

Reborn Through Fire By Kazuya Higan

Chapter 851 – 860

Chapter 851 Blocked Her

Gilbert's face abruptly changed when seeing the person coming in. He quickly ended the call with his fingers.

Madalyn came over with chicken gnocchi soup. She looked at his cell phone

suspiciously, "Who did you call just now?"

"No one." Gilbert took the chicken gnocchi soup and said, "Grandma, why didn't you knock on the door before you came in?"

Madalyn frowned, "Why? Do you have something to hide from me? You didn't say anything when I came casually into your room before. Why are you fussing about it now?"

Madalyn turned her attention to his mobile phone again as she said, "Tell me. Who are you calling just now? Why are you afraid I'll hear it?"

"Grandma, don't be suspicious all the time. I was just on the phone with an unknown client."

Madalyn obviously did not believe it.

Suddenly, a call rang at this moment.

Madalyn hurried over to see. She saw the words 'Unknown Client' appear on the screen. Madalyn pursed her lips in embarrassment and looked at him, "I'm not suspicious either. Answer the phone quickly. Don't delay your business."

Unexpectedly, Gilbert did not answer the phone at all but hung up the call directly.

Madalyn was stunned, “Gilbert, what are you doing? Isn’t this your client?”

“It’s just an unknown, small-scale client. Why should I bother? He is probably bothering me again because the cooperation has not been concluded.”

Madalyn believed him. She nodded and said, “You’re right. Such small clients are really annoying. Block him later.” Gilbert took his phone and blocked that person as soon as Madalyn finished.

In fact, he was afraid that the woman would call again. It would be miserable if Madalyn could not help but pick it up when the call kept coming in. So it was safer to block the number.

On the other end of the call, Kisa called Gilbert three times in a row. It rang several times before being hung up for the first time, while for the next two, it only rang for a second, and the busy tone ‘Beep, beep’ sounded. Apparently, Gilbert blocked her

phone number.

Kisa was completely dumbfounded. She saw Gilbert’s missed calls but did not pick them up. So she phoned him back, not expecting him ‘shamelessly block her.

‘I’m angry!’

It’s unclear if she was wronged or just angry; Kisa’s eyes started tearing up.

‘It seems that all the good times during this time are really fake. After all, that man still has no patience with me. I swear I’ll never take the initiative to talk to that man again!’

She threw the phone aside and quickly picked up a magazine to relieve her mood.

In the study, Madalyn looked at Gilbert kindly when he was drinking the chicken gnocchi soup. She held the bowl in both hands and said to Gilbert, "I watched the entertainment news tonight. That woman is quite beautiful. Who is it?"

"She's Felicity, who runs a restaurant. I know her from Athadale."

"Oh? What is her personality like? How is her family background?" Madalyn started delving more into the details.

Gilbert was a little annoyed, but he didn't show it. He whispered, "I don't know yet."

"Check it out as soon as possible. Although that woman is beautiful, she is too flirtatious. She doesn't seem like someone who can live a stable life."

"Okay."

"Seems like you and Kisa had really broken up. Finally, I can breathe a sigh of relief."

Suddenly, Gilbert remembered Kisa telling him about her mom when they were at Athadale. He looked at Madalyn and said, "Grandma, do I have anything to do with

Kisa's mom?"

Chapter 852 Unsolvable Issue

Madalyn was stunned for a while when Kisa's mom was suddenly mentioned. Then, her old brows frowned in displeasure. "Why do you mention her mom when

everything is nice?"

"I just want to know, did I have any relationship with her mom when I was a child."

"No. That woman is a pest, and so is the daughter she gave birth to. From now on, don't mention them in front of me."

“But why...” Gilbert thought about it but still asked directly, “Why did Kisa tell me that her mom asked her to use her life to protect a man named ‘Gilbert Kooper’ before her mom passed away? Is me the ‘Gilbert Kooper’ that her mom mentioned?”

Madalyn sneered when she heard this, “Humph! Let her daughter guard you with her life? Does she have a guilty conscience? Luckily she died. If not, I would tell her that even if her daughter has a thousand or ten thousand lives, it is not enough to compensate. Does she want to use this to make up to you? No way!”

Gilbert grasped the main point in her words instantly..”Make up to me? What does it mean?” Gilbert asked hastily, “Does her mom owe me anything?”

Madalyn’s face was dark, but she didn’t say anything else.

Gilbert was even more curious. He asked anxiously. “Grandma, what do you mean by that?”

“Nothing.” Madalyn stood up, looked at Gilbert, and said earnestly, “You just need to know that woman only hurt you instead of being a guardian by your side.” Madalyn walked toward the door with a cane after she finished.

Gilbert stared at her stubborn back deeply. He knew she would not tell him anything even if he asked again.

Madalyn came to the door and suddenly stopped. With a cane in one hand and the door in the other, she said to Gilbert in a deep voice, “Gilbert, you’d better break up with that woman. If... I find out that you are lying to me, then...” Madalyn did not say any more. She just opened the door and walked out.

However, Gilbert unconsciously felt a bit cold.

‘Grandma’s expression is more determined than ever. I couldn’t even imagine what she would do if she knew that Kisa and I were acting to deceive her.’

He leaned back in the chair tiredly, his face full of gloom.

‘How can the issue between grandma and Kisa be solved?’

Kisa returned to the set, continuing filming for the show the second day she came back to Calthon.

After the lesson that day, Sharon behaved better and rarely talked to Kisa on the set, except for the scenes.

Peter still visited from time to time, and his eyes were still locked on Jolina. Every time Peter came, Adrien tagged along. As the main investor for this film, it was usual for Adrien to come frequently and supervise the filming process.

The strange thing was Gilbert also came to visit every day.

Since the quarrel between her and Gilbert, she never talked to him again after she was blacklisted by him. Besides, she also blocked him to get back at him.

Apart from being able to see him on the set, she had nothing to do with him. During the intermission, she hid in a secluded corner to avoid being harassed by the man’s eyes.

It was an exterior shot today. The view and air in the suburbs were good in the spring and early summer. Kisa sat by a small pond and stared at the sparkling water. Suddenly, a cold and oppressive vibe enveloped her back as she frowned unhappily and turned to look.

Chapter 853 Same Treatment to Avoid Suffering

Of course! It was the man who always liked to have a gloomy face, as if someone owed him a lot of money.

Kisa got annoyed when she saw Gilbert.

‘What is the meaning of pestering me again since you blocked me?’

Kisa did not even bother to give him a look as she stood up and walked to the set.

Gilbert grabbed her wrist, “Kisa, what’s the meaning of this?”

“Mr. Kooper, behave yourself.” Kisa broke away from his big hand and attempted to pass him.

The man strode over and stood in front of her again.

“Why can’t I get through your phone? Are you blocking me?” The man asked angrily.

Kisa smiled brightly at him, “Yes. I treated you in the same way as you won’t have to suffer.”

did. So you

“You!” Gilbert gasped in anger. But he suppressed his anger in the end and explained to her patiently, “I didn’t block you, I...”

“Ah! Gilbert, why are you hiding here secretly with this woman? Grandma will be dizzy with anger if she finds out you are still in a relationship with her,” Sharon appeared out of nowhere and smiled meaningfully.

Gilbert glanced at her coldly. Sharon shrank her neck instantly, still a little afraid of this man. Adrien came here together with Sharon, smiled, and said, “I don’t think Mr. Kooper and Kisa have done anything. We all know each other. It’s normal to exchange a few words; it would be weirder if you didn’t even greet.”

Sharon pursed her lips and remained silent.

Kisa stepped back from Gilbert and moved to stand under a big tree. She smiled at Adrien and asked, “Uncle Adrien, why are you here?”

“I saw the view here was pretty nice. So I walked around and ran into Ms. Case on the way here.”

Gilbert took out a cigarette, lit it, and took a puff. He said casually, "I just want to find Ms. Becker to cooperate with a drama. But Ms. Becker is arrogant after becoming the CEO of J & K Film Group. She can't be bothered by GK Pictures's cooperation. Humph! I underestimated her. Seems that my visit these few days has been useless."

Kisa looked at him and sincerely felt this man had excellent acting skills.

'He can lie without blinking an eye. No one will know his words are made up with his calm appearance. No wonder he can always put on an affectionate look in front of me. He can pretend with his good acting skills.'

Kisa felt her heart could not take it anymore while thinking of this.

"I won't bother Ms. Becker again in the future since we can't agree on this cooperation." Gilbert turned around and left after he finished.

Adrien followed him hastily, "Hey, Mr. Kooper! Don't be angry. I'll cooperate with you

if she doesn't want to."

"Well, it would be great to cooperate with Mr. Tanner."

Two of them walked away, talking and laughing.

Only Kisa and Sharon were left.

As Kisa had the upper hand now. Sharon was scared to provoke her, giving Kisa a vicious look before leaving.

Kisa did not have the mood to pay attention to Sharon. She stared at Gilbert's back which was already far for some time. But she became more annoyed and finally stopped watching.

Fortunately, the man said he would stop visiting in the future. So she would not have to see him and

worry about his pestering. Gilbert did exactly as he said he would and never went to the set again.

On this day, the sky suddenly became dark and cloudy just as Kisa finished filming.

Afraid of a sudden rainstorm, she drove home quickly, not daring to delay by staying outside. Unfortunately, rain began pouring down, accompanied by lightning and thunder, as soon as she reached home.

Kisa parked, got out of the car, covered her head with her bag, and rushed into the apartment. It was just that the rain was pouring too heavily, and Kisa was drenched just by walking a short distance.

She hurried into the elevator, came to the door, and took out the key to open the door. But the door opened before the key could unlock the door.

Chapter 854 You Should Be a Locksmith

“Aunty Kisa, you’re back.” It was Andrew who opened the door for her. Kisa was dumbfounded. ‘Why is he here? How did he get here? Didn’t the Kooper family do anything?’ Ada and Blake also came over while Kisa was deep in thought.

“Aunty Kisa!”

“Aunty Kisa!”

Kisa was petrified at the door for a long time before walking in. She hung the wet bag on the rack and asked them, “How did you come here? Who sent you here?”

“Daddy brought us here.”

Kisa froze while she was changing out her shoes. ‘How can I forget that man has the key to this house? But why did he suddenly bring the kids over? Is it because I ignored him, so he wants to use the children to improve our relationship?’

“Aunty Kisa, we miss you so much.”

The children hugged her when she was thinking, but as Kisa was drenched, she hurriedly pushed them away and said with a smile, “Play by yourselves for a while. I need to change my clothes.” Kisa turned around and walked to her room as she said

that.

She caught a glimpse of Gilbert sitting on the couch. His face was cold and indifferent, showing no emotion.

Kisa snorted coldly in her heart.

‘This man seemed to still be angry. I didn’t know who he was trying to show that cold look to. I would definitely throw this man out if the children were not here.’

She strode back to her room after her annoyed eyes quickly glanced at Gilbert.

Kisa took a shower in the small bathroom of her room since he was in the living room.

She could not help but frown when she came out of the bathroom wearing a bath towel, looking to the side in shock, seeing Gilbert lazily leaning against the bathroom door.

Kisa was startled. She looked at Gilbert and then at the room door she had just locked tightly. She asked angrily, “H—How... did you get in again?”

Gilbert straightened up lazily, “I get in when I want to. Is this that difficult?”

Kisa gasped in anger. This man is outrageously arrogant!’

She gritted her teeth and said, "You should be a locksmith instead of the CEO of GK Pictures!"

Gilbert snorted and suddenly approached her with deep eyes.

Kisa's heart skipped a beat as she subconsciously backed away. "W—What... are trying to do? The kids are out there. Do you want them to hear my voice?"

"You can shout. I'm not afraid anyway."

"You!" Kisa was so furious that she became speechless.

e you

'He's not worthy of being a father at all. He doesn't think about his children at all.'

Gilbert pressured Kisa to back up step—by—step until the back of her knees touched the edge of the bed quickly, abruptly sitting down.

The man leaned over with two powerful arms on her sides and locked her tight body in his arms. No longer able to withstand his oppressive posture and eyes, Kisa stared at him angrily, "What are you up to? You blocked me first. Let's end it nicely in this case. What is trying to do by pestering me again? You even brought the children here. What are you trying to do... Um!" The man dominantly blocked her lips and fiercely kissed her before she could finish talking.

Kisa beat him angrily as she indignantly dodged his kisses, growling, "G—Gilbert..."

However, Gilbert didn't listen at all. He even pressed her onto the bed to kiss her.

Kisa struggled and screamed. Inadvertently, the bath towel around her body suddenly fell loose, defenselessly showing Gilbert her beautiful chest. Gilbert could not help but gape at the view.

Chapter 855 I Can Give You My Life

However, Kisa instantly felt the anger rushing straight to her forehead, and her face flushed red abruptly. She quickly raised her hand to cover her chest and burst into

tears.

“Gilbert, you are too much!”

Gilbert obviously had yet to recover from the shock. His pair of dark eyes aggressively lingered on her body. Kisa was furious that she kicked him. However, having good reflexes, not only *did* Gilbert avoid her kick, but also, her foot was grabbed by his big hand. In an instant, she was lying in front of him in an extremely embarrassed and ugly posture.

Kisa was both ashamed and angry, wanting to pull back her feet, but the man held her tighter. She yelled unbearably, “Let me go!”

Right at that moment, there was a shout from outside the door suddenly, “Daddy, Auntie Kisa, what are you doing?”

Kisa’s whole body tensed up, and her face turned even redder. A pair of watery eyes stared at the man in front of her hatefully, wishing she could kill him.

But the man was calm and composed. He turned his eyes and smiled lightly toward the direction of the door, “Daddy and Auntie Kisa are busy. You should continue watching your show.”

“Oh. Okay, Daddy.”

Soon, no sound could be heard outside. Gilbert looked back at her with a smirk on his face, “I told you not to yell loudly. Look, you’ve startled the children.”

Kisa refused to speak in her fury. She just grabbed the bath towel, covered herself indiscriminately, and tried to withdraw her foot. Gilbert trying to be bad, however, did not let go of her leg, instead grabbed her feet tighter and tickled her foot sole viciously a few times.

Kisa was ticklish.

She immediately twisted her body to resist, afraid and worried her yell would startle the kids again.

Looking at Kisa's big reaction, Gilbert tickled her soles a few more times with a smirk.

Kisa could not take it anymore as she kept twisting. She held back her laughter until tears flowed out.

Seeing that Gilbert wanted to scratch her again, she begged for mercy, "No, stop

tickling me. It's ticklish."

"Tell me. Are you still going to block me?" Gilbert angrily gritted his teeth when mentioning this. This woman blocked him without even saying a word.

Kisa, on the other hand, was furious too. She said in a muffled voice, "I'm not at fault here. You started... Ah!"

Kisa could not finish speaking before Gilbert started tickling her foot sole again.

Kisa quickly shrank back and begged for mercy, "N— No. I won't block you anymore. S- Stop scratching."

Only when Kisa begged did Gilbert stop and release her foot. Seeing this opportunity, Kisa quickly wrapped herself in a bath towel and crawled into the bed, only revealing her head from the bed. She was ashamed, angry, and in a total mess, yet Gilbert looked well-dressed and calm. The strong contrast made Kisa feel furious and uncomfortable.

'This is my home. How can he come and go freely every time to bully me?'

The more she thought about it, the angrier she became, and the more tears accumulated in her eyes. Finally, the vision in front of her eyes became blurred.

In the haze, she seemed to see the panicked expression on the man's face

‘Well, I got it wrong again, right? He bullies her every time. How would he ever be nervous about her and feel sorry for her? The previous gentleness and consideration were all just an act.’

Kisa, disappointed, wiped away her tears, hugged the quilt and her knees, and said nothing.

The man walked over a few steps. He held her in his arms through the quilt. His tone was much softer than before, “Alright, stop crying. It was my fault just now.”

Kisa ignored him. Gilbert pursed his lips and said again, “Honestly, it's your fault for being too stubborn. I can even give you my life if you could give in to me a little.”

Chapter 856 Self-Reproach and Hubris

Kisa's heart skipped a beat, but when she thought this man was full of lies, she fought back her raptness. ‘He always lies as if it were true. The truth is, I really don't understand him anymore.’

Seeing that Kisa was still angry, Gilbert stroked her wet hair and said, “Come on, don't be angry. I didn't mean to block you. My grandmother was next to me at the time, and I was afraid she would answer the call. That was why I blocked you for a short while. If I had known you would be so angry, I wouldn't have blocked you.”

He spoke with sincerity and remorse. As angry as Kisa was, she did not go to the point of being unreasonable. “You were with your grandma?” Kisa looked at him.

Gilbert nodded. “Mhm, I regretted it after I hung up the phone. I wanted to call you back to say sorry, but then Grandma came in. I was afraid that she would find out

about our relationship, so that was why I did that.”

Kisa said nothing, her silence seemingly as if assessing the credibility of his words.

“Actually, it’s my fault; I’m useless. I haven’t been able to clear up the misunderstanding between Grandma and you. I said I would make Grandma accept you, but I still don’t have a clue how to do that. I’m really useless...” Gilbert suddenly sounded dejected and blamed himself.

He was confident and arrogant, and his sudden self-denial left Kisa uncomfortable. Compared to this, she liked a confident and arrogant Gilbert more. Seeing that he was still blaming himself, Kisa could not stand it and said, “Well, you can’t be blamed for this. After all, your grandmother is unwilling to talk about the past, and we don’t know where to start. I don’t blame you for being unable to solve it, as the misunderstanding between your grandmother and me is a real dead end.”

“So you are not angry anymore?” he asked tentatively.

Kisa said nothing. She was less angry now but still upset when she thought of his outrageous behavior just now.

Seeing her silence, Gilbert pursed his lips and said no more, just got up and walked

away.

Kisa snorted when Gilbert left, thinking, ‘See, he just doesn’t have much patience.’ But he came back with a hair dryer in his hand.

“You need to dry your hair quickly. It is not good to let it stay wet for too long,” Gilbert said softly, then plugged the hairdryer into a power source and thoughtfully blew her

hair.

Kisa said nothing, but deep down inside, she was emotionally touched. 'He always seems to have a way of stirring my emotions,' she said in her mind.

The three children were bored watching TV in the living room. So Andrew and Ada went to the door of Kisa's room to eavesdrop on what their father and Kisa were doing. As they got there, the door suddenly opened.

Kisa looked at the two children and was transfixed for a second. "What are you two doing here?"

Ada hurriedly looked away. "Nothing. I just happened to pass by here." She then walked toward the kitchen in all seriousness.

Kisa shook *her* head in amusement and then looked at Andrew.

Andrew bent down to pick up a toy car on the floor. "My toy car ran this way. I came to pick it up." He then ran toward Blake.

As much as that serious look on their faces amused Kisa, they also reminded her of a serious problem.

Chapter 857 Surprises and Scares

Gilbert came out from the room, and Kisa quickly pushed him back in, whispering to him, "Does Grandma know you brought Andrew and Ada here?"

Gilbert nodded. "Yes."

"Then wouldn't she know you are still seeing me? And how would she be willing to let Andrew and Ada come here?"

"You don't have to worry. It is thanks to Blake."

"Blake?" She was puzzled.

Gilbert smiles. "Everyone loves Blake, and Grandma is no exception. So I took Blake to the Kooper residence to meet Grandma first. Blake told Grand

ma he wanted to invite Andrew and Ada to play at his place, and Grandma agreed without thinking. Since she knew Blake stayed at Jensen's place, I brought the children to your house, but Grandma would only think they were at Jensen's. Besides, I have also given Jensen a heads-up."

"No wonder." Kisa nodded.

Gilbert doted on her, stroking her long, silky hair, and whispered, "You haven't seen the children for a long time. You can get together with them this time. Besides, they missed you so much that they were so excited while on the way here."

It warmed Kisa's heart to hear that. She thought it would be perfect if these children were Gilbert's and hers. Unfortunately, she knew it was just her wishful thinking. She felt melancholic at the thought of this.

It was still raining cats and dogs outside. The sky was dark, and the wind waded the tree branches downstairs as if in a raucous ballgame celebration. But it was entirely a different scene inside the house. The plain curtains isolated the interior from the wind and rain noises outside. The house was lit with warm incandescent lights, and from time to time, there was a clanging in the kitchen as Gilbert was cooking inside. In the living room, Andrew and Blake were playing with their new toys in front of the coffee table, and Kisa was sitting with Ada on the couch, reading a storybook. Everything was so warm and peaceful.

Before long, Gilbert brought out his prepared meal. He looked at the scene in the living room almost fondly and understood for the first time that this was what happiness looked like. Gilbert looked at the tenderness on Kisa's face and secretly decided in his mind. "Come over and eat," he called out to them with a smile as he

served the food on the table.

Kisa got up at once and hurried the children to wash their hands. She came to the table, saw the table full of food, and could not help but be impressed with him. She clearly remembered that Gilbert could not cook

back then. But after doing it a few times, he could now create a feast, and it looked so good.

Gilbert poured Kisa a glass of juice. It was still thundering outside. He looked at the sky through a gap in the curtains and suddenly said to her, "Your birthday is coming up, right?" He remembered she had told him she was born on a thunderstorm night.

The children looked at Kisa in unison upon hearing that.

"When is your birthday, Ma'am?"

"What do you want as a gift, Ma'am? We will buy *you* gifts."

Gilbert quickly interrupted them. "Come on, gift-giving is my business. You guys hurry up and eat."

The children muffled their laughter and then buried their heads in their plates.

Kisa rubbed her nose awkwardly.

"Why mention my birthday for no reason?"

"What gift do you like?" Gilbert suddenly asked in a matter-of-fact way.

"I want nothing. Hurry up and eat. Why mention those useless things?" Kisa had not celebrated her birthday in a long time, as for her, her birthday was no different from any other day.

Gilbert suddenly took her hands, which were resting on her knees. "I will give you a surprise on your birthday."

"Do you mean scares?" Kisa smiled.

Gilbert shook his head and said unusually seriously, "That surprise is better than all the gifts in this world. You will love it."

Chapter 858 My Last Gamble

He decided to tell her about Andrew's and Ada's identity on her birthday. At first, he was afraid

d she would use the children to help Jensen against him. But after spending so many days with her, he felt maybe it was really him who had misunderstood her. He realized that there was really nothing between her and Jensen, and if she really liked Jensen, she would not have made up and even been so intimate with him. Not only that, he could also see that she really liked those two children. So he still wanted to take a gamble.

‘If I win, then the family of four will be reunited in a real sense. If I lose, then I will accept it as fate. I will never love her again if Kisa uses the child against me. I will consider this as my last gamble, with the children as the wager. If I win, the reward would be our happiness; if I lose....’ He lowered his eyes, forcing himself not to overthink and holding her hand tighter.

Kisa looked at his hands in puzzlement. After a while, she asked, “What is wrong with you? Aren’t you eating?”

Gilbert let out a smile. “Okay, let’s eat.” But he still did not let go of her hand.

Kisa did not mind but just let him hold it that way. Although she cared little about special occasions like her birthday, the surprise Gilbert mentioned still intrigued her. She swallowed the food in her mouth and smiled at him. “What is that surprise you were talking about? Can you reveal a bit of it?”

Gilbert smiled tenderly at her, and she smiled back, expecting him to reveal a few words. But he just put two pieces of meat on her plate and said matter-of-factly, “Eat up. Be good. You will know on your birthday.”

Kisa pouted, wondering what was so secretive about it. “How do you know when my birthday is?”

“I just know. Isn’t it the last day of next month?”

She did not expect Gilbert to know when her birthday was, as she had just told him once when she was young. He said he would send her a bouquet o

f beautiful chrysanthemums at that time. But he never did. So, she always thought that he had never taken her birthday to heart. But it turned out that after all these years, he still remembered it.

“Come on, eat.” Gilbert could not help but gently pat her back, seeing that she had been frozen still. “I have not once spent your birthday with you. This time, I will let you have the most memorable birthday in your life.”

Because of the mystery and promise that Gilbert created, Kisa gradually began to look forward to her birthday. And indeed, as Gilbert said, her upcoming birthday would become one of the most memorable in her life, only that it was a

heartbreaking one—so much so that she would experience an indescribable fear and repulsion of the word ‘birthday’ for the rest of her life. And also, later on, she would learn that her birthday was a day that many people hated and were in misery.

The next month, Kisa’s filming work became busier and busier. But she felt good, as her life was fulfilling. She spent her days shooting and her nights on the phone with Gilbert for hours.

She did not know why she and Gilbert had so much to discuss. Every time she called, he seemed to have an endless supply of things to say to her, and every time he would only hang up the phone after she fell asleep.

This month, she and Gilbert were more and more like a typical couple in love. When they had free time, they would get dressed up and go out on dates. Such happy and sweet days continued until her birthday.

Chapter 859 Her Birthday

On the day of her birthday, even the weather was on her side. The sky had been pouring rain since morning, turning the atmosphere white velvet. So the crew had the day off, and she could prepare for her birthday.

Kisa attached little importance to her birthday. So on this day, she did not decorate her house but just bought a lot of ingredients, thinking

it would be enough to cook a nice meal at home and then enjoy the moment with Gilbert.

Kisa brought all the ingredients she had bought into the kitchen. Her body was soaked through, along with the groceries, as it was pouring outside when she came home. After putting the ingredients in the kitchen, she went straight to the bathroom to shower. When she came out of the shower, she subconsciously glanced at her phone and found that Gilbert had called her twice. She called back at once, taking the phone and waiting for him to answer while she walked toward the kitchen, intending to sort out the ingredients.

The call was quickly answered, and Gilbert's gentle laughter came. "Hey, what are you doing now?"

"Sorting out the ingredients." Kisa held her phone against her ear with her shoulder, freeing both hands to work on the seafood.

"Why don't you just leave it until I come over? You are the birthday girl today, you know," Gilbert said with amusement.

"It is alright. I'm free today anyway since I'm not filming," Kisa said. "By the way, do you want to bring Andrew and Ada over for dinner when you come?"

"No. Grandma said she was taking them to a place and said it was important."

Kisa said nothing upon hearing that but just asked, "What about you? What are you doing now?" In fact, she wanted to ask him when he was coming over. But she did not want to make it sound obvious.

Gilbert sat in his office chair, his hand twirling his pen, his eyes glancing at the gray, rainy sky. "I'm preparing for meetings. There are a few important meetings today, so I may be late. What kind of cake do you like?" he asked.

"Cake?"

Kisa's voice was now gentle, which Gilbert especially loved to hear.

“I have no particular preference. Just buy a pink one, a smaller one, as we can't finish if it is too big. It is just ceremonial.”

“Okay!” Gilbert whispered in response, his eyes gentle.

Kisa put the seafood in the water, pursed her lips, and held her phone, stammering, “My birthday is here, and the surprise you mentioned...”

“What is the hurry? I will tell you when I see you. I don't want to miss your excited look.”

“You make it sound so amazing. Let's see if I will be excited.” Still not giving up, she thought about it but could not think of anything else that would excite her now. She had experienced so many things, and it seemed few things could thrill her.

“Just wait for it. If you are excited, then promise me you will never leave me.” He laughed wickedly.

“Okay. But if I'm not excited by that surprise of yours, you will have to listen to me on everything from now on.”

“Okay, deal.”

“I'm going to prepare the ingredients now. You get busy.”

“Okay.” Gilbert hung up the phone, feeling a bit better now. Perhaps it was the weather; he felt extra uneasy today as if sensing something terrible would happen. That was why he could not resist calling Kisa. Her gentle voice seemed to have a magical power to soothe his heart, instantly dispelling his restlessness and anxiety.

By about 10 am, the rain finally let up, but the sky over the cemetery was still cloudy.

Chapter 860 Death Anniversary

Madalyn stood in front of two tombstones with a sad face. They were the tombstones of her son and daughter-in-

law, whom she had not visited during the years she was in a coma. Gilbert did not even know these two tombstones existed and was even less likely to visit them. In the past few years, only George had paid visits and cleaned them up a bit. Madalyn looked at the two bright, young, smiling faces in the photos, which were embedded in the tombstones, her heart full of sorrow. She could never forget that day, the car accident that brought her grief and despair. She bent forward slightly, her hands trembling as she wiped the photos on the tombstones. When she spoke, her frail voice was choked with grief.

“I’m sorry. It took so long for me to come to see you two.”

Madalyn’s hunched back looked frail in the chilly wind. George held the umbrella with one hand and gently supported her with the other. The few black umbrellas looked particularly mournful in the cemetery. Madalyn cried for a long time before forcing a smile.

“It has been a long time since I came to see you two, but I have a surprise for you this time,” Madalyn said and brought Andrew and Ada in front of the tombstones. Andrew and Ada wore raincoats and rain hats so they did not get wet. The two children looked at the two tombstones in confusion, not quite understanding what this was all about.

“Damon, Cynthia, look, these are your grandchildren, Gilbert’s children. Take a good look. They look so much like Gilbert,” Madalyn said, but her tears could not stop falling down. “If you two were still alive, you would have seen them. They are really wonderful children. You two will love them.” She was so sad that she could not stop sobbing at the end of her sentence.

Andrew tugged at the corner of her coat and whispered, “Grandma, don’t cry, or they will be upset.”

“Ya, Grandma. We will behave ourselves. Don’t you cry.”

Madalyn stroked their heads, looked at the photos on the tombstones, and said, “They are your grandparents.”

“Grandparents?” Confusion filled Andrew’s little face.

“They are our grandparents? Why did Daddy never mention them to us?” Ada asked in puzzlement.

Madalyn did not know how to answer this question. Because of Gilbert’s mental

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trauma, she never once mentioned his parents in front of him. ‘Everyone has parents, but Gilbert grew up never asking about his parents, not even mentioning them. Perhaps he shuts himself from everything about his parents. He has not once visited their grave all these years.’ Thinking of this, she just could not stop feeling sad, and all this was because of that woman and that woman’s daughter. So, she would never let that woman’s daughter be with Gilbert.

She patted Andrew and Ada on their heads and said, “You two will get the answer when you grow up. Listen to me; say hello to them, as they like you two very much.”

Andrew and Ada nodded and said, “Hello, Grandpa, Grandma.”

Madalyn looked at the photos on the headstones, tears blurring her eyes. She felt as if her son and daughter-in-law were smiling now, and they must love their

grandchildren very much. As she left the cemetery, she spoke again to Andrew and

Ada.