

# Second Marriage to Mr. Rich

## Chapter 41

Chapter 41

Angeline was stunned. Her eyes suddenly burned with tears.

She didn't accept the friend request but only responded with, "No need. Please throw it away for me, thank you."

After switching her phone screen off, she stared out the window with a hand on her cheek.

Angeline's indifferent face and gauze-wrapped head were vaguely visible through the raindrops on the glass window.

She'd thought she'd be able to pursue the love she'd had when she was younger after waking up, as well as find her happy ending. Perhaps someone like her was never destined for a happy ending. Angeline had grown tired after being the only one to keep that promise both she and Ned had made to one another.

From now on, she was going to live only for herself.

Angeline was grateful that she had survived that car accident. Life was short but vast at the same time. Besides Ned, she still had Anne and Henrietta, as well as her passions and studies.

As the train picked up speed, Angeline was given a view of a rain-washed Oceanford. Angeline had spent more than a decade of her life in this city.

It was home to people she once loved as well as all her friends.

Right now, the train was leaving Oceanford and everyone else in it for good.

Meanwhile, Ned stared at Angeline's text message, not reacting for a good minute.

The overly-distant words Angeline used made him uncomfortable. He was soon lost in thought.

"A toast to you, Ned! If you hadn't helped me deal with that woman, I wouldn't have been able to be out here at all." Tommy toasted Ned and downed his drink. "I can't afford to upset that Sean guy, so I'll take this loss in

stride. He's just the Lawson family's adoptive son, what's with that attitude of his..."

"He may be adopted but he still has a good life as anyone in that family. Everyone knows he's the Lawson family's heir," someone said

to Tommy. "Just forget it. People like us could never afford to get on the wrong side of someone like Sean Lawson."

Tommy silently drank another glass of wine.

"You're new to all this, so you don't know the history of things. Angeline's mom is Sean Lawson's kin. He's been very protective of Angeline even

though he hasn't been in Oceanford in the past few years. Did you really think he would let you off easy after you drugged Angeline?" As Miles spoke, he topped Tommy's glass up.

"Don't go messing with Angeline from now on. You'll regret it if Ingrid is affected by your actions."

Tommy's gaze was malicious.

He couldn't challenge Sean Lawson nor could he do anything to Angeline Emmerson.

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Surely Tommy could mess with that little mute, right?

He needed to get back his due no matter what.

Ned found the suite too noisy, so he grabbed a pack of cigarettes and a lighter and got up. "I'm going out for a smoke."

Each private suite in this club had its own little courtyard.

Ned wasn't wearing a coat but a black turtleneck sweater, black pants, and loafers. He sat down out in the corridor and texted Ingrid, reminding her to take her medication and get some rest.

"A friend told me they saw Angeline at the train station earlier today with some luggage. Their guess is she's leaving Oceanford."

Ned raised his head upon hearing this.

Miles sat down beside him after passing him a cigarette. Ned took it and asked Miles, "What kind of person is Angeline Emmerson?"

Miles lit up his own cigarette before turning to Ned, looking incredulous. "Why are you suddenly asking me about her? You've been

nothing but pissed every single time any of us brings Angeline up ever since she came to see you after waking up. Did you remember anything?"

"I'm just worried she'll come and pester me again." Ned looked down somewhat awkwardly and lit his

cigarette. "I don't have too many memories of her, so I don't really know what kind of person she is. It bothers me." .

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"You worry too much." Miles exhaled some smoke. "Angeline may not have the best background, but she's always been proud and clear of mind. As far as I recall, she's always been a woman of her word, especially

when it comes to you..."

"What do you mean?"

Miles didn't respond immediately to Ned's question. He gazed at Ned with a complex expression and said,

Ned, now that you've divorced Angeline, it's best to move on from your past with her and focus on being with Ingrid."

When Miles saw how quiet Ned was at that, he suddenly straightened up. "Be honest with me. Did you

remember something?"

"No," Ned persisted, flicking off some ash from his cigarette. "I'm just concerned Angeline will come back and

try to interfere in my relationship with Ingrid."

Miles thought about Angeline's expression and behavior when Ned and Angeline

had gotten their divorce registered. He said confidently, "Based on what I know of Angeline, she really did let go of you on the day you two went to get divorced."

"Is that so?" Ned puffed out a cloud of smoke, fiddling with his phone. He mumbled, "Good then."

"I heard Ingrid's cousin, Tommy, say that you were the one who told the Emmerson family that Angeline was

studying at Oceanford College?" Miles said, fiddling with the lighter.

Ned stayed silent.

Yes, it was him who did it.

Ned had done it two weeks before being drugged and sleeping with Angeline. He had gotten sick of her pestering because Ingrid ended up refusing his proposals to her, insisting that she would wait until Ned regained his past memories.

That was when Ned remembered the Emmerson famil..

Ned had only wanted to have that family take

Angeline away from Oceanford. He hadn't expected that the Emmerson family would end up thinking it was Angeline's grandfather who paid for her tuition fees and that they would be coveting the old man's as "That family kept clamoring in front of Oceanford TV's headquarters after shooting the episode. The old lady even threatened to take her own life, saying Angeline was working together with the program to push livestream just now and doxxed Angeline. They kept telling the netizens to harass her. I think they were blacklisted afterward."

Ned looked up upon hearing this.

"Actually..." Miles took a drag of his cigarette, gathering his courage. "I didn't tell Angeline the truth the other day at the hospital."

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"What truth?" Ned asked.

"It was

Mallory who slipped the drug in your drink the other day. She Intended It for Zachary. It's not a secret that she's always been fond of him. Who knew you and Angeline would end up drinking the drugged wine?" .

"I only told Angeline that Mallory did it because I wanted Angeline to drop the charges against her. But I'm sure Angeline knew the truth. The fact that she's let Mallory off signifies her final act of friendship with M me. She'll never want anything to do with us ever again."

Ned was shocked.

He had refused to believe that Angeline wasn't the one who drugged the drinks. He assumed Miles and Angeline put up an act for him because the narrative of Mallory trying to help Angeline was too fake. However, if it was Zachary that Mallory had intended to drug, then everything made sense.

Ned had indeed misunderstood Angeline.

Miles gazed earnestly at Ned through the clouds of smoke, saying, "So please, have mercy on Angeline."

## Chapter 43

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The Family Search had its episodes filmed on Wednesdays before broadcasting them on Oceanford TV and several online platforms at 8:00 pm on Fridays. The scene where the show's guests accidentally pushed Ingrid down the flight of stairs had already increased the hype for the show.

Furthermore, a topic such as a daughter searching for her lost mother after she was abducted as a child had garnered a lot of attention from society at large.

That was why when the streaming platforms began scheduling the episode for broadcast, the waitlist length for the show increased tenfold. The total number of viewers exceeded the viewer count of every past episode.

Angeline didn't pay attention to any of this, however.

She met up with James Dickson on Friday, a refined gentleman.

James briefed Angeline about the research topic's confidential nature and let her sign a non-disclosure agreement to prevent the research information from being leaked. He

then brought Angeline around to familiarize her with the research office and introduced the other students to her. Finally, he escorted her out.

\*Time is of the essence for our research. We have barely enough people onboard, so you'll have to stay back on weekends to do work too. Since you're new here, you can just familiarize yourself with the surroundings for now. You'll officially join the team after the New Year's."

"Alright," replied Angeline.

After getting the official business out of the way, James then enquired about Angeline's life. "How are you? Are you faring well in Cloudsville?"

"Mhm. I'm doing okay so far." Angeline smiled at the professor. "Reese told me the other night when he fetched me at the train station that you got me a single-person dorm room reserved for PhD students. Thank you for that."

"Of course," James said gently. "If you hadn't gotten into a coma after that car accident back then, Professor Skye would've given you your doctorate already. But it's okay. We'll take things slow. Everything's possible now that you've woken up."

Angeline nodded gratefully, understanding what James meant.

"Once one of our students returns from overseas in the next couple of days, all the team members will be here," said James.

When his phone notification rang, he glanced at the screen before saying to Angeline, "Reese said he couldn't add your contact. Remember to add him so he can add you to our group chat. He's your senior so you can approach him for whatever questions or troubles you might face."

"I understand, professor."

"Best of luck, Angeline!" James patted Angeline's shoulder and said earnestly, "Time to focus on your project instead of wasting energy on interpersonal relationships."

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James knew about Angeline's affair with Ned.

Just when everyone thought Angeline, the young prodigy, was bound to stay in her coma for the rest of her life. she woke up. Before any of them could begin to feel happy at the news, Angeline ended up wasting two years

of her life on a man.

To James, this was a great waste of Angeline's genius and talent.

"Alright!" Angeline nodded. "Don't worry. I was stubborn before, but I'm wide awake now."

When James saw how Angeline could treat her past relationship with clarity, he understood that she had let go of it. He finally felt at ease.

James had had his fair share of prodigies in all his years of teaching, but there were only two people who he truly felt was a pity to lose. One of them was Angeline.

The other person would never work on their project ever again. It was a good thing Angeline made it out alive and came to her senses after her relationship. She was bound for great things in the future.

Later that day, Reese brought Angeline to the research office and had her do some data organization and familiarize herself with the research progress.

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Around 7:30 pm, the other students said they wanted to celebrate Angeline's arrival. So they brought her over to a restaurant opposite the university to have dinner.

"Professor said tonight's dinner to celebrate our new teammate is on him!" Reese declared, handing menus to

everyone.

"Wow! How happy is the old man to have Angeline onboard? He's being so generous tonight!" Reese's girlfriend, Marion West, handed Angeline a menu. "Hurry up and take advantage of it, Angeline! The professor is usually really frugal!"

"Get some non-spicy meats as well. Angeline can't eat spicy food!" Alva told Marion, who was ordering.

The barbecue restaurant was packed with noise and chatter. Smoke from sizzling meats filled the place as the waiters rushed back and forth between the tables. All of them greeted and thanked the customers as they

entered and left the restaurant.

Angeline's seniors kept telling her stories about James' adventures finding talented people to join their team. Laughter continuously rang out from their table.

Angeline slowly felt comfortable being in such a friendly environment.

At 8:00 pm sharp, The Family Search's latest episode was broadcast on all streaming platforms, including the TV in the restaurant. The online viewership kept on increasing. Angeline's seniors turned around to watch the program as well.

As Anne confronted the Emmerson family about whether they dared reveal that Benjamin's mother was abducted in the first place, gasps rang out from the restaurant. "My goodness! His mother was abducted!" Alva exclaimed.

Marion's brows knitted together. "If she was abducted, it's only natural that she ran away! How could that old woman insist that the mother ran away because she thought their family was too poor? How is being abducted and thinking they're too poor the same thing?"

Even Reese couldn't help but grumble, "Why go on the program if he knew his mother was abducted in the first

place?"

Soon enough, the hashtag #TFSShould childofabductedwomanssearchformother grew viral online.

Angeline silently served her seniors more barbecued meat and vegetables,

Forty minutes passed.

As Juliet began walling about how Jodie had failed to marry early on and bear children, instead choosing to drug a man to sleep with him only to end up getting her nudes posted online, Anne began arguing with Juliet about how Jodie was a good young woman regardless.

The hashtag #jodieoceanfordcollege drugsothersforsex was revitalized.

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"Oceanford College?" Marlon turned to Angeline curiously. "You're from Oceanford College, right, Angeline? Did this really happen?"



Angeline nodded and said honestly, "Yeah, but the drugging wasn't done on purpose. Both of them just accidentally drank some drugged alcohol and the photos were taken afterward,"

"Who posted those photos? Was it the guy?" Reese asked with a frown.

"Mhm..." Angeline wiped her mouth with a tissue.

She was prepared to be interrogated about this matter. If her seniors asked her whether they knew who Jodie was, she would tell them it was her.

"Huh? Why?" Alva was confused. "Was It to show off?"

"Because the guy liked another girl. When that girl heard of this news, she wanted to leave the country. The

guy ended up going with someone else's suggestion and posted the photos online."

Angeline's heart was no longer as painful as it was before when she brought this topic up.

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Nonetheless, Angeline felt amused when she recalled how Ned had only posted those photos to make Ingrid

stay.

"Bah, what a jackass!" Marion despised men like this.

"Honestly, a man like him is disgusting!"

"Women are always the victims in situations like this!"

Angeline's seniors began insulting the 'guy' immediately, not asking who Jodie was whatsoever.

Angeline looked up at the TV again.

Juliet was using incredibly bad language in the program. Ian, the host, interrupted the old woman with a cough. "After our thorough investigation, our program has confirmed that Benjamin Emmerson's mother is deceased..."

Juliet interrupted the host instantly.

"Benjamin's grandfather is still alive!" Juliet yelled, clapping her hands together. "His grandfather only has one daughter which is Benjamin's mother. He has no other kin now that she's passed away! He will never seek out his granddaughter, that whore Jodie!"

"Benjamin is a boy! He should be in contact with his grandfather. It's that girl Jodie who's targeting his grandfather's assets and won't share his address and contact with us! Benjamin's grandfather is such a poor dear, already so old yet has no one to rely on..."

"Nonsense!" Anne was so angry her breathing was growing erratic. She pointed at Juliet and roared, "Angie hasn't contacted her grandfather in a long time because she didn't want to bring up all these sad matters! You guys are the one who set your eyes on her grandfather's house and wants him to pay for Benjamin's wedding!"

Discussion and chatter in the barbecue restaurant erupted once again..

"They really are aiming for her grandfather's assets!"

"You could literally hear it in the way the old lady spoke." .

"It could be an act put up between the brother and sister to fight over their grandfather's inheritance."

On the TV program, Ian said, "We've also contacted Benjamin's grandfather, Mr. Lawson Senior, and spoke to him over a phone call. To maintain his privacy, we've modified the audio. Now let's have a listen." "I don't want to see either of the children." Though Robert's voice had been modified, he still came off as extremely elegant. "When I think about them, I think about the pain my daughter went through before dying on the operating table and my wife who spent her days depressed after losing her.

"The Emmersons are monsters. They're living proof of the torment my daughter went through. I hope I never have to be bothered by them for the rest of my life. My assets will be donated to charities that favor victims of abduction. That's all."

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The call ended.

The audience was understanding of Robert's sentiment.

Though the children were innocent in this entire affair, It was unquestionable that they were living evidence of this terrible crime. It was reasonable for the old man to refuse to meet them.

What was more, the Emmerson family seemed to intend to blackmail Robert for his assets with his own kin.

"That can't be! How could he give his money to someone else?" George cried angrily.  
"That's Benjamin's  
money!"

Katie was shocked, too. She cried, "Benjamin's grandfather only has one daughter, which is my late sister-in-law. Now that she's passed on, It's only right for Benjamin to be by his side! Benjamin is related by blood to his grandfather! Mr. Taleman. Could you help us contact Benjamin's grandfather again? You could give us his address or phone number too so we can go find him ourselves!"

The audience was stunned.

Alva's eyes widened. "Hot damn! I thought they were serious about seeking out their relatives, but who knew they actually were aiming for the old man's inheritance!"

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## Chapter 46

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Marion said angrily, "What kind of tricks do these shameless people have up their sleeves? They abducted the

old man's daughter who ended up dying after that, and now they're trying to get his assets?"

The TV program was coming to a close.

Ian faced the camera and said patiently. "Besides contacting Benjamin's grandfather, we also contacted Benjamin's sister. She has provided us with an audio recording which will be played on our next episode This was followed by a shot of Benjamin's face, which immediately became cautious. "What audio recording?"

The camera then panned to George, who stood up angrily and yelled, "Jodie is a shameless whore who's slept with everyone in her college. How could you believe her words?"

Ian remained unmoved. "That's all for this episode, folks. We'll meet again in the next one!"

"Hey, are they wrapping up this episode just like that? Why didn't they hint at what the audio recording would be about?" Marion asked frantically, extremely curious about the audio recording.

Reese chuckled and gave his girlfriend a piece of meat. "What are you so anxious about? You'll get to know what it is next Friday."

Episode 19 of the Family Search Part. 1: Searching for Abducted Mother, came to a close right when Anne yelled tearfully onscreen, "How could you insult Angie like that? Do you not have a heart?" The hashtag #childofabductedmothersearchingforhergrandfathersinheritance grew viral.

The audience's discussion continued spiking, especially by the end of the show when it was revealed that the Jodie girl Juliet was rambling about was a student from Oceanford College, one of the most prestigious colleges in the country.

This revitalized the hashtag #jodieoceanfordcollegedrugsothersforsex once again.

At first, the netizens thought that Juliet was only insulting and slandering Jodie because Juliet favored her grandson instead.

However, netizens soon recovered past news of Angeline's photos being revealed at Oceanford College. Someone even released an apology letter from the Fletcher family in the comments. Even the photos N Though Angeline's body was wrapped in the covers in the photos, the old scars on her shoulders and arms were bare for all to see.

Hateful comments flooded the online forums. .

LadyLuck91 wrote, "Damn, this actually happened! This woman must've been really bold to drug someone from the Fletcher family."

Richman McMoneybags wrote, "Based on those scars on her body, it looks like she's into some really crazy shit. Those are burn marks on her arms! She's a literal masochist!"

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Turtle Shocked666 said, "How could someone like this manage to get into Oceanford College? How could the university enroll someone like this? @Oceanford\_College do you guys plan to keep her as a student?"

EHEHEHE73 wrote, "She's hot. How much do I need to pay to have her for a night? She must be very loose by

now!"

MyCabbages!0318 said, "The apple really doesn't fall far from the tree. Her father assaulted someone while she's eager to scheme behind someone's back and sleep with them!"

8M\_andyboo wrote, "This is just disgusting. It's sad that the

family lost their only daughter! Meanwhile, that culprit's children are atrocious! The son is devious and the daughter is schemeful! One tries to get his hands on an old man's inheritance while the other tries to m

## Chapter 47

### Chapter 47

Someone found Angelina's social media and began insulting her through direct messages, calling her a criminal and human trafficker's spawn.

The Family Search did manage to hype up its latest episode's content just like Ian had said. Maybe Angeline would be the one put under the spotlight first.

Angeline had guessed this would happen so she wasn't as anxious. In fact, she hoped the hype would

increase. That way more people would anticipate the next episode and her plan would be more successful. After her shower, she set her phone down and prepared to sleep. Just then, her phone vibrated. .

When Angeline saw that it was Anne's number, she answered the call, "Anne..."

"It's me, Angie," Zachary's voice rang out. "Anne's been in an accident."

Angeline's hair instantly stood on end. She got out of bed and began packing her luggage. Her voice still

trembled uncontrollably when she asked, "W-What do you mean by that?"

"Anne got into a car accident. She's at my sister's hospital right now."

"Didn't Anne go home yesterday? What was she doing in Oceanford?" Angeline's voice grew louder.

Anne had even called Angeline to tell her that she was home safe the day before and that Henrietta was doing

well

"I'm not too sure either. Come over to the hospital first!" Zachary still didn't know Angeline had left Oceanford.

"I'm on my way. Please look after Anne for me!"

After hanging up the call, Angeline shakily changed into a new set of clothes. She forced herself to calm down. Mistakes were far easier to make when one was panicked. Angeline headed straight for the airport with her identification documents right away, managing to get onto the last flight to Oceanford for the night.

Meanwhile, in the Lawson residence's study in Krontos, Angeline's biological grandfather, Robert Lawson was setting a cup of tea down in front of Sean. Robert's silvery hair was combed immaculately well, and he was dressed in a brown cashmere shirt. Though he was in his 70s, his health and physique were still pretty good. His movements were incredibly elegant.

"You didn't have a chance to meet the Scott family's girl when you were in Oceanford. How do you feel now that you have?" Robert asked, drinking the cup of tea. Sean elegantly brought the steaming cup of

tea to his lips. He said nonchalantly, "Ms. Monica is an ambitious young woman. Marrying her will surely boost our endeavors. But her tenacity might not make her the most suitable to marry the Lawson family's son."

+15 BONOS "You still intend to have that child return to us," Robert replied lightly, organizing the teapot and cups. "The girl

How is she doing?"

"She divorced the Fletchers' youngest heir," Sean said truthfully, setting his cup down. "A professor from Cloudsville College has invited her to join his research team."

"She slept with someone after being drugged and got her photos revealed online, only to be drugged once again after getting divorced. Now the Emerson family is knocking down

the door..." Robert pressed his cup to his lips. "Is escaping her way of solving problems? To leave the best college in the country to go to Cloudsville College?"

Robert was not as indifferent to Angeline as Sean thought.

"Sometimes

people who act on their emotions and have a strong moral compass suffer," Sean said lightly." But Angeline isn't a meek woman. Cloudsville College may not be as prestigious as Oceanford College, but Profes

"He only stayed in Oceanford for his late wife. If Angeline wants to have a career in the science of genetics in the future, Professor Dickson is the best mentor she could possibly have."

The moment Sean finished speaking, his phone vibrated. He answered the call and walked over to the window wall by the side. "What is it?"

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## Chapter 48

### Chapter 48

"Sir, I have news from Oceanford. Ms. Angeline's adoptive mother got into a car accident after seeking Mr. Fletcher out. She didn't survive," Taylor said over the phone call.

Sean tensed immediately, his grip tightening around his phone. "Got it."

After hanging up the phone, Sean grabbed his coat from the chair and put it on. "There's an urgent matter I

need to deal with."

"Spend more time with Ms. Monica." Robert sat back in his chair, leg crossed over the other. He took a book from the table to his side and continued, "You're bound to be the family patriarch. Having the Scott family's support will help secure your position."

Robert's implied meaning was that he was immensely pleased with Monica Scott marrying into the family, so Sean had to feel the same way whether he liked it or not.

Sean knew it would be a long way to go before Robert would accept Angeline.

Being the only child in her family, Jessica had been doted on by her family since young. She had been

tormented to hell and back after being with the Emmerson family. She had a complete mental breakdown by the time she came back home, was unable to recognize her family, and had even tried taking her own life

several times. .

Robert despised every single person from the Emmerson family, including the two children Jessica had given

birth to, Angeline and Benjamin.

If Angeline hadn't escaped with Jessica from the Emmerson family all those years ago, the Lawson family

wouldn't have turned a blind eye to Sean helping Angeline afterward.

"I understand." Sean nodded at Robert.

Right when Sean was about to exit the study, Robert said gently, "No matter what I've said in the past few years, you've always felt guilty toward Angeline Emmerson, feeling like you took her place as heir. That's why I never stopped you from helping her. Now that things are coming to an end, you should stay out of her affairs."

Sean turned around and glanced at Robert, who was flipping through his book. He then silently left the study.

"Are you leaving already, Sean?" Sandy brought in two bowls of elderflower jelly with a smile on her face." Then I'll pack this dessert up for you. The weather has been really dry nowadays. This jelly will hydrate you well."

"No, thank you. I need to rush off."

Before Sandy could insist, Sean had already hurried downstairs.

"What happened that made him so anxious?" Sandy mumbled curiously as she entered the study with the jellies. She sat it down beside Robert and said, "Sean is too busy with work, leaving at such a late hour."

Robert chuckled without looking up from his book. "It's probably not a work errand. Has Jessica gone to sleep?"

415 BONOS



"Yes," Sandy replied with a smile. "She was the one who insisted I make this elderflower jelly for you. She handpicked the flowers herself too."

"Is that so?" Robert straightened his legs out upon hearing this and set the book aside. Joy overflowed from his eyes as he uncovered the bowl. "It looks pretty good!"

Meanwhile, Sean headed straight for the airport right after leaving the Lawson residence. He fiddled with his phone in the backseat of the car as the lights outside lit up his face.

"I have a Mom of my own and her name is Anne. That's why I'll never need your family's money!"

That was what Angeline had told him when Sean tried giving her a credit card when she was 17 years old.

When Angeline got into the car accident, Anne never once left the hospital she stayed in.

If Sean hadn't insisted that Angeline stay in the hospital, Anne would've taken her home to care for her while managing her small business.

Sean never questioned the bond between Anne and Angeline.

Angeline had gotten an adoptive mother who loved her to the moon and back after losing her biological mother at the young age of ten. Now, Angeline had lost even her adoptive mother.

## **Chapter 49**

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+15 BONOS

Angeline dialed Zachary's number as soon as she left the airplane. "How's Anne?"

Zachary didn't dare tell Angeline the truth. "She. She's still undergoing surgery."

After hanging up the phone, Angeline didn't bother queuing up to get a taxi. She barged into someone else's ride before anyone could stop her.

The driver originally wanted to force Angeline to go back in line, but when she told him the hospital's address with reddened eyes, he immediately drove to the destination. He

even consoled her, "Is your loved "Okay," Angeline mumbled, her fingers turning white because of how hard they gripped her phone.

Zachary awaited Angeline's arrival outside the hospital entrance with an umbrella in hand. He paced back and forth as he waited, repeatedly rehearsing how to break the news of Anne's death to Angeline later. But death was death. No matter how Zachary tried to tweak the message, it would do nothing to soothe Angeline's pain.

Zachary hadn't even prepared his words to say to Angeline when her taxi arrived at the entrance.

Zachary went over to raise the umbrella over Angeline's head when she stepped out.

"Is the surgery not over yet?" Angeline was frantic. She closed the car door behind her and marched right into the hospital. "Which floor is she on?" "Angie!" Zachary stopped, grabbing Angeline's arm.

She turned around to see the saddened expression on Zachary's face. Her entire body was strung tight with tension. She choked out, "Which... floor is it?"

Zachary swallowed nervously and gripped the umbrella tight before saying, "The doctor tried their best, Angie

But they couldn't save her. Anne actually passed away before your plane arrived."

Angeline's mind went blank in an instant. All she could hear was the sound of the rain hitting the umbrella above her.

She felt weak all over. Her legs began trembling. .

Tears filled Angeline's eyes, but she didn't dare blink them away. "Which floor is Anne on?"

"She's already been sent to the morgue." The moment Zachary said this, Angeline turned around to go into the hospital.

But her step caught mid-air.

"Angie!" Zachary swiftly helped Angeline stand before helping her walk into the hospital. He explained what had happened to her along the way,

"Anne stayed behind in Oceanford to see Ned. She went to Gemstone Gourmet to find him when she heard he was having a meal there. Who knew a car would lose control to avoid

Angeline couldn't imagine the scene that had happened. She was stunned and silent as Zachary helped her walk into the elevator.

She came to a stop outside the morgue, fingers tightly gripping her shirt. Tears threatened to fall from her eyes as her breathing harshened.

"I-I'll go inside myself." Angeline's voice was barely audible.

"Okay." Zachary helped her open the door.

Anne was lying silently beneath a white cloth inside the morgue.

The bracelet Angeline and Henrietta had made for Anne during New Year last year was still around her wrist, blood now coagulated on the skin.

Angeline's legs felt like they were pumped full of lead. She took a long time to reach the tableside.

She swallowed nervously, gently held Anne's ice-cold hand, and pulled the cloth back.

When Anne's lifeless face appeared, Angeline clasped Anne's hand tight and placed it on her cheek. Pain and sadness filled her chest, making it hard for her to breathe.

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## **Chapter 50**

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"Anne Anne!" Angeline croaked out softly, throat clogged with pain.

Tears finally flowed freely from her eyes. "Anne!"

Angeline clutched onto Anne's arm, crying. "You promised you'd make me beef stew and meatballs!"

She didn't want Ned anymore. She really didn't want him anymore. She only wanted Anne to come back to life.

Zachary's eyes reddened as he stood outside the morgue listening to Angeline sob her heart out. He rarely ever saw her cry when they grew up together.

Angeline didn't even cry when she woke up from her coma only to hear that her beloved Ned had amnesia and lost his past memories. Angeline had only wiped her tears away and said she would make Ned re

memories. .

She had never had such a terrible breakdown.

Zachary had thought Angeline was as cold and distant as others said and that she was able to calmly deal

with whatever obstacles she faced.

Zachary waited outside the morgue for nearly two hours until the sounds of crying ceased from within. Only then did he go to the door and push it open just the slightest, peeking in.

Angeline was sitting beside Anne who lay on the table, her hair frizzy and eyes reddened. She was pressing Anne's stiff hand against her cheek and appeared dazed. It seemed like Angeline had grown numb to the

entire situation.

Zachary was about to enter the morgue when he heard Ingrid's voice coming from the elevator.

"Speak nicely later when you see Angie. Anne was her adoptive mother, you shouldn't have pushed her no matter what..."

Ingrid had heard that Angeline was here at the hospital, so she'd come with Ned, who was boasting a cast around his arm.

Ned appeared irritated. He shook his arm that had a cast around it. "I wouldn't have fractured my arm if I wasn't trying to save Anne. Wasn't it only natural for me to push her away when she tried to grab me?" "Ned Fletcher!" Ingrid stopped in her steps and glared at Ned. "Anne got into a car accident because of that

and died!"

Ned's lips were pulled tight. He would've retorted immediately in the past. He wasn't the one who caused the

car to swerve onto the sidewalk.

But maybe it was the faint feeling of guilt Ned felt after drugging Angeline the other night or

knowing that she would've taken her life if she hadn't met him all those years ago. That had led Ned to understand why Angeline was so persistent with him. The reason behind it wasn't as unpleasant as he thought.

Ned, for once, didn't retort to Ingrid's words.

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+15 BONOS

"Alright, fine..." Ned softened up upon seeing Ingrid's stern expression. He pinched her cheek and said, "I

know. Don't get upset."

"Stop that!" Ingrid grabbed Ned's left hand, pulled him, and walked forward.

When she spotted Zachary standing outside the morgue, she asked, "Why aren't you inside with Angie?"

"Angle said she wanted to be on her own." Zachary gently shut the morgue door. He glanced at Ned, saying hesitatingly, "I've never seen her so upset."

Ned paused in his steps and frowned.

"Go back to your ward, Ned," Zachary said in a hushed tone. "If Angie finds out you were the one who pushed Anne, I'm afraid..."

"Don't

go too far, Zachary Stone!" Ned couldn't contain his rage. He sneered, "It was Angeline's adoptive mother who wanted to grab me. I didn't shove her in the path of the car nor was I the one who drove it onto the it sound like her death was my fault?"

"The car wouldn't have struck Anne if you hadn't pushed her!" Ingrid raised her voice as if angry at Ned for not

admitting to his mistake.

The morgue door opened all of a sudden.