

Reborn Through Fire By Kazuya Higan

Chapter 771 – 777

Chapter 771 Too Deep In

Sharon looked at his face and asked with trepidation. “W- What booster shot?”

Adrien snickered at her. “You don’t need to know. Just wait for it.”

Sharon was about to ask something more when she saw a fleeting resentment on Adrien’s face. The next second, Adrien requested his men to send her away. He sneered with a disdainful look on his face as Sharon left.

Peter felt puzzled and came up to Adrien. “Uncle Adrien, why are you helping her if you hate her?”

“You think I’m helping her?” Adrien smoked a cigarette and chuckled.

“Haven’t you been helping her get out of trouble? Isn’t this helping her?” Peter shrugged amusedly.

He looked down and smoothed the creases of his pant legs. “No. What I want is death for everyone in the Case family.” Adrien said in an emotionless yet sinister voice.

It startled Peter, who now found his uncle more and more strange.

Realizing that he had frightened Peter, Adrien quickly looked up at him without the earlier sinister look but a touch of avuncularity on his face. “By the way, didn’t you have something to see me? What is it?”

Embarrassed, Peter stared at Adrien and said, “M—My bracelet...”

Adrien chuckled. "It seems you care quite a bit about what your mother left you."

Peter's face changed at the mention of this. "Not that I care about what she left me; I'm just afraid I'm slowly forgetting my hatred for her."

Adrien looked at the resentment in his eyes for a long while, then handed out the bracelet. "Keep it well." His fingers were unconsciously rubbing the curvature of the inside of the bracelet, feeling the familiar and long-lost sensation of roundness he longed for.

Peter overlooked Adrien's lapse of mind as he took the bracelet.

Adrien smiled sadly as the bracelet left his hand. Just then, he glimpsed the scratch marks on Peter's neck. He sat back in his chair, took a sip of tea, and said to Peter with a serious face. "You are still young, Peter. Women are not the entirety of your life. Don't ruin your career for a woman."

Peter was looking at the bracelet to see if it was damaged when he heard this. He frowned, feeling not too happy. Uncle Adrien, aren't you the one who said we should fight for whatever we want? Even if a woman's heart is not with us, we must own the woman?"

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"That is true, but only if you don't get caught up in it yourself." Adrien looked at him with concern.

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Peter was in a depressed mood. "I'm not caught up in it. When I tire of her, I will pull out."

"Okay, just remember that. Don't try to win her over if a woman's heart is not with you. If you get too deep in, you will only hurt yourself."

"I got it." Peter did not want to hear these words. He turned around and left. As he put the bracelet on his wrist, he suddenly remembered Kisa's

strange behavior toward him the other day. He frowned and looked back at Adrien. "By the way, Kisa asked me about the bracelet the other day. Do you know what it was about?"

"Oh..." Adrien smiled faintly at him. "I have asked; she said she mistook it as something she was looking for."

"What is she looking for?"

Adrien shrugged with a faint smile. "Who knows? Probably something like a bracelet, too."

Peter

asked no more questions. As soon as Peter left, Jensen came out of the pantry and leaned against the wall with his arms crossed in front of his chest with a sneer. "I wonder if he will understand your good intentions." Adrien looked at him, his face turning frosty. Jensen snickered and continued. "Don't look at me like that. Don't worry. I won't say a word that I shouldn't."

This afternoon, Kisa had just finished shooting a scene and was taking a break in the chair when Lea suddenly

ran over.

Chapter 772 Like a Clown

"Kisa, Kisa, Mr. Kooper has sent flowers again." Lea held a large bouquet of roses in her hand. The gorgeous dark red roses stood out, and everyone, including Sharon, and Sharon's mother, Carolyn, on the set was looking her way.

Carolyn had come to visit Sharon today. She was wearing heavy makeup and dressed up, even for her age. It made people wonder if she was trying to seduce someone.

Seeing that Kisa said nothing for a long moment, Lea said with regret, "Should I throw this bouquet away as usual? It is a pity. It is such a beautiful bouquet." She then turned around and was about to go to the garbage bin.

Just then, Kisa called out to her, glanced meaningfully at Carolyn and Sharon, and then took the roses from Lea's arms. Carolyn had been muttering in Sharon's ear with a look of contempt and jealousy on her face when Lea ran over with the flowers. So Kisa thought she might as well make them jealous since they were such green-eyed monsters.

"Kisa, you are finally willing to accept the flowers from Mr. Kooper," Lea said joyfully.

Kisa brought the roses to her nose and sniffed them, and said in a voice that was just loud enough for Sharon and Carolyn to hear, "Since Gilbert sends flowers every day and looks so sincere, I will take them with reluctance.

Besides, throwing them away would be too wasteful."

"Absolutely!" Lea nodded her head vigorously.

"Look how proud you are, as if you have never received flowers from a man in your life. What an embarrassment.

Sharon received way more flowers from Mr. Kooper back then. What is so big a deal about a bunch of roses?" Carolyn sneered.

As Carolyn's voice trailed off, Davian came over, followed by a few bodyguards, hauling a cart full of flowers of all kinds. Davian's appearance with the flowers

dumbfounded everyone. Davian walked up to Kisa and said respectfully, "Ms. Becker, this is the flower that Mr. Kooper gave you. I hope you like it. He also said that he would formally pursue you. He invites you to dinner in the evening."

Carolyn was wide-eyed. "Sharon, did you hear that Mr. Kooper is going after her? That is funny. Hey Davian, did you make a mistake or something? Mr. Kooper is pursuing Sharon, isn't he?"

Carolyn's overconfidence made her look like a clown in everyone's eyes, and they all snickered. Sharon was flushing big time, feeling humiliated more than a direct slap.

She tugged hard on Carolyn. "That's enough. Stop embarrassing me already."

"Sharon, what are you afraid of? Mr. Kooper has liked you

from the beginning. You see, no matter what wrong you did—even when you terminated your contract with GK and started your own company—he never blamed you and still let you be the lead in this drama. Davian must have made a mistake. These flowers are supposed to be for you," Carolyn said and ran up to Davian to reason with him.

Sharon's face reddened with embarrassment. It seemed Carolyn did not know that Gilbert kicked Sharon the other day, and he was dreaming about her daughter becoming the wife of GK's CEO.

"Davian, keep your ears open when Mr. Kooper tells you to do something. Don't get the name wrong again, like today. These flowers must be for Sharon," Carolyn said and reached out to get the flowers from the cart.

A bodyguard quickly pushed Carolyn's hand away.

"Don't worry. I have a keen ear. I have never misheard a word of what Mr. Kooper tells me." Davian sneered.

Kisa suddenly stood up and smiled. "Geez, Davian."

Chapter 773 Flunkies Love Only Money

"Can't you see? All she wants is the flowers. There is no wonder no one sends her flowers – she is too old. She is jealous at seeing Gilbert send me so many flowers at once!

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Carolyn's heavily made-up face scrunched up at once, looking repulsive. "I dare you to say that again, b*tch!"

Kisa let out a luscious smile at Carolyn. And when Davian saw her smile, he was transfixed for a moment. He had not noticed it before, but now he thought that Gilbert's wife was actually quite good-looking and that her smile was almost flirtatious. 'Tsk, Mr. Kooper really has an eye for women,' he thought.

"Auntie Carolyn, I know my dad is not a romantic, and he never sends you flowers or anything. So whenever you see others receiving flowers, you would get jealous and imagine that those flowers were for you or Sharon. I totally understand this kind of thinking. But hey, it's just a few bouquets of flowers. Since Gilbert has given me so many flowers today, and I have no use for them, I might as well give them to you and Sharon," Kisa said, reaching out to the cart to take a few bouquets and stuff them into Carolyn's arms, and a few more into Sharon's arms. She then smiled at them and said, "Come on, Auntie, Carolyn. Don't be mad or jealous. If you feel too terrible, just pretend that Gilbert has given you these flowers."

Carolyn's face reddened with anger as she felt that what Kisa said might not do any actual harm, but it was

insulting. The more she thought about it, the angrier she got. At last, she smashed the flowers back in Kisa's face and roared, "Who wants these flowers of yours?"

The flowers dropped to the ground and scattered all over the place. Seeing this, Kisa shook her head and sighed. What a shame. It seems that you have a strong ego and competitive spirit. Maybe I should ask Gilbert to send you a few bouquets to soothe your broken heart."

"Shut the hell up!" Carolyn was so infuriated that she grabbed the flowers from Sharon and smashed them to the ground as well. She then sneered at Kisa, "Don't be so proud of yourself. No one knows if it is really Mr. Kooper who has sent you the flowers."

rs. Who knows if you are just orchestrating this to make yourself look good ?”

“Oh, in that case, you mean I hired Davian to make myself look good, don’t you?”

“Heh, how is that not possible? Flunkies love only money, after all.”

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“You...” Davian was pissed and was about to argue with Carolyn when a few people with tall stature came over.

Kisa immediately spotted Gilbert among them.

With one hand in his pants pocket, Gilbert walked with classy steps and a touch of detachment, looking very

unapproachable. Jensen was different; he also had that classiness but felt much gentler. As for Peter, he still looks frivolous, with an evil half-smile on his face. Although Adrien was middle-aged, his dignified aura and calmness were in a different league from the other three. The four came together and really attracted all the

attention on the set.

Since some of the truth had surfaced, Kisa had been sullen and a bit resentful every time she saw Gilbert. She pulled back her eyes and smiled at Davian. “Mr. Kooper sends so many flowers daily, and it takes up space. I will tell you what, distribute these flowers to all the staff and artists here. Oh, by the way, Mrs. and Miss Case don’t like these flowers, so no flowers for them.”

Carolyn shot Kisa a glare and then looked at the

approaching men. She sized up Adrien, finding that the more she looked at him, the more familiar she felt.

Chapter 774 I Have No Appetite Dining With You

“Mom, he is Mr. Tanner I told you about,” Sharon whispered into Carolyn’s ear. “He is very good at what he does and says he knows you and Dad from way back.”

“Mr. Tanner?” Carolyn frowned and studied Adrien carefully. She could not remember when she had known this man, but the familiarity was real. Besides, that inexplicable familiarity made her blush and flutter. She hurriedly looked away, her cheeks a little red and hot.

Adrien swept his eyes over her with a meaningful smile on his lips.

The four men soon came over. The first thing Peter did was look around, obviously searching for Jolina. Not long after, he walked in a direction.

Kisa glanced over and found Jolina nestled in a corner.

Gilbert came over and looked at the empty cart and then the flowers in everyone’s arms. He then approached Kisa in a low voice, “Don’t you like the flowers I gave you?”

“Oh! It was really you who gave me those flowers,” Kisa said in surprise, her voice not too loud, just enough for Carolyn to hear. She shook her head and said, “Gee, you will have to talk to my aunt about that. She thought I bought the flowers myself and said I hired Davian to put on a show. Look, she was so angry and smashed all the flowers you gave me.”

Davian nodded vigorously in agreement. Gilbert then looked at Carolyn. His insidious look frightened Carolyn. She moved her lips, wanting to say something, but thinking that she was the elder, and whatever she said would only embarrass herself in this situation, she thought better of it. While she was red-faced and did not know what to do, Adrien suddenly walked up with a smile.

“It is not a big deal, Mr. Kooper. It is probably because this lady didn’t understand the situation. I will buy some new flowers for Kisa later.”

Carolyn stared at Adrien, her heart fluttering once again with a touch of blushing sensation. She then lowered her

head with a bashful look.

Kisa looked at Carolyn's change of expression and could not help but be puzzled. After a while, she smiled at Adrien and waved. "It is okay, Uncle Adrien. It is just a few bouquets. Besides, this is my aunt. She 'took care' of me when I was little. So I won't take the issue up with her about these bouquets."

"Ha—

ha, Kisa is always so understanding," Adrien said, looking at Carolyn with a gentle look in his eyes. "It is only a minor thing, so don't take it to heart about it. We are all acquaintances, so let's all be nice."

Carolyn was usually arrogant, extremely patronizing, and would never listen to anyone. But at this moment, she

nodded like an obedient child.

Kisa became even more puzzled

and curiously studied Carolyn when Gilbert suddenly took her hand in his. His hand was warm, and Kisa's heart skipped a beat. She tried to pull her hand back, but he tightened his grip even more. Kisa glared at him, but he grinned and said, "Shall we have dinner together tonight?"

"No!" Kisa declined right away. "I have no appetite for dining with you."

At that moment, the director suddenly called out.

Chapter 775 She Takes a Shine to Adrien

"Mr. Tanner said that he would treat us all to dinner after work today, so let's shoot the next scene carefully and try to finish early."

"Wow, long live Mr. Tanner. Mr. Tanner is awesome!"

"I'm so happy. Not only do we get flowers, but we are also treated to dinner"

“All thanks to Mr. Tanner and Ms. Becker. They are so nice.”

There were

all compliments to Adrien and Kisa. While Sharon’s face darkened with jealousy, Carolyn kept staring at Adrien as if she were smitten with him.

Gilbert grinned again at Kisa. “Well, now we are all going to dinner together. You can say no to me, but you can’t say no to Mr. Tanner, can you?”

Kisa snorted. “Then I won’t sit at the same table with you,

she said and tried to pull her hand back, but he grabbed her hand like a scoundrel and would not

let go. Kisa got chafed and kicked him. “I need to start shooting now. Let go of me.”

The director was indeed calling everyone over. Gilbert smiled at her before letting her go. Jensen, who sat at the same table, looked at their interaction quietly,

expressionless.

Adrien was

generous and reserved the best bistro in Calthorn for themselves. The night was vivacious, with some crew members and artists who knew each other well taking turns to toast each other. Everyone was having a blast.

At first, Kisa did not want to sit at the same table as Gilbert. But Adrien had arranged for them to sit together. Other than Adrien, Gilbert, and Kisa, Jensen, Mia, Peter, Jolina, Sharon, and Carolyn were also at the table.

Kisa felt Gilbert was sticking to her too much for her comfort these days. He stayed at her place every night, and no matter what dreadful words she said, he would not leave. Not only that, when she was filming during the day, he also visited her and sent her flowers daily. Even at this moment, she had

deliberately sat between Adrien and Mia, but Gilbert insisted on switching seats with Adrien and sat down next to her. Like a thoughtful boyfriend, he served her food

and poured her wine from time to time. Kisa was peeved and lost her appetite.

“Come, come, Mr. Tanner. I drink to you.” The director suddenly came over with a glass of wine.

Adrien quickly held up his glass with a smile. But the wine splashed out on Carolyn’s dress because he did not hold the glass steady.

It startled Carolyn for a second, and she stood up involuntarily. Adrien grabbed some paper towels to help wipe the wine stains off her dress while apologizing to her. On normal days, Carolyn would have thrown a

wobbly in such a situation. But today, she was strange, so much so that she said to Adrien with a forgiving face, “It is okay. It is okay. It is just an accident. I can just wipe the wine stain away, and it will be fine.”

“No, you have got to change the dress,” Adrien said and immediately sent someone to buy Carolyn a new outfit. ‘Come on, let me take you to the lounge.’”

Adrien’s thoughtfulness and gentlemanliness made Carolyn’s heart flutter. She blushed and nodded, then followed Adrien outside.

Kisa looked on as Carolyn followed Adrien away. She wondered if Carolyn had taken a shine to Adrien. ‘It would be interesting if this is the case. I wonder what my father’s reaction would be when he sees this.’ While

thinking, she felt a gust of hot breath blowing in her ear, sending a shiver down her spine.

Chapter 776 Coming Closer for You to Hear Me

She frowned and turned her head, only to see Gilbert’s face inches from hers. She hurriedly moved to the side and glared at him. “Just eat your meal. What are you doing getting so close to me?”

“You didn’t hear me when I called out to you a few times, so I had to come closer for you to hear me.” Gilbert let out a faint smile, which looked a bit dirty in her eyes.

Kisa did not want to talk to him but ate her meal silently. Gilbert served her some more of her favorite dishes, but she resisted, covering her plate with her hands and moving it away.

Peter and Jolina were in the same situation as they were. Peter also behaved like a rascal as he tried to please Jolina, who always kept a stony face in front of him. She did not eat the things that Peter served him.

Mia swept her eyes at everyone and could not help but sneer. “Some women like to play hard to get. If they really don’t like men mollicoddling them, they shouldn’t have come to the table in the first place.” Mia did not mince her words, sounding a bit mean.

Jolina, being young, was too thin—skinned. Upon hearing what Mia said, she blushed and rose to her feet. “Enjoy your meal, everyone. Something came up, and I’ve got to leave. Please excuse me.” She then grabbed her canvas

bag and hurried outside.

“Jolina,” Peter called out to her, then looked back and glared at Mia before hurriedly chasing after Jolina.

Mia sipped her wine as if nothing had happened. “That girl is just thin—skinned. It was not like I was talking about her, really. Now I have gotten a glare from Peter for no reason.”

Kisa was not amused and shot her a glance. “You were talking about me, right? Then why didn’t you just name me at the beginning?”

“Yo, how dare I name you? Didn’t you see these two men with sullen faces, looking like they were going to cut me up?”

“That’s enough!” Jensen chucked two pieces of very fatty pork belly on her plate. “Just mind your own business.”

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Mia glanced at the pork belly and frowned. She then picked up her cutlery and smiled at him like a Cheshire cat. "This is the first time you have served me food. It is a memorable moment. So as much as I hate pork belly, still going to eat it, no matter what."

She picked up the pork belly and sent it into her mouth with a repulsive look. Kisa watched on, trying hard not to laugh.

Sharon was afraid to make any statement after the last incident. Especially now that Adrien and Carolyn were not around, she did not want to stand out. She just ate her meal quietly, trying to make herself less noticeable.

Meanwhile, in the lounge, Adrien thoughtfully poured Carolyn a cup of tea and said apologetically, "I'm so sorry about just now."

"No, it is okay. It was just a minor accident." Carolyn sat in a ladylike posture and looked at Adrien with a gentle smile. Adrien was sitting across from her and smoking, saying nothing again. Carolyn nervously held the cup in her hands. After a long moment, she smiled at him and asked, "Mr. Tanner, I have often heard Sharon talk about you. She said that you and I used to know each other, but I... I don't remember seeing you before." Before Adrien could say anything, Carolyn hastily added, "But someone with a stature like you would be very impressionable. So I was puzzled. If I had actually met you before, I couldn't possibly have no impression of you."

Adrien exhaled a ring of smoke and chuckled. "You were the top artist of G K, and I was just a nobody who could only look up to you from under the stage like any other fans back then. So naturally, you don't remember me. But I have always remembered that beauty of yours."

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Carolyn was a little embarrassed by what Adrien said. She hung her head, bashful and yet secretly delighted.

Adrien glanced at her with a sneer. "I told your daughter that you were an old acquaintance of mine because I wanted to bring us closer. I hope you don't mind."

Carolyn quickly shook her head. "No, no, I don't mind at all."

A fleeting sneer flashed across Adrien's face when he saw Carolyn's shy and gleeful look.

"You let go of me!" Kisa covered her chest and slumped against a tree, feeling terrible.

Chapter 777 You Can't Catch Me

At the end of the dinner, all the artists came to give Kisa a toast. Everyone was just so jazzed, and the atmosphere was so upbeat. Not wanting to kill their buzz, Kisa drank to them all, one glass after another. At first, Gilbert offered to drink on her behalf, but she still had a grudge against him and refused to accept his kindness. So, after many glasses of wine later, she was hammered just as expected.

When she left the hotel, she insisted on Jensen driving her home. But Gilbert dragged her out of Jensen's car. She was pissed off and refused to take Gilbert's car. He finally had no choice but to bring her to stroll down the street.

Kisa ended up hugging a tree trunk, wanting to throw up, but could not. She frowned, looking awful.

Gilbert patted her on the back, trying to soothe her. "You should have let me drink on your behalf, not stubbornly insisting on drinking the toasts and ending up with a screwed-up body."

Kisa pushed him away. "It's none of your business. Who are you, and why do I need you to help me? I don't need your help with anything."

Gilbert knew Kisa's attitude toward him would only get colder and colder. No matter how much he tried to please her, she just refused to talk to him properly.

Kisa slumped against the tree and tried to retch a few times before staggering onward.

Gilbert followed her. Whenever she was about to fall, he rushed up to help. But Kisa resented his touch. As soon as his hand touched her, she was like a threatened hedgehog, becoming bristled. He felt sad at the thought of this. Sometimes, he felt like he could no longer put up with it anymore, thinking about just forcing himself on her to tame her until she submitted to him. But he did not dare, as he knew how unyielding she was. He was afraid to hurt her, and more afraid to lose her forever.

"Gilbert..." While he was in a lapse of attention, Kisa had run to and stood on the curb of the road and waved at him, calling out to him in a drunken, flirtatious voice. That voice sounded like a burst of electricity running through his body. He walked over and looked her in the eyes, knowing that whenever she was drunk, she never behaved sensibly. Kisa smiled at him and then hopped on one foot on the curb of the road.

He furrowed his brow involuntarily when he thought of the last time she fell off a boulder when she was drunk

and ended up sitting in a wheelchair for a while. So he reached out to pull her back. "Come back down and walk properly."

But she dodged his hand and smiled at him. "You can't catch me!"

Gilbert's face turned grave, and he was about to carry her down. But Kisa suddenly fell into his arms without warning. Thanks to his quick reaction, he held onto her in time. Otherwise, she could have fallen to the ground. Gilbert grabbed her waist, wrapped his arms around her, and before he knew it, Kisa planted her sweet, hot lips on his. He could not believe that she had kissed him. With no coercion, this was the first time she had ever kissed him. Gilbert's heart was pounding, and he felt

everything happening at this moment was like a dream. He did not dare to move, afraid that the slightest movement would break the beautiful dream that he was sinking and obsessed with at the moment.

Kisa closed her eyes and kissed him for a long time, her kissing skills clumsy. But Gilbert felt it was one of the best kisses of his life. She kissed him along his jaw and slowly made it up to his ear. Her hot breath sprayed all over his neck and ear. He felt an urge in his body, wanting to break free of his suppression. Suddenly, Kisa whispered something in his ear, and his passionate desire receded at once.