

# Reborn Through Fire By Kazuya Higan

## Chapter 1441-1450

Chapter 1441

“Give it a try,” Adrien said.

Kisa pretended to hesitate for a moment before reluctantly agreeing. But inside, she was thrilled. Finally, she would not have to put on an act of indifference toward Gilbert in front of Adrien

anymore.

Meanwhile, in the study, Gilbert sat in front of the surveillance monitor, lips curled in a contemptuous sneer. He tilted his head back and took a long swig of the wine, his cold, crimson eyes narrowing in disdain. ‘Feigning concern for me? She is a born actress, and her charade is executed with precision. If I hadn’t installed the surveillance, I would have been fooled again. Why does she enjoy manipulating people so much? Which of her words are even genuine?’

Later that evening, Kisa sat in her room, her dinner served on a tray by the diligent servant. She asked about Gilbert, but the servant reported that he was in the study, and his dinner had been brought to him. Kisa had considered seeing and talking to him, but her fear of his wrath held her

back.

After finishing dinner, the three children came running to her. Kisa played with them for a while. but soon the sky grew dark. She then helped the three of them take a bath. Even after that, the children were still wide awake, sitting on the bed and reading storybooks.

Ada suddenly piped up. “Ma’am, when are you going to marry my daddy?”

The question caught Kisa off guard, but she looked at Ada and replied tenderly, “Why do you want me to marry your daddy?”

“Because I want to call you mommy,” Ada said.

Andrew chimed in, “Me too! I want to call you mommy too!”

Kisa’s heart swelled with emotion. She touched the children’s heads and whispered, “If you want to call me mommy, you can. I would like that very much.”

The children's faces lit up with joy.

"Really?"

"Can we really call you Mommy?"

Kisa smiled and nodded. "Of course." She then said in her mind, "You are my children."

"Mommy!"

"Mommy!"

The two children immediately rushed into her arms, tears streaming down their faces as if they had been hurt or remembered something sad.

Kisa gently stroked their heads with compassion. "What is wrong? Am I not making you happy as your mommy?"

Ada choked up and said, "No. It is because we are just so happy. I finally have a mommy."

Andrew hugged her waist tightly and added. "Yes, Ada and I finally have a mommy, and you can never leave us again."

Kisa hugged them lovingly and could not help but curse Gilbert in her mind. "How could he bear to hide the truth from these children who miss their mommy so much?"

Meanwhile, Blake watched Kisa, Andrew, and Ada quietly from the side. He did not cry or make a fuss, but his small mouth was tightly pursed into a straight line. There was a touch of loneliness

and restraint on his delicate face that did not match his age.

Kisa noticed him and could not resist asking, "Blake, what's wrong?" Blake quickly shook his head. He wanted to leave, but Kisa grabbed him. "What's bothering you, Blake? You can tell me."

Blake still shook his head.

From the very first time she saw him, Kisa could not help but feel a sense of heartache for this child. She always sensed that he was too mature for his age, bottling up his emotions inside. Kisa pulled him in for a hug and asked, "Blake, do you miss your mom and dad?"

Blake quickly looked up at her and then lowered his gaze. "No, I don't miss them," he replied, knowing that his parents were right there with him.

## Chapter 1442

Blake could not help but feel a twinge of sadness as he watched his siblings snuggle up to Kisa and call her "Mommy". He longed to do the same, but he was too afraid of what might happen if he acknowledged his biological parents. His godparents had warned him that it could put everyone in danger, and while he did not understand why, he did not want to take any chances.

But then Ada tugged on his hand and beamed up at him. "Blake, you can call her Mommy too! We're all Mommy's good children."

Blake looked at Kisa.

Kisa nodded in agreement. "Yes, Blake. You can call me Mommy if you want to."

For a moment, Blake hesitated, his eyes glistening with unshed tears. But then he shook his head. "Ma'am is enough for me."

Kisa thought he was missing his biological mother, and without pressing him further, she reached out and gently ran her hand over his hair.

"Blake, we all care about you. You can talk to us about anything that is bothering you."

Andrew put his arm around Blake's shoulder, looking like a protective older brother. "That's right,"

he said with a warm smile.

Blake looked up at them and said with a deep nod, "I love you guys too."

Kisa gathered the children in a warm embrace. Perhaps because of her pregnancy, she felt her maternal instincts kicking into overdrive these few days. After putting the child to sleep, it was already ten o'clock. She stood in the empty room for a while, struggling to suppress the urge to go

and find Gilbert.

He did not want to see her now, so she thought she should avoid angering him. She closed the door behind her and headed toward the bed, when suddenly she heard running water coming from the bathroom. Kisa shuddered and quickly turned around to look in the bathroom.

There was a tall figure imprinted on the frosted glass door, and it was not anyone other than Gilbert. She felt a wave of joy in her heart, but then remembered that his arm was injured, and he could not touch water. She hurried to the bathroom door and knocked,

but there was no response. Perhaps the sound of water was too loud, drowning out the sound of her knocking.

Kisa knocked again and shouted, "Gilbert, are you in there?"

Still, no answer came. She tried to turn the door handle, but it would not budge. The door was locked from the inside. She pursed her lips and turned to leave. Suddenly, she heard the door opening behind her. She did not have time to react before a strong force pulled her into the bathroom.

In the mist of steam, she was pushed against the cold and damp wall by the man. His eyes were bloodshot, and she could smell the strong scent of alcohol on him. He had been drinking heavily. Gilbert was shirtless, and she saw his arm covered in bloody bandages. Her heart sank.

"Why did you remove the bandages and let water get into the wound? What if it gets infected?"

Kisa said anxiously as she held his arm, intending to treat the wound.

Gilbert harshly shook her hand off and pushed her against the wall. His voice was hoarse and sinister. "Do you really care about me?"

Kisa nodded vigorously. "Yes, I do care about you. Come on, let me help you apply medicine."

"Hehehe..." Gilbert suddenly laughed, with a hint of drunkenness and a frightening malice. "Do you care about me? That is probably the most fake thing I have ever heard."

"Gilbert...hiss!" Kisa felt a sudden sharp pain as Gilbert fiercely covered her lips. This was not a kiss. He was angry and almost biting her. Kisa tasted the metallic taste of blood, which made her stomach churn with nausea.

## Chapter 1443

However, her struggling and retching only made Gilbert narrow his eyes with a cold gaze. He suddenly pushed her away and shouted at her, "If you're disgusted by me, why bother pretending to care about me? Why bother trying to please me? Get out, just get out!"

He was clearly drunk and seemed to have forgotten about the baby in her womb. His push was powerful, and the bathroom floor was slippery. Kisa stumbled several steps but managed to grab onto the nearby sink to prevent herself from falling. She looked at Gilbert in horror, only to see him standing there with one hand on his hip, the other

against the wall, exuding a terrifying aura. His arm was still bleeding, and the injured flesh had turned white from being soaked in water, a gruesome sight to behold.

Despite everything, Kisa was still concerned about his well-being. She took a deep breath and cautiously approached him. From behind, she wrapped her arms around him, holding him carefully and tentatively. Gilbert did not push her away this time, but only sneered.

Kisa rested her face against his back and whispered, "I really care about you, a lot." All she got in response was another sneer. She closed her eyes and then moved around to face him. His eyes were still bloodshot, his dark expression more frightening than ever. The suppressed anger seemed like it could erupt at any moment. Kisa touched his face, trying to kiss him. She kissed his lips, his Adam's apple, and his chest. She could feel his reaction becoming more intense. Her actions grew bolder.

The sneering above her head grew colder. "You're really making things difficult for yourself by trying to please me against your own will."

"I'm willing. I'm not making things difficult for myself," Kisa murmured vaguely. She just wanted to calm this man down, to make him rational again.

Suddenly, her body was lifted into the air, and in her panic, she met the man's mocking gaze. Without saying a word, he carried her toward the sink.

Kisa woke up in the middle of the night and realized she was in bed. Her stomach felt fine, but the marks on her body were clear as day. She put on her robe and looked at the man beside her in the dim light of the wall lamp.

She had fainted in the bathroom earlier. He had been barely kind enough to carry her back to bed. He had been drinking and they had done the deed, and now he was sleeping soundly. The wounds on his arm were still exposed, making it look even more ghastly.

Kisa quietly got out of bed and went to find the medical kit. Gilbert was fast asleep and completely defenseless. She carefully applied medicine to his wound and then proceeded to bandage it up. He had several injuries on his chest and shoulders, so she took care of those as

well.

As she was about to withdraw her hand, a large hand suddenly grabbed her wrist. Kisa was startled and raised her eyes to meet his deep and intoxicating black eyes. He did not say a word but looked at her deeply before closing his eyes and falling back asleep.

Kisa stared at the large hand on her wrist, her mind in turmoil. She covered his hand with hers and

whispered softly, "Soon, after I have taken care of Adrien, we can be together."

The next day, Kisa woke up to find the bed empty. She asked the servant and found out that Gilbert had left early in the morning. There was a newspaper on the table. She picked it up and realized that Christopher had been arrested by the police. They caught him at the wharf, carrying a briefcase of cash, ready to flee. He was charged with attempted murder of her and Gilbert. Kisa stared at the newspaper with a heavy heart filled with doubt.

#### Chapter 1444

'If the car accident from yesterday was indeed Adrien's doing, then it had to have been a twisted test of Gilbert's love for me. But why bring Christopher into the mix? Christopher is his enemy, someone far harder to control than someone on his own team. If the only purpose was to test Gilbert, Adrien could have easily commanded one of his own people to do it.'

'So, why Christopher? Could it be that Adrien had a more personal score to settle with Christopher, and testing Gilbert was just a side show? It seems this is just the beginning of Adrien's nefarious schemes. It was clear that he had ulterior motives when he first approached Carolyn. And now, he has the whole of The Case Group in the palm of his hand. Everything seems like it's part of Adrien's sick revenge plot against Christopher. But what could Christopher have done to Adrien to warrant such an elaborate, over-the-top retaliation?'

Kisa was deep in thought.

In the afternoon, Kisa was heading to the detention center, escorted by Davian. "Mrs. Kooper, I'm at your service. If you want to go anywhere, just tell me, and I'll take you there."

Kisa raised an eyebrow. "Aren't things busy at the company? Doesn't Gilbert need your help?"

"The company isn't busy right now," Davian said.

"If it is not busy, then why can't Gilbert find time to see me?"

Davian hesitated.

"I bet he doesn't want to see me," Kisa muttered sullenly.

Davian's mouth hung open, unsure of what to say. He had only been informed by Gilbert earlier this morning that he would be staying at the company for the time being. So, Kisa's guess was spot on-Gilbert really did not want to see her.

The car pulled up to the entrance of the detention center. Davian turned to Kisa and said, "Mrs. Kooper, only one person can go in. Please go ahead, and if you need anything, just call for me out loud."

"Okay." Kisa responded as she turned and walked into the detention center. She waited at the visitation area for a while, and soon saw Christopher being led toward her. His eyes were bloodshot, and the look he gave her was one of pure hatred.

"What are you doing here, you two-faced scoundrel?" Christopher immediately launched into a vicious verbal attack as he approached her. Thankfully, there was a glass panel between them, or Kisa would have suspected he might have come at her physically.

Kisa just calmly watched him. This man was usually cowardly and pathetic, but now that he had lost everything, he suddenly had some backbone. She felt a mix of irony and sadness.

She asked Christopher, "What if it was Sharon who came to see you?"

As she mentioned Sharon's name, Christopher's eyes softened slightly. Kisa wanted to laugh bitterly.

"Unfortunately, your beloved daughter is now calling another man her father!"

"Shut up!" Christopher suddenly slammed his fists on the table. The police officer nearby warned him with a stern whack of his baton, and he quieted down a bit.

Kisa's eyes were filled with sarcasm.

"Why do you want to kill me? If you are looking to blame someone for your misfortunes, it was Sharon and Carolyn who ruined your life. Why don't you go after them instead? I've never done anything wrong to you. Even if you were heartless toward me, because of our blood ties, I'd still take care of you in your old age. And even when you pass away, I'd still make sure you are laid to rest with respect. But you, you actually want to kill me?"

"Heh, heh, heh... how righteous of you," Christopher sneered. "You are just like your mother, a hypocrite. Your mother promised to live a happy life with me, but in the end, she cheated on me behind my back. You and your mother are just a pair of sl\*ts!"

"Enough! You have no right to talk about my mother like that!" Kisa's chest heaved as she tried to contain her rage and sadness. Her mother's life had been practically ruined by Christopher and Carolyn, and she could not bear to hear him insult her like that.

She gathered her composure and looked at him coldly.

Chapter 1445

"I came here just to ask you, why did you suddenly have the intention to kill me?" Kisa dared not mention Adrien. She was afraid that Christopher would tell Adrien, and then Adrien would know that she was suspecting him. All the disguise and deceit she had done so far would be in vain.

Christopher did not answer. He hung his head low, as if thinking.

"I know you hate me, but now you have nothing. You can't beat me. We have no grievances or enmity, and I don't want to make things difficult for you. I'll give you some money. Tomorrow, leave here by boat and don't interfere with Carolyn and my life anymore. Also, it's best not to mention me in front of Kisa. Otherwise, I can't guarantee the safety of your darling Sharon."

Adrien's words echoed in his ears.

Adrien had spoken in a low and friendly tone, but Christopher was not a fool. He understood the subtle warning clearly.

His attempt to kill Kisa had just been a momentary impulse of anger. He resented her for being ungrateful and teaming up with outsiders to harm him. But he regretted it now; he should have left Calthon with that money in the first place. But now things had happened, and it was too late for

regrets.

He looked up at Kisa and suddenly played the family card, "Kisa, I know I was wrong. Will you forgive me? Will you and Gilbert withdraw the lawsuit and spare me?"

Looking at the man in front of her suddenly changing his attitude, Kisa remained unmoved. She spoke each word coldly, "Tell me why you wanted to kill me, and I will withdraw the lawsuit."

"Why else?" Christopher said angrily, "I am your father, and you, as the CEO's wife of the mighty GK, are unwilling to help me, and even instigate others to harm me. Do you think I shouldn't kill you?"

"Instigate others?" Kisa sneered, "Who told you that?"

"Why would I need someone to tell me? You've been holding a grudge against me because of your mother's affair, always wanting to take revenge on me. Did you think I didn't know? Now that I'm down and out, are you finally happy?"

Kisa's expression turned dark as Christopher refused to mention Adrien's name, almost as if he was being threatened by Adrien. She had hoped that if he brought up Adrien, she could ask him about their relationship and any grudges they might have had. But



now that Christopher refused to speak about Adrien, she felt like she had no reason to ask.

She looked at Christopher, realizing that she could not ask anything more, and stood up to leave. But Christopher snapped, shouting at her, "You ungrateful wretch! If you don't drop the charges, you will be struck down by divine retribution. You'll face the consequences!"

Kisa's lip curled in a cold sneer. "If anyone's going to be struck down, it should be Sharon," she retorted. At that moment, she could hardly believe that Christopher was her father. They say that

a tiger doesn't eat its own cubs, but Christopher was proving to be an exception.

She ignored Christopher's angry outburst and walked out without looking back.

"Kisa, come back! You must drop the charges. I'm your father, your biological father!"

As she reached the door, Kisa could still hear Christopher's mournful wailing. She looked up at the blue sky, feeling no emotional fluctuations. She thought to herself, if only her mother was still alive.

After getting into the car, Davian asked, "Mrs. Kooper, are you going back home now?"

"To the hospital."

Davian looked panicked. "What is wrong, Mrs. Kooper? Are you feeling unwell?"

"No, I just want to do a pregnancy checkup."

Davian breathed a small sigh of relief. As he started the car, he quietly sent a message to Gilbert.

## Chapter 1446

Kisa was feeling nervous as she waited for her first prenatal examination. Memories of her previous pregnancy flooded her mind, but they were not pleasant. Gilbert, her partner at the time, had been unsupportive and uncaring. She had no idea what to do, so she spent most of her time resting at home and never bothered to go for a checkup. She did not even know if she was carrying one or two babies.

As she sat in the waiting room, Kisa watched the other pregnant women with their husbands and felt envious. She wished Gilbert were there with her too. Finally, it was her turn for the ultrasound, and she handed the report to the doctor. To her relief, the doctor said her baby was developing very well.

She mentioned that she occasionally experienced pain in her belly. The doctor advised her to avoid strenuous exercise and to rest more. Kisa could not help but think of Gilbert's crazy behavior the night before and shuddered. She was grateful that the baby was okay.

Kisa looked carefully at the ultrasound report. The images didn't show much, just a gestational sac. But the size of the sac was very clear. As Kisa looked at the ultrasound report, she was so

lost in thought that she accidentally bumped into someone. The report slipped from her hand and fell to the ground.

She quickly bent over to pick it up, but a hand picked it up before she could. That person was wearing a men's watch on his wrist, and no matter how she looked at it, it felt familiar. She looked up and was shocked to see Gilbert standing in front of her.

"W-What are you doing here?"

Gilbert remained silent; his eyes fixed on the ultrasound report. He struggled to make sense of the fuzzy images and turned to Kisa and asked, his voice indifferent, "Is everything alright with our baby?"

Kisa refused to let Gilbert's coldness get to her and flashed him a smile. "No worries," she said. The doctor said that everything is developing well. But... I guess I have to take it easy now, no more intense workouts for me."

Kisa could not help but wonder if he had any clue about what 'intense workouts' means. She stole a quick glance at him. He remained unfazed, his eyes scanning the ultrasound report. After what seemed like an eternity, he finally broke the silence and uttered, "Let's go."

After coming out of the hospital, Davian who was originally waiting for her had already left.

As Kisa sat in the passenger seat of Gilbert's car, the silence between them was suffocating. And just as she was contemplating breaking the silence, Gilbert spoke up.

"Christopher has been arrested."

Kisa was taken aback for a moment before nodding and saying, "I know."

"It was I who reported him," he said, his voice almost monotone.

Kisa remained calm, and she simply nodded in response.

“I won’t drop the charges,” said the man, staring straight ahead with a flat voice. “If he can try to kill you once, he could do it again. I don’t want my child to be in danger.”

Kisa nodded. “I understand. I don’t want you to drop the charges either.”

Gilbert seemed surprised by her response and glanced at her involuntarily. She forced a smile, one that did not quite reach her eyes. “He’s not my father, just a blood relative.”

Gilbert tightened his grip on the steering wheel and did not say anything else.

As they pulled up to the Kooper residence, Kisa got out of the car, only to find that Gilbert was not following suit. She bent down and looked at him in confusion. “What’s wrong?” she asked.

“I’ll be staying at the office for a while. When it’s time to go to Oceanville, I’ll come back to get you.”

Kisa’s heart sank. She knew what this meant – Gilbert did not want to be around her anymore. She just nodded and watched his car disappear from view, and she could not help but feel a sense of sadness and longing.

Madalyn took all of this in and sneered at the side. “My grandson finally came to his senses. Don’t think about seducing him again. Now the only reason that he hasn’t driven you away is because of the child in your belly.”

#### Chapter 1447

Kisa stared at Madalyn in disbelief. “You used to like me too. I just can’t wrap my head around why you’re treating me like this.”

Madalyn sneered, “If you can’t figure it out, then don’t bother trying. Just remember to stay away from my grandson and stop causing him any more trouble.”

“I don’t understand what I’ve done wrong.”

Madalyn’s face darkened. “You have no right to know. Just be smart and have the child, then get out of here!” With that, she stormed into the house, leaving Kisa standing alone in the yard.

After settling Adrien’s affairs, Kisa realized she still had to find a way to break down Madalyn’s walls. ‘But what is Madalyn hiding? And why is she so guarded about the past?’

Gilbert was truly heartless. He had not shown his face to her for a whole week. Madalyn blamed Kisa for driving him away, so Kisa kept things to herself, staying in her room and avoiding any unnecessary confrontation.

Christopher's fate hung in the balance as he remained locked up in the detention center. Carolyn and her daughter had abandoned him, leaving him to fend for himself. Kisa felt nothing but

sarcasm in her heart. She did not want to bother with this anymore, regardless of what verdict Christopher would receive in the end, she didn't care.

As night fell, Kisa's phone rang. It was Adrien, calling her once again, choosing the darkness to

avoid Gilbert's watchful eyes. Little did he know, Gilbert had been absent from her side for the past few days.

"Kisa, how's your relationship with Mr. Kooper lately?" Adrien asked over the phone.

Kisa thought for a moment and replied, "He has been quite distant with me these days. I don't know what is going on with him. I've been trying to please him, but he still seems to dislike me. Anyway, I don't care anymore. If worst comes to worst, I'll just go down with him." Kisa intentionally spoke in a very extreme ruthless tone.

Adrien seemed to have fully believed Kisa's hatred toward Gilbert. He quickly said, "You must not do anything foolish. With my help, you will definitely get your revenge."

Adrien paused and continued. "By the way, I heard that your father has been arrested. I don't think Mr. Kooper will drop the charges. Do you want to save your father? If you do, I can help you."

Kisa frowned. 'Why does Adrien suddenly act like a kind and benevolent person in front of me? Is he testing me?'

After weighing the situation for a while, she replied, "No need. Since he wants to kill me, he'll definitely strike again. For my own safety, it's better for him to stay behind bars. I visited him a few days ago and asked him why he wanted to kill his own daughter. Can you guess what he said?"

The phone went silent for a moment. Kisa squeezed the bedsheet, and her lips were full of sarcasm. "He said that I worked with others to harm him, that I was greedy and that I had been conspiring with outsiders to get back at him."

“Really?” Adrien exclaimed, “How could he think that? You’re his own daughter.”

“I know, right? I can’t figure it out either. As a father, how could he be so suspicious of his own child? Uncle Adrien, they say a tiger doesn’t eat its own cubs. Why is he so heartless that he won’t even spare his own child?”

There was silence on the other end of the phone. Suddenly, Kisa had a look of realization on her face. “Oh, sorry. I forgot that Uncle Adrien, you don’t have children. You probably wouldn’t

understand Christopher’s way of thinking and acting.”

Chapter 1448

Adrien held the phone to his ear, the other hand clenching a cigarette. Smoke swirled around him, enveloping his brooding and complex expression. He smirked, a sardonic glint in his eye. “Well, I haven’t been a father, so I can’t answer your question.”

Kisa sighed, resigned. “Never mind. Maybe he never saw me as his daughter. He accused me of scheming against him, but when I asked who that ‘someone’ was, he couldn’t provide an answer. It was all just his paranoid delusion.”

Adrien flicked ash from his cigarette, a wry smile playing on his lips. “Maybe you’re right.”

“Let’s not talk about him. Honestly, he’s not much of a father to me. You are kind and good to me, and sometimes I wish you were my father instead.”

Adrien’s smoking hand paused mid-air. His thoughts drifted as smoke filled the air, mingling with his memories.

“If only we had a daughter, our son would have a sister.”

“I love daughters too, so you have to give me another one.”

Adrien’s mind returned to the present.

‘Daughter?’ Adrien chuckled softly, the laughter sounding somewhat unreal. “If you don’t mind, you can call me your godfather.”

“Really?” Kisa’s eyes lit up with feigned excitement. “Godfather!”

“You can...call me Dad, if you want.” Adrien’s voice was deep and rich yet shrouded in complex emotions that he could not quite put into words.

Kisa did not think too much and only wanted to gain his trust and make him relax as much as possible. She shouted softly into the phone, “Dad!”

Adrien’s vision instantly blurred at the word “dad”. That face from his memory surged in his mind, stirring up emotions that he dared not recall but had been deeply ingrained in him.

Through the phone, Kisa naturally could not see Adrien’s expression or know what he was thinking. She paused for a moment before asking, “Uncle Adrien, oh no, I should call you godfather. Godfather, is there something you need from me tonight?”

She felt that Adrien’s call was not just about testing her knowledge of Christopher.

Adrien said nothing and exhaled smoke rings. His eyes were somewhat unfocused, his thoughts drifting away, until Carolyn walked in. His face instantly returned to normal, and his experienced gaze became sharp and cold.

“See how much Mr. Kooper trusts you. If you have the chance, try to steal some of GK’s secrets. It’ll test his attitude toward you, and we can slowly empty GK. What do you think?”

“Okay, I will find an opportunity.”

“Okay, that’s all. Get some rest.”

After hanging up the phone, Kisa stared at the night outside the window. ‘Is Adrien starting to make his move? Of course, I can’t really let Adrien empty GK. To put on a show for Adrien and make him reveal his true colors, GK has to be emptied. But not by Adrien. I have to come up with a way to both help Gilbert keep GK and make Adrien think that GK is really going to collapse.’

“Adrien, who are you calling again?” Carolyn was very suspicious and controlling. She did not dare to make Adrien angry, but she was even more afraid of him abandoning her, so she was always suspicious. When she saw Adrien making a call, she wanted to check his phone. Adrien indulged her and allowed her to check it.

“Hey, why are you calling that little b\*tch again?” Carolyn sounded somewhat dissatisfied.

Adrien

held her in his arms, but his eyes quickly flashed with a coldness. He chuckled, "I'm using her to steal from GK."

Chapter 1449

Carolyn's eyes brightened as she heard Adrien's words. "Wait, did I hear that right?" she asked.

Adrien chuckled, his smile looking a little too forced. "If you don't want me to contact her, then we'll drop the matter. We already have The Case Group, and my family's business is more than enough to support *you* and Sharon. We don't need the Kooper family's GK."

Carolyn's tone turned urgent. "What are you talking about? GK is a big deal in the media industry. The Case Group doesn't even come close to it. Adrien, did you mean what you just said? If you can really get GK, then I won't interfere with you contacting that little... girl."

Adrien's lips curled in amusement. "Don't worry. Everything is under my control. Just wait for me to give you GK as a dowry."

Carolyn's face lit up with a smile, and she looked like a young woman again, full of happiness and excitement, which did not quite match her age. But she did not notice the sneer and coldness in Adrien's eyes.

After a few more days passed, Gilbert still had not returned. Kisa could not help but miss him.

One night, she stared at Gilbert's number for what felt like an eternity, but she could not bring herself to dial it. She threw her phone aside and let out a sigh. After a while, she got up from her bed and headed toward the door.

Gilbert was not home, which was convenient for her to go to the study to look for any information on GK. She needed to do something to make Adrien completely trust her.

confidential

It was

already past eleven at night, and everyone in the house had gone to bed. Kisa made her way to the study with ease. The room was spotless, but there was still a lingering scent of the man she missed. The laptop on the desk was still open, as if he had just stepped away for a moment.

Kisa stood there for a moment, feeling lost, before starting to search for any confidential GK files. The bookshelf was filled with mostly finance and career-related books, a few collections of essays, and some basic GK data.

Kisa searched through the bookshelf for a while but found nothing. She was familiar with the study but did not know if there was a hidden safe or anything of that sort.

She searched the bookshelf again, then crouched down and pulled open the cabinet underneath. In the past, she had only picked out a few books from the shelf and had never looked inside the cabinet. As she pulled open the cabinet, a safe appeared before her eyes.

Kisa was stunned. 'So, there is a safe in the study after all,' she thought.

The safe was embedded inside the cabinet. She stared at the lock for a while, then tried to open it.

She first tried Gilbert's birthday digits, but it did not work. Then she tried Andrew and Ada's birthdays, but still no luck. She crouched in front of the cabinet door, thinking for a moment, before trying her own birthday. With a click, the cabinet door opened.

Kisa widened her eyes in disbelief. 'Gilbert has used my birthday for the safe code. Does he really trust me so much that he isn't afraid I would peek into his secrets?'

Suppressing her shock and complicated emotions, she took out the documents from inside and started to read them. Almost all of them were confidential GK files.

'Does Gilbert really trust me, or is he testing me by giving me such a good opportunity to steal the information inside?'

Little did Kisa know; Gilbert was watching her every move from his computer screen.

Chapter 1450

Gilbert's dark eyes glistened with a hint of coldness and self-mockery. He took a heavy drag of his cigarette and his lips curved into a sad smile. In the video footage, Kisa made a copy of a document and put the original back in the safe. It was only when she left the room that Gilbert finally looked away.

He tilted his head to the ceiling and a faint chuckle escaped his lips, filled with self-derision.



He knew that Kisa's presence in the Kooper residence was to take him down, but he had foolishly believed that she would not be so heartless. Now he had no choice but to face the truth.

He seemed like he could do nothing about it, and he was not even willing to put a stop to it. He was like a hopeless, dying man waiting for her to finish him off.

Davian walked in with the takeout with snowflakes covering his shoulders.

Gilbert gazed at his shoulders and muttered, "It is snowing?"

"Yeah, it's not heavy, but it is freezing out there." Davian walked over as he brushed his shoulders.

He placed the takeout on the table and said, "Mr. Kooper, it's getting colder these days. Why don't you go back home? At least there will be hot food and soup waiting for you."

Davian opened the container and sighed, "It was still hot when I bought it, but now it is cold. You've been having stomach problems lately. If this keeps up..."

"It's fine, you can go now," Gilbert interrupted, leaning back on the chair and closing his eyes.

Davian hesitated to speak, and he said nothing in the end. He knew Gilbert was mad at his wife, but nobody knew the reason. They had been like this since they returned from Athadale, and even Kelvin, who accompanied them, had no idea what was going on between them.

Davian pushed the food toward Gilbert and said, "Mr. Kooper, please eat it while it is still warm. I

will go now."

Gilbert nodded without opening his eyes. Davian glanced at him one last time before leaving, feeling a bit sad inside.

After leaving the GK building, Davian could not resist sending a message to Kisa. Meanwhile, Kisa was holding a copy of a document and contemplating her next move. Just then, she heard her phone buzz and quickly reached for it.

The message read, [Mr. Kooper has been having stomach aches lately. Maybe you could talk to him or something to convince him to go back home. It's freezing outside and he's not eating properly.]

Kisa read the message with a pang of concern. She immediately put the document in her bag, changed into a new outfit, and headed down to the kitchen. She cooked up a delicious soup and a few small dishes and packed them in a thermal container.

By the time she arrived at the GK building, it was almost 1.00 am. She sat in her car and looked up at the CEO's office, which was still lit up.

When she first saw Davian's message, she was desperate to see Gilbert and rushed over as fast as she could. But now that she was here, she hesitated. Gilbert had been distant with her lately, and she was not sure if he would be angry if she showed up unannounced.

After a few minutes of hesitation, she got out of the car. She had brought food for him, after all, and she did not want it to go to waste.

Kisa arrived at the CEO's office and knocked on the door. Gilbert's voice came from inside almost immediately. "Didn't I tell *you* to go home? What, did *you* decide to stay here with me?"

Kisa bit her lip and pushed open the door.

Gilbert opened his eyes slightly, and his handsome eyebrows furrowed deeply, though there was a hint of surprise in his gaze.

"Who told you to come?" he asked, his voice even colder than the winter night outside.

Kisa plastered on a smile. "I missed you, so I came to see you."