

Rewritten 71

Chapter 71

Zach's phone started to vibrate in the quiet wardroom. He took the device out of his pocket and saw that it was Hayson. He then went out of the room to answer the call. "Father..." "Madelyn got into trouble at school. Go see what's going on!" Hayson sounded a little angry. "Madelyn? Okay... Got it." Zach's tone was soft, but his face was solemn. After Hayson hung up the phone, Zach realized he couldn't leave Jadie alone at the hospital, so he called Kevin.

"Mr. Jardin," said Kevin as soon as he picked up.

"How much longer until you're done with work?" Zach asked.

"The meeting just ended," Kevin replied.

"Go to Ventrocloud High School right this instant."

"Did Ms. Jent get into trouble again?"

"Bring her back to the apartment once you've sorted everything out."

"Alright, Mr. Jardin."

"This is not the first time Ms. Jent has gotten into a mess, but she's really being very inconsiderate here. Why would she cause trouble in school this time? Especially with the daughters of three big companies' CEOs. We haven't even finalized the contracts with these companies yet, and it seems like we will never be able to do that now. She got into a fight with the daughter of another company's CEO the other day because of a dress, and a multi-million-dollar deal was called off as a result. When will Ms. Jent stop worrying Mr. Jent and Mr. Jardin? Mr. Jardin always has to help clean up her mess.'

As Kevin thought about it, he quickly rushed to Ventrocloud High School. He found the conference room next to the principal's office with ease. The door to the room was made of transparent glass, allowing

Kevin to see what was going on inside. However, the room was soundproof, so he could not hear what they were saying.

Kevin had not expected to see such an exciting scene as soon as he entered the room. Madelyn had climbed onto the conference table and was pulling another girl's hair. Kevin took a deep breath of cold air and thought, 'How much effort will Mr. Jardin have to put in this time to appease the other party's father?'

'If Mr. Jent had come down here personally and saw this, Ms. Jent would be dead.'

Suddenly, the elevator door opened to reveal a teenager sitting in wheelchair. He pushed his way out of the elevator as several men in black suits carrying briefcases followed him into the principal's office. Kevin took a quick glance and realized that the person looked somewhat familiar.

Half of Madelyn's face was swollen at that time, but she still had a fierce gaze in her eyes. Though, it did not seem to add to her case. "Say it! Say it again and you'd best believe I'll go over and hit you!"

Michelle cried and hugged the lady next to her, saying, "Mom, look at her! Look at my face, my hair... Look at what she's done! Do something, Mom. Please... You must do something. about her!"

Kevin pushed the door open and entered the conference room. There were around seven or eight people trying to hold Madelyn back. She was acting like a lunatic at that point.

"Excuse me, everyone," Kevin said out loud.

Chapter 72

"I thought someone else would be here. Where's Hayson Jent, Kevin? His daughter beat my daughter up, and you're the one who showed up? Are we unworthy of him coming down here in person?"

"It's not like that, Madam. I was asked to come and solve the issue. I would like to apologize on behalf of Ms. Jent's behavior. Mr. Jent said we would try our best to compensate for everything that had happened."

Kevin noticed that Madelyn had a severe bloody scratch on her face and messy hair. However, the three other girls were not in any better condition.

Zach usually showed up when Madelyn got into trouble, but this time, Kevin was the one who came. 'He must be with Jadie right now,' thought Madelyn. 'She got hurt, after all. Zach must be heartbroken.'

"Compensate? How? With money? And you said Hayson cared about what happened? Hah. Jent Corporation is a shitty company. Tell Mr. Jent that if he doesn't come over right now and apologize to me while kneeling on the ground, I'll tell my husband to call off the deal between our companies. I recall having Jent Corporation take on one of our projects, but I assure you, anyone can do it." Michelle's mother sneered.

"Please calm down, Mrs. Linney. Ms. Linney and Ms. Jent are still kids. It's normal for friends to fight with each other. I don't think we should let this affect our business relationship and disrupt the harmonious bond between the two companies," said Kevin.

The woman slammed her hand on the table and said, "I'm telling you right now that there's no harmonious bond anymore. Call Hayson and have him come down here!"

"No one wants to befriend a dirty, uneducated person like her! Jent Corporation is literally run by a bumpkin! Who the hell do you think you are, Madelyn? How dare you hit me? Didn't your father teach you not to pick fights? I'll never forgive you, even if you bow down to me and apologize. And you. You're just the Jent family's lackey. Who are you to speak to us like that?" Michelle added.

Kevin pushed his glasses up with his finger and said, "Please watch your language, Ms. Linney.

Michelle smiled disdainfully. "What? Am I wrong? You're just a mutt in the Jent family!"

Just as she said those words, everyone saw a shoe fly across the room and hit Michelle directly

in the face.

“AH-”

“Michelle-”

“Madelyn Jent!”

Everything started to get out of control again.

Kevin stared blankly ahead as someone yanked down his shoulder. Madelyn had found a golf club out of nowhere and walked up to him while missing one of her shoes.

Michelle wanted to go up to her and fight back, but she got scared after seeing Madelyn holding the golf club.

Madelyn pointed the club at her with her red lips slightly curved upward. “You claim to be the young lady of a powerful family, yet the words that come out of your mouth are so foul. Do you have no shame?” she said.

Several teachers who were there to keep the situation calm were stunned when they heard what Madelyn said. It took them a while to react. “What are you doing, Ms. Jent? This is a school. We have rules here. How dare you do something like that in front of us. Are you trying to get yourself expelled?” One of the teachers immediately said.

Madelyn decided to go all out now that the matter had come to this. Though, beneath her strong appearance was a timid little girl. Her legs were trembling under her skirt.

Mrs. Linney grabbed the golf club in Madelyn’s hand, stepped forward, and slapped her in the face. “That’s for hitting my daughter. What makes you think a lowly thing like you can even think of touching her?”

Madelyn stumbled to the side with half of her face red and swollen. The slap sounded heavy. Kevin had wanted to block the blow, but it was too late.

The young lady of the Jent family covered half her face with her hand. It was numb. "So what if I'm a dirty low life? If I remember correctly, Mrs. Linney, you hit someone when you were drunk driving, causing him to be paralyzed in the lower body. And a five-year-old died because of you. Do you remember that?" she said in a cold voice.

Mrs. Linney's expression changed drastically upon hearing that. Her expression turned as pale as a ghost.

Chapter 73

The people listening on the sidelines seemed to have learned a shocking secret, and the atmosphere in the conference room became ominous. Even Michelle could not believe her ears. "Don't spew baseless nonsense, Madelyn."

Madelyn looked at her and everyone's expressions indifferently.

Both the Lampreys and the Luperts did not dare to say a word.

"Would you like me to go into more detail?" Madelyn asked.

"Shut up! That's enough! How dare you threaten me, Madelyn? How much did Hayson tell you?!" Mrs. Linney suddenly exclaimed.

"Oh God, it's true!" Jenny said as she covered her mouth. Her mom also covered her mouth and shot her a fierce glance.

The Linney family was more powerful than the other two of the three families present. They were just there for support.

Michelle looked at the person beside her in disbelief and said, "Mom, why don't I know about this? Is it true that a child died? How did you resolve this matter? Why would you drive while you were drunk, Mom? I... I don't believe it... She must be lying..."

Michelle could not accept the fact that her mother, who loved her the most, had killed someone while driving under the influence. 'It's against the law!' she thought.

Madelyn did not say a word. Instead, she turned to Jenny's mother and said, "And you, Mrs. Lupert... Three years ago, your husband-

"Okay, Madelyn. That's enough. I apologize for my daughter's actions and behavior toward you," Mrs. Lupert said as she took off her jade bracelet and stuffed it into Madelyn's hand. Here. I'm sorry."

"Sorry, everyone. We have to go. Jenny is not feeling well today, so I have to take her home."

Jenny was then dragged away by her mother without knowing why. Her mind was blank. 'Did

Mom and Dad...'

Mrs. Lamprey was terrified that Madelyn would start revealing her secrets after the Luperts left, so she said a few words and took Lorrie home. Before they left, she gave Madelyn her Patek Philippe watch.

"Mom, say something! Is what Madelyn said true?" Michelle questioned the person next to her with a trembling voice.

There was a cold look in the woman's eyes with a hint of fear as she clenched her teeth and said, "Well done, Madelyn."

After that, she grabbed her purse and walked away in a daze.

Only three teachers were left in the conference room at that time. When the door closed, Madelyn let go of the golf club in her hand and fell to the floor. She sobbed while she wiped her tears away, trying to not let anyone hear her cries.

Kevin looked at the trembling girl and reached out, wanting to comfort her, but he did not.

'Who knew that Madelyn, who has never been afraid of anything, would have a moment of weakness?'

That was the first time Kevin had seen Madelyn defend someone and cry.

'And I thought she didn't have a heart...'

Chapter 74

Ethan's assistant entered the principal's office and told them everything that had happened in the conference room, word for word. Everyone except for Madelyn was there. "...And that's what happened, Mr. Arnold."

Ethan nodded, and his assistant stepped aside. Suddenly, the atmosphere became cold. The girls' mothers sat on the couch, not daring to speak. Ethan's aura was overwhelming. The invisible force was pressuring everyone present. Even the air felt different.

"I want to see signatures on that contract in half an hour."

"Yes, Mr. Arnold," said Leyton-Ethan's new assistant.

The very moment he had stepped out of the house, Ethan had decided to take back what was rightfully his.

'It's the only way I can protect her.'

No one dared to speak at that time. The women did not know why Ethan would want to meet them, especially since they were not in charge of their husbands' companies.

"Mr. Arnold, I have no say in the company's business, but... May I know why you're terminating the contract?" One of the women asked in a weak voice.

“That’s not a question you should be asking,” Ethan said coldly while he left the room. His wheelchair was wired with newly developed technology that could move on its own with the click of a button.

Ethan was supposed to be in the hospital getting surgery, but when he found out that Madelyn was being bullied, he rushed to the school without much thought.

Outside the office, Ethan heard a girl crying. He silently looked at the person who had tears streaming down her cheeks. The conference room door was open, and he wheeled himself in without Madelyn noticing.

“Why are you crying?” he asked, his tone extraordinarily soft.

Madelyn sniffled as her sobs came to an abrupt halt. Teardrops were hanging from her long eyelashes, and her eyes were wet. She was kneeling on the ground as she stared blankly at the person who just came into the room.

“W-What are you doing here?” Madelyn wiped her tears on her sleeves and asked.

Her nose was red, and her voice sounded hoarse. She was the only one left in the room. All the teachers had left, and Kevin had gone out to answer a call.

“I was just passing through,” Ethan narrowed his eyes and said. He saw the bruise on Madelyn’s face and frowned. “Does it hurt?”

Madelyn pursed her lips and nodded as tears fell from her lashes. “It does.”

“Are you okay?” Ethan asked with a hint of pain in his voice.

Madelyn was actually feeling better, but when Ethan asked her the question, she could not help but feel aggrieved.

‘Why is my life so difficult?’ she thought, and droplets of tears began to fall once more.

Ethan was wearing a black shirt and a pair of suit pants today. His sleeves were half up, revealing a mysterious tattoo on his arm. Madelyn had never seen that tattoo before. It covered his entire limb, including his hand and fingers. Ethan reached out to touch Madelyn's face with that cold bony hand, wiping her tears away with his thumb.

Madelyn could not take it anymore. She was not as strong and brave as she had imagined herself to be. She envied Michelle and the others for having mothers who cared for them when things went wrong and fathers who loved them when they got home.

'Why don't I have what they have? Mom died at an early age, and my father... Well, Father's never really liked me. Even his words of concern are fake. I have a brother... But he's never there for me. I'm all alone...'

Meanwhile, Kevin was talking to Zach on the phone. Zach had taken Jadie home and had his men pack her things from school to go. He began to deal with Madelyn's situation as soon as Jadie fell asleep.

"M-Ms. Jent... Why don't I give the phone to her, Mr. Jardin? Maybe you can try talking to her," Kevin said, distressed.

Zach was not in the mood to comfort Madelyn, so he said in an icy tone, "Once everything's settled, no need to bring her here. Just send her to the Jent residence."

Chapter 75

"Yes, sir..."

Kevin did not hang up the call, putting the phone directly into his pocket.

On the other end of the call, Zach walked to the kitchen and poured himself a glass of water. Just as he was about to hang up, the sound of Madelyn crying suddenly came from the phone.

'So, there was another man besides her...' he mused.

“No one will bully you anymore... Stop crying...”

Ethan’s embrace was warm.

And her heart too, became to warm up as well.

He was the first person to speak such comforting words to her.

Zach would never comfort her in her times of sorrow and would only complain that her crying upset him. He would always tell her to go somewhere else if she wanted to cry.

“Can I lean on you for a bit?”

Madelyn’s voice trembled.

Ethan smiled a little as he opened his arms to her. “Any time, any day. It’d be my pleasure.”

So, when Kevin walked in, he saw Madelyn crying in another man’s arms.

This left him stunned and confused. He was at a loss for what to do in such an awkward situation.

On his end, Zach’s expression darkened as he listened to Madelyn crying.

Ointment was applied onto her face and the medicine bag, which Ethan had bought, was still

in her hands.

They had only met for the third time, and she was already hugging him and crying in his arms. She even soaked his shirt, and even more embarrassingly, her snot was on it too.

Aside from this, Madelyn also knew that she would not escape a beating this time, so...

She decided to have Kevin drive her around a bit.

Once she was in the car, she asked, "Do you think my father knows about this?"

Kevin looked at the person behind him and nodded. "You can tell him directly if you feel aggrieved. On the surface, he might not seem to care, but he'll definitely help you deal with this in secret."

Madelyn sat in the car as she looked at the sea view. They were now at the border between

Ventropolis and Brightpearl.

The painting in her room was of this exact scene. It had been painted by her mother.

"... Let's not add on to his troubles. He's already so busy."

"Kevin, when we get home later, can you just help to restrain Father a little...?" Madelyn bit her lips.

Kevin gritted his teeth and sighed. "I'll do my best."

"Sigh... forget it... Whatever happens, happens. It's all because of me anyway. Kevin... let's go back."

"Alright."

Along the way, Madelyn saw an ice cream truck and she got Kevin to stop and get two ice

cream cones.

She gave him the blueberry flavored one while she kept the strawberry for herself...

She was a girl after all, so it was no loss if she got something nice to eat before she got punished.

By the time they returned to the Southern Haven Villas, it was already dark.

She had asked for a day off from cram school today.

After entering the door, Madelyn held her bag and instantly caught whiff of the scent of smoldering cinders the moment she stepped in.

Everyone else was seated on the dining table.

Madelyn then entered, hiding behind Kevin.

Seeing this standoff, Kevin had goosebumps all over. "Mr. Jent, sir, the matter is settled. Ms. Jent knows that she's in the wrong and has apologized to all of the madams."

Hayson looked at Madelyn through Kevin and said, "Thanks for the trouble. You may go back."

"Will do, Mr. Jent." As he turned to leave, Kevin gave Madelyn a wink, as if to say, 'Prepare yourself'.

Hayson did not even bother to look at her as he picked up his cutlery and started eating. "Go down to the study and kneel on the ground."

Madelyn looked down. "Yes, Father."

Rosario gave Madelyn a worried look. It was beyond her ability to help Madelyn this time.

Chapter 76

Madelyn knelt on the cold white ceramic tile as the floor glimmered. She looked at the scratching scar on her face and gently stroked her hand over it, feeling a tingling sting.

The study was awash with the smell of sandalwood and her nose felt a little uncomfortable.

At this moment, she heard the sound of approaching footsteps and she immediately knelt straight up and clutched her clothes tightly. She knew what was coming for her next.

Soon, the door was opened as Hayson walked in with Zach and Jadie following behind.

“Do you know what you’ve done wrong today?” Hayson walked past Madelyn and lit candle in prayer.

up

Madelyn lowered her head as Zach’s silhouette enveloped her by the corner of the atmosphere in the study was oppressive and made her breathless.

gaze.

The

She said meekly. “I shouldn’t quarrel with my classmates.”

Hayson took the cane down from the wall and walked toward Madelyn as he faced the cane

toward her.

Madelyn was trembling in fear and as she heard Hayson's voice from above. "Nine million from the three agreements, and including my own money, thirteen million. Do you think I should use discipline

on you or not, Madelyn?"

Jadie, who was standing behind Zach, was so terrified that she took a few steps behind him.

"Yes, everything's my fault. I was unable to control my emotions; I shouldn't have caused trouble like thar. You're right to discipline me, Father!"

"Turn around."

Madelyn shifted around. There was no one to save her now. 'Zach?'

She had never counted on him to help her.

Hayson raised the cane up high and swung down with a powerful stroke. The first strike sent a general numbness across Madelyn's back. She could not feel the pain at first, but when the second strike landed, she could feel the skin of her back tearing apart, then came the third,

fourth...

Madelyn held on and did not cry in pain, nor did she allowed a tear to be shed...

She had already long shed all of those worthless tears away.

By the twenty-third stroke, Madelyn could no longer feel any pain.

Thirteen million...

This amount of money was worth more than a person's life in Hayson's eyes. She had seen his will and all of the inheritances were to be given to Zach.

Forty-two strokes and Madelyn's back showed several blood marks as she laid on the ground and fainted from the pain. Yet, the very same pain woke her up again.

Jadie held tightly onto Zach's hand, lowering her head and not daring to look.

At this very moment, Hayson's phone on the table rang as his raised hand stopped. Zach brought the phone over for Hayson to answer, and he looked at the phone number before answering the call by habit.

It was an unknown number. He then pressed to answer. "Hello? Who's on the line?"

"The Arnold Corporation..."

"Yes, I'll definitely make it to the appointment on time."

Hayson gave Madelyn, who was on the ground, a conflicted look. "That's enough for now. Go back. Remember to watch your mouth, and remember what you should and shouldn't say... If I ever learn of you speaking about this to others, I'll make sure you won't be able to speak for the rest of your life."

Madelyn placed her hand on the ground as she got up with much difficulty before turning around. "Yes, understood."

The words she shouldn't speak were obviously those words that would give others leverage over him.

It was because Madelyn blurted out those words in a fit of anger.

She too had considered the consequences and forty-plus strokes were already her limit.

Chapter 77

Madelyn walked out of the study and Rosario, who was waiting outside, immediately walked over when she saw someone came out from the room. "Madelyn... How are you holding up?"

Madelyn's face was rather pale. "I... I'm fine. Don't worry about me, Rosario. Do you still have any painkillers?" Her voice was getting weaker and weaker, and as the last words left her mouth, Madelyn fainted altogether.

Jasmine, who was hiding in a corner, saw this scene, and when she saw Madelyn faint, she did

not step forward but instead turned and went downstairs.

She saw the wounds on Madelyn's back. 'Isn't she his own daughter?'

'Why did he beat her like that?'

By the time Madelyn woke up the next day, it was already noon.

She was lying flat on her stomach, and she could feel a chill on her back. When she saw her back exposed, Madelyn immediately pulled the blanket over herself, but it was quickly pulled away by someone else.

"Don't move. Unless you want me to reapply the ointment."

Madelyn felt something was wrong as she looked down at her chest. Instead of listening to him, she shrunk into a ball fearfully as she covered herself up with the blanket and sat up. This is my room! Who allowed you to come in here!?"

This was the first time she had spoken to him with such a furious tone.

Zach was holding a tube of ointment and there was still some ointment left on his hand. What, you're not calling me brother anymore?"

"Zach, I'm your little sister! And I'm naked now! How can you do this!"

'He must've seen it! He must've seen it!'

"

The clock on the wall showed it was twelve noon and Rosario would go to the market to sell vegetables at this hour while Hayson would most likely be out socializing or on a business trip. It was not the weekend today and no one was at home, so that was why he dared to do as he pleased!

"Madelyn, is this how you speak to me now?"

She immediately retorted out of reflex. "So what? I'm no longer a little girl, so please, can you NOT enter my room just as you like?"

Zach frowned with displeasure, his eyes cold. He gave Madelyn a glance before turning around and leaving the room.

Just as he stepped out, he closed the door.

Madelyn immediately grabbed the pajamas beside her and put it on.

'What right does he have to be so brazen? Isn't he supposed to be a one-woman man?' Doesn't he only have Jadie in his eyes? Why did he needed to take off my clothes and break into my room again under the guise of applying the ointment?'

Who knew what sort of things he could have done while she was asleep!

Zach was walking downstairs just as Rosario came back. "Mr. Jardin? Did you just come out from Madelyn's room?"

Zach gave out a cold, distant aura, his face icy as he went downstairs without even paying her any regard. Rosario seemed to have noticed something as she hurried over and opened the door.

The person inside suffered another shock as she thought Zach was back again.

When she saw it was Rosario, Madelyn was instantly relieved.

"Madelyn, did Mr. Jardin come in earlier? He didn't see anything, right?"

Madelyn was puzzled. "What's the matter, Rosario?"

Rosario then replied, "Before I left for the market, I applied the ointment on your back and took your clothes off. I thought no one would come so I didn't put it back on. Mr. Jardin didn't see anything, right?"

"Mr. Jardin's face looked rather grim when he was coming downstairs. Did you say anything to him?"

Madelyn thought to herself, 'What?! It seems like there's been a serious misunderstanding!'

Chapter 78

Not long after Zach left, Jasmine brought in some pastries. She took a look at Madelyn's wounds and said some words of concern before leaving.

Even after taking the painkillers, Madelyn was still in pain and still could not sleep at night.

She was woken up by a nightmare in the middle of the night. She was sweating profusely and since she was unable to move or turn around, her drowsiness was soon lost.

With the passing of time, her chest started to hurt badly, so she used a pillow to cushion it.

She was only eighteen, and her chest growing too big was not a good thing.

When she looked at the time, it was only half past three.

Madelyn woke up to go to the bathroom and unbuttoned her pajamas. As she looked at the crisscrossing wounds on her body, it was much better than before aside from a few spots that were still swollen red.

She was sweating so much and with the summer heat, her entire body was sticky, so she took a simple bath, making sure to avoid getting her wounds wet.

After changing into another set of pajamas, she walked to the balcony to get some cold air.

There were only a few stars out that night and the moon was particularly bright.

The lights on the third floor of the villa opposite were turned off, and Madelyn felt that she had not seen him for a long time now.

It was just used to be a vague silhouette.

She had no idea where he had gone.

She just hoped that he would not do something stupid again.

In the SereneCare Hospital, the operation had been completed after going on for six hours straight.

Ethan was still under anesthesia and was still in a coma, his legs bandaged with gauze.

“Doctor, how is the young master doing?” George asked.

The primary doctor said, “Based on his current condition, the operation has been very successful, but we cannot discount any outlying post-operation risks, so we need to keep him in the hospital for a while for some further observation.”

“Then...how long will he need to recover?”

“It’ll be based on the patient’s physical condition. It may take three, five, or even ten years for it to fully heal. With that lengthy recovery time, I would not discount the possibility of any

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sequela. After all, considering how long the delay in treatment has been, a successful operation is already a miracle in itself.”

“Thank you, doctor!”

“Don’t mention it. Just doing my job.”

George quickly made a phone call.

The call quickly connected.

“Ma’am, young master’s operation is a success.”

“Alright, take care of him in the hospital. I’ll visit after the banquet tomorrow. Remember to give him whatever he wants, and make sure he doesn’t lose his temper if at all possible.”

“Yes, ma’am!”

After getting his orders, George hung up the call.

After returning to the VIP ward, the person in the ward had awakened as Ethan, dressed in hospital garb, placed his hand on his chest, as if he had just woken up.

“You’re awake, young master? Do you feel any discomfort?”

Ethan said with a low and weak voice. “I’m fine. You can go back. Thank you.”

“Rest well, young master. I’ll come visit again tomorrow.”

“Yeah.”

After he left, Ethan grabbed his mobile phone from under the pillow.

He then opened up his contacts.

Their chat log was still at the same stage last week.

He thought that she would be asleep by now and back then, he would not have disturbed her at this hour. But now... Ethan could not help but send her a message.

[What’s up...?]

Madelyn, who was lying on the chair and had almost fallen asleep was immediately woken up by the sudden notification sound.

She picked up her phone and squinted as she looked at the message and to her surprise, it was from Ethan.

She then subconsciously looked at the villa opposite her.

She then replied. [Dreaming]

As she sent the message, Madelyn asked, (You're not at home today?)

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Ethan responded. [Yeah, I'm at the hospital for something. Why aren't you asleep yet?]

[I can't sleep, so I'm just sitting on the chair for a while. Why are you in the hospital? Feeling unwell?]

[It's nothing. Just an ordinary cold.]

Chapter 79

Madelyn curled her legs up as the light from the phone screen reflected in her eyes, looking at the words not knowing what to say to him.

She then sent him some words of concern. [Since you caught a cold, rest up. Remember to stay hydrated and take your medications on time.]

[Will do.]

[Sleep early then. Good night]

[Good night.]

Now that she looked back, she had nothing to meet Ethan for.

From the very beginning, she simply wanted to save him and did not plan to have much more interaction with him.

It was because... she had always planned to leave this place and start a new life in another.

Perhaps she would never return to this place again.

It was only by leaving this place that Madelyn could free herself from the Jent family, free herself from Cecilia... and start a life of her own.

Ethan was not in her plans. If she were to have any deeper entanglement with him, she was afraid that it would only end up being more trouble.

Madelyn let out a yawn as she suddenly felt sleepy. After getting back onto bed and thinking of the better life she would have in the future, she quickly fell asleep.

After resting at home for a few days, her wounds had almost healed.

Madelyn was still asleep when she heard a knock on the door.

"Madelyn, wake up. Come downstairs to eat!"

Madelyn mumbled in reply. "Let me sleep a bit more."

“Wake up. Sir and the others are already waiting for you downstairs. Come, be a good girl and listen!”

When she heard that, all of her sleepiness went away as Madelyn got out from bed. “Got it. I’ll get up now.”

She grabbed her clothes and went to wash up and took less than ten minutes to get downstairs.

She held the handrail as she trotted downstairs.

She then saw a group of people seated at the dining table.

Even Zach and Jadie were here.

Today was the weekend, and Jadie was resting.

The silent yet heavy atmosphere made Madelyn almost resistant to go over. Ever since the day she misunderstood Zach and said words that made him angry, he had ignored her for quite a number of days now.

She dragged her heavily footsteps and sat on Jasmine’s place.

Today, there was a large feast of dishes.

And that confused her.

‘What day is it today?’

“These are all the stuff I love.”

This was also the first time Hayson had not admonished her for sleeping until this late.

As she sat on her seat, Hayson looked over and asked. "Have the wounds healed yet?"

Madelyn nodded, "Almost fully healed. I'll be able to go to school tomorrow."

Rosario then served her a bowl of soup.

Hayson then said, "Go to Cecilia's room later and pick a nice dress. I'll take you and Zach to a dinner banquet tonight."

Madelyn's mind instantly went blank. "Father... can I not go?"

'I should've told him I'm still not well!'

"Even if you have a broken leg, you still have to go. There will be many young scions attending today, so just go and see if there are any suitable ones. You're not getting any younger."

Madelyn immediately interjected, "Father, I only just reached adulthood and I've not even completed my degree. Isn't this too early?"

"We can discuss it first and you can get married after you graduate. I've discussed this with Zach, you will stay at Ventropolis for your university, there's no need to go to Lorville."

"Why..."

Madelyn only felt something was roiling within her and making her upset and as she saw Jadie serving Zach something into his plate.

She suddenly wanted to flip the table.

And ask him why he went back on his promise!

“Father, we’ve talked about this before!”

Chapter 80

“You’re trying to negotiate with me now?” Hayson frowned.

Madelyn said angrily, “It’s you who went back against your words. Father... I’m already an adult. Can you stop deciding everything for me? I’m not your puppet!”

“Talking back now, huh!?” Hayson slammed the cutlery onto the table. “Did I raise you like this, to talk back to me, huh?! Don’t you dare forget who’s the one supporting you right now! Let’s see you survive without spending a single penny of mine!”

Madelyn’s brow shuddered. “So, if I don’t stay in this house and if I don’t spend a single penny of yours, you’ll no longer interfere in my affairs?”

“Hah, feeling tough now huh? The punishment last time wasn’t enough, I see. If you want to die that much, then I’ll see it done!” Hayson stood up and had already pulled his belt out.

Hayson was a stickler to rules and protocol and this was the first time he had flared up like this against Madelyn.

Jasmine immediately stopped him. “Hayson, what are you doing? Madelyn is just saying words out of anger. Don’t you worry, I’ll definitely talk sense into her!”

“Madelyn... hurry up and apologize to your father!”

“Why should I apologize? I dare you to beat me to death! What right do you have to order me around like that!?” Madelyn roared.

“What did you say? I dare you to say that again!” The belt in Hayson’s hand was about to smash down and he only stopped when Jasmine interposed between them.

Madelyn quickly ran out to shield Madelyn. “Madelyn, you silly girl, all sir does is for your own good.”

“My own good? My own good?! So, everything I’ve done since I was a child needs his approval? What other father acts like him? If mom was around, she’d never do that to me!”

Hayson walked over and a slap landed with a brutal impact. “Your mother was a bloody whore. I should’ve killed you right there and then when she gave birth to you! You really think you’re something now, eh? I dare you to get lost from here and never come back!”

Half of Madelyn’s face was numb and soon the pain assailed her as her face started to swell.” Alright. You said this yourself...”

“GET LOST!” Hayson yelled.

“Madelyn-!!!”

“Stop right there! No one goes after her! If I find out anyone one of you dares to help her, I’ll kick you out as well!”

Madelyn was still wearing her pajamas and slippers and had nothing else on her.

The entire hall fell into an awkward atmosphere.

Hayson then sat down in a huff before yelling angrily, “Eat!”

Rosario glanced worriedly at the silhouette that had run out of the door into the distance.

Jasmine put some food into Hayson's plate as she said, "Hayson, what are you doing arguing with her so early in the morning? Madelyn's still young and she doesn't understand your intentions. She has nothing on her, where can she go?"

"Zach, go get Madelyn back. What if something happens to her...?"

Before Zach could even speak, Rosario interjected, "Let me do it! Madelyn's listened to me ever since she was young. I might be able to persuade her to come back."

Madelyn ran and then fell asleep at the door; her palms were so scratched it reflected how

much of a mess she was.

"Stand right there!"

"I want to see just how tough she can really be! Without my money, where else can she go? Better still if she just starves to death outside and never comes back!"

"Sir!" Rosario exclaimed.

"Shut up! Another word from you and you can get lost as well!" Hayson hissed.

The meal finally ended unhappily in silence.

Jadie sat in the car and Zach put on the seatbelt for her.

"Zach, shouldn't we go look for Madelyn? It's dangerous for her to be alone out there."

Zach's eyes and expression were impassive as he turned the steering wheel and fit the

accelerator.

“The princess has gotten too comfy living in a big house and doesn’t know what dangers lie outside. Don’t worry, I know her... She’ll come back.”

‘How many times has Madelyn ran away from home now?’

‘She still ends up coming back obediently every single time. If she wasn’t a member of the Jent family, her life would be worth nothing.’

He wanted to see how long Madelyn, who had nothing, would last this time after leaving the Jent household.

Three minutes?

Or three hours?

A sarcastic smirk appeared on Zach’s face.

‘Madelyn, you’d better not disappoint me!’

Zach did not see Madelyn as he drove toward the Jent residence.