Rebirth Reclaiming Her Self by Fleur Delacour (Angela and Joseph)

Chapter 401

Chapter 401 Stirring Up Trouble

Angela, after thinking things through, asserted, "I'll handle any further contact from Joseph."

The mere thought of reaching out to Joseph turned Angela's stomach.

Jonathan, not one to argue, chimed in, "Mind if I tag along when you meet him?"

His request took her by surprise, and while she was hesitating, he acknowledged, "I'm concerned he might bully you."

A faint blush colored Angela's checks and cars as she subtly nodded.

As the night wore on, Joseph returned to the hospital and found Christopher in Zacharias' room. Furrowing his brow, he realized that Christopher couldn't facilitate contact with Jonathan although he was Jonathan's younger brother.

"Joseph, back already?" Christopher spoke softly, careful not to disturb Zacharias.

He had come here after being bullied by Jane and was exhausted. However, he hid his exhaustion well.

Joseph didn't reply, merely gesturing for Christopher to follow him outside. Despite his apprehension, Christopher complied..

They walked in silence until Joseph finally stopped and turned to face Christopher's hesitant expression.

A sense of foreboding washed over Joseph as he avoided broaching Christopher's involvement with another woman. Instead, he inquired, "What's on your mind?"

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Chapter 401 Surring Up Trouble

Summoning his courage, Christopher revealed, "The compatibility test for Fanny and Zacharias has begun. In a few days, the results will be out."

Joseph felt like he'd been sucker–punched, and his anger took over him. "What? Who authorized this?"

Though expecting Joseph to blow his top, Christopher was taken aback by its intensity. Stepping back, he explained, "Zacharias himself, with Mrs. Kins' approval."

As Christopher didn't want Joseph to be mad at Fanny, he decided not to reveal her involvement for now. Moreover, they hadn't told her about this

test.

Fanny's health was fragile, and her kidneys were failing. Nobody could guarantee that she wouldn't reject the transplant.

So, they never planned to tell her the truth from the beginning. Even if they were a match and Fanny went through with the transplant, they would never tell her that the donor was Zacharias.

Joseph's face was threateningly dark. When Zacharias brought up the transplant to him, he had a hunch that Zacharias didn't have the will to live, but he wasn't expecting him to do a compatibility test.

Thankfully, the results remained undisclosed, softening Joseph's expression slightly.

Seeing Joseph's demeanor ease, Christopher pressed on, "Zacharias assumed you wouldn't take it well, hence excluding you from the process."

However, he struck a nerve with Joseph, who glared at him. "Don't let Fanny know about this. Also, I'll keep an eye on the test. So, please stay out of it, Mr. Sanders."

Initially, he was satisfied with Christopher, but after finding out about his

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involvement with other women besides Fanny, he could no longer hide his disdain for Christopher.

Unnerved by Joseph's glare, Christopher wanted to say something when Joseph said, "If you don't want Fanny to know what you did today, stay out of our family's affairs."

Shocked, Christopher wondered if Joseph knew about Jane or if he was bluffing.

Seeing the doubt in his eyes, Joseph mentioned Jane's name. That was a message intended for Fanny, but he redirected it to Christopher and would achieve the same effect.

"Joseph-" Christopher was so nervous at the mention of Jane's name that he called out Joseph out of reflex.

However, Joseph barked, "Don't call me in such an intimate manner."

"I have feelings solely for Fanny. Everything else is just a pretense," Christopher hastily clarified, eager to sever ties with Jane if she didn't have a hold over him.

Unmoved by Christopher's explanation, Joseph dismissed him. urging him to steer clear of the hospital and Fanny.

He then made his way to Gregory's office, unsure if he'd find him still there because it was late.

A resident doctor emerged from the office, prompting Joseph to check on Zacharias.

To his surprise, Zacharias was awake.

"Hey, Joseph," Zacharias greeted, noticeably more alert than before.

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Concerned by Zacharias' dehydrated condition, Joseph assisted him to drink some water. Zacharias' current state was much worse compared to after Angela's treatment.

"Did you

look for Angela out again?" Zacharias' query pierced the air. In his daze after the last ER episode, he had vaguely heard some conversation.

Joseph's silence spoke volumes. The last time, Zacharias had advised him against looking for Angele, and he had agreed on a whim because Zacharias seemed to be doing better.

But now, when Zacharias looked as though he had one foot in the coffin, he couldn't stop himself from looking for Angela's help. After all, she was Zacharias' only hope now.

Zacharias coughed a few times. "Even if you find her, she won't come. I said unforgivable things to her."

"Why?" asked Joseph.

"I'll let you know once the test results are out," Zacharias answered after a short pause.

Joseph's frustration boiled over, especially at the mention of the test. "You'll risk your life donating a kidney!"

Zacharias' silence affirmed his awareness of the risks. "Fanny's donor hasn't surfaced, and I might perish regardless." After all, he was the one who provoked Angela before this.

From Zacharias' face, Joseph reckoned that he was missing something, but Zacharias spoke before he could ask more. "Go back, Joseph. I need to

rest.

Acknowledging Zacharias' fatigue, Joseph bid him goodnight before

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leaving the ward.

As Joseph departed, Zacharias wrestled with sleeplessness, his body aching from illness and anxiety.

The following day, Angela received unexpected news: Joseph had been abducted by the casino's associates.

Yarrison, who had been keeping watch on Joseph, relayed the unsettling development to Angela and Jonathan.

The revelation left Angela and Jonathan bewildered, Joseph didn't strike them as the gambling type. Yarrison clarified that the trouble stemmed from George.

George, indebted from gambling losses, sought Joseph's aid after suffering a beating.

When the casino's enforcers located Joseph, they wasted no time in dragging him to a dingy basement, where George was held.

"Joseph, you made it!" George's slurred words greeted him, leaning heavily

on a nearby wall, "I need help clearing some debts."

Joseph's concern grew as he eyed a shadowy figure, maintaining his composure. "How much does he owe?"

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Chapter 402

Chapter 402 Please Address Me as Mrs Lawson

From the shadows, a man beckoned to a thug, who said to Joseph, "It's 12,000."

Joseph's brow furrowed, ready to respond, when George interjected, "H- How did it balloon to 12,000?"

The thug's threatening stance made Joseph step in, halting George and informing the thug, "I don't have that much on me right now."

Upon entering, Joseph sized up the basement scene. The shadowy figure of authority seemed disinterested in conversation. Regarding George's debt, Joseph deemed the negotiation futile.

The thug seemed content with Joseph's response, sharing a look with the shadowy figure, who cautioned, "Deliver it tomorrow, or suffer the consequences."

Joseph exhaled in relief, agreeing. After reaching an agreement, Joseph took George and headed for the exit.

Although covered in bruises from the beating, George was aware that he had to leave this place immediately.

They swiftly departed, and Joseph escorted George home.

Upon arrival, Joseph promptly contacted James, the only family member. capable of producing 12,000 at short notice. After all, he was the one in charge of their family business now.

After briefing James on George's plight, Joseph felt drained. As he left the room, he noticed George struggling to make a call with his phone.

Approaching George, Joseph inquired, "Why didn't you head back to

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case Address Me as Mrs Lawson

Riverdon?"

The last time after George, the troublemaker, ended up in lockup after beating up someone, Joseph had made plans for him to return to Riverdon. Instead of returning, he ended up borrowing money from illegal moneylenders after a gambling spree.

Joseph had even gone as far as buying a plane ticket and escorting him to the airport to ensure his return. However, he had to leave at the last minute before George boarded the flight because he received news of Zacharias being rescued in the ER.

George retorted, "It's none of your business."

Unable to reach Joey, George slumped on the couch in frustration, wincing in pain. His frustration at being duped by Joey was palpable.

Joseph's tone turned cold as he said, "Pack your things. I'll take you to the airport." This time, he was determined to see him off on the plane.

Though resentful, George held his tongue, mindful of the casino's enforcers.

Acknowledging Joseph's pivotal role in raising the 12,000, whether through James or another source, George reluctantly admitted Joseph's indispensability.

Meanwhile, Angela reveled in tranquility as Jonathan departed for work. She read a book and decided to stay home.

Unexpectedly, a visitor arrived. Oliver mentioned Florence waiting outside, sparking Angela's surprise. Did Florence seek Jonathan here after failing to locate him?

Descending the stairs, Angela found Florence at the gate, presenting a more professional demeanor than usual. "Miss Angela, may we speak

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today?"

Despite Florence's usual boldness, Angela frowned at her abrupt visit. Nonetheless, she permitted Florence entry for a discussion since she didn't bring her men with her.

"Miss Shelton, I can't turn you away when you come in person." With that, Oliver ushered Florence inside.

"Thank you, Miss Kins."

Angela offered no reply and led her in. After they were seated on the couches, Angela inquired about the purpose of her visit.

As this wasn't the first time Florence sought her out, she wanted to get straight to the point with her.

Florence's smirk exuded confidence. "I have my sights on Mr. Lawson. Will you step aside?"

Angela's frown deepened at Florence's deliberate provocation. "Oliver, show our guest out," she ordered icily, retreating upstairs without another word.

Surprised by Angela's abrupt dismissal, Florence attempted to follow, but Oliver blocked her path. "Miss Shelton, please."

As though expecting Florence's quick dismissal, he didn't even close the door after she entered.

Florence stomped her feet in anger and teller after Angela, questioning her way of treating a guest.

Angela stopped at the top of the staircase and replied, "You're not a guest, and please address me as Mrs. Lawson." Then, she left Florence no chance of further conversation and went upstairs.

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Chapter 402 Please Address Me as Mrs Lawson

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Oliver showed no hesitation in dealing with Florence and dragged her out. Forced to leave, Florence stomped away in frustration, her anger rising.

Oliver wasted no time closing the door, offering Florence a final warning, "Don't underestimate Mrs. Lawson."

A nearby bodyguard observed Florence's exit, eager to intervene. "Miss, she treated you poorly-"

Florence silenced him with a raised hand, demanding, "How's progress with Jonathan's company?"

"We've yet to secure a meeting," the bodyguard admitted in a hushed tone.

Florence cursed in frustration. "Still nothing? Are you incompetent?"

Even if Jonathan was avoiding her, it made her mad that even her subordinates couldn't secure a meeting with him.

"Maybe Mr. Lawson has a tight schedule. Why don't we strike on Angela Kins instead?" her bodyguard suggested. Worried that Florence would get even angrier, he hastily brought up Angela.

It was Angela who made Florence mad, but he didn't want to be the one suffering the burn of Florence's fury.

Sure enough, Florence redirected her anger at Angela again. As she couldn't meet Jonathan, she tried to make a way through Angela instead, trying to have a talk with her on multiple occasions.

Finally, she had her chance today, but Angela had the nerve to drive her out after she had only said one thing!

Recalling Angela telling her to address her as Mrs. Lawson, Florence gritted her teeth in anger. Wasn't Angela afraid of what Florence could do with her status as the heiress of the Shelton Family?

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No one dared to oppose them in Northland!

"How do I strike when I can't even see her?" She glared at her bodyguard.

When the bodyguard suggested breaking in, Florence scoffed, opting to confront Angela outside her class instead.

Florence knew that Angela was going to Northland Medical University and assumed that she was a student there. Hence, the idea to confront her outside her class.

"Class?" The bodyguard hesitated. "I don't think she attends Northland Medical University."

Annoyed, Florence snapped, "Investigate her!"

So, the reason she couldn't negotiate with Angela so many times prior was that they hadn't investigated her yet. At the thought of her subordinates' inefficiency, Florence felt her head throbbing.

But there was still time to investigate Angela, and Florence resolved to uncover Angela's identity, besides claiming to be Mrs. Lawson.

Her subordinates wasted no time in carrying out her order while she pondered how she could meet Jonathan.

Recalling Christopher, previously targeted by her men, Florence considered him a potential avenue for Jonathan.

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Chapter 403

Chapter 403 She Drove Florence Away

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Chapter 403 She Drove Florence Away

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How could Florence overlook Christopher, Jonathan's younger brother? Yet, the memory of her men assaulting him left her **uneasy**.

"Find out what Christopher has been up to," she instructed her men, **even** though they seemed puzzled by the order, they promptly obeyed. Meanwhile, Florence departed from Angela's residence with her entourage shortly after.

Angela observed Florence's departure from the second–floor balcony. As the car vanished into the distance, she sank into a chair and reached for a book from the table.

After a brief moment, she set the book down, acknowledging her impulsive behavior downstairs. Despite recognizing her impetuosity in driving Florence away, Angela believed she would have done the same. given the chance.

Florence had crossed the line by provoking her and showing blatant disrespect for Jonathan.

Meanwhile, Jonathan learned from Oliver during his workday that Florence had visited Angela, who seemed troubled when he called her.

Angela sensed Jonathan's attempt to comfort her, which warmed her heart.

"I sent her away," Angela admitted, referring to her decisive action in dismissing Florence.

Jonathan didn't hesitate. "Just boot her out. Don't worry about anything else."

He vowed to protect Angela. Despite the Shelton Family's power in

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Northland, he refused to let them trample over Angela.

Angela nodded in agreement. After a brief chat and sensing Angela's improved mood. Jonathan mentioned that Joseph had reached out to him again.

She anticipated that Joseph would contact Jonathan again. When she recalled the trouble George had caused, she was surprised that Joseph had resolved it so swiftly.

However, Joseph's immediate return to Jonathan's orbit underscored the gravity of Zacharias' condition.

"I got it. I'll meet him this afternoon," Angela resolved to deal with Joseph as she had previously decided.

Jonathan raised no objections but offered a few reminders before they hung up.

After lunch, Angela dialed Joseph. Despite previously blocking the Kins Family's numbers, she encountered no harassment this time.

Upon connecting, she heard Joseph's voice, which carried a mix of excitement and nervousness. "Angela?"

Amused, Angela replied, "Yes, it's me."

Joseph audibly breathed a sigh of relief. "Angela, you finally decided to talk

to me.

After seeing George off, Joseph immediately sought out Jonathan. Thought he missed Jonathan, his staff assured him they would relay a message to Angela.

While skeptical of Jonathan's assurances, Joseph intended to wait outside. his company. However, a call from Scarlet demanding **his** presence **at** the

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hospital changed his plans.

Thus, he found himself en route to the hospital, puzzled by Scarlet's

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"At 2 p.m., the cafe on Moonlight Road, Angela asserted, disregarding Joseph's attempts at pleasantries and providing a time and place. Before Joseph could respond, she ended the call.

Although Angela extended an invitation, Joseph rernained irked by her

demeanor.

Shortly after hanging up, Joseph's car pulled up outside the hospital. Checking the time, he decided to visit Scarlet first and made his way to her hospital room.

"Mom, you called me back. What's up?" Joseph wasted no time, mindful of his upcoming meeting with Angela.

Scarlet's expression turned icy. "Joseph, tell me. Did they conduct the compatibility test between Zac and Fanny?"

Joseph's heart skipped a beat as he swiftly shook his head. "No."

Denying it, he recalled Zacharias' earlier disclosure and a suspicious exchange he witnessed between Gregory's and Fanny's doctor.

He hadn't anticipated Zacharias bypassing his objections and proceeding with the test privately. Observing Scarlet's current expression, he surmised she misunderstood, thinking he had authorized the test.

"The doctor already informed me. Why deny it? He's your brother. Do you want him dead?" Scarlet's heart broke, and she couldn't believe that Joseph would agree to the test.

Joseph reassured her, already suspecting Zacharias' independent action.

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However, he couldn't reveal this to Scarlet, fearing it would imply Zacharias' loss of will to live.

Scarlet grasped his arm, confusion clouding her eyes. "He told me himself. Could it be fake? Or are you doubting me?"

Helplessly, Joseph tried to persuade her. "Mom, even if it's a match, it might not be suitable. Zac's kidney may not be the one used."

Scarlet's anger blurred her vision. "Are you implying Zac's kidney would be used if it's a match? He's too frail. That's a death sentence!"

Though Joseph realized his mistake, he couldn't divulge Zacharias' apathy. Nor had he convinced Angela on the other end, so he promised, "Mom. don't fret. I won't let Zac give Fanny his kidney.

Previously hesitant, he was now certain such a course couldn't be taken. Without a kidney, Zacharias wouldn't survive.

If Fanny discovered her cure came at Zacharias' expense, she'd never find happiness.

Scarlet persisted, fixated on one point. "Then why authorize the compatibility test?"

Joseph reiterated, "Mom, believe it or not, but I just found out about the test as well. I'll inquire about this with Dr. Gregory."

Later, he'd seek answers from Gregory. With a composed demeanor and clear gaze, he'd chosen his words carefully.

Scarlet's anger waned as she found credibility in Joseph's calm demeanor. Though she knew she shouldn't vent all her frustration on him, thoughts of Fanny's plight fueled her resentment. Saddened, she pondered how their family had descended into chaos.

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Witnessing Scarlet's gradual calmness, Joseph gently disengaged her grip. "Mom, take care. Leave the rest to me," he soothed, turning to leave.

Suddenly, Scarlet's anger flared anew. "It's all Angela Kins' fault! Find her, make **her** get tested, and force her to donate her kidney to Fanny!" (D

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Chapter 404

Chapter 404 Can We Talk?

Joseph felt a sense of unease as Scarlet abruptly grabbed him and spoke frantically.

He was originally anxious for a while when a rush of realization hit him. He recalled Christopher mentioning yesterday that Zacharias' match had been arranged, and Scarlet seemed to have agreed, too.

In the midst of his confusion and Scarlet's urgency, he had completely forgotten it. *What's* going *on?* Something seems off.

Scarlet continued to be restless, and her voice grew increasingly desperate. "Bring that wretched Angela here! If something happens to Zacharias, let her make amends with her life!"

Her voice had become raspy, and her eyes were bloodshot red.

"Mom!" Joseph shouted suddenly as if trying to snap her out of it.

He gripped her arms tightly and stared into her somewhat dazed eyes. "Mom, Christopher said you agreed to the match arrangement before. Don't you remember?"

He wanted to confirm the truth of Christopher's words.

The rush back here, on top of Scarlet's incessant questioning, caused his thoughts to go in various directions. His mind went blank, and he somehow forgot Christopher's words.

Scarlet remained bewildered as if stuck in a trance. "I don't know!"

She shook her head incessantly, and her already disheveled hair resembled a mop.

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Seeing her complexion turn paler by the second, he felt both worried and anxious. He knew pressing her for answers now wouldn't get him anywhere. "Mom, please try to calm down," he urged. "Please, just try to relax."

But Scarlet couldn't calm down at all.

She clung tightly to his arm; her face was drained of colors, and her body trembled uncontrollably. Still, she stubbornly gritted her teeth and insisted, "You're not allowed to use Zacharias' kidney!"

Upon hearing this, he immediately made a promise. "Mom, I promise, even if the match is successful, I won't let him donate."

At his pledge, she suddenly passed out.

Joseph quickly called for a doctor, who reassured him that Scarlet had simply passed out from the shock and exhaustion, with no serious. consequences. Only then did he breathe a sigh of relief.

As soon as the doctor exited the ward, Fanny burst in. "Joseph, what's going on with Mom?" she asked anxiously, her face etched with concern.

Fanny was panting, and it seemed she had dashed over here in a panic.

With her already fragile health, her face was now deathly pale from the hurried run.

Upon seeing her looking so weak and vulnerable, Joseph felt a tug at his heartstrings.

"Don't worry. Mom's alright. But you need to take care of yourself. Your health isn't fully back yet," he assured her as he tidied her slightly messy hair.

Fanny stood there breathless as her eyes darted nervously. "Are you sure.

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Mom's okay? Maybe I should stay here with her," she suggested.

Joseph shook his head firmly. Scarlet's collapse had been too sudden, and he hadn't had the chance to fill Fanny in on the kidney match.

He worried that if Scarlet let something slip, it would make Fanny distressed. Fanny *is so* kind–*hearted*. Knowing that Zacharias wants to donate his kidney *to her* will surely *make her sad*.

Fanny pursed her lips. Upon seeing his solemn expression, she didn't insist on staying. She hesitated and said, "Then should we let Christopher take care of him? He has a day off today."

Joseph's expression darkened at the mention of Christopher's name.

"No, absolutely not!" His sudden firmness startled her.

She timidly met his gaze, and uncertainty flooded her heart.

Upon seeing her wide-eyed and startled, he realized he needed to reassure her.

After persuading Fanny to leave, Joseph checked the time.

There were still twenty minutes until 2 o'clock, and the cethey had agreed upon was about twenty minutes away. Time was he needed to leave immediately to meet Angela.

ming out, and

Little did he know that as soon as he left the hospital, Fanny circled back.

She stepped into the ward and took a seat beside the unconscious Scarlet.

At two in the afternoon, after Jonathan took Angela to the coffee shop, Joseph hurried over.

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Angela had promised Jonathan could be by her side in her meeting with Joseph, so as soon as the agreed—upon time approached, Jonathan hurried back home to fetch her.

When Joseph entered the private room, Jonathan barely glanced at him, and his attention was still primarily focused on Angela.

He kept holding Angela's soft hand, but he couldn't play with it on the table like before, so he had to keep it under the table as Joseph had arrived.

"Sorry for being late," Joseph apologized. He quickly checked the time and noted that it was exactly one minute past two.

His face looked terrible, and he seemed in a hurry. As soon as he arrived at the private room, he didn't even sit down before speaking, and he even gasped for breath while looking a bit disheveled.

Jonathan remained silent. His stern expression clearly hinted at his displeasure with Joseph.

"Here, have some water," Angela said calmly, and she nodded toward the glass on the table as **a** gentle prompt for Joseph to hydrate himself first.

Despite her attempt to free her hand from Jonathan's firm grasp, she sensed his unease toward Joseph and decided to let him hold onto it.

She understood that Jonathan was sticking close out of concern for her.

During their journey here, she had assured him that she would handle everything carefully this time without leaving any loose ends.

In response, he refrained from interfering and obediently trusted her judgment.

When she thought about this, she cast a soft, affectionate glance at him.

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Her eyes were filled with warmth and a hint of a smile played on her lips.

Suddenly, he tightened his grip on her hand, and his arm naturally wrapped around her waist in a brief, protective embrace.

Angela shot him a playful glare in response.

Meanwhile, Joseph picked up the glass. His gaze briefly flickered over Angela's face before inadvertently brushing past Jonathan by her side.

Though he wasn't paying him much attention, Joseph's mere presence seemed to exert an unspoken pressure on him.

His emotions churned within him, yet he was oblivious to the subtle exchange between the two. He stole a glance before bowing his head to sip his water and hoping to regain his composure.

Angela shot Jonathan a reproachful look. In response, he smiled faintly and released his grip on her waist.

Yet, his other hand continued to caress her delicate hand, treating it like it was **a** precious treasure.

Angela patiently waited for Joseph to speak while allowing Jonathan to play with her hand beneath the table.

Even before Joseph's arrival, Jonathan had been holding and fidgeting with her hand, though not beneath the table.

Upon Joseph's arrival, Angela didn't withdraw her hand but allowed Jonathan to hold it.

After quenching his thirst with a sip of water, Joseph, who had rushed over from the hospital, albeit by Uber, still appeared hurried as he had jogged part of the way.

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Chapter 404 Can We Talk?

Despite his sweat-drenched attire, he maintained his stature, though he looked slightly disheveled.

"Can we have a private chat?" he inquired.

With Jonathan in the room, he felt uneasy and disliked the feeling, especially with Jonathan's watchful gaze, which made him carefully choose his words before speaking.

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Chapter 405

Chapter 405 A Futile Attempt To Convince

Chapter 405 A Futile Attempt To Convince

"Sorry, no." Angela shook her head.

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Seriously, Jonathan wasn't exactly a stranger. How could she possibly kick him out and chat with this outsider, Joseph?

Joseph furrowed his brow. He seemed to be weighing the odds of persuading Angela.

Finally, he sighed resignedly.

"Alright, spill it. Time's ticking," Jonathan urged impatiently with a displeased look.

Joseph avoided meeting Jonathan's gaze. He tried to ignore his obvious presence and turned to Angela. "Angela, you know why I'm here, right?".

"I don't know. Just spit it out." Angela frowned. She was not interested in hearing his unnecessary chatter and gestured for him to get to the point.

Joseph awkwardly tugged at the corner of his mouth. He swallowed nervously and didn't know how to broach the subject.

He still wanted Angela to treat Zacharias, but he didn't know how to bring it up because he knew that Angela might not agree. Thus, he felt a pang of

concern.

And now, it wasn't just Zacharias in jeopardy, but also Fanny.

If they couldn't secure a kidney for Fanny soon, Zacharias might resort to reckless actions.

He glanced at Jonathan seated beside Angela and couldn't help but wonder. *If Jonathan could help find a kidney, then...*

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Chapter 405 A Futile Attempt To Convince

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Just as the thought crossed his mind, he was met with a stern glare. It wasn't just anyone glaring at him, but Jonathan himself.

The latter's eyes emitted a chilling intensity, warning him against further consideration and reserving his softer side solely for Angela.

Joseph suppressed his unease and set aside his fleeting thoughts. He spoke softly, "Zacharias is in a bad state. He has lost his will to live."

Joseph's words drew Angela's attention, and her eyebrows arched in surprise.

However, when she recalled Zacharias' deliberate provocation during their last encounter at the hospital, it seemed evident that he lacked the desire to continue living.

"I've heard all that before. How about telling me something new?" she remarked.

ad a nagging suspicion that his agitation wasn't solely about

Zacharias; it likely involved Fanny as well.

Based on her understanding of her brothers, Fanny was likely dealing with some health issues and though Angela was no longer targeted by them, they would undoubtedly still be fretting over Fanny and would be busy tending to her.

When he mentioned Zacharias, he observed her furrowed her brow momentarily. He swiftly regained composure as he was aware that Jonathan was nearby.

He fought to suppress the irritation simmering within him and wanted to converse calmly with her. Yet, his every attempt to speak proved futile.

The words lingered on the tip of his tongue before he swallowed them back down. As such, he felt frustrated by his inability to articulate his

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thoughts.

The case with which Angela mentioned knowing Zacharias had lost his will to live made Joseph reconsider the moment when Zacharias had confided in him in the hospital ward, expressing concern that he might have said something harsh to Angela.

Did she already notice that Zacharias was not in the right state at that time? But she didn't tell me!

In the end, he couldn't contain the anger simmering within him.

"You knew about this beforehand? Why didn't you tell me?" Once the fury erupted, keeping it in check became nearly impossible.

Jonathan shot Joseph a chilling glare, causing him to tremble involuntarily.

Angela gently rested her hand on Jonathan's to soothe him before shifting her gaze toward Joseph.

She found Joseph's inquiry amusing. "Seriously? Am I supposed to be the one keeping you, updated on your family affairs?"

Jonathan's piercing stare helped Joseph regain some composure, though Angela's words stung.

Indeed, to the Kins Family members, Angela was regarded as an outsider, if not less. So, why should he expect her to keep him in the loop?

Despite Joseph's rational thoughts, he couldn't shake off his resentment toward Angela.

He frowned, but his gaze was still clouded with displeasure.

Angela brushed off his glare. "If you've got nothing else to add, then we're

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done here. Don't bother Jonathan anymore."

When Angela mentioned him, Jonathan chimed in with a cautionary note, "Next time you come knocking, luck might not be on your side."

Joseph felt the weight of the implied threat and couldn't shake off the discomfort it brought. His mind swirled with resentment, yet he managed to push it down and buried it beneath a facade of calm resignation.

"What more do you want to know?" Joseph asked wearily, his tone tinged with defeat.

Angela chuckled softly and said amusingly, "It's not about what I want to know but what you're willing to confess. But truth be told, I doubt anything you say will sway my decision."

Joseph felt the simmering anger rise within him once again at her nonchalant response. His fists clenched beneath the table and he grinded his teeth to regain control.

"I reckon he's said his piece. Let's move along," Jonathan interjected casually and shot a glance at Joseph before turning his attention back to Angela.

Panic gripped Joseph as he watched Jonathan prepare to leave with Angela.

"Angela, you promised to help cure Zacharias!" he blurted out, the urgency evident in his voice.

Despite his sudden outburst, he made sure to keep his tone subdued, though the surprise in his words couldn't be concealed by the three of them.

Angela shrugged casually. "You guys broke the agreement first."

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Joseph was momentarily taken aback by her words.

Angela was spot on. They had agreed beforehand that Fanny would move out of the family's residence and sever ties with them.

If this had happened earlier, when Zacharias was critically **ill**, they would have undoubtedly honored their promise to help treat him in exchange for Fanny's departure. But now that Fanny was sick, she couldn't afford to be without their support. Thus, it left them with no other option.

Jonathan guided Angela toward the exit. If she hadn't insisted on handling the family matters herself, he would have stepped in long ago and pushed Joseph aside.

Joseph hastily stood up and blocked the entrance and stubbornly said, "Please wait a moment."

Angela squeezed Jonathan's hand for reassurance before turning to him with an impatient look. "Out with it, no beating around the bush."

"Zacharias wants to donate a kidney to Fanny," he finally said, as if mustering all his courage to reveal this.

Angela was speechless and couldn't hold back the urge to roll her eyes.

She had already learned about Zacharias and Fanny's compatibility testing from Yarrison. Anyone could imagine that Zacharias could not have done it willingly.

It was clear that Zacharias' intention to donate a kidney to Fanny was set in stone.

Upon seeing him lowering his head as if waiting for her reaction, she couldn't help but roll her eyes in frustration.

"Joseph, are you even paying attention to yourself?" she retorted.

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However, he persisted, lost in his thoughts. "The matching process is already underway. We'll have results soon."

Even though he had no similar intention of donating a kidney, he hoped that sharing this information might soften her stance.

Yet, her reaction caught him off guard as she responded indifferently, "So what? Why did you come to me?"

She used to think that he came to her to save Zacharias, but now she felt that it was not as simple as he said.

The lack of emotion on her face startled him. Just as he was about to follow his prepared script, he abruptly met Jonathan's warning gaze.

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Chapter 406

Chapter 406 An Empty Promise

Beads of cold sweat formed on his forehead as he struggled to voice the carefully prepared words he had in mind.

"I..." He flinched under Jonathan's gaze upon realizing the gravity of his earlier actions.

What am I even trying to achieve? Isn't my main goal to seek help for Zacharias' illness from Angela? Why did I suddenly bring up kidney transplants and Fanny's condition?

Joseph couldn't make sense of his own thoughts. Why did he mention kidney transplants out of the blue, especially in a way that seemed like he was imploring Angela to save Fanny?

Yet, he knew all too well the contentious relationship between the two girls.

shouldn't have mentioned Fanny.

His head began to spin, and he felt a dull ache throbbing.

Only then did he realize that not only was his forehead covered in cold sweat, but his entire body was drenched in perspiration.

He managed to utter just one word before biting his lips tightly to prevent himself from saying anything more.

After a brief pause, Angela shot him an impatient look, causing his eyes to twitch nervously.

"Not planning to speak?" Angela prodded.

Joseph shook his head hastily. It wasn't that he didn't want to talk; it was

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just that he didn't dare.

The script he had prepared was useless because Angela would never agree to it. The mere thought of her inevitable rejection left him feeling

frustrated.

Moreover, he dreaded the possibility of blurting out his innermost thoughts, mentioning Fanny again, and upsetting Angela.

If he spoke now, he wouldn't just upset her but also Jonathan by her side.

He felt overwhelmed and was at a loss for what to do.

I... I **don't** mean to stay silent," he finally managed to say after gathering his thoughts, though his response only served to counter her question.

Angela observed him calmly and curiously and noticed the conflict and anguish on his face. "So, what's bothering you?"

He's the one who seeks me out, yet he is also the one hesitating to speak. Angela couldn't help but wonder. What is his true intention?

Moreover, although seeing Joseph in such a pitiful state didn't exactly boost her mood, it was still preferable to the usual feeling of suffocation.

Indeed, there was some truth to the saying, "Retribution comes quickly.".

Jonathan sensed a slight sense of relief in her demeanor and didn't bother to look at the disheveled Joseph again. Instead, he gently smiled and tightened his grip on her hand.

Angela raised her eyes to meet his tender gaze when she felt his grip.

His stern expression, combined with gentle eyes, caused her heart to flutter uncontrollably.

Chapter 406 An Empty

She genuinely admired his demeanor and cherished his unique tenderness that was meant for her.

Joseph couldn't help but feel the atmosphere in the room lighten slightly. He took a deep breath and seized the opportunity while he **was** still clear- headed, so he spoke up, "Angela, I still hope you'll treat Zacharias. If you can cure him, we will definitely treat you fairly."

Joseph's words shattered the ambiguous atmosphere, and the eye contact between Angela and Jonathan was broken.

Angela clicked her tongue lightly and sarcastically asked, "Is this because there's nothing concrete to promise, so you're resorting to empty promises?"

Indeed, Joseph dared to make empty promises.

She only wanted a glimpse of Joseph and wanted to crush his hopes and relish his misery.

But seeing him now brought her not only satisfaction but also *a* twisted sense of pleasure.

Though he hadn't asked for her help with Fanny, she knew the Kins Family's manipulative ways too well.

If she dared to intervene for Zacharias, they would shamelessly exploit the situation and demand her aid for Fanny.

She even suspected Joseph's visit wasn't for Zacharias at all but solely for Fanny's kidney.

After all, Zacharias was determined to donate his kidney to Fanny and had underwear compatibility tests already. Joseph was not even able to stop him.

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Chapter 406 An Empty Promise

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Chapter 406 An Empty Promise

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Angela felt a wave of disgust and nausea when she thought back to how her kidney in her previous life was forcefully taken from her own body by the Kins Family.

Under Angela's sharp sarcasm, Joseph blushed and hastily explained, "I meant it."

Even though he doubted his own words, his tone remained firm and resolute.

Dealing with her sharp tongue was unfamiliar territory for him, especially with Jonathan, whom he couldn't afford to offend, in the mix. He was at a loss for how to proceed.

Angela had had her fill of his dramatics. Despite his bravado, she had no intention of entertaining him any longer. She turned to Jonathan and simply said, "Let's go."

Continuing to engage with Joseph would only be a waste of her time.

"Sure thing, let's get out of here," Jonathan replied and his grip on her hand tightened as he led her toward the exit.

He had been waiting for her to make that call.

Jonathan walked briskly with his arm around her and led her out of the private room with firm assurance.

"Hold on-

-Joseph suddenly stood up and wanted to intercept them, but a stern glare from Jonathan made him recoil. Thus, silencing him instantly.

Angela didn't spare him a second glance. After the warning look, Jonathan led Angela away.

Angela couldn't help but chuckle at Jonathan's urgency.

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Chapter 406 An Empty Promise

It wasn't until he guided her into the car that she realized he was just as reluctant to deal with Joseph as she was. But then again, Joseph had always been a nuisance,

"Where should we go now?" Jonathan inquired as he held onto Angel, who seemed lost in thought.

Before Oliver could start the car, he also glanced at Angela, who was in Jonathan's embrace.

Angela met Jonathan's gaze and replied, "Want to head back to the office together? Or should we go home?"

Jonathan promptly chose. "Let's go back to the office. You can keep me company."

Angela smiled softly.

In the coffee shop booth, after Jonathan escorted Angela away, Joseph leaned against the wall, feeling drained, and slowly sank to the floor.

The pressure he had faced earlier had been overwhelming, and he needed to take a breather.

However, before he

hospital.

could fully relax, he received an urgent call from the

After hanging up the phone, he rushed to the hospital without a moment to lose.

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Meanwhile, Florence finally laid her hands on the intel her team had gathered about Angela.

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Chapter 196 An Bioply Prome

Is this everything" she scrutinized the two sheets of Ad paper and shot a wordless look at the person who handed them to her.

Fler subordinate nodded respectfully "Yes. That's all we could dig up

Florence delved into the details. Most of it seemed inconsequential, but there were nuggets of useful information towards the end. At least now she knew Angela wasn't enrolled at Northland Medical University but had come to the city specifically for training

"What's the deal with this training?" she inquired.

Her subordinates, beside her, wasted no time responding. Florence learned that Angela's training wasn't just routine but also a screening process.

"Ah, then let's ensure she doesn't pass!" Florence immediately made up her mind upon hearing this.

Her subordinate promptly agreed and instructed the others to take action

Once the instructions were given, they moved on to discuss the findings about Christopher.

"So, Christopher is either in class or at the hospital all the time?" Florence asked, her displeasure evident.

Her subordinate nodded quickly. Upon picking up on her displeased expression, he asked, "Miss, should we bring him in for a chat?

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Chapter 407

Chapter 407 Crazy

He knew Florence was trying to alert Christopher about Jonathan's approach, hence the suggestion.

But she shook her head and said, "Go check the hospital where he is."

She recalled that even though her men had beaten Christopher, it shouldn't have taken him this long to recover,

Her subordinate realized her misunderstanding and hurriedly explained, "Miss, Christopher isn't treating himself. He's visiting someone at the hospital"

Now, it was her turn to be shocked. "Every day?"

Indeed, Christopher made daily trips to the hospital.

Although his main reason was Fanny, he still made it a point to visit daily.

At this moment, he was there.

Scarlet woke up to see Fanny by her bedside and she had summoned the latter specifically for Christopher.

"Hey, Madam Square, did you need me?" Christopher entered the hospital. room, and he immediately noticed Scarlet was unwell, while Fanny appeared to be her usual self.

Scarlet ignored him and turned to Fanny. "Fanny, could you step outside for a moment? I need to talk to him."

She was confident that Fanny, being the good girl she was, wouldn't know about the secret matching. It had to be Christopher's doing!

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Chapter 407 Crazy

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Chapter 407 Crazy

On their way to the hospital, she had subtly probed Fanny, and her innocent reaction had only fueled the former's suspicions.

Christopher felt a knot tighten in his stomach at her words, but he quickly composed himself and gently urged Fanny, who seemed hesitant.

"Fanny, why don't you wait outside? I'll chat with Madam Square for a bit." His tone was comforting, despite the turmoil within him, as he tried to reassure her.

Fanny nervously bit her lip, and her suspicions grew stronger.

Even before Scarlet woke up, she sensed something was off with Joseph's behavior. Now, with Scarlet awake and eager to see Christopher, she sensed a storm brewing.

Before Christopher arrived, Scarlet exchanged a few words with her. Despite her lack of energy, she sensed Scarlet was probing something.

Fortunately, she managed to handle it, and Scarlet didn't appear displeased.

After Fanny left, the ward was left with only Christopher and Scarlet.

Scarlet took the lead and questioned Christopher in a cold voice, "Do you know what I want to ask you?"

She glared at him. It was clear that she hated him for his decision to have the doctor perform the compatibility test.

Even though it was to save Fanny, she still hated him for it.

Christopher hesitated for a moment when he noticed how intense her expression had become. He chose honesty and said as gently **as** he could, "Are you upset because of the compatibility test?"

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Chapter 407 Crazy

Scarlet slammed her hand on the bed abruptly and angrily demanded, "You knew!? Then why did you dare to do it?"

Her sudden outburst startled him, but he quickly responded, "It was Zacharias who asked me to do it."

The fury in her eyes dwindled like a smothered flame, leaving her utterly despondent.

Zacharias' ward was adjacent to hers, yet she hesitated to inquire about him initially because it was a fleeting hope.

However, upon hearing Christopher's words, her eyes darkened

uncontrollably, her body trembled incessantly, and she was on the verge of fainting once more.

In a moment of extreme agitation, Christopher swiftly intervened and pinched her philtrum to prevent her from losing consciousness again.

Thankfully, she remained lucid this time.

Yet, as he breathed a sigh of relief and attempted to step back, she seized his face abruptly, as she was unable to come face to face with the truth.

"You're talking nonsense! How could Zacharias possibly do such a thing!? It's unthinkable!"

Her voice was hoarse and frantic, and she appeared almost frenzied.

Christopher attempted to retreat in a panic, but Scarlet clutched his arm tightly. He struggled to break free and nearly pulled her off the bed before hastily positioning himself to shield her bedside.

"Madam Square, please try to calm down."

He attempted to pacify her while enduring the painful grip of her nails

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digging into his arm with clenched teeth.

However, she was consumed by her frenzy and turned completely deaf to his attempts. She unleashed a torrent of screams and accused him of speaking nonsense. "You're just talking nonsense!"

He felt overwhelmed and pleaded softly, "I admit, I was wrong. Please, Madam Square, let me go."

Each word was a struggle as his arm throbbed with pain under her relentless grasp. He couldn't bear the barrage of her furious accusations.

"Madam Square... I was talking nonsense! Please, release me!"

He hoped his admission would quell her anger, but instead, she tightened her grip and escalated her tirade, all while hurling accusations at him with increased intensity.

"You truly were talking nonsense! Chris, I've always known you had ulterior motives!"

Her voice sounded with piercing ferocity, and it echoed through the

room.

Suddenly, the door of the ward burst open, and Fanny's concerned voice filled the air. "Mom? What's going on?"

The sound of Scarlet's voice tore at Fanny's heart and it prompted her to barge into the ward without a second thought.

But amidst the turmoil, no one noticed her arrival. Scarlet was fixated on exacting revenge on Christopher, while he struggled to defend himself. At the same time, he had to ensure Scarlet remained unharmed. Thus, this created a tense and uncomfortable atmosphere.

Upon entering, Fanny witnessed the two on the verge of physical

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confrontation, and this made her heart race.

"Chris! Mom! What's happening?" Fanny hurried to the bedside, eager to separate the pair but unsure how to intervene.

"Fanny?" Christopher finally caught wind of her presence and upon seeing her approach, he quickly cautioned, "Stay back, Fanny. Get the doctor to administer a sedative."

Scarlet's state was unpredictable, and he didn't want Fanny caught in the crossfire.

"Mom?" Fanny's anxiety spiked, especially seeing Scarlet's distressing condition. "Mom? Chris, what's going on with my mom?"

Her voice barely carried above the chaos, and it was audible only to Christopher, who was amidst the commotion.

At least Scarlet remained oblivious to Fanny's concern.

"Fanny, don't come close! Go call the doctor to administer a sedative!" Christopher bellowed with urgency, which was evident in his voice.

In his haste to deliver the command, he even neglected to restrain Scarlet, who ended up sinking her teeth into him fiercely.

Scarlet caught wind of the mention of sedatives and spotted Fanny nearby. Despite her grip on Christopher, her voice came out muffled as she yelled, "Fanny, he's trying to harm Zacharias!"

Fanny, who was originally about to shout for help, froze at the revelation, and her steps faltered.

"Fanny! Hurry!" Christopher urged.

Fanny's mind swirled with uncertainty as she glanced between the two.

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Chapter 407 Crazy

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Upon seeing Scarlet not only clutching Christopher but also repeatedly attempting to bite him, she suppressed her other thoughts and finally pressed the call button.

But that wasn't enough. With growing panic, she dashed out of the ward.

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Chapter 408

Chapter 408 Calm Her Down

Fanny rushed to the doctor's office nearest to Scarlet's ward. After explaining the situation hurriedly, the doctor quickly grabbed the necessary medication and called for assistance.

Upon reaching the ward, they found Scarlet still in a state of frenzy. The doctor promptly directed the nurses and Christopher to restrain her so that they could administer a sedative. Despite their efforts to hold her down on the bed, Scarlet continued to struggle with a twisted expression.

"Her movements are too agitated. We've got to settle her down fast!" the doctor exclaimed urgently.

"Mom, please try to stay still," Fanny pleaded, her voice trembling as she gently tried to soothe Scarlet from the side.

However, Scarlet was completely fixated on the people restraining her, so she was oblivious to Fanny's soft voice. Even if she had heard, she would not have reacted well to the fact that Fanny was attempting to persuade

her.

Upon receiving no response from Scarlet, Fanny called out again, this time a little louder. "Mom?"

This time, Scarlet heard her voice, but her efforts to turn her head were in vain as if she were trying to shake off a daze.

"Fanny?" Scarlet strained to catch a glimpse, but her vision remained clouded.

Fanny promptly moved into her line of sight and said, "Mom, it's me, Fanny. Just try to loosen up a bit and let go of Chris, alright?"

As she spoke, her hand reached out to pull Christopher away.

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Chapter 408 Calm Her Down

However, Scarlet suddenly erupted angrily and roared at Fanny.

"Christopher, don't you dare lay a finger on my son!" she declared as she continued to hold him tightly while glaring at him.

Fanny froze in fright at the fury in Scarlet's eyes that she became too afraid to lay another finger on Christopher.

"Mom? Chris didn't..." Fanny began to explain, but Scarlet cut her off with an enraged roar. Her grip on Christopher did not loosen, and she seemed prepared to attack him as well.

Although she was not in her right mind, Scarlet exhibited unexpected strength, which led the doctor to summon two more people to help restrain her urgently.

Meanwhile, a petrified Fanny stood frozen in place, her face pale, as she witnessed the scene unfold before her.

As Christopher restrained Scarlet, he took a brief pause to calmly offer her a suggestion, "Fanny, perhaps it would be best for you to step back or wait for us outside?"

Even so, Fanny did not leave but simply moved to **a** corner.

Eventually, the sedative was successfully administered, but Scarlet's muscles didn't immediately ease up. Thus, those who were restraining her were hesitant to let go.

"Just a few more minutes, and she'll be fine," the doctor remarked, wiping sweat from his brow.

Hence, Christopher was forced to remain frozen in place, trying his best to wait patiently for the medication to take effect.

Scarlet's rage slowly dissipated as the minutes ticked by and was replaced

Chapter 408 Calm Her Down

by weariness before everything eventually faded altogether. Upon seeing that she was on the verge of falling asleep, Fanny finally summoned the courage to step closer to her.

"Mom? Are you hurt?" a concerned Fanny asked.

However, Scarlet remained unresponsive. Although her eyelids were heavy with fatigue, her resentment toward Christopher was still evident. She attempted to glare at him but was unable to do so.

Scarlet's blatant disregard left Fanny feeling awkward.

"Fanny, don't worry." Christopher finally breathed a sigh of relief when he saw that Scarlet had slumped over weakly. "Madam Square is fine."

"Got it." Fanny nodded in compliance and proceeded to stand close by as she waited.

After a brief span of time, the medication began to fully take effect, causing Scarlet to slip into a deep state of slumber gradually.

The doctor instructed them to release Scarlet. "It's all right now."

"Finally..." Christopher loosened his hold on Scarlet and removed his arm, which was held tightly by her hand.

Perspiring profusely, he stumbled back weakly to lean against the wall.

"Do you require any attention?" The doctor inquired upon noticing his condition.

Christopher shook his head slowly and refused politely, "Not right now. I'll take care of it later."

Even if he wanted to tend to his wounds, he wouldn't do it in Scarlet's ward as he couldn't help but feel uneasy after her recent outburst.

Chapter 408 Calm Her Down

However, Fanny was still present, so he had to make an effort to conceal

his unease.

At his words, the doctor departed with his team while Fanny and Christopher remained in the room. Once Fanny ensured that Scarlet was sleeping soundly and unharmed, she made her way over to him.

Scarlet had left him with scratches all over and had even bit him here and there. Thus leaving him looking somewhat messy.

"Chris, let me come with you to treat your wounds," Fanny offered softly.

Christopher glanced at his injuries. "Thank you, Fanny."

She was as kind as ever, and Christopher breathed a sigh of relief, knowing he didn't have to worry about her ignoring his explanation.

Fanny shook her head as she helped him in getting up. The two then proceeded to find the doctor to address his injuries. While the doctor treated him, she quietly remained nearby.

At the same time, Christopher contemplated how to explain things to her after dealing with the wound. After all, even though Scarlet was highly agitated, he worried that Fanny would misunderstand him after what Scarlet had yelled at him.

Not long after the nurse who tended to Christopher's wound had left, Fanny spoke in a subdued and concerned voice, "Chris, what made my mom behave like that out of the blue?"

She had hesitated to ask this question for a very long time and finally found the courage to do so.

At this point, Christopher also thought about how to respond. "Fanny, the thing is, I let Madam Square know about Zac's desire to be a donor for you, and that's why she reacted like that..."

+5 Free Coins

Chapter 408 Calm Her Down

Upon hearing his words, Fanny's eyes widened immediately. "Be a donor?"

She looked dumbfounded as if she could not comprehend what he had just said.

Hence, Christopher had no choice but to explain it again. Deep down, he believed that Fanny truly possessed a kind heart. Despite her illness, she never once entertained the idea of seeking out a donor.

"Zac wants to donate a kidney to you, so he has already completed the matching, and the results will be out by tomorrow at the latest." With that said, he kept a close eye on her response because he was after she might be distressed by the revelation.

Fanny immediately frowned while feeling internally conflicted. "But Zac's health..."

Not wanting her to feel more distressed, Christopher murmured

soothingly, "Forget about that for the moment. Our priority should be to let Madam Square calm down first."

When Scarlet awakened, she would surely cause chaos again, so it was extremely necessary for him to come up with a plan first.

"Chris, what do we do now?" Fanny sat beside him and asked anxiously. As she inquired, she buried her concerns about Zacharias' health in her heart.

Christopher was at a loss and couldn't come up with a plan.

Just then, Joseph appeared in Fanny's mind. "Should I ask Joseph to come back? He must have a solution. Besides, Mom will listen to him too."

At the mention of this, Christopher thought Joseph might offer some sensible counsel, so he nodded.

Upon seeing his agreement, Fanny quickly sought out Joseph to fill him in

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Chapter 408 Calm Her Down

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on the Scarlet situation, but she purposefully avoided mentioning Christopher's name. This was due to her recollection of Joseph's previous disinterest in Christopher at the hospital, so she deemed it inappropriate to bring him up now.

"I've reached out to Joseph and he's on his way back. What should we say when he arrives?" she asked as she helped Christopher back to Scarlet's ward.

Christopher reassured her, "Don't worry. If Joseph asks, just tell him you don't know anything. I'll take care of explaining everything."

He had no intention of letting Joseph interrogate Fanny and had already devised a plan to steer her away from any potential questioning.

"Fanny, why don't you head back home for now? I'll take care of things here."

Fanny seemed confused, and Christopher didn't push her to choose either way. Just as she was on the verge of agreeing, she was startled by someone's voice.

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Chapter 409

Chapter 409 Deserves a Scolding

Chapter 409 Deserves a Scolding

"Mr. Sanders, our lady would like to see you." The newcomer spoke politely and in a harsh tone.

5 Free Coins

Christopher and Fanny looked up from their seats and saw a burly man in a black suit standing in front of them..

Fanny stole a quick glance at him before redirecting her attention to Christopher. After all, the burly man was there for Christopher's sake.

He blinked in surprise as he recognized the somewhat familiar face, and a nagging suspicion began to take root in his mind.

"Mr. Sanders..."

Not giving the man a chance to go on, Christopher quickly interrupted, "Wait here. I'll be right back after I have a few words."

He smiled warmly at the man before escorting Fanny into Scarlet's ward.

"Chris? Who is he?" she asked.

Christopher shook his head. "Fanny, he's not someone you want to mess. with. Just wait here for me. I'll go talk to him."

Fanny wanted to probe further, but Christopher didn't dare delay much longer and exited the ward promptly.

After the burly man outside the ward watched him leave the ward, he headed straight for the exit.

On the way, Christopher couldn't resist probing, "Excuse me, may I know why your Miss wants to meet with me?"

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Chapter 409 Deserves a Scolding

Florence had taught him a hard lesson, and just the thought of her made his face ache, and his body hurt, much less have the nerve to ignore her

summons.

Christopher found Florence far more intimidating than Jane. While Jane limited herself to harmless pranks, Florence went to extremes by having her subordinates physically assault him.

Furthermore, when he had been beaten up previously, he had to be rescued by Jonathan. After that, not only was he scolded by Jonathan, but he was also reprimanded by Michael, making him even more fearful of the terror that was Florence.

"Why do you ask so many questions?" The bodyguard impatiently shot a look at Christopher.

With just one glance, he instinctively held back from further inquiry and maintained a respectful silence instead.

Florence's car awaited outside the hospital, and Christopher trailed behind the bodyguard until he was shoved into the passenger seat. It was only then that he noticed Florence seated beside him.

"H–Hello, Miss Shelton. Is there something you need from me?" He felt nervous but swiftly plastered on a welcoming smile to show he was happy to help.

Florence shot him a disdainful glance, clearly unimpressed. Moreover, there was something she just couldn't comprehend. According to the information her subordinates had gathered, Christopher and Jonathan shared the same father, so how could they be so different?

Christopher felt ashamed under her scornful gaze, yet he suppressed any impulse to retaliate or voice his frustration. Instead, he forced a placating smile and endured scrutiny, hoping to appease her displeasure. As he smiled, he comforted himself inwardly, telling himself that there were

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Chapter 409 Deserves a Scolding

times when one had to bow down to others.

Just as he settled in, the car's motor ignited and drove off.

Startled, Christopher asked, "Miss Shelton, where are we going?"

Although Florence's men didn't make a move against him that day, he remained cautious and was unwilling to take any unnecessary risks.

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"To find Jonathan," Florence uttered lazily. She cast a fleeting glance in his direction before quickly averting her eyes as if repulsed by some unseen filth.

Upon receiving her reply, Christopher was taken aback. He never expected Florence to seek him out just to look for Jonathan! Why did she need to see him, and what did it have to do with him?

Just as he was puzzled, Florence reached out to him. "Give me your phone."

Hearing that, Christopher frantically patted his pockets, only to realize that his phone was nowhere to be found. Instantly, a wave of panic washed over him.

"Um, Miss Shelton, I think I might've dropped my phone in the ward. Can I go back and get it?"

He thought for a moment, unsure where he could've left his phone. When Scarlet was causing all that commotion earlier, not only was she scratching and clawing at him, but he was also struggling to restrain her. He must have dropped his phone at that moment!

Florence frowned. "Dropped?"

Christopher nodded quickly. "Miss Shelton, I'll be right back immediately after I retrieve my phone."

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Chapter 409 Deserves a Scoldings

"No need," Florence glared at him. She instructed the driver *to* hand her his phone before thrusting it into Christopher's hands. "Use this to make the call."

Christopher took the phone that was handed to him, but he was puzzled by her instructions.

Florence's tone was icy and impatient as she commanded, "Get Jonathan on the line."

Hearing that, Christopher was taken aback. "What?"

He hadn't expected that Florence would come to him because of Jonathan. However, he was still concerned about his phone. His phone wasn't the problem; the main issue was the person trying to reach him. If Jane were to call and he didn't pick up, it would undoubtedly stir up even more trouble. Yet, he didn't want to upset Florence either. At the sight of her displeased expression, he didn't dare to continue bringing up his phone.

"Miss Shelton, I can't recall Jonathan's number," Christopher mumbled, his voice fading towards the end. "But I have his number saved in my phone,

So..."

Florence shot him a scornful glance. If she hadn't done business with Christopher that day, she would have already instructed her men to handle him. *This* guy *truly deserves* a scolding, she thought internally.

Christopher's face turned pale, and his legs went weak with fear, but he managed to compose himself, thinking that Florence would allow him to retrieve his phone after his explanation. He couldn't continue leaving his phone with Scarlet. Yet, he was disappointed once more.

Florence retrieved her phone and dialled Jonathan's number by reciting it. It matched the one her men had uncovered. Hence, confirming it was indeed the contact number for Jonathan's office.

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Chapter 409 Deserves a Scolding

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She had called him with her phone, but the call abruptly ended after she uttered a few words, and subsequent attempts to call went unanswered.

"Hurry and call your brother. Tell him to come out."

Christopher did not want to push her patience further, so he quickly dialled the number she had recited. The call was picked up, but it wasn't Jonathan who answered.

"Hello?" came Spencer's voice as he handled the documents.

Christopher felt his anxious heart stop racing at his voice. "I'm looking for Jonathan."

In a swift moment of realization, he discerned that the voice on the other end didn't belong to Jonathan, and this knowledge gave him a boost of confidence.

However, Florence's expression soured.

"Are you Christopher?" he inquired, his tone carrying a hint of suspicion.

Once Christopher confirmed his identity, Spencer's voice turned frosty. He coldly informed him that Jonathan was unavailable and hung up mercilessly.

As Christopher listened to the dial tone, a shiver crept down his spine.

Florence took his phone, redialed it, and then passed it to the bodyguard in front. "You speak this time," she instructed, her voice tinged with authority.

The bodyguard dutifully answered the call and asked to speak to Jonathan, only to receive the same response.

After hanging up, Spencer reached out to Jonathan, who was puzzled by

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Chapter 400 Deserves a Scolding

the situation. Shortly afterwards, Angela and Jonathan, who were on their way to the company, arrived.

"The number called a few more times, but it wasn't Christopher." Spencer briefed Jonathan on the situation.

Jonathan nodded and appeared unfazed by the news.

Spencer didn't dwell on the matter and redirected his attention to work. "There's a stack of files waiting for you. Shall we get started?"

Jonathan glanced at Angela and was ready to decline, but she gently guided him to his chair.

"Go and work."

She didn't mean to pressure Jonathan into working, but Spencer's pleading eyes were too heartbreaking to resist.

"Okay, just give me a moment," Jonathan replied before diving back into his work without delay.

"Okay." Angela nodded.

Occasionally, Jonathan would sneak glances in her direction while Spencer kept darting in and out of the office, discussing confidential company affairs. It became clear that lingering inside wasn't the most suitable option for her anymore.

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Chapter 410

Chapter 410 More Beautiful Than Flowers

Not wanting to disturb Jonathan's work, Angela didn't stay in his office for long before expressing her desire to head out for a short walk.

Upon hearing this, he immediately rose from his seat, clearly prepared to tag along with her. "I'll go with you," he offered.

Glancing at the towering stack of files on his desk and noticing Spencer's pleading look, Angela gently shook her head. "You should be working. Besides, I'm just going for a casual stroll."

Moreover, she didn't expect Jonathan to accompany her the entire time when she came to his office with him.

He hesitated for a moment before reminding her. "Just remember to come back and find me."

He was genuinely concerned that Angela might feel hesitant to disturb him and end up opting to leave without letting him know.

With a smile, Angela agreed and left the office.

Jonathan's gaze lingered at the closed office door until Spencer

interrupted. "Stop daydreaming and focus on work. It's like you're looking at a bunch of flowers instead of a person."

"She's more beautiful than flowers," Jonathan mused, surprising Spencer with his unexpected comment.

Meanwhile, Angela was in high spirits as she headed outside with light and carefree steps. However, her cheerful mood was brutally cut short when she unexpectedly bumped into Cassandra.

Cassandra was dressed neatly and was much more put together compared

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Chapter 410 More Beautiful Than Flowers

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to the last time they met. She greeted Angela with a smile. "Mrs. Lawson, what a pleasant surprise."

Angela was taken aback by her friendly greeting and the use of the title "Mrs. Lawson." She recalled their previous encounter at Jonathan's company, where she had requested Cassandra to address her. Although Cassandra had done as she was told, her expression was clearly unwilling. It was an unexpected change for her to do so on her own initiative.

"Miss Cassandra."

Angela nodded calmly before heading toward the lounge. Now, she was able to face Cassandra without being affected in the slightest.

Cassandra's smile faltered slightly and turned forced. She didn't address Angela as Mrs. Lawson out of choice but out of necessity.

After meeting Jonathan at Northland, she had received a warning from him while she was settling down at her relatives' place. Moreover, she had even received a reprimanding from her family because of this. They had sent her over to do business, and she was indeed in the wrong when she went to see Jonathan with her luggage and angered Angela.

Moreover, Jonathan completely refused to do business with her family. because of this incident, and she was growing extremely frustrated.

Cassandra deeply regretted her actions, so much so that her nerves unwittingly stood on end at the sight of Angela.

Upon seeing that Angela was in a decent mood, she hurried to keep up with her and took the opportunity to ask, "Mrs. Lawson, are you here to see Mr. Lawson?"

Angela was unbothered by Cassandra following her, but she didn't expect her to continue the conversation. After a doubtful glance at her, she shook her head lightly. She was accompanying Jonathan to the office, not there

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Chapter 410 More Beautiful Than Flowers

to see him. However, she was not kind enough to explain this to Cassandra.

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Naturally, Cassandra noticed that Angela did not want to speak to her, but she had no choice but to continue currying favor from her. After all, she couldn't leave the business negotiations hanging. She believed that as long as she established a good relationship with Angela, she would succeed at signing the contract with Jonathan.

Confused by Cassandra's persistence, Angela continued on her way, unsure of the intentions behind her actions. Despite Cassandra's friendly demeanor, she wasn't used to her presence, and she wasn't fond of it either.

"Mrs. Lawson, are you heading to the rest area?" Cassandra's face was nearly turning stiff from forcing a smile, but she continued to ask politely.

Angela shook her head. "I'm just taking a stroll."

She had planned to go to the rest area to read a book and have some tea, but she didn't want to admit it in front of Cassandra to prevent her from talking to her. Despite this, she still made her way toward the rest area.

Feeling awkward by Angela's behavior, Cassandra could only let out an embarrassed laugh before she asked somewhat stiffly, "Could you please check with Mr. Lawson if he is available?"

"You can ask Mr. Lorenzo," Angela replied before walking directly into the rest area, leaving Cassandra behind.

Fortunately, Cassandra was tactful enough not to follow her.

While Angela was enjoying her free time, Fanny heard a phone ringing at Scarlet's ward. Startled, she quickly located the source of the sound on the hospital bed and recognized that it was Christopher's phone at a glance. In order not to disturb Scarlet, she stepped out of the room to answer the

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Chapter 410 More Beautiful Than Flowers

call.

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However, upon answering, the caller provided an address and room number without much explanation. At the sight of the name "Jane" on the screen, Fanny recalled her blind date with Christopher and did not dare to say a word out of fear. Fortunately, the caller hung up after giving the address and room number.

By the time Fanny returned to her senses, she had already memorized the details.

Meanwhile, Christopher was being scolded by Florence's associates.

As the bodyguard drove him back, he questioned him, "Are you sure your phone is at the hospital? You're not trying to take this chance to escape, are you?"

There were only the two of them in the car as Florence found it

inconvenient to make another return trip, so she had exited the vehicle when it stopped in front of Jonathan's office building. However, she strictly instructed the bodyguard not to let Christopher escape.

Although the bodyguard doubted Christopher would attempt to flee, he kept a close eye on him and even resorted to verbal threats before exiting the car.

Christopher, aware of the consequences, did not entertain any thoughts of escape either.

Despite having other means to contact Jonathan, he could not leave his phone at the hospital. This was also the reason why he suggested returning to retrieve his phone when Florence failed to reach Jonathan through the company phone.

When the car stopped, he hurriedly exited while the bodyguard followed closely, monitoring his every move.

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Chapter 410 More Beautiful Than Flowers

Christopher headed straight for Scarlet's ward, where he spotted Fanny waiting outside.

Chris, you're back?" Fanny whipped around upon hearing his footsteps, and she looked surprised to see him return so quickly.

She had assumed that he would take a long time to return after he had been taken away, and she hadn't expected to see him again so soon.

Unaware of Fanny's thoughts, Christopher hurriedly stopped in his tracks. and whispered to the bodyguard, "Can you wait here? I'll speak to her for a few minutes and ask about my phone."

The bodyguard shot him a look and said, "Two minutes."

Upon receiving his permission, Christopher hurriedly darted over to Fanny. It was only then that she noticed he had brought someone along. The man was dressed like the one who had invited him out earlier, but they were not the same person. She halted in place, watching as he approached her.

"Fanny, why haven't you gone home to rest?" Christopher asked with concern, noticing her pale face as soon as he got close.

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