

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

Chapter 431

Chapter 431 Birds of a Feather Flock Together

Fanny allowed Kaydron to guide her into the cinema, almost as if she were a puppet. Noticing that Fanny had stopped resisting and appeared more at ease, Kaydron led her into the cinema.

Fanny was tightly wrapped, her head down, as Kaydron guided her inside. She missed the three girls and one boy ahead of them, having their tickets checked. Among the group, the girls included Yoanna, while Angela was absent, and eventually, Mobius joined them.

Coincidentally, they were all there to watch the same movie. Midway through the film, Mobius excuses himself to use the restroom. As he approaches the restroom door, he overhears a female voice. Momentarily confused, he glances up to ensure he is in the correct place and confirms it is the men's restroom.

Meanwhile, Kaydron had Fanny pressed against the restroom stall door. Unable to focus on the movie, he began making advances towards her shortly after it began. Initially resistant, Fanny eventually succumbed to his persistence and threats. Despite the cinema's dim lighting, Kaydron continued pushing the boundaries, prompting Fanny to seek an escape. Before the movie reached its halfway point, she suggested a trip to the

restroom.

Kaydron likely expected a quick return initially. However, once Fanny entered the women's restroom, her delay was beyond his control. Unexpectedly, he eagerly agreed to accompany her, even suggesting they go together. This proposal left Fanny puzzled and unsure of his intentions.

Nonetheless, she remained composed. Deciding not to exit the restroom once inside, she was taken aback when he forcefully dragged her into the men's bathroom. Despite her attempts to cry out, he silenced her by threatening to post her photos online.

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Chapter 431 Birds of a Feather Flock Together

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Terrified and repulsed by his actions, Fanny endured his advances, fearing the consequences of getting her photos spread out. As Kaydron's behavior escalated, a knock on the stall door interrupted them. Recognizing the voice outside from Mobius, Fanny trembled in fear.

Kaydron, initially dismissive of the interruption, grew suspicious of Fanny's reaction and confronted Mobius. Kaydron taunted her by asking if Mobius was her classmate, causing her to cringe in his arms.

Though she avoided eye contact, Mobius easily identified her. After all, Kaydron had already uncovered Fanny's disguises, so Mobius recognized her just by half of her profile.

Despite recognizing her, Mobius did not mention seeing Fanny and Kaydron embracing each other willingly.

"Can I help you?" he asked.

Fanny buried her head in Kaydron's chest, overwhelmed by the scent. However, when she heard Mobius' question, she frantically shook her head.

Seeing her shake her head, Mobius glanced at Kaydron, then turned and left.

Once Mobius left, Kaydron pinched Fanny's chin and asked, "Did you bring that guy here?"

Once again, Fanny vigorously shook her head. "My photo is still in your hands. How do I dare to bring someone here? I don't know him."

If I could find someone, I would have wanted them to kill you, she thought.

But she could not find anyone to help her, and she could not trust anyone else.

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Chapter 431 Birds of a Feather Flock Together

Seeing that Kaydron did not believe her, Fanny quickly changed her attitude to calm him down. She tentatively closed the door to the room, and once it was closed, she felt like she had lost all sense of shame. Even though she thought disgusted inside, she had to

do this to keep Kaydron under control. If she did not want to be entangled and manipulated by him and refused to have more people find out, she could only find a way to get rid of the things he used to threaten her.

If she could not find someone to get rid of him, she could only take a roundabout way, soften his attitude, and then find an opportunity to delete her photos. After thinking it through, Fanny worked even harder.

“You know when to give in, huh?”

Kaydron was satisfied with the session and happily hugged her out of the cinema, heading straight to the nearest hotel.

Mobius, who had just left the cinema, mentioned seeing Fanny to Yoanna. She impressed him because of the time she spent with Yaxley before they discovered some strange things about Her.

If it were not for some of the things she did afterward, it would have given her a bad reputation. They might still have a strong filter for her. As soon as he mentioned her name, Sophia, who had been silent, suddenly spoke

1. up.

“She deserves it!”

Sophia used to be lively but became introverted and reserved after the incident in Riverdod. However, when it came to Fanny’s businesses, she was very vocal about her disgust towards her.

Mobius also knows about Sophia’s conflict with Fanny and remembers that Fanny had deliberately planned to be with Yaxley in the first place, so he joins the hatred toward Fanny with her in hate.

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Chapter 431 Birds of a Feather Flock Together

Ava did not interact with Fanny much, but the few times they did, she did not have a good impression of her. Moreover, Sophia was her good friend, and Fanny had caused harm to Sophia, so naturally, she disliked Fanny

too.

After leaving the cinema, they went to another place to eat, which was quite lively. However, none of them expected to see Fanny again. She was sitting at the table

beside them, embraced by a man. They stopped talking then and secretly observed the table next to them.

Kaydron chose the table in the corner to take advantage of Fanny at any time.

When Kaydron passed by the table where Yoanna and the others were sitting, it was separated by a lush green plant. Yoanna and the others exchanged glances and then lowered their heads to eat.

It was only when Kaydron brought Fanny to the table that they looked up. Initially, they just wanted to hear what was happening between Fanny and Kaydron, but they unexpectedly heard something related to them. During their conversation, Kaydron and Fanny mentioned Ava.

“Do you know Miss Collier from Collier Residence?” Kaydron inquired. Fanny.

Fanny confidently stated, “Why would I deceive you? My relationship with Ava has always been strong!”

Her confidence stemmed from knowing that Kaydron was utterly unaware of Collier Residence. Having previously been involved with Yaxley, she could not understand how Kaydron could be aware of the situation, especially since Yaxley and Ava’s hatred toward her was due to Sophia.

Frustrated with Kaydron’s nonchalant behavior towards her, she used Ava as a pretext to make him respectful toward her.

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Chapter 432

Chapter 432 Insight into the Conspiracy

Upon hearing that Fanny was acquainted with Ava and had a positive relationship with her, Kaydron’s interest was piqued.

“Do you know Mr. Yaxley, who recently returned to Northland from the Collier Family?” Kaydron’s eyes sparkled with a cunning idea, although he casually inquired of Fanny.

Fanny, aware of her past deception towards Yaxley, treads carefully before responding.

“I have crossed paths with him, but we are not particularly close,” Fanny cautiously replied.

Given her previous conflicts with the Collier Family, she harbored a fear that Kaydron might request her assistance.

If Kaydron were to ask for her help, how could I possibly comply, having previously offended the Collier Family and been disregarded by them? she thought.

Feeling anxious, Fanny simply aimed to leverage Ava’s name to dissuade him from mistreating her, with no intention of aiding him.

Observing Kaydron lost in contemplation, she softened her tone and suggested, “If you wish to meet Mr. Yaxley from the Collier Family in the future, I could arrange an introduction through Ava.”

Though her words were vague, they captured Kaydron’s interest.

Kaydron, a businessman who had struggled with his ventures due to a lack of connections, saw an opportunity to enhance his business prospects through a potential relationship with the Collier Family.

“In that case, do not hesitate to contact me when the time comes.”

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Chapter 432 Insight into the Conspiracy

Kaydron’s demeanor towards Fanny noticeably improved. His attitude was more earnest now.

Suppressing her disdain, Fanny nodded in agreement.

After a brief exchange, Kaydron’s satisfaction was evident. Tentatively, Fanny inquired, “Mr.Kaydron, you won’t share those photos of me with the public, right?”

“What photos? How can I hurt you like that? I love you so much.” Kaydron embraced her, reassuring her, “Secure an introduction to Mr. Yaxley for me, and I will love you from the bottom of my heart.”

Concerned about the photos, Fanny persisted. She doubted Kaydron’s sincerity.

Glancing at her, Kaydron responded, "Once you facilitate the introduction, I will delete the photos."

Despite his words, Kaydron had no intention of deleting them.

"Very well, Mr. Kaydron. I will do my best." Fanny feigned confidence, but she was skeptical of his promise.

Observing his smug demeanor, she hesitated before continuing.

"However..."

She hinted at a personal issue, prompting him to inquire further.

Fanny hesitated before revealing, "I have a younger sister who has been causing trouble for me. If I am preoccupied with her, Ava may not be easily appeased about it."

Kaydron scrutinized he

tempting to discern the truth behind her words. Despite feeling illustered, she maintained her composure.

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Chapter 432 Insight into the Conspiracy

"What do you suggest I do?" Kaydron inquired.

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Fanny breathed a sigh of relief. "Just create some trouble for her, as she did for me. That night, she caused me to drink excessively."

As she spoke, Fanny became increasingly convinced of the falsehoods she was spinning. Previously, she had shifted the blame onto Angela in front of Joseph for Jane and Kaydron's actions. Now, she repeated the same strategy with Kaydron, falsely accusing Angela of getting her drunk.

Kaydron squinted. His greasy face twitched while he was smiling, revealing a few yellow teeth. "Alright, I'll help you deal with her and make her face the consequences."

Fanny responded quickly, "Thank you, Mr. Kaydron. I'll assist you as soon as possible."

At that moment, Kaydron noticed the people at the adjacent table preparing to leave after finishing their meal. A group of four, all appearing to be girls, walked lightly. He casually glanced over but did not pay much

attention.

Fanny, however, did not notice anyone leaving as her back was turned to the neighboring table.

Yoanna and Ava flanked Mobius while Sophia walked behind, obstructing Kaydron's view. The four managed to pay and exit the restaurant without attracting Kaydron and Fanny's attention. Once outside, they all wore expressions of disbelief.

"So, Fanny and that guy were working together. I used to think she was..." Mobius could not help but feel disgusted.

He recalled seeing Fanny and Kaydron in the movie theater restroom before and had thought Fanny was being coerced. Now, in retrospect, they deliberately sought thrills in public places. The thought made him feel

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nauseous once more.

Ava also felt nauseous, while Sophia and Yoanna were mainly angry.

Yoanna continued, "I'll call Angela and advise her to be cautious and vigilant."

Sophia added quickly, "Provide Angela with all the details or take the initiative to investigate **that** guy."

"I'll explain everything clearly, but only Mobius has seen that guy's face. Do you know who he is?"

Mobius shook his head.

The group exchanged information again and discussed how to approach. Angela before Yoanna finally made the call. During this period, she had lunch with Angela in the cafeteria whenever she was free, becoming the group member who spent the most time with her

Before receiving the call, Angela was in Jonathan's office reading a book.

Having declined Yoanna's invitation to watch a movie earlier, she left school to seek out Jonathan. With only one week left of training, she felt confident about the final test, especially after performing well on the previous one. If she passed the test and were selected, she would likely join the training camp like the others chosen. At that point, she might have to part ways with Jonathan.

Angela could not bear the thought of being separated from Jonathan, so she seized every opportunity to spend time with him. Jonathan understood her feelings, and although he had decided to accompany her to the training camp regardless of the circumstances, he did not reveal it in advance. He feared that unforeseen circumstances might arise. His wife would be even more upset if he gave her hope, which would be shattered. Moreover, he enjoyed having his wife close to him.

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Chapter 432 Insight into the Conspiracy

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Jonathan signed the final document on his desk, then looked up at Angel, quietly reading a book. His gaze was as tender as ever. Sensing his gaze, Angela put down the book and met his eyes. As they locked eyes, they **saw** love reflected in each other's gaze. Angela was about to ask him if he had finished his work when her phone rang suddenly.

She took out her phone and saw that Yoanna was calling. Without hesitation, she answered the call. As soon as the call connected, Yoanna's voice came through.

"Angela, you must watch out for a chubby guy named Reed. Fanny instigated him to cause trouble for you!"

These words caused Angela to furrow her brow.

Jonathan got up and walked over to Angela. She put the call on speakerphone and asked Yoanna, "Yoanna, can you provide more details?"

Wasn't Yoanna supposed to be watching a movie?
How *did she* suddenly come across *this* news? Angela thought.

Yoanna wasted no time recounting her encounter with Kaydron and Fanny at the movie theater and restaurant. Since multiple people had discussed and organized it, the recounting was clear and well-organized.

Upon finishing her account, Yoanna reminded her, "Angela, please be cautious of them!"

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Chapter 433

Chapter 433 A Wannabe

"What does that guy look like, and what is his name?" Jonathan asked.

"I'm not sure about his looks. Mobius has seen him," Yoanna replied, realizing it was Jonathan who asked the question.

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Blushing, she continued, "Are you really with Mr. Lawson, Angela?"

Angela smiled. "Did you think I came to Jonathan's company just to fool you?"

Her joke lightened the severe atmosphere.

Mobius spoke up, "Angela, don't mind her. The movie she mentioned wasn't good. It's a good thing you didn't come."

Ava and Sophia also exchanged greetings with Angela and Jonathan on the phone.

Realizing many people were on their side, Angela reassured them, "I will be careful. You don't need to worry."

After hearing her assurances, they hung up. Before hanging up, Jonathan made another call.

When he returned, Angela said severely, "Don't worry, I will be careful."

Since Yoanna and the others had informed her, she was determined to be cautious. Jonathan had arranged bodyguards, so she felt

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Chapter 433 A Wannabe

secure, but she worried about the unknown enemy.

"I'll pick you up in a few days," Jonathan said. "I'll request Yarrison to inspect Fanny."

Angela felt reassured by this. The next day, Jonathan insisted on taking her to school, a gesture she initially deemed unnecessary but accepted gratefully. During the morning training session, Angela couldn't help but notice a shift in her classmates' energy.

Yaxley's absence went unnoticed, with no one bothering to inquire about it. Though some glances seemed peculiar, Angela paid them no mind at first. However, the intensity of the stares grew after class, leaving her feeling uneasy. During the break, Tyler approached her.

“Is something wrong?” Angela asked.

Tyler, who disliked her, replied, “The mentor is looking for you.”

Confused, Angela followed him to the office building.

Tyler asked if she heard the gossip, staring at her like a monster.

“What gossip?” Angela asked.

Tyler looked disdainful, “Your brother is dying, and you’re heartless?”

Angela’s expression turned icy. “I don’t have a brother.”

“You don’t have a brother? What about the one in the hospital? And

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Chapter 433 A Wannabe

you harmed your sister? I can’t believe it.”

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“I don’t have a sister.” Angela suddenly realized that Tyler might have heard some rumors. “What you heard is just gossip.”

“Gossip? It seemed quite detailed.” Tyler scrutinized Angela, clearly skeptical.

Ignoring him, Angela inquired, “Did the mentor call me because of this gossip?”

Tyler was about to respond but noticed Lara emerging from the office building and remained silent.

Lara approached Angela with a smile. “Angela, the mentor, is waiting for you. I’ll take you to him.”

Angela followed Lara upstairs to the office. The mentor, looking severe, awaited Angela.

After Lara left, the mentor asked, “Is it true that you didn’t save your brother and framed your sister?”

“No,” Angela replied calmly.

“I don’t have a brother or sister. I can show you my identification if you don’t believe me.”

She felt repulsed by the Kins Family members and suspected they were behind the rumors. However, she hesitated to expose their shameful family issues, not wanting to stoop to their level. While the Kins Family seemed ashamed, she held herself to a higher

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Chapter 433 A Wannabe

standard.

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The mentor saw her innocence and believed her for the most part.

“We don’t need to see your identification. But the whole class is gossiping about you. How do you want to handle it?” The mentor’s tone softened.

Angela stated, “Call the police.”

The Kins Family thought spreading rumors would intimidate her, but she would not back down.

The mentor nodded in approval, said a few more words, and left Angela to handle the situation.

Without hesitation, Angela returned to the training area after leaving the office. As she approached the classroom, she overheard hushed conversations that ceased as she entered. It dawned on her that someone was deliberately spreading rumors.

During the usual self–study time, she addressed the class from the platform.

“There were discussions this morning, and the rumor–monger misled you. I’ve reported the rumors to the police. When they arrive, I hope you’ll cooperate and help identify the culprit.”

Her words shocked the students. They had viewed her as heartless, but her straightforwardness surprised them. Some doubted her lack of siblings and dared to ask.

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Chapter 433 A Wannabe

Angela had Oliver bring her identification from outside, stating firmly, “Check the identification later.”

The police arrived simultaneously with Oliver. Angela promptly explained the situation and patiently waited for their investigation. After reviewing her identification and questioning witnesses, the police confirmed Angela’s account—it was all merely a rumor. They proceeded to inquire about the source of the rumor among the students, eventually discovering that a paper accusing Angela had been posted on the podium before class.

Despite the despicable method, the convincing content had deceived everyone.

Angela was speechless. “Where is that paper?”

No one knew its whereabouts.

As the discussion continued, the police escorted Angela out of the classroom and asked, “Do you have any suspects?”

“Yes,” Angela calmly replied, providing a name.

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Chapter 434 The Instigator

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At this moment, Angela, the person spreading rumors about her, could only think of Kins Family. Just the day before, Yoanna had warned her, and the first person that crossed her mind was Fanny.

Angela thought, *However, it is likely that Fanny is preoccupied with dealing with Kaydron and w*

ouldn't have the time to cause trouble for me. These rumors are meant to pressure me to assist Zacharias and protect Fanny. Therefore, the instigator behind it all must be Joseph.

The police made a note of Joseph's name and assured Angela that they would investigate. They then proceeded to review the surveillance footage.

While the police conducted their investigation, Angela continued her training as usual.

Meanwhile, Tyler sat beside Angela, occasionally stealing glances in her direction.

Feeling uneasy under Tyler's intense gaze, Angela tried to ignore him. However, his stares became more persistent, making her increasingly uncomfortable. "Is there something on your mind?" She turned and looked at him, wondering, *Is it because Yaxley didn't come today, so Tyler's glued himself to me?*

Tyler shook his head. "Nothing."

Upon hearing Tyler's response, Angela decided to ignore him again.

Soon, it was already noon. Angela went to the cafeteria, where

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Chapter 434 The Instigator

Yoanna and Mobius were waiting. Before she could leave the classroom, the two police officers leading the investigation entered. and greeted her before addressing someone else in the room.

Angela glanced unexpectedly at the person. Although unfamiliar with him, she recognized the student they called over as a fellow trainee.

"Miss Angela, we have identified the person who left the note after reviewing the surveillance footage," the police officer said.

Telvis Dillard, the student, kept his head down and appeared even more nervous upon hearing the police's words.

Others in the room paused to listen. "What? The note left by Telvis?" the student in the classroom asked.

“He doesn’t seem like the kind of person to do such a thing. His courage seems rather weak.” the other student said.

“Don’t judge a book by its cover, you know?” the other student responded. The discussion arose, with people gesturing and pointing toward Telvis.

The police approached Telvis directly and asked, “Did you write the note yourself, or did someone give it to you?”

Telvis confessed to his role in the incident, overwhelmed by the pressure.

Listening from the sidelines, Angela realized her initial suspicion was correct and thought, *Joseph is the instigator behind it all. It was*

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Chapter 434 The Instigator

Joseph who had instructed Telvis and provided him with the note.

Angela, the person involved, was standing beside Telvis, so he apologized directly to her with cowardice and guilt. “I’m sorry. I was, just momentarily confused. That person promised to give me money and told me just to stick a note. I...” In the end, he didn’t know how to continue speaking. No matter what he said, he made. excuses and tried to absolve himself of guilt.

“Where is the note?” Angela asked. She only had a slight impression of Telvis. Upon seeing him apologize so sincerely, even her anger subsided a lot. She felt more disdain towards the instigator of the whole affair, Joseph, than towards Telvis.

When asked about the note’s whereabouts, Telvis rummaged through his backpack and retrieved the paper he had hidden. The person who asked him to put up the note didn’t tell him to hide it. He had taken down the note out of fear when classmates began gossiping about it, hoping to avoid further scrutiny. Surprisingly, Angela had uncovered the truth, which resulted in the intervention of teachers and the police.

Now, he found himself torn between fear and anger towards the individual who had manipulated him into committing the deceitful

act.

“Where did that person give you this paper? We’ll check the surveillance footage.” The police officer carefully preserved the paper as necessary evidence after examining it.

With a trembling voice, Telvis quickly said, “He gave me that paper at the school gate.”

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Chapter 434 The Instigator

Upon hearing this, the teacher and security office staff arrived, and one of the security office staff mentioned, “The surveillance at the main gate is broken.”

A heavy silence fell over the group.

Telvis’ face paled even more upon learning about the broken surveillance. He thought, *The person intentionally chooses to give me the paper at a location where the surveillance is not functioning.* As he pondered this, he trembled and weakly sat on the ground.

Angela, who was nearby, was taken aback by Telvis’ sudden collapse and reached out to help him.

“What’s the name of the person who asked you to attach the paper?” Angela inquired.

Telvis was held by Angela, looking at her gratefully. However, upon hearing her inquiry, he shook his head dispiritedly and said, “I don’t know.”

Undeterred, Angela asked, “Do you remember what he looks like?” *I am convinced Joseph is behind this,* she thought. Especially after seeing the paper, her suspicions become stronger.

Telvis comes from an imperfect family background, and financial incentives could be a motivating factor for him. However, Joseph has ulterior motives.

He aims to exploit Zacharias and Fanny’s illnesses to tarnish my reputation

at school.

Despite this, Angela was unfazed by the superficial aspects, especially since she had legally severed ties with the Kins Family.

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Chapter 434 The Instigator

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“I remember!” Telvis exclaimed excitedly, nodding vigorously. Filled with regret, he realized the paper’s contents must be false, especially after almost fainting and Angela helping him. *I’ve done such a thing, and Angela is still willing to help me without holding a grudge. How could she possibly do something as heartless as watching her brother die without helping or even blaming her sister? Even if Angela has siblings, they are not worth it!*

Angela noticed the gleam in Telvis’ eyes but didn’t dwell on it. She said, “If you help identify the instigator, I can forgive you.”

“I’ll cooperate!” Telvis quickly agreed, glancing timidly at the police officer beside him.

The police officer said, “If Miss Angela forgives you, there will be no punishment.” They then took Telvis to confirm whether Joseph was indeed spreading rumors.

Angela turned to the police and said, “So, I’ll leave it to you.”

When the police took Telvis away, the teacher escorted the security office staff out. After comforting Angela with a few words, the teacher left first.

With most people gone, Angela proceeded toward the cafeteria.

Tyler continued to follow her, but she couldn’t stop him because there was only one way to the cafeteria. Ignoring him, she spotted Yoanna and Mobius on the roadside and approached them.

“Why are you so late today?” Yoanna inquired. Suddenly, after seeing Tyler walking with Angela, Yoanna raised her eyebrows in

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Chapter 434 The Instigator

confusion.

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Recognizing Tyler, Mobius stared at him more rudely than Yoanna and asked, “Tyler, why are you following Angela?”

“Just curious,” Tyler responded. He had been observing Angela for some time. There were many outstanding training students like Angela. Still, she seemed different from others. He had vaguely heard before that she possessed a unique skill, and when he considered this along with the previous rumors, he sensed a subtle quality about her.

Tyler thought, *According to gossip, Angela possesses a unique skill that can cure her brother. Her exceptional skills might be the key.*

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Chapter 435

Chapter 435 The Lackey

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Tyler had always been fascinated by Angela’s distinctive talent from the moment he discovered it. Yet, he never found a chance to approach Angela due to Yaxley’s constant presence by her side. With Yaxley missing today, he seized the opportunity to explore Angela’s backstory.

“What is the subject of your curiosity?” Yoanna abruptly interrupted his gaze without any

any courtesy. “It is not within your purview.” “What is the reason for your keen interest?”

Mobius observed Tyler cautiously and remained vigilant.

Angela was moved by the sight of the two individuals defending her in such a manner. The current treatment of her felt like safeguarding a vulnerable creature, possibly influenced by her overhearing Kaydron planning to harm her the day before.

Tyler experienced discomfort in response to the unfriendly stares. from Yoanna and Mobius, prompting him to touch his nose nervously. "I simply wished to inquire about something from Angela. Is it necessary for you to respond in such a manner?"

I have not committed any wrongdoing. Therefore, I am perplexed as to why Mobius and Yoanna are regarding me with suspicion. he thought.

Yoanna expressed disdain. "Whatever."

"We are going to have a meal. Angela is not obligated to respond to your inquiries." Mobius was also direct with Tyler.

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Chapter 435 The Lackey

Tyler cast a glance in Angela's direction.

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Angela stated in a cold tone. "Yaxley, we are going to have a meal. Goodbye." Afterward, she left with Mobius and Yoanna.

At this point, even if Tyler wants to go to the cafeteria to eat, he shouldn't get too close to them. Indeed, Tyler wasn't following them. He just glared. He thought, *I should ask Angela earlier if I know. I plan to wait until we are eating to inquire. Without that annoying Yaxley, there are still Yaxley followers following Angela.*

Meanwhile, Jonathan received the information that Yarrison had discovered.

Yarrison insisted on having lunch at this location, so he sat directly across from Jonathan. "Are you investigating Kaydron? The only recent association of Kaydron with Fanny is him." Yarrison indicated Haydron's photograph in the informational material.

"I'll inquire," Jonathan stated as he tapped on the photo and sent the MMS to Angela.

Upon receiving the photo, Angela had just arrived at the cafeteria with Yoanna and Mobius. Upon receiving Jonathan's message, she promptly sought advice from Mobius.

Mobius had previously encountered Kaydron, and upon seeing the photo, he promptly identified him. "It is he!"

After receiving confirmation from Mobius, Angela responded to Jonathan. They engaged in further communication, and ultimately, Jonathan prompted Angela to prioritize self-care and ensure her

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Chapter 435 The Lackey

safety.

Yarrison also received confirmation from Jonathan. "It's him. Maintain surveillance on him."

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Yoanna had warned Angela the previous day that Fanny was trying to incite Kaydron against her. Despite the investigation revealing Kaydron as insignificant, Jonathan did not take it lightly. Jonathan was deeply troubled by anything concerning Angela's safety.

Naturally, Yarrison had no reason to refuse. However, he was unable to resist engaging in teasing behavior. "Tsk, Jon, you seem to have a strong concern for Angela."

Jonathan cast a glance at Yarrison, expressing satisfaction with the name "Angela," and smiled smugly.

"Time for dinner." Spencer delivered the meal without waiting for the assistant to bring the food.

Yarrison was taken aback. "Is this the entirety of your dietary intake?" He arrived with the intention of enjoying a complimentary meal rather than engaging in a typical working lunch.

"Do you not desire to eat?" Jonathan asked.

Spencer expressed with a smile. "I have been preoccupied with various tasks recently. Hence I will opt for a working lunch."

Upon realizing that they were too preoccupied to pause for a break, Yarrison reluctantly consented. "Well, let us consume this." Jon, you will need to provide us with something different next time."

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Jonathan consented, and the trio seated themselves collectively. Spencer and Jonathan engaged in a discussion regarding their forthcoming arrangements, ensuring Yarrison's involvement.

Yarrison also participated in the conversation about the Shelton Family. "Jon, your prior choice to inhibit them was correct. The Shelton Family has yet to determine the perpetrator, correct?"

"Yeah, Florence should calm down for a while," Jonathan said.

While the trio enjoyed harmony, the Shelton Family was engulfed in gloom. Despite their efforts to polish their image in recent years, certain clandestine dealings and operations persisted beyond their control. These activities were conducted discreetly, often to the advantage of those in positions of power, thus avoiding any significant complications.

However, to everyone's surprise, they were caught red-handed when their operatives transported goods just two days ago. The situation became even more challenging as they were confronted by a formidable adversary—a Myers Family member with solid connections within the military.

The situation worsened with the involvement of a member of the Myers Family, who strategically placed an individual in a low-ranking position at the grassroots level—a mere squad leader. This dealt a significant blow to the reputation of the Shelton Family. Consequently, not only were the goods confiscated, but several individuals were also apprehended. Despite potential delays in locating them due to numerous obstacles, losing that particular batch of goods was regrettable.

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The Shelton Family recently had the chance to promptly invest the proceeds from that batch of goods into legitimate assets. Missing this opportunity could mean an indefinite wait before they can secure another large batch of goods.

“Have they found out who informed the Myers Family?” the elder of the Shelton Family asked.

“Not yet,” another elder of the Shelton Family responded.

In Requan Mansion, several elders sat and looked at each other, noticing anxiety in each other’s eyes.

“Where is Florence? She has been absent for an extended time. What is the current situation?” Florence was not born to any of them. However, she was the sole legitimate heir of the Shelton Family.

The former heir of the Shelton Family was Florence’s elder brother. Following his demise, Florence became the sole individual capable of assuming control of the Shelton Family. Despite being female, she had to take control.

“Deveron, did I not request for you to call Florence back?” one of the elders asked.

Deveron promptly responded. “I’ve gone to pick up Miss Shelton. She is expected to return shortly.”

Shortly after that, Florence arrived. “Do you require my assistance, uncle?” As she entered, she inquired in a leisurely manner. The individual emitted a strong odor of alcohol, and her hair appeared

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disheveled, resembling someone who had recently woken up.

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“Do you possess any insight into the events unfolding at home? You are frequently engaging in social activities!” one of the elders said.

Florence calmly rolled her eyes. “What is the significance of this matter? Are we at risk of being apprehended for engaging in smuggling activities? Or will they conduct a raid on the house?” She would not object to a raid on the Shelton Family. She was uncertain whether someone with a purpose and boldness had utilized the leaked information confidence. While she may currently hold the position of heiress, her knowledge remains insufficient.

Several elders displayed their anger towards her by pointing at her and being rendered speechless.

“What is the matter with me? I have just returned. It is irrelevant to me if any event affects the Shelton Family.” Florence shrugged innocently.

Upon hearing this, Florence’s uncle, Grady Shelton, comforted her. “We don’t mean to blame you. You’ve been back for a while now, and it’s time to take over the family affairs gradually.”

“Let me take over? Uncle Grady, are you in such a hurry? Is there a significant issue for which you want me to take responsibility?” Florence smiled innocently.

Florence thought, *it’s not advisable to promptly address issues of authority. The exploitation of the previously leaked information by an unidentified individual has caused considerable distress for the Shelton Family. Nevertheless, the specific individual remains unidentified. I am*

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currently unable *to bear responsibility for this situation*. It is *preferable to persist in dating men*.

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Grady’s facial expression became somewhat rigid.

In that instant, Florence's uncle, Dekion Shelton, interjected, "How dare you address your elders in such a manner, Florence? Your conduct is becoming increasingly unacceptable. What have you been doing lately? Don't assume we are oblivious!"

Florence gazed boldly at them and responded, "My actions are not within your purview. I happen to have a preference for a man. Is it a crime for me to come back and not be permitted to date?" *Recently, I have been openly expressing my interest in Jonathan, leading to the inevitable discovery by the astute and traditional Shelton Family elders. Nevertheless, if they are inclined to assist me in subduing Jonathan and allowing me to be the hero who aids him, I would be amenable to the proposition.*

Florence's uncle, Jasen Shelton, stepped in. "Florence, you're not a child anymore. It's time to think about marriage. However, Jonathan is not a suitable candidate. Not only is he already married, but his social status is also not appropriate for you."

Florence emitted a noncommittal chuckle. "I simply have a fondness for him."

"He is not a viable choice!" Grady expressed his statement firmly and with a severe expression.

Florence scoffed. "If we can't see eye to eye on this, let's table the discussion for now. Did you summon me back for any other reason?"

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Taken aback by Florence's stubborn attitude, the elders pondered the goods but chose to remain silent.

"I will return to sleep now." Florence nonchalantly stated while yawning as she exited.

Upon her return, Florence did not remain at the Requan Mansion. for an extended period. Conversely, the majority of her time was spent in the villa outdoors. On occasion, she would remain out overnight, either lodging at a hotel or sleeping directly at a bar.

After her departure, a brief period of silence ensued among the small group of individuals.

"Grady, how about..." one of the elders asked.

Grady was interrupted before the words could finish. "No way!"

After Florence departed, a mocking smile manifested on her countenance. Nevertheless, shortly thereafter, she resumed harassing Jonathan.

Florence got another SIM card to send Jonathan messages after he had blocked her instead of calling him. When he realized that she was messaging him, he promptly blocked the new number. Florence has been waiting for Jonathan's reply all along. She kept calling him, but no one answered. She soon realized she had been blocked again.

"You're not keeping your promise." Florence expressed her displeasure and promptly dispatched her henchman to fetch Christopher.

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After a period of waiting, the henchman was unable to locate Christopher. Upon investigation, it was found that Christopher had already arrived back in Riverdon.

"Back to Riverdon?" Florence became even angrier and went straight to Jonathan's company building. She was furious. "I'm looking for Mr. Lawson."

The receptionist was already acquainted with Florence and promptly notified Spencer.

Spencer received Florence and calmly faced her unpleasant expression. "Miss Shelton, Mr. Lawson has already departed for home ahead of schedule."

Florence wanted to explode, but upon noticing the security guards behind Spencer, it was evident they were ready for her and her henchman.

"You mentioned that he returned home? I'm going upstairs to locate him." Florence was skeptical, but she suppressed her anger upon seeing the number of people on the other side.

Spencer was left speechless, particularly when confronted with Florence's irrational behavior. "Mr. Lawson has already departed for home," he said.

The Shelton Family retained its influential status despite the perception that Florence, the heir, prioritized style over substance.

Florence was beginning to exhibit signs of agitation. "Is Mr. Lawson intentionally avoiding me?"

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“Miss Shelton, rather than concerning yourself with Mr. Lawson, it may be more prudent to focus on the welfare of the Shelton Family,” Spencer remarked as he stood up to accompany her out. “Please, Miss Shelton.”

Florence was surprised initially, but subsequently, she had an epiphany. “Let’s go!” she exclaimed as she entered and exited swiftly.

Jonathan had indeed departed early. However, he did not return home. Upon arriving at the entrance of Northland Medical. University, he was contacted by Spencer.

Jonathan smoothly changed the subject as Spencer mentioned Florence coming to see him again.

“Moreover, Florence appears indifferent to the fate of the Shelton Family,” Spencer mentioned casually.

Jonathan responded, “She probably had a hand in it.”

Spencer was taken aback on this occasion. “When was the discovery made?” During their previous dinner, Jonathan did not mention. this topic.

“Just now.” Jonathan provided a brief explanation of Yarrison’s ongoing investigation, revealing the discovery of suspicious. elements in the initial news report. Before long, Jonathan noticed Angela approaching, and they didn’t chat for long. “I’m hanging up. Angela is here.”

Before Angela reached the car, Jonathan stepped out and

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approached her.

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“How was your day?” he inquired.

Angela responded with a smile, stating, “I encountered a minor problem, but it is nearly resolved.”

Observing her lack of significant distress, Jonathan inquired, “What happened?”

Angela got into the car with him and narrated the events of the morning.

Joseph never expected that the police would find him in the hospital. He thought, *I had merely requested assistance in posting a notice that would reveal Angela's true character. What is the rationale behind the police attributing the spread of rumors to me?*

"I did not disseminate any rumors." Joseph vehemently refuted the accusation.

However, Telvis had already been brought before Joseph by the police, and upon seeing him, Joseph's facial expression momentarily became rigid.

"It's him. He's the individual who provided me with the paper." Telvis' eyes brightened with excitement when he saw Joseph. He thought, *Angela states that she will forgive me if I cooperate with the identification process. After receiving forgiveness, there will be no need for my detention.*

Joseph promptly and decisively denied any knowledge of Telvis.

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after identifying him. "I am not acquainted with him."

However, Joseph's notes were soon discovered. Upon comparison, he did indeed write the content of the paper. Joseph persisted in arguing that Angela stood by without offering help and even framed others, but the police interpreted it as a confession.

Before Angela even exited the car, she received a message from the police asking for her decision.

Joseph could be detained, but he could be released if Angela forgave him.

"I don't forgive him." Angela held her cell phone and decisively chose to decline. *I am hesitant to provide Joseph with another chance to stir up trouble. While I believe the previous warning should have been enough, I never anticipated Joseph not learning anything from it and instead worsening the situation. Considering the circumstances, I am considering allowing Joseph to be detained for a few days to restore some peace. Regarding Zacharias and Fanny's illnesses, both of them harbor ill will towards me. Even if they were to succumb to their illnesses, how does it*

concern me?

After enduring the interrogation process and several days of detention by the police, Angela finally hung up the phone.

Jonathan gazed at her once the call had concluded. "Is everything sorted out?"

"All issues have been resolved. Joseph will be detained for a few days, allowing us some leisure time." Angela smiled.

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Jonathan extended his hand and playfully ruffled her hair. "You are amazing."

Angela blushed immediately, lowered her head, and was unsure of how to react.

Jonathan, perceiving her shyness, embraced her and chose not to continue teasing her.

Upon Angela's response, Joseph was promptly escorted by police in the presence of his colleagues and Zacharias.

Zacharias never anticipated that Joseph would disseminate rumors. about Angela. Moreover, the situation escalated to the extent that police had to intervene and remove him from the scene. He stood in a state of shock, observing Joseph being escorted away, his countenance pale and immobile.

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Chapter 437 A Successful Match

Zacharias approached Joseph to inquire about the results of the matching. He was aware that this point should have revealed the results of the matching process between himself and Fanny.

However, despite seeking clarification from the doctor, he was not furnished with any information.

Before Zacharias could receive the results from Joseph, the police unexpectedly entered his hospital ward and subsequently took Joseph away. Zacharias was surprised by Joseph's accusations against Angela. Despite harboring skepticism, the preponderance of evidence was compelling, compelling him to acknowledge the integrity of the situation.

Upon Joseph's departure, Zacharias remained in silence for an extended period. After his eyes had dried from staring blankly, he eventually recollected to get in touch with Angela. Despite Zacharias overhearing the police questioning Angela's forgiveness towards Joseph, he still maintained a glimmer of hope for an alternative resolution.

Following the dialing of the number, an extended period elapsed with no response, leading to a profound sense of disappointment in Zacharias. "It seems... we've been blocked." He suddenly recalled Joseph's mention of Angela having blocked their phone numbers. At that moment, Joseph also commented that Angela displayed genuine heartlessness.

Steadying his slightly dizzy head, Zacharias opted against further exploration of the issue. He thought, *Joseph had committed a wrongdoing and should be temporarily detained. Hopefully, he will acquire*

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knowledge from this experience.

After recollecting that Angela had blocked him, Zacharias harbored no inclination to exert further effort. After a brief moment of contemplation, he realized that he could not prolong the wait any further. Consequently, he made the decision to revisit the matching results.

Zacharias encountered Gregory once more.

"Back again?" Gregory's brows furrowed slightly upon sighting Zacharias. "Didn't I tell you the results are with Joseph? He desires for us to maintain confidentiality. It is advisable to inquire with him regarding the matter." Given their professional relationship, he and Joseph were colleagues. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that he would not have violated the commitment upon receiving instructions from Joseph.

Zacharias said with a bowed head. "Joseph had been taken away."

Upon receiving this information, Gregory was surprised. He had been preoccupied previously and had not yet been informed about Joseph's circumstances. "By whom?" he inquired.

Zacharias provided a brief explanation and subsequently opted not to elaborate further. Instead, he inquired once more about the matching results.

"I am uncertain about the results," Gregory replied, unwilling to provide additional information. Alternatively, he proposed. "In case Joseph is unavailable, you may consider consulting your mother. She might be aware."

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Zacharias doubted Gregory's lack of awareness regarding the results. He had a vague suspicion that Gregory refrained from informing him due to the success of the match. "Thank you, Dr. Gregory. I won't bother you any longer," he stated before promptly leaving the office without any further remarks.

Instead of engaging with Scarlet, Zacharias endeavored to communicate with Fanny. Zacharias consciously avoided potential conflict and was mindful of Scarlet's sentiments regarding their potential match. He thought, *so be it, then. Additionally, I intend to relocate to another medical facility for the kidney transplant procedure alongside Fanny.* Nevertheless, he has not yet succeeded in contacting Fanny via cell phone.

Meanwhile, Fanny, engrossed with Kaydron, inadvertently muted her phone to avoid any interruptions. They were not elsewhere. Instead, they were at Kaydron's residence. After Kaydron had fallen asleep, Fanny, with a look of disgust, left the bed and observed his phone on the bedside table. She covertly brought it with her to the bathroom. She sought to ascertain the whereabouts of the photo. However, the phone was secured with a password, impeding her ability to retrieve them. Feeling frustrated, Fanny returned the phone and departed from Kaydron's residence. Upon her departure, she observed the missed calls from Zacharias and promptly contemplated the forthcoming kidney donation.

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In recent days, Fanny has been unable to visit the hospital due to various reasons. However, her thoughts have been preoccupied with her compatibility with Zacharias. Despite her inability to openly express her desire for a successful match, she was keen to locate a compatible kidney.

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Joseph had not succeeded in contacting Fanny before Scarlet. approached him.

“Zac, where is Joseph? What is the reason for his absence from either your place or the office?” Scarlet’s complexion was no longer pale as it had been upon waking up. After a period of rest, her condition significantly improved.

Zacharias tensed up instinctively, displaying uncertainty when formulating a response.

Upon observing his changed expression, Scarlet promptly detected an issue and inquired urgently, “What is the matter? Where can Joseph be located?”

Zacharias sighed with a somber expression and replied, “Mom, Joseph has been apprehended by the police.”

Scarlet’s expression underwent an immediate change. “What? The police! How could Joseph be taken when he was fine?” Before Zacharias could respond, she anxiously exclaimed. “Was it Angela who caused this? She has consistently harbored animosity towards our family. If something happened to Joseph, it must be her responsibility.”

Zacharias was momentarily rendered speechless. He maintained silence as Scarlet persisted in articulating her anger and frustration, harboring a desire to confront Angela and seek retribution. She was using profane language in an extremely disagreeable manner.

Initially, Zacharias harbored no intention of speaking out. However, as Scarlet’s insults escalated in inoffensiveness and

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became increasingly intolerable, he quietly uttered. “Mother, Joseph erred unintentionally.”

It had been a while since Joseph was taken away by the police, causing Zacharias’ emotions to transition from shock and disbelief to a state of composure and rationality. Despite Angela’s

involvement in the incident, he was aware that it was not her fault. On the contrary, Angela was portrayed as the victim, while Joseph, depicted as the wrongdoer, was deemed deserving of punishment. and justified in being taken away.

“What? Zacharias, what are you saying?” Scarlet gazed at Zacharias with a look of disbelief as though she had just been confronted with something incredulous and inquired, “Are you implying that it is Joseph’s responsibility? Have we, as a family, ever mistreated you, Zacharias? Has Joseph recently been taking your well-being into consideration in all matters? How could such hurtful words be directed towards Joseph? Will you align yourself with Angela, akin to a traitor?”

Under the circumstances of being angrily scolded and questioned by Scarlet, Zacharias experienced feelings of discomfort and confusion, leading to an irregular heart rate. His respiration rate increased, and he struggled to inhale air. His complexion paled while he clarified. "I did not intend it in that manner. I... *gasps*." He experienced difficulty in breathing, resembling symptoms of an asthma attack, accompanied by trembling and convulsions, presenting a distressing and alarming sight.

Scarlet was frightened by the situation, prompting her to move closer to offer comfort. "Don't be fearful. I shouldn't have made those statements. I was momentarily disoriented due to the intense

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emotions of the situation." Her excessive anger led her to speak impulsively, resulting in subsequent regret. However, despite her comforting words, Zacharias remained unaffected as he continued to convulse and shake uncontrollably, with what seemed to be saliva dripping from his mouth.

Scarlet became distressed and promptly summoned a doctor.

When the doctor arrived, he promptly administered emergency treatment to Zacharias, including injections, and provided physical comfort before proceeding with an examination.

The doctor instructed Scarlet to leave the room, after which she waited outside, experiencing a blend of anger and regret as she paced back and forth.

Shortly thereafter, a nurse emerged and inquired about the situation. "Why did the patient suddenly become agitated?"

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Scarlet hesitated while expressing. "It was simply a minor disagreement. I am uncertain about the reason for his sudden and abrupt reaction. Is he alright?" She had not yet determined the reason for Joseph's removal by the police. The situation escalated as a result of the disagreement with Zacharias regarding whether Angela was responsible for it.

The idea of Zacharias advocating for Angela caused Scarlet to experience discomfort.

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Chapter 438 Severe Depression Tendencies

The nurse requested additional information from Scarlet. Scarlet's complexion paled, revealing her hesitance to respond. She thought, "*Family matters are meant to be kept confidential. How can I be open to discussing the events transpiring at home?*"

Upon noticing Scarlet's hesitation, the nurse proceeded to offer additional clarification. "The patient is facing not only physical challenges but also mental struggles. Emotional support plays a crucial role. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to share any relevant information you may possess."

Scarlet's complexion became even paler upon hearing this. "What? Mental health concerns as well?"

The nurse regarded her with a puzzled expression. "The patient has been contending with enduring mental challenges, exhibiting a pronounced inclination towards depression. Were you not cognizant?"

Scarlet appeared flustered. "Allow me to see him. I can provide solace. I'm his mother."

However, the nurse intervened. "The patient is currently

undergoing the recovery process. Your presence could potentially be excessively intense for him. Please refrain from entering until he has settled."

Scarlet stands outside in a state of confusion, softly speaking to herself. "Severe depression?" Unlike rural women such as Britney, she has a profound understanding of the seriousness of depression.

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In Riverdon, there were accounts of juvenile individuals. experiencing depression and considering suicide. They all conveyed their sympathy. Scarlet never anticipated that Zacharias would suffer from depression, especially severe depression.

Scarlet lingered outside for an extended period, almost reaching the limits of her patience, until the door to the ward eventually opened. The medical personnel caring for Zacharias came out, leading Scarlet to approach them with concern. "Doctor, how is Zacharias? Is he alright?" she inquired cautiously. She

communicated subduedly, seemingly cautious not to disrupt Zacharias indoors while seeking validation.

“He has now regained his composure. It is advisable to avoid further provocation of him.” one medical staff member informed Scarlet.

Scarlet nodded affirmatively, and as the other medical personnel started to leave, she promptly inquired about the depression. She posed the inquiry, and naturally, the doctor would not neglect to respond. The doctor paused and said, “His current state is rather critical. The medication prescribed for his treatment was previously dispensed to him, and he has been adhering to the regimen. You should also allocate more attention to him in your daily life.”

Scarlet experienced an accelerated heart rate, filled with fear as she listened. Subsequently, the doctor uttered additional words, yet she failed to perceive them. She perceived the doctor’s words as if he had delivered a fatal verdict on Zacharias. She thought, *Zacharias to be very youthful. How could he be facing death?*

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Scarlet lost track of the doctor’s departure, preoccupied by the realization that Angela was responsible for Zacharias’ condition. She thought *his illness would be cured long ago if only Angela is willing to assist Zacharias.* At this point, Scarlet has overlooked the numerous instances in which Angela saved Zacharias from near- death situations and diligently cares for him until he reaches a minimally sustainable condition. At that moment, Scarlet was consumed by profound animosity towards Angela, wishing for Angela to confront her and terminate her life promptly. If possible, she even desired for Angela to experience a thousand times more suffering before facing her death.

“Mom, are you still outdoors?” Zacharias inquired.

A weak voice from the hospital ward resonated, immediately dispelling Scarlet’s evil intentions. “Yes, I am here,” she responded promptly.

Despite Zacharias’ prior defence of Angela, Scarlet experienced a deep sense of sorrow for her delicate and unwell son. Scarlet became increasingly anxious as Zacharias coughed twice and promptly pushed the door open.

“Zacharias, refrain from speaking if you are not feeling well. I am present. I am by your side.” Observing Zacharias pallid · complexion, Scarlet’s heart shattered even more deeply. Taking a seat beside the bedside, she looked at Zacharias with fondness.

Zacharias permitted her to grasp his hand, and with lowered eyes, he murmured, “Mom, Joseph will be detained for a few days.” He thought, *I am too impulsive in arguments with Mom and experiencing near-fainting episodes. Despite receiving medical treatment, I possess a*

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*profound understanding of my physical condition. I **can** withstand physical pain. However, enduring mental anguish is a challenge that I cannot sustain for an extended period. The mental anguish intensifies daily. I am uncertain about the duration for which I can persevere. However, I aim to introduce some changes within my family dynamics. I aim to **persuade** Mom to cease her animosity towards Angela.*

“Detained for a few days?” Scarlet had presumed that Joseph had been brought in for questioning. However, she had not foreseen a prompt resolution. She exhibited a combination of surprise and anger. Nevertheless, in light of Zacharias’ circumstances, she promptly regained her composure and inquired softly, “What did Joseph do? Why was he detained?”

Zacharias didn’t respond promptly. Conversely, he meticulously analyzed Scarlet’s facial expression. Observing Scarlet’s reduced agitation, he stated, “Joseph wrote a defamatory letter displayed in Angela’s training classroom, resulting in substantial harm to her.” Maintaining a composed demeanor, he closely observed Scarlet while he spoke.

Scarlet’s brows furrowed involuntarily, and she initiated speech but refrained from continuing. She didn’t believe Joseph would spread rumors. She also aimed to avoid causing Zacharias any distress.

Upon noticing her conflicted expression, Zacharias murmured, “Mom, it’s not Angela’s fault after all.”

“Despite any lack of guilt on her part, Angela does not exhibit the qualities of a morally upright individual. You shouldn’t always be thinking about speaking up for her. She’s...” Scarlet unintentionally caused Zacharias distress as her opinions influenced her speech,

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prompting her to fall silent.

Zacharias emitted a sigh.

The sigh surprised Scarlet, leading her to ask, “What’s wrong? Are you experiencing any discomfort in your health? I did not intend any implications for my actions. I simply wish to prevent any potential misguidance caused by that girl.”

Zacharias weakly gestured with his hand, opting to remain silent.

Scarlet observed the situation and added, "Zacharias, please comply with the treatment. Everything will be fine."

Zacharias shut his eyes without responding.

A moment of silence ensued between them.

Just as Scarlet thought Zacharias was falling asleep, he abruptly asked, "Mom, was the match successful?"

The question startled Scarlet. She replied with an utterance of "hmm" before assuming a tense posture and standing up suddenly. "No!" she exclaimed, as though retracting her prior statement.

Zacharias said, "If it was successful, we should expedite the scheduling of the surgery. While Fanny's kidney may be operational, postponing the procedure is not recommended."

Upon receiving a diagnosis of kidney issues, Fanny was in the initial stages of the condition and had already commenced medication to control it. Given the relatively stable condition, the transition from

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the early to late stage would not occur immediately, Con

despite their ongoing search for a kidney donor, there was a Jack of urgency.

"No way!" Scarlet realized she should have refuted the match results instead of the surgery and quickly added, "The match was not successful."

"Is that so?" Zacharias gazed at her.

Scarlet insisted. "It was not successful. Hence, your kidney is not suitable for transplantation to Fanny."

Zacharias observed her with great focus.

Despite feeling nervous, Scarlet maintained her position.

Observing Zacharias' hesitance and reluctance to concede, Scarlet said, "You don't need for concern about this matter! James is in search of Fanny's kidney. Just prioritize your health."

Zacharias emitted a gentle, nearly imperceptible sigh and responded with a solitary word.

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Chapter 439 Seek Help

Upon receiving Zacharias' response, Scarlet was relieved of her anxiety. Nevertheless, upon recollecting the doctor's caution regarding Zacharias' inclination towards depression, she found herself experiencing feelings of anxiety and apprehension. She felt an instinctual urge to provide comfort, prompting her to shift the conversation by reminiscing about past events.

Initially, Zacharias was indecisive about his intentions and remained silent while she spoke.

However, as Scarlet elaborated on their tranquil life in Riverdon before Angela's disruptive influence, he was prompted to recall images from his dreams.

Scarlet's mood was consistently soured whenever Angela was mentioned, as she attributed the current state of their family to Angela. Though not explicitly stated, Scarlet's words implied a sense of grievance towards Angela. Her efforts to provide solace transformed into persistent nagging as she spoke continuously.

"Mom, I am fatigued and desire to rest." Zacharias abruptly interjected.

Scarlet realized that she should not have focused on negative topics. She ceased speaking and carefully wrapped him in a quilt before departing from the hospital ward.

Zacharias observed Scarlet departing, attentively watching as the door to the ward closed gradually. Upon reflecting on her initial denial of the match results, he further solidified his belief in his

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Chapter 439 Seek Help

compatibility with Fanny.

Zacharias considered contacting other hospitals to make arrangements for a kidney transplant without prior notification to Fanny. Curiously, he pondered the reason for her lack of communication with him during this period.

At that moment, Zacharias' cell phone rang on the bedside table. Upon answering the call, he heard Fanny's voice on the other end. Neglecting the subject of kidney donation, he apprised her of Joseph's absence and asked her to attend to Scarlet's emotional welfare.

Upon receiving the news, Fanny was taken aback and inquired, "What happened to Joseph?"

Zacharias, however, did not provide further details, offering reassurance before concluding the conversation.

After she departed from the ward, Scarlet contacted James following thorough deliberation. "James, Joseph has been wrongly accused by Angela and is currently detained. Angela's whereabouts have not been determined. Can you visit Northland?" While adopting a conversational tone, Scarlet expressed her hope that James would adhere to her request.

Scarlet has experienced notable transformations following her encounter with George, leading to a heightened determination in her decision-making.

During the call, James inquired about Joseph's situation. Scarlet embellished the story and suggested a visit to Northland. She

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refused to resign herself to fate and was determined to make Angela yield. Her plan was simple. She thought, *if James goes to find Angela, Angela wouldn't completely ignore him.*

After persistent persuasion, James eventually acquiesced, bringing relief to Scarlet as she departed from the hospital.

Upon arriving home, Scarlet encountered Fanny.

Fanny extended a warm greeting. "Mom, you have returned."

Despite experiencing a unique tenderness towards Fanny, Scarlet's conflicting emotions surfaced when contemplating Zacharias' reluctance to donate a kidney. She thought, *my words swayed*

Zacharias' thoughts, but it is also essential to address Fanny's perspective and provide reassurance.

"Fanny, the match with Zacharias was unsuccessful, but James will help locate an alternative source for a kidney donation," Scarlet said.

Fanny blinked, feeling relieved. "It is fortunate that the match with Zacharias did not succeed. He probably won't be as negative as before."

"I have recommended that he collaborate with the treatment. He ought to heed the advice." Scarlet let out a sigh. She was uncertain if it was the appropriate course of action, but she knew articulating this would improve everyone's emotional state.

Fanny observed Scarlet's expression with a sense of uncertainty. She could not rid herself of the sensation that the match with

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Chapter 439 Seek Help

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Zacharias had been successful. Otherwise, Zacharias wouldn't have abruptly contacted her earlier. Despite not answering the call initially and Zacharias not mentioning the match when she returned the call, her intuition was typically accurate. While she had faith in her intuition, she found herself unable to broach the subject of kidney donation on her own. Nevertheless, despite the potential success of the match, Zacharias and

Scarlet concealed it from her and misled her, leading to her anger. She thought *the individual who previously pretended to be a suitable donor was Zacharias, and now he is also the one showing reluctance to donate a kidney.*

Observing Fanny's lack of further inquiry, Scarlet exhaled a sigh of relief.

Upon assisting Scarlet into the room, Fanny suddenly realized and inquired casually, "Where is Joseph?"

Scarlet's countenance transformed, and her eyes brimmed with bitterness as she said, "Angela was responsible for Joseph's apprehension by the police. He will be detained for several days."

Fanny appeared taken aback upon hearing the news and promptly inquired for further information, asking, "What did Angela do?" She thought, *no wonder Zacharias didn't want to say much before. It turns out to be related to Angela.* She experienced discomfort as she recalled Zacharias' abrupt act of defending Angela in the past:

"Angela defamed Joseph and levied unfounded allegations against him, leading to Joseph's arrest by the police without a thorough investigation. In what manner could Joseph have committed such an act? However, the most troubling aspect is that Angela went as far as having someone mimic his handwriting and paying off an

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individual to falsely identify Joseph. Even if the evidence is falsified, it was planted by that individual. What was the manner in which it came to rest on Joseph's head? I believe that this situation may be part of a conspiracy orchestrated by Angela. She is engaging, in suspicious behavior, attempting to falsely incriminate him." Scarlet expressed frustration when she raised this issue, feeling a lack of validation from Zacharias and a persistent need to express her emotions.

Fanny attentively listened, experiencing increasing anxiety as she continued to listen. She recalled assigning Kaydron the task of handling Angela. The decision for Fanny to involve Kaydron in handling Angela stemmed from a dual purpose, to create challenges for Angela and to instigate problems for Kaydron. Regardless of Kaydron's ability to cause trouble for Angela, Fanny would derive benefits from such actions. When Scarlet mentions that Joseph's directive to have someone place stickers has been discovered, Fanny experiences a sense of panic. She expressed concern that Kaydron might be apprehended and subsequently reveal her secrets.

Fanny made a concerted effort to quell the panic and soothe Scarlet. “Mom, please don’t be sad or angry. It is detrimental to one’s health. Let us collaborate to devise a strategy for rescuing Joseph. Or I could speak with Angela.”

The word served to provide comfort to Scarlet as well as to herself. Fanny believed it was necessary to ensure that Kaydron was more cautious to avoid leaving any evidence of her instructions to him.

Scarlet was gently stroked on the chest by Fanny, who spoke soothingly. “You are still thoughtful, Fanny.”

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“Mom, please don’t be angry. I will now converse with Angela to request Joseph’s release.” Fanny’s statements lacked persuasiveness. Despite not rising from her seat, her demeanor profoundly resonated with Scarlet, evoking a heartfelt response.

Instead, Scarlet restrained her and provided comfort. “It’s okay, Fanny, you need not concern yourself with these matters. It is advisable to concentrate on academic pursuits and prioritize maintaining good health. I have requested James to manage task.”

Fanny experienced a slight sense of relief and silently indicated agreement. She harbored thoughts but refrained from sharing them with Scarlet. After some time had passed, she returned to her

room.

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Chapter 440

Chapter 440 Enough For Them To Mock

Upon **her return** to her room, Fanny contacted Christopher. Upon learning of Christopher's return to Riverdon, she experienced a sense of unease. The realization that he was aware of **her loss of** innocence caused her to feel reluctant to confront him, let alone make contact with him. Nevertheless, she wished to return to Riverdon due to Northland's escalating danger.

Fanny was convinced she would have no further worries by deleting the photo in Kaydron's possession before returning. While contemplating this, she attentively waited for Christopher to answer her phone call for half a minute before the call was abruptly disconnected. At that moment, Fanny realized that Christopher had not answered the phone. Experiencing inner conflict, she deliberated on whether to make another phone call. After careful consideration, she decided to place her phone aside.

At a private club located in Riverdon.

Christopher displayed a complex expression upon witnessing Fanny's phone call. He quickly muted his phone and gazed at the notifications on the screen. It was only after the call concluded that he emerged from his contemplation. Fanny attempted to contact him. The recollection of Joseph's statement regarding a stranger responding to Fanny's summons caused him to experience repulsion. This had prevented him from reaching out to her.

"What are you looking at, Christopher?" Upon noticing Christopher staring at his phone's dark screen, the individuals in the private room approached him.

"Nothing, just keep enjoying your drink." Christopher shook his head and placed his phone to the side.

Although he did not organize today's gathering, his circle was closely associated with him. It was his friend's way of celebrating his return to Riverdon. Upon his return, Christopher was reprimanded by his father and restricted to the house. Nevertheless, he found the situation unbearable after a single day of confinement.

After Michael departed the residence, Christopher received invitations from his friends and managed to persuade Teresa. Upon observing his distress, Teresa found it unbearable to confine him and discreetly permitted him to depart. Before leaving, Teresa repeatedly reminded him to behave and return home promptly.

Despite Christopher agreeing to all of her reminders, he promptly forgot them once he stepped outside. He uncared another expensive bottle of imported liquor in the club's dimly lit private room.

"Mr. Sanders, you have truly spacious." someone complimented.

Christopher experienced a sense of satisfaction as **if** the persistent irritation caused by Fanny.

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had dissipated.

Before long, the group started experiencing the effects of the alcohol.

Upon checking the time, Christopher became aware that he should return to prevent being found by Michael, despite Teresa granting him some liberty.

On this occasion, he was being escorted back by Jonathan's associates, which had already annoyed Michael. He refrained from further provoking Michael. As he stood up to leave, someone called him out.

"Where are you headed, Mr. Sanders? The restroom?" The individual exhibited mild signs of intoxication, characterized **by** incoherent speech.

Christopher was on the verge of replying when his phone vibrated. He instinctively furrowed his brow, considering the possibility that it could be Fanny calling once more. "Um, I'll go to the restroom," he casually replied before leaving the private room and, almost instinctively, picking up the phone. Upon initiating the call, he maintained silence, anticipating Fanny would commence the conversation.

Nevertheless, the voice that resonated was not Fanny's. Instead, it was a recognizable voice that elicited discomfort in him.

"Are you unable to speak? Or have you lost your voice?" Jane's cold and mocking tone resonated.

Christopher shuddered as the fog of alcohol dissipated from his mind. Instead of responding, he cautiously grasped the phone and observed. Indeed, the phone number belonged to Jane. His pupils constricted, and his heart trembled uncontrollably.

His lack of response incited Jane, prompting her to exclaim, "Are you intentionally disregarding my communication? If you choose not to voice your opinion, I'll have my people come and collect your body!"

Christopher was once again startled by Jane. He leaned against the wall in the club corridor, clenching his teeth fiercely, and just about succeeded in quelling the restlessness in his heart. Subsequently, he articulated his words at a measured pace. "Ms. Coolidge, is there something you need?"

Christopher struggled to maintain a steady voice and prevent it from trembling. He thought, I am *in Riverdon*. *Jane, who is at Northland, can't do anything to me.*

"I have a need, of course. I have

forwarded the address to you. Please expedite your a Jane's lack of politeness was deeply rooted in her character, particularly evident when interacting with individuals such as Christopher. She displayed it promptly, without any hesitation.

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Jane had noticed the missed call from Christopher the previous day. However, she procrastinated responding, anticipating further communication from Christopher. However, a day later, Christopher had still not contacted her. While socializing with Harley, she overheard Harley referencing Christopher again, prompting her to confront him.

Jane's tone was informal, nearly indistinguishable from when she had called out Christopher before. Christopher failed to perceive the distinction again, leading to a resurgence of feelings of humiliation.

However, Christopher quickly regained his composure and let out a soft chuckle. "Ms. Coolidge, I'm not currently located in Northland. If you wish to socialize, please seek another companion." Given that Jonathan had already returned him to Riverdon, it is unlikely that Michael would require him to maintain a friendly relationship with the Coolidge Family. Consequently, he was not required to be as polite towards Jane as he had previously been.

Jane hesitated briefly, uncertain of Christopher's meaning, and inquired, "What did you say?"

Christopher's confidence level was adequate to end the call with Jane. At the moment of realization, he promptly terminated the call. After ending the call, he exhaled a sigh of relief.

Meanwhile, Jane stared angrily at the disconnected cell phone in Northland. Her furrowed brow signifies her displeasure.

Harley abruptly approached and inquired. "Jane, what seems to be the matter?"

"Christopher returned to Riverdon!" Jane expressed irritation in her statement.

Harley was equally taken aback. “Return to Riverdon? Could it be that he was intimidated by our presence?” While initially appearing exaggerated, teasing Christopher occasionally prompted Harley to contemplate the possibility that someone as timid as Christopher might choose to retreat to his hometown. If he desired concealment, then allow him to do so. It was sufficient to make them mock.

“It is acceptable. Let us contact another individual.” Upon observing Jane’s continued frown, Harley offered her comfort. “I have additional individuals we can invite to participate in the activity. Let us refrain from contacting Christopher today.”

Jane refrained from expressing a definite commitment.

Harley did indeed follow through and quickly called someone else. Unlike Christopher, this individual was significantly more pleasant and succeeded in lifting their spirits considerably.

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