caught sight of Celine outside through the window she was walking down the street with Robin Her long hair cascaded **gently** over her shoulders, giving her an air **of** elegance.

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Adam couldn't help but stare.

"Adam, why don't you play a game with Celine? You've never lost. I'm sure you can teach her a lesson. Help me put her in her place," Benjamin suggested, still sore from his defeat

Adam cocked an eyebrow. "She's offline now,"

Celine's avatar had gone dark, indicating she was offline.

Benjamin felt disappointed. "You have to play against **Celine** next time, Adam!"

Adam shrugged. He didn't mind. He then said to Benjamin, "Let's go "

Benjamin remembered something "Adam, did you ever get that gens' contact?"

Adam narrowed his eyes. "Why **are** you so interested in her?"

"Of course I'm interested! She's my idol" Benjamin exclaimed.

Adam hummed, "We're in the same groupchat

Benjamin's eyes lit up "Really? Add me to the group! I want to talk to her!"

Unable to withstand Benjamin's pestering Adam took out his phone and **added** him to the group.

In the chat, Benjamin quickly spotted Miss Genius C His idol was here! Suddenly, all the frustration from dealing with Celine disappeared, replaced by excitement. Benjamin sent her a friend request

"Adam, what do I say to her if she accepts my request? I'm so nervous!"

Adam smiled mysteriously. "Wait until she accepts it first

After all, **Miss** Genius Chadn't even accepted his friend request.

Celine's phone buzzed. She glanced at it and saw Benjamin's friend request. He texted, "Hello, I'm a big fan of yours."

Robin burst out laughing "Celine, Benjamin must never imagine that the person he admires is the same person he constantly looks down on. I can't wait to see his face when he finds the truth!"

Celine smirked and typed a message.

Benjamin's phone dinged He exclaimed excitedly, "She responded!"

But when he looked **down**, his expression soured. Miss Genius Chad rejected him.

Adam wasn't fazed. "I knew it"

Benjamin was devastated. "Why won't she accept meh

Benjamin asked in the group chat, "Miss C, why won't you add me as friend?"

Miss Genius Creplied, "Because you're annoying."

Benjamin was shocked. How was he annoying?

Adam chuckled. It seemed Benjamin was receiving the **same** treatment as him.

But Adam was **curious**. While he could understand why Miss Genies found him annoying, why did she think Benjamin was annoying too? What had they done to offend her! Just then, a soft voice interrupted, "Adam, Benjamin, what are you two **discussing?**"

It was Carly

Benjamin lit up at the sight of her. "Carly, we were talking about my idol she just rejected my friend request!"

Jealousy flashed in Celine's eyes.

Benjamin had always had a crush on her. After **she** complained about Celine to him, Benjamin had been ready to act as her pown.

But now he was utterly obsessed with this mysterious person. Would he stop listening to her in the future and only care about his idol?

Carly was alarmed

But she had brought some news. She turned to Adam. "Adam, you'd better head back to Alvarez Residence. Celine's adaptive father has been released from prison. He's at the house now.

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Claim

celine returned to Abater Residence When she entered the living room, she saw someone she would never forget Larry Slick

Years ago, Lucy had sent her to the countryside, placing her under Larry's care. Larry was her so called adoptive father.

Now, Mary and Larry were seated on the living room couch with Mary entertaining him.

"We have you to thank you for raising Orline while she's in the countryside Mary smiled

Larry was blind in his left eye. He was a burly figure, notorious for his drunken tages and for beating his wife in the past

As he sat on the luxurious couch, his remaining eye rommet greedily over the expensive decor, his gaze lingering on the antique paintings and lavish furnishings. His excitement was barely concealed

However, Larry feigned humility. "You're too kind, Mrs. Alvarez Senior. I just hope Celine hasn't caused you any trouble since marrying into your family"

Mary smiled. "How could she? Celine is such a well-behaved girl."

Larry smirked as though he had thought of something. "Oh yes, Celine has always been a good girl"

Orline felt her stomach chum. A wave of nausea hit her, and she wanted to vomit

Just then, the butler, Alfred, noticed her. "Welcome back, Mrs. Alvarez"

Larry **looked** up at the sound of the butler's voice and saw Celine.

It had been ten wars siner Larry had last seen Celme. The little girl he remembered had grown into a graceful woman. His gaze fell on her lace and then slowly trailed downward, his eyes roaming over her slender figure.

Larry stood up, his voice tinged with false affection. "Celine, you're back. It's been ten years since we

we last saw each other. I've thought about you every yday."

Mary didn't catch on and smiled at Celine. "Celine, your adoptive father came to visit it you"

Celine's gate hardened at Larry. This man was the nightmare of her childhood. Seeing him again made her tremble uncontrollably.

in the next moment, an arm draped over her shoulders. She heard a voice above her head. “Why are just you standing here?”

Celine looked up to see Adam. His handsome face came into focus

Adam had returned.

He studied Celine. Her dared eyes seemed blank and distant. She looked pitifully fragile.

A maid stepped forward to take Adam’s coat. He hummed “Why are you **so cold?**”

His hand gently gripped her shoulder, rubbing it lightly to warm her.

Celine felt the heat of his hand through her shoulder, the warmth spreading from his touch. With his arm wrapped around her, her **figure** was entirely encased in h could feel the warmth of his chest through the thin fabric of her clothes

His presence brought a sense of security, a comfort she couldn’t help but lean into

Celine snapped out of reality. “Maybe I’m just underdressed.”

Mary introduced Larry to Adam. “Adam, this is Celine’s adoptive father. He came from the countryside to visit her.”

Adam’s eyes shuted to Larry

his embrace. She

Larry’s gaze, in turn, fell on Adam. The man standing beside Celine radiated an **imposing** alt of authority, his every movement exuding the confidence of someone used to commanding respect

The sight made Larry grind his teeth in jealousy. That wretched girl had managed to marry someone this fine!

Larry forced a smile. “It’s a **pleasure** to meet you, Mr. Alvarez I’m glad to see that Celine married well. Seeing you two so in love puts my mind at ease. I’ll take my leave now. I wouldn’t want to intrude.”

Mary immediately protested, “Oh, **don’t** be **in such** a hurry! stay for dinner. It’s **rare** for you to make the trip here. I’ve already asked the kitchen staff to prepare a feast. Let’s enjoy amed together”

Adam’s piercing gaze lingered on Larry “Stay for dinner.”

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Both Adam and Mary had asked Larry to stay for dinner.

Larry smiled shyly. "In that case, I'll gladly accept

Celine cut **him** off. "He won't be **staying** for dinner."

Larry froze and turned to Celine

Celine returned his gaze. "You've just been released from prison. Don't ever

Her words immediately cast a tense atmosphere over the room.

Mary looked at Larry in surprise. "You've been in prison?"

Celine's expression hardened. "Yes, for ten years."

Mary gasped. "What did you go to prison for?"

"I came back."

Larry shifted his gaze to Celine. "You can ask Celine if you're curious. She knows better than anyone."

He threw the question back to Celine, wanting to see if she would reveal the truth **about** his imprisonment

Celine saw through his intentions but said nothing.

Mary quickly stepped in to smooth things over. To be able to raise such a wonderful daughter like Celine shows you can't be that bad of a person. Everyone makes mistakes. As long as you've learned from them."

Seeing that Celine remained silent, Larry's smile grew smug. "In that **case**, I won't stay for dinner. But I'd like to have a private word with you, Mr. Alvarez. Shall we? Celine wanted to protest, but Adam squeezed her shoulder lightly and replied, "Sure, let's go to the study."

Larry followed Adam into the study. The sleek monochromatic decor exuded elegance. Every corner of the study reflected the Alvarez family's wealth, leaving Larry in awe again. Despite his resentment toward Celine, Larry i

He wasn't entirely lying earlier. He had spent the past ten years in prison thinking about her every single day.

Celine had banded him in one eye and sent him to jail. He could never forget that

And now, she had married into such a wealthy family and was living a good life. But she would never escape him no matter what

Larry turned to Adam with a sly smile. “Mr. Alvarez, Celine grew up in the countryside and didn’t even receive a proper education. I know marrying into your family is beyond her...” -Adam’s dark gaze settled on Larry. “No, she’s perfect.”

Larry was caught off guard.

Adam continued, “Is that all you wanted to **say**?”

Larry met his gaze and felt a chill run down his spine. Adam’s eyes were sharp and unreadable, carrying an air of danger that made him feel as though he were being dissected.

He forced a laugh “Mr. Alvarez, I just got out of prison, and I’m a little short on money, I was wondering if you could...”

Adam cocked an eyebrow. “You want money?”

Larry shifted uncomfortably under **Adam’s** piercing gaze but shamelessly replied, “Yes, Mr. Alvarez. After all, I’m Celine’s adoptive father. It’s only right for you to give me some money as a show of respect, right?”

Adam leaned back in the **chair**, “Sure. How much do you want?”

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Adam’s answer stunned Larry. After a brief moment of thought, Larry hummed. “I’ll let you decide, Mr. Alvarez ”

Adam nodded. “How about a million?”

A million dollars? Larry’s eyes lit up. He hadn’t expected Adam to offer such a large sum.

“That’s more than enough,” Larry quickly **said**.

Adam pulled out a checkbook, wrote the amount, and handed it to Larry.

Larry counted the zeros carefully. It really was a million d

ollars. He grinned. “Thank you, Mr. Alvarez. I’ll be leaving now.”

With the check in hand, Larry left the estate gleefully.

When Adam returned to the bedroom, Celine was there, waiting for him.

She stared at him. “What did Larry say to you?”

Adam unbuttoned the first button of his black shirt, revealing his collarbone. He chuckled. “What do you think he **said**?”

Celine frowned. “I’m serious. Don’t joke with me.”

Adam took off his expensive watch and placed it on the nightstand. He **cocked** an eyebrow at her tease expression. “Nothing much. He just asked for money.”

Celine’s face fell. “And did you give it to him?”

“Idid” Adam nodded.

“How much?” Celine sucked in a breath.

“One million dollars.” Adam shrugged.

Celine was speechless. “Why would you give him money? And why that much?”

Adam approached her and teased, “Celine, what’s wrong? That’s your adoptive father. What’s the bar in giving him a million?”

Celine observed him. Adam was always generous and kind to her. To him, a million dollars was nothing more than a pocket change.

Her eyes locked onto his handsome face. “He asked for a million today. Tomorrow, it’ll be two million. You’re just fueling his greed. I’m going to get that money back for you right now.”

Celine turned to leave, but Adam grabbed her arm. “Celine, what’s gotten into you?”

He asked in a lowered voice, “Why was your adoptive father imprisoned? A ten-year sentence isn’t a light punishment,”

He sounded curious, but his tone remained gentle.

Adam, raised in privilege and refined education, embodied grace and decency. He had always treated her well, never once looking down on her because of her past. Even Mary had shown acceptance toward her, embodying the true values of an esteemed family.

Celine didn’t answer when Larry threw the question back at her. But it wasn’t because she felt ashamed. She just thought it wasn’t necessary.

Celine stared at Adam. “This is a personal matter. It has nothing to **do** with you”

Adam smiled faintly. He tugged her closer and muttered with a mix of amusement and annoyance, “Celine, don’t push your luck.”

She sighed. “Adam, **don’t** get involved in things you can’t take responsibility for. Don’t give people hope and end up disappointing them in the end.”

She pulled her arm free from his grip and turned to leave.

Adam was a good man, but he didn’t belong to her. They would divorce soon. He was meant for Carly. No matter how much she yearned for his support, she couldn’t bring herself to rely on him

He had promised to take her away years ago. He would never know how long she waited for him there. She waited day after day, but he never came

Instead, she only faced the arrival of that monster Larry

Adam had never come to take her away.

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In the VIP room of a nightclub, Larry lounged on the couch. He tossed a million dollar check onto the coffee table with a b

Cracking his legs, he smirked. “Bring out all your prettiest girls. See this? I’ve got money.”

After serving ten years in prison, Larry was eager to indulge himself.

The nightclub’s manager’s eyes lit up at the sight of the check. She called out, “Glth, time to wak”

A group of lavishly dressed were entered, forming a line in front of Lany.

“Mr. Slick, which one catches your eye?” the manager asked with a grin.

Larry glanced over the lineup and sneered. “They’re all too old 1ke them young. The younger, the better.”

The manager blinked in surprise. “Mr. Slick, these girls are barely 20. That’s young enough.”

Larry licked his lips with a sleazy grin. “I like them even younger.”

The manager’s smile faltered. Was this man a pervert? A pedophile, even?

Before she could respond, the room’s door was kicked open from outside.

Larry looked up to see Celine standing there.

The manager gasped, “Oh my, who’s this little beauty? Sweetheart, who are you here for?”

Celine ignored her, her icy gaze fixed on Larry. She opened her palm and said, “Hand over the check!”

“Celine, you’re here! =

Larry’s eyes lit up as he took in her flawless **face** and curvy figure. Compared to her, the other women looked downright plain, and his interest in them vanished.

He chuckled, waving the check. “Celine, **this** is courtesy of your dear husband. I’m your adoptive father, remember? It’s only natural for you two to give me some spending money.

Larry’s greedy, leering demeanor made Celine’s stomach churn with disgust. She stepped forward, snatching for the check.

His face darkened. “You bitch, do you really think you’re some kind of high–society lady now?”

He reached out to grab her hair, intent on teaching her a **lesson**. But before his hand could connect, a thin silver needle pierced straight through his palm. Larry crumpled to the floor with a heavy thud, his legs giving out,

Celine took the check and glanced at him coldly. “Did you really think you could still lay a hand on me?”

The needle had gone straight through his palm, and Larry let out a series of pained howls.

Without another word, Celine turned and left.

“Celine!” Larry called after her.

She paused

Larry’s lips curled into a twisted grin. “You’ve married such a great husband. Should I tell him about how, as a little girl, you sat on my lap in your pretty dresses? You’d just arrived from the city, looking like a porcelain doll—**so** sweet, so fragrant. I even kissed you, remember?!

Her hands at her **sides** clenched slowly into fists

“Celine, what do **you** think your husband would do if he knew? He’d despise you! Mrs. Alvarez Senior may pamper you, and Adam may be your husband. But do you really think you’re worthy of being part of the Alvarez family?”

Celine said nothing. She simply walked away.

Outside the nightclub, Celine stepped onto the bustling street. She didn’t take a car but **chose** to walk back on her own.

The streets were lively, filled with groups of men and women chatting and laughing. Amid the noise and cheer, she wandered alone.

Memories of her childhood in the countryside replayed in her mind like a **sped**—up tim

Lucy had paid Larry a sum of money to send her away **to** his home in the countryside.

At first, Larry’s wife was still around. When he got drunk or **lost at** gambling, he would vent his anger on her. The poor w
life by jumping into a river.

After that, it was just Celine and Larry left in that house.

woman, already mentally unstable, eventually took her own

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As a little girl, Celine had to take over the chores of Larry's late wife. Each day, she washed clothes, cooked meals, and bore the brunt of his bearings.

Larry would yank her hair, kick her, and whipper with a belt. Those days were almost unbearable.

As Celine grew older, her beauty became strikingly evident in the countryside. But with her beauty came an even greater nightmare.

Larry's lecherous gaze turned predatory. He would force her onto his lap, pressing his alcohol laden, sweat-drenched face against hers.

Bathing at night, she'd lock the door with trembling hands. But when she **glanced** back, she would only find his leering eyes peering through the crack, a sick grin spread across his face

Those memories haunted her childhood like a recurring nightmare.

One day, Larry brought two of his drinking buddies home. They teased him, saying, "Tarry, why don't you find yourself a new wife?"

Larry chuckled darkly. "My new wife's already at home, just need a little **more** time to grow up."

His friends immediately caught on, grinning knowingly, "Damn, backy you. We'd kill for that kind of luck."

Terrified, Celine fled the house. Her hands trembled **as**

she dialed Lucy's number from **a** village payphone.

When the call connected, tears streamed down her face like broken beads. She sobbed and said, "Mom.. Mom, please save me..."

But the voice that answered was Carly's, haughty and gleeful. "Who are you? This is my mom's phone, not yours. My mom only has one daughter, and that's me"

Celine troze

Moments later, Lucy's soft, doting voice came through.

“Carly, my sweet little princess, it’s your birthday today! **Come** see the pearl crown I got for you. Your classmates are here and asking for you. Don’t forget to perform that dance for them later, okay?”

Carly nodded with joy. “Thanks, **Mom!**”

That day was Carly’s birthday,

Celine hung up in despair. She couldn’t return to Larry’s house, so she **wandered** aimlessly until she found herself in a forest.

That was where she found the gravely injured Adam.

Adam told her he’d take her away. He told her that if no one else wanted her, he would.

That night, they held onto each other for warmth. But by dawn, Adam was burning with fever. He kept muttering, “

Water Water...

She left the cave alone to find herbs and water to lower his fever. But when she returned, the cave was empty

Adam was gone

She waited for him in that cave for days, convinced that he would return for her. She truly believed he wouldn’t abandon her.

But Larry found her first

He had been searching for her the entire time. He slapped her hard, sending her sprawling to the ground.

His face twisted with rage. “You little bitch! How dare you run away! You’re mine, got it?”

Breathing heavily, he pinned her down and snapped, “Let’s see if you dare run away again!”

She shook violently, her teeth chattering with terror. Desperately, **she** reached for a sharp stick she’d kept **for** protection and drove it into Larry’s eye with all her strength. Larry collapsed, blood pouring from his face. One of his eyes was ruined forever.

Celine personally handed him over to the authorities, and Larry was sentenced to ten years in **prison**.

Celine closed her eyes, pulling herself free from the suffocating darkness of her past. They said an unhappy **childhood took** a lifetime to heal.

Over the years, she had worked tirelessly to drag her younger self out of that painful, helpless past.

She was going to save herself.

The evening breeze was cool and refreshing

Around her, couples and friends laughed and strolled down the lively streets. Feeling a sudden chill, Celine crossed her arms and held herself tight. She was all alone.

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Celine returned to Alvarez Residence, hoping to see **Mary**. As she approached Mary's room, she heard a conversation between her and Adam.

Mary said gently, "Adam, Celine's adoptive father came by today. I noticed she wasn't herself afterward. You should spend more time with her and show her you care"

She sighed softly and continued, "Celine was sent to the countryside at such a young age. Her father passed away early, and her mother treated her poorly. I can see how lonely she's been, how much she craves love.

"Though her adoptive father spent ten years in prison, he raised a wonderful girl like Celine to be part of our family as your wife. We should be grateful to him for that. If he needs

thing—be it a house, a job, or financial support—make the arrangements. It's the least we can do for her."

Mary instructed Adam with heartfelt earnestness.

Adam's sharp features softened under the warm light as he nodded "Don't worry, Grandma. I'll handle it."

Standing outside the door, Celine felt her vision blur as tears welled up in her eyes she didn't go in. Instead, she quietly turned around and returned to her room.

Later that night, Adam returned to their bedroom after finishing his work in the study.

Celine was already asleep, curled into a small, fragile ball under the covers.

After a quick shower, Adam noticed something on the bedside table. It was the check for one million dollars he had given to Larry.

She had retrieved it. It was now on her nightstand, waiting to be returned to him.

His lips curved slightly in a faint smile as he looked over at her.

Under the soft glow of the bedside lamp, her sleep was restless. Her brows were knit tightly together, and she murmured faintly, “Mom Mom” She was calling her mom in her dream. Her long lashes fluttered. Soon, large teardrops slipped from the corners of her eyes, she was crying Adam froze for a moment before instinctively reaching out to gently wipe away her tears.

In her sleep, Celine suddenly grabbed his hand. “Mom don’t go.”

Adam was speechless. What the hell? Did she just mistake him for her mother?

He tried to pull his hand away. “Celine, I’m not your mom.

But Celine restlessly pressed her delicate face against his palm, nuzzling it softly as if pleasing him “Mom, don’t go. Don’t leave me behind...” Adam was at a loss for words. His tone turned exasperated “Celine, I’m saying this one more time—I’m not your mom!”

In her sleep, Celine’s shoulders suddenly trembled. She began to sob loudly. “Mom Mom..”

Adam didn’t know how to respond.

Tears streamed down her flawless face. Her cries were heartbreaking.

Adam’s heart softened a bit. This was the first time she’d ever cried in front of him. He realized he couldn’t bear to see her like this..

Abandoning his plan to sleep on the couch, he lifted the blanket and got into bed. He gently parted her fragile back. He wasn’t used to it as he had no experience comforting anyone like this.

Softening his tone, he murmured, “Alright, stop crying. I’m here. Mom’s here.”

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When the word

worn slipped from his lips, Adam felt a surge of relief that **no** one else had witnessed the moment. He had a reputation to maintain, after all. He’d never done

anything so absurd in his life!

Thankfully, his soothing words seemed to calm Celine. She nestled into his embrace. She clutched tightly around his waist and drifted back to sleep

Adam couldn't help but feel she was truly clingy. Lowering his gaze, he noticed she wasn't crying anymore. But her long lashes still glistened with moisture, which was truly endearing

He chuckled softly. "I'm not your mom—I'm your dad. Come on, **Celine**, call me Dad"

But Celine was sleeping soundly and offered no response. Adam wrapped his arm around her shoulder and fell asleep.

The next day, Celine opened her eyes.

Outside, the morning light was brilliant, and the warm sunlight had already filled the room. It was the early morning of the second day.

Celine wanted to get up. But upon moving, she sensed something was amiss. A strong and warm arm was holding her delicate shoulders, and she was sleeping in someone else's

She paused for a second before looking up and finding Adam's handsome face next to her.

Adam hadn't slept on the couch last night. Instead, he had slept in the bed. She was sleeping in his arms.

What was going on? Why was he sleeping here?

Adam was still asleep She relaxed her body slowly.

Unlike the foul, repulsive scent that lingered on Larry, Adam's scent was clean, warm, and luxurious. He **smelled** so good that it would make any woman covet him, yearning for his body

ne law

celine stared at his handsome face before slowly raising her small hand. Her delicate fingers gently and tentatively touched his strong

He was clean-shaven, but her fingers brushed against a layer of tiny stubble. The roughness pricked her fingers, a sharp, tingling sensation,

Just then, Adam stirred, his eyes slowly opening. He was awake,

Celine quickly pulled her hand **back**, like a child caught doing something wrong

She swiftly got out of his arms and sat up. She then immediately confronted him, “Adam, why are you **in** my bed?”

Adam had just woken up, **his** black eyes still heavy with sleep. He looked at her with amusement. “Celine, don’t you remember what happened last night?”

She really didn’t remember. She recalled taking a shower and going to bed early.

“What happened last night?” Celine asked, still confused.

“You insisted on sleeping with me and even called me “Uncle.”” Adam replied with a teasing smile.

What?

Celine’s clear eyes widened in shock **as she** stared at him. “You’re lying!”

She grabbed a pillow and threw it at his face, trying to shut him up. She knew she wouldn’t do so.

But Adam easily turned his head, dodging it. He then reached out, grabbed her slender wrist, and yanked her toward him. Celine’s delicate body landed directly on **his** chest.

He raised an eyebrow, his mature charm evident as he smirked. “Call me uncle.”

Celine’s small face instantly turned bright red. What kind of twisted humor was this?

She shot him an angry glare, pushed him away, and quickly tried to get up

But before she could, a strong pull yanked her back toward him. Her hair had gotten caught on the button of his pajama

“Ah, my hair!” she cried out.

Celine quickly tried to untangle her hair,

cupiter Ro

Celine’s frantic movements only made things worse. The more she struggled, the tighter her hair tangled around the button.

she switched her position, pulling at her hair with increased urgency.

Just then, Adam’s low, slightly hoarse voice sounded above her. “Celine.”

He was calling her name

With a sharp tug, she finally snapped the strand of hair and freed herself. She sat upright and replied, “What is it?”

Adam looked at her “Was that intentionall?”

It was only then that Celine realized something was off. To untangle her hair, she had ended up sitting astride him.

Her mind went blank

Adam’s firm, sculpted waist was directly beneath her.

His sharp eyes grew red, a fiery intensity flashing through them. Beneath his silk pajamas, the muscles of his chest and abdomen tightened visibly. His large hands gripped her delicate waist firmly, his voice rough

Celine’s fair cheeks blushed as her disheveled hair framed her face. Her wide, deer-like eyes betrayed her flustered state

The air between them grew stifling, and the atmosphere was thick with unspoken tension.

Suddenly, a melodic ringtone broke the silence. Adam’s phone lit up on the nightstand.

phone screen.

Celine glanced up and saw Carly’s name flashing on the j

Adam was still lying on the bed, beneath Celine. He raised a hand to cover the faint pettness at the corners of his eyes. The gesture added an unintentional charm to his refined and handsome features

He picked up his phone and answered the call “**Carly**”

Curly’s call shattered the lingering warnith and intimacy in the ar

The flush on Celine’s cheeks vanished in an instant. Flustered, she scrambled off Adam.

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Adam tossed the blanket aside and got out of bed. On the other end of the line, **Curly’s** cheerful voice rang out. “Adam, are you up yet?!”

Distracted, Adam replied with a nonchalant hum

Adamu watched as Celine bolted for the bathroom, her steps frantic and clumsy in her haste to escape

He had been awake the moment she stirred, but he didn't open his eyes. When her delicate fingers tentatively traced his jawline, he felt it all. He knew she was scared to touch him. but couldn't **resist**.

"Adam! Adam, are you even listening to me? Carly's **voice** snapped him back to the conversation.

"What is it?" Adam asked, his tone now focused

H

"I've invited a few **friends** over today. Come join us," Carly invited him to Tate Manor

Adam declined. "I have a management meeting today I need to be at the office"

Carly sounded disappointed but didn't press "Alright then. Work hard!"

Antetending the call, Adam glanced down at his pants, a faint shadow of frustration crossing his chiseled features.

Whenever Celine was involved, he felt a strange physical attraction he couldn't explain. He couldn't understand why, despite not liking Celine, he kept having och inexplicably daterent feelings toward her.

Adam stepped into **the** adjacent bathroom and took **a** cold shower to calm himself

When he came out, Leo had already arrived. "Mr. Alvarez."

Adam had regained his usual composure and aloot demeanor. He parted his lips and instructed, "Have someone investigate Larry:"

Leo asked, "Mr. Alvarez, do you mean Mrs. Alvarez's adoptive father?"

Adam nodded. "Larry served a ten-year sentence. Find out the details of the case-1 want to know why he was imprisoned."

