Second Marriage to Mr. Rich

Chapter 61

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In the lab, James removed his rubber gloves.

"I've been invited to attend a conference for about half a month next March. I need to bring two people with me."

He continued, "Aside from Reese staying behind to monitor the experiments, you may choose two people among yourselves. Submit your selection after the New Year. Also, there's something else I need to tel you..."

James informed the students in the lab about Anne's passing, asking them to keep an eye out for Angeline when she returned.

In the afternoon, Reese, Marion, and Alva called Angeline.

Upon learning that Angeline would be taking her sister to live in Cloudsville, Marion immediately volunteered to help her find a school for Henrietta.

"My uncle's the dean of Cloudsville High School, and it's close to our college. Leave this matter to me! Don't worry!"

After taking on the responsibility, Marion hesitated and added, "Angie, about... the things online, don't take them too seriously. The professor has already informed us about your situation at Oceanford College. Everyone in the lab doesn't believe you're as the Emmersons

described."

Someone finally discovered Angeline's identity after the news about Oceanford College's top student using drugs to commit sexual assault was released. It matched with a "Jodie Emmerson" that Juliet mentioned in The Family Search.

James was worried that the students in the lab might misunderstand Angeline. Hence, he revealed that Angeline had been in a relationship with Ned, how she fell into a coma for two years after a car accident to protect Ned, and how Ned fell in love with someone else after she woke up.

Contrary to what was being said online, he assured everyone of Angeline's impeccable

character.

Marion burst into tears when she heard that, feeling deeply sorry for Angeline.

Angeline expressed her gratitude, "Okay. Thank you, Marion."

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+15 BONUS

At night, James sent a message to the lab group chat. He stated that although Cloudsville College had already started its vacation, everyone had chosen to stay on campus due to the urgency of the experiment.

Therefore, he had specially applied for a grant to compensate everyone, which caused excitement in the group chat.

Reese took this opportunity to tell Angeline that everyone had pooled together a token of appreciation for her. Reese had everyone send messages in the group chat as he worried she might refuse it. Messages continued to pour into the group chat incessantly.

Angeline thanked them for their kindness and replied to their messages.

Sensing Angeline's relaxed tone in her responses, Marion could not help but send a message

herself.

PiggyMarion: "Angie, I'm curious. What recording did you send to the program team?"

AlvaBlue: "Marion, are you out of your mind? Can she casually spoil the show before it airs?"

Angi: "It's just a phone recording between the Emmersons and me."

AlvaBlue: "Angie, just ignore her! Why keep hounding her about something we'll find out on Friday? You should just focus on taking care of things at home these days. You don't have to reply to the group messages. We'll wait for you to come back."

HandsomeReese: "Angie, I've checked with the management of your single dorm room. Given your unique situation, it's fine for you to take your sister along to live with you."

Cutest Dimple: "I wondered why Reese was silent all this time. Good job! A big round of applause for our Reese!"

AlvaBlue: "Good job, Reese!"

Angi: "Thank you, Reese."

Seeing the seniors in the lab enthusiastically help her solve the problem, Angeline couldn't help but feel tears well up in her eyes.

Angeline was staying in River Town this week. Anne's small shop was sold on Wednesday. Angeline went to the bank on Thursday to deposit all the money into Henrietta's account.

Just as she returned from the supermarket with groceries, she noticed Henrietta's shoes at the doorway. They were wet, even though it hadn't rained outside. .

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+15 BONUS

Angeline placed her keys on the shoe cabinet and glanced at her watch. It was only 4:25 pm. Henrietta's school was still ongoing.

After changing her shoes and putting away the groceries in the kitchen, she walked to Henrietta's room door.

She knocked on the door and asked, "Henrietta, why are you back so early today?" .

Three consecutive knocks on the other side of the door came in response.

That was a signal for Angeline to wait. Angeline lowered her gaze and looked from the water stains on the floor to the slippers leading to the bathroom. Frowning, she recalled the bruises on Henrietta's wrist from that day.

A terrifying thought crossed her mind-school bullying. Angeline bit her lip as she stood at the door of Henrietta's room, her mind swirling in turmoil. Eventually, she returned to the kitchen to prepare dinner. After changing her clothes and drying her hair, Henrietta came out of her room and jogged to the kitchen.

Seeing Angeline wash the vegetables, she stepped forward to help. She gestured that she had slipped today while carrying water for cleaning. Her clothes were soaked, so the teacher allowed her to leave early.

Angeline observed Henrietta's bright eyes, which held no trace of sorrow. Feeling a sense of relief, Angeline continued chopping vegetables.

Angeline said, "I've arranged for you to be excused from school tomorrow. We'll go to Cloudsville. You'll be transferring to Cloudsville High School next semester. You'll need to interview tomorrow." She continued, "If you pass the interview, you'll need to take some tests to assess your level to be placed in the appropriate class. But given your grades, getting into the top class shouldn't be a problem." Even though Henrietta was an uncommon case and she couldn't speak, she had no issues with hearing or with other aspects. Although Marion's assistance may help with Henrietta's enrolment, Cloudsville High School still wanted to interview Henrietta to understand her specific condition.

Henriette nodded and motioned with her hands to reassure Angeline.

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+15 BONUS

Angeline smiled at Henrietta's expectant look and gently brushed her forehead against Henrietta's. She was determined to look after Henrietta well so Anne might rest in peace.

On Friday, Henrietta went for the interview at Cloudsville High School. Angeline waited at a cafe across the school. At the same time, she made a reservation at a restaurant for a private room to treat her fellow lab seniors to a meal.

Right after she sent the message in the group chat, a middle-aged man in a suit stood before her.

He offered her a card with both hands and said smilingly, "Hello, Ms. Emmerson. Our chairman would like to meet you."

The name written on the business card was Robert Lawson-Angeline's biological grandfather.

Startled, Angeline looked up at the smiling gentleman in front of her.

She asked, "Who are you?"

"I'm Mr. Lawson's assistant, Asher Millstone."

Asher turned sideways and gestured to invite Angeline to follow him.

He said, "Please..."

The only memory she had of Robert was when he held her birth mother in his arms and got into the car to leave. At that time, Robert didn't even spare her a single glance. Yet, he suddenly wanted to meet her. She wondered if The Family Search had implicated her birth mother.

As her heart filled with doubt and worry, Angeline followed Asher to the car parked by the roadside. Asher opened the rear door. Robert was seated in the back seat.

He was wearing a gray wool coat. His hair was neatly combed as he sat with his legs crossed. He looked refined with a pair of glasses. However, the presence of an esteemed businessman with many years of experience was still very intimidating.

Angeline clutched her bag and got into the car. Asher was waiting outside with the driver to give them some privacy.

Angeline didn't know how to address Robert.

She greeted cautiously, "Hello."

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Robert didn't even look at her and had a stern look.

He asked coldly, "Have you ever considered going abroad?"

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Angeline clenched her fists.

"I haven't thought about it yet."

Robert frowned.

"Sean has been implicated by the rumors spreading online and your reputation. Do you want our family to be dragged into this mess too?"

Angeline said, "It never crossed my mind..."

"We've always portrayed you as Sean's relative to protect my daughter. That's it."

Robert finally turned to look at Angeline. His eyes were sharp and full of wisdom.

He continued, "Sean's abundant support for you might raise some speculations. So I hope you'll stop contacting him and keep away from our family.

Angeline's mouth parted as she tried to explain, but she held back.

"Okay, I understand. You can rest assured that I won't anymore."

Sean may have volunteered to help her, but she was the one who accepted his offer. She couldn't deny it. Even if Robert hadn't approached her day, she wouldn't have had the courage to see Sean again after what transpired between them that night.

Seeing her tact, Robert didn't say anything more. It didn't matter if Angeline didn't want to go abroad. He had agreed to cancel the arranged marriage with the Scott family if Sean went overseas to resolve the chip's patent issue.

The company's business would keep him occupied abroad for the time being, leaving him no time to pay attention to Angeline

"The PIN is six zeros."

Robert retrieved a card from his pocket and handed it to Angeline.

He added, "I'll handle the online chaos for you and control the buzz search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Angeline interrupted him gently, "Mr. Lawson Senior, I'll handle it myself. The rumors will be dispelled after tonight's program is aired. I assure you that it won't implicate the Lawson family." Her gaze fell on the card, and she pushed it back.

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+15 BONUS

"I won't accept the money. Your family has helped me a lot over these years. I'm grateful, and I wish you and your family good health. Goodbye!"

Angeline offered her sincerest blessings to her biological grandfather. She exited the car and stood to give him a bow. After closing the door, she watched his black sedan drive away.

From the car's passenger seat, Asher watched Angeline through the rearview mirror. She was staring at their vehicle by the roadside.

He asked Robert in the back seat, "Mr. Lawson, are we really not going to suppress the hype online? Ms. Emmerson is being attacked across the internet."

Asher had been working for Robert for decades and was fully aware of Angeline's origins. "She doesn't appreciate it, so let her deal with it herself. Have someone monitor it. You don't need to do anything as long as it doesn't implicate Sean and the Lawsons.'

Robert closed his eyes. Despite his firm tone, his gaze was full of complex emotions.

Angeline was young and closely resembled Jessica. However, their personalities and gazes bore no resemblance.

As a latecomer to fatherhood, he had always doted on Jessica and protected her excessively. It cultivated her naive and kind-hearted nature, making her an easy target for deception.

On the other hand, the look in Angeline's eyes was gentle yet determined. It was very familiar and reminded Robert of his wife in her youth.

If Angeline were a child born from Jessica's regular marriage, Robert would've adored her. He would even perhaps nurture her just as he did with Jessica.

But Angeline was the daughter of the man who insulted, abused, and hurt Jessica. Robert didn't have the generosity to accept Angeline as his granddaughter. His gaze shifted toward the window. As long as it didn't incriminate his beloved daughter, Angeline could live her life however she liked.

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Angeline's classmates arrived at the restaurant at 7:30 pm.

After learning that they were to be seated in a private room, Marion turned and suggested,' Shall we take a table in the dining area instead? The second half of The Family Search will be aired tonight!" Alva quickly tugged at Marion's hand. Her action brought the image of the young and

innocent Henrietta standing beside Angeline to Marion's mind. Her eyes were crystal clear and full of innocence.

Marion immediately realized that the guest tonight was Angeline and Henrietta's deceased adoptive mother, Alva was concerned about Henrietta's feelings.

Realizing her insensitivity, Marion smiled apologetically at Angeline and cleared her throat. "Which private room is it?"

Henrietta tugged at Angeline's hand and gestured: "Angeline, I want to watch it. Mom was on the show."

Despite her faint smile, her eyes were already teary.

Smiling, Angeline stroked Henrietta's head.

"Let's eat at the dining area if there's room. Henrietta wants to watch it, too."

The rest of the group

nodded in

agreement.

Their food hadn't been served yet when The Family Search was aired right on time.

All the diners in the dining area turned their attention to the television. After a week of anticipation, the program's popularity soared. As soon as it was aired at 8:00 pm, the show's ratings skyrocketed, and the viewership on the three major online platforms was astonishing.

Once the program started, the host, lan, welcomed the audience back while the Emmersons were still arguing in the background.

Anne stood behind with only half of her body visible on the screen. She appeared to be breathing heavily as her face was distorted by anger. Henrietta's eyes glistened with tears as she watched Anne unblinkingly on the television.

Soon, they arrived at the main topic and played the recording.

1/3

+15 BONUS

"Angeline Emmerson, you shameless bitch! You thought you could hide forever? You must've shat yourself when you learned that we were going on the show! You have no shame. You should be so honored to return to Emmerson Village and marry the Morgan crip

The insulting remarks of Benjamin, Juliet, Katie, and George echoed through the studio. The recording vividly exposed the schemes and maliciousness of the Emmersons.

The dining area erupted into chaos.

"What the fuck? I have no words!" Marion could not help but curse.

The diners at a neighboring table behind them were equally shocked.

"She was kidnapped and had eight children with nine pregnancies! Oh my god! She was still underage when she was abducted!"

"This family is so evil. They caused the death of someone's daughter and still dared to covet their property!"

On the television, Anne was infuriated by the Emmersons' acting.

At the same time, lan stood up and looked to the side of the stage.

"Although our show couldn't invite Benjamin's grandfather, we have his sister here with us. Please welcome Benjamin Emmerson's sister, Ms. Emerson."

Neither the Emmersons nor Anne had expected Angeline.o appear on the show. The camera zoomed in on their expressions.

Anne turned to look at Angeline. Her eyes filled with surprise and concern.

She stood up and called, "Angie!".

Upon seeing Angeline, Juliet quickly stood up and pointed at her.

She cried and scolded, "Jodie Emmerson, how dare you show your face? Why don't you just die? You've disgraced our whole family!"

"Mom! Calm down!"

Katie quickly supported Juliet.

Then, she reprimanded Angeline in a commanding tone, "Jodie Emmerson, look what you've done! Fooling around with men is bad enough. Yet, your photos with them are plastered everywhere! You broke your grandmother's and father's hearts! Kneel and

2/3

apologize to your grandmother!"

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Before the show, the Emmersons had discussed the plan. During the program, they had to reveal Angeline's name and school and spread blue rumors about her to disgrace her in front of everyone. Their intended result was that Angeline would be forced to leave Oceanford and obediently return to Emmerson Village with them. Destroying a girl's reputation was as simple as spreading scandalous gossip.

The gossipmonger only needed a single sentence to spread the rumor. However, the victim might invest all their time and energy to prove their innocence, to no avail.

Even if the truth came to light, people would quickly move on with a simple apology from the gossipmonger. Moreover, Ned spread the photos of Angeline. Juliet sat on the ground, slapping her thigh and wailing.

"Jodie was such a good girl when she left. What has she become? She used to be a good student at Oceanford College, but now she's nothing but a cheap plaything!

"She was fooling around with men in the school, and her photos were plastered everywhere. When we went to Oceanford College to look for her, we heard that Angeline had slept with every man there. "Shame on you! Our family's reputation has been ru someone from our family be so disgraceful?"

d! My life is a joke! How could

"You... How could a grandmother use such insults against her granddaughter? You have no shame!"

Anne's face turned pale with anger.

"Bitch! I'll kill you!"

George's eyes widened with anger as he stomped on the coffee table, about to charge at Angeline. The quick-thinking security staff immediately subdued him.

Sensing trouble brewing, the sharp-eyed Benjamin immediately knelt before Angeline. .

"Angeline! Mom is gone. Please let me see Grandpa! Mom was his only daughter. She is gone now... We're siblings, and we should take care of Grandpa for Mom! I promise I won't bring up your issues at college in front of Grandpa!"

The stage was chaotic as the camera panned back to the silent audience,

Angeline took the microphone from lan, maintaining her composure amidst the chaos,

Marion could not help but feel her heart ache to see Angeline on the show with a bandaged wound on her head. She turned to look at Angeline.

"Angie, you actually went on the show?"

Marion thought Angeline was such a brave girl.

Her heart ached thinking about the attacks Angeline received online this whole time. She appeared on the show, knowing that people would talk about her nudes afterward.

Angeline smiled at Marion to comfort her.

"I had to."

After the recording provided by Angeline was played, numerous trending hashtags were sparked online. They were such as #shewantsassetsnothermother and # rumorsthatshewasforcedtomarryacripple. The rating of The Family Search was soaring. It exploded after the recording was played, and the host, lan, invited Angeline onto the stage.

On the television, Angeline bowed to the audience in the studio.

Then, she tightened her grip on the microphone recounted by the Emmersons earlier from backstage.

aid softly, "I heard the entire story

"Juliet claimed she treated her so-called daughter-in-law, whom they bought for 30 thousand dollars, very well. She was the person feeding my birth mother when she was

unwell. 1

"However, she didn't mention that my birth mother was unwell because... because George nearly beat her to death, and she couldn't eat by herself."

Benjamin exclaimed feelingly, "Nonsense! Mom never did any chores at home, and Dad never laid a finger on her! Angeline, you can't accuse Dad like that without any conscience!"

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After Benjamin fimshed speaking, the screen displayed a person's medical report from when the Lawsons conflicted with the Emmersons. Pictures of the victim's injuries were also shown withour revealing their face.

The wounds looked terrible.

"When my birth mother escaped Emmerson Village, Mr. Lawson Senior told the hospital to provide this medical report of her."

Angeline marked out the important sections of the report with a red pen.

"There are many visible injuries here and 28 bone fractures in her body. Moreover, a small part of her skull was missing due to an external injury.

"The police took this picture. It was where the Emmersons kept my mother captive."

Angeline then looked at the screen again. The slides had been changed. It projected a humid basement that was documented by the police when they investigated the case back then.

There was a bed soaked in blood. Scratch marks made by Angeline's mother all over the metal chains and the wall could also be observed. It was a frightening scene.

"My mother was kidnapped and sent to Emmerson Village when she was 16 years old. She gave birth to me when she was 17.

"After that, she was forced to keep bearing children. Every time she gave birth to a daughter, Emmerson Village's midwife would kill that baby in front of my mother and me. As such, my mother became insane."

Based on the identity that the Lawsons created for Jessica, she was indeed 16 years old when she was kidnapped. .

However, in actuality, Jessica was only 15 years old when she was taken. She had given birth to Angeline before she turned 16.

"My mother lived in that hellhole for more than ten years. She could only find peace after she died."

Angeline gripped her microphone tightly.

"Everyone in the Emmerson family is responsible for her death, including Benjamin and 1! That's because... our existence is living proof of how the Emmersons had tortured her.

"Although we're innocent, we're still evidence of the harm done to her. As humans, we must abide by our moral codes. There's no reason for us to disturb the victim's father, Mr. Lawson Senior. Unless we have ulterior motives for reconciling with him, such as coveting his assets."

+15 BONUS

As Marion watched Angeline's speech on the television, she turned to look at Angeline in person, who was currently using a serving spoon to distribute the food to everyone.

"Before we recorded this episode today, Mr. Taleman suggested that I send a voice recording to the production team instead of showing my face. This was to ensure that I wouldn't be harassed in the future. "However, even if I hid my face today, the Emmersons would still continue spreading rumors and information about me after the episode is aired. They will use these rumors to prevent me from continuing my education so that they can marry me off to the Morgan cripple for money. Since I can't hide from this, I'll face it head-on."

On television, Angeline added, "When I lived in Emmerson Village for ten years, I saw 36 women who had been kidnapped there. Nine women tried to escape the place but were beaten to death. Five women lost their minds. Four of them killed themselves. Seven died because of a difficult childbirth.

"The remaining women accepted their fate and assimilated into the community. Some of them suffered greatly, like my mother. They would often be tortured and beaten up.

"Ever since I could remember, whenever my mother gave birth, I would be brought to the basement where they kept her and would endure physical abuse. The Emmersons think that by doing so, the next baby wouldn't be born female. The burn marks on my skin were caused by them back then."

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Angeline unzipped her coat, revealing her singlet and skinny figure underneath.

"I was able to survive even though I was female because the Emmersons needed me to prevent the next baby from being female as well."

No one could imagine that although Angeline had a beautiful face, her body was marked with

ugly scars.

Meanwhile, those netizens who mocked her for being a masochistic whore after her nudes

were leaked fell silent.

The slide changed, and a picture of a small girl was shown. She looked filthy, her hair was messy, and she was extremely skinny. Moreover, her entire body was covered in terrible wounds. Yet, her eyes looked bright.

The scars on Angeline's body and the young girl's picture shocked everyone.

"This was me after I had just escaped with my biological mother from Emmerson Village."

Angeline looked at the screen and continued calmly, "Back then, my mother kept giving birth to girls. As such, during her last pregnancy, the Emmersons started pinning nails into my body. When I escaped, my body had 29 nails in it. The Emmersons believed that this would ensure that the next baby from my mother would be a boy."

The audience was horrified by Angeline's words. However, she simply zipped her jacket up

quietly.

"What's ridiculous was the law... Even though George abused these women who were trafficked, he was unharmed! He was imprisoned because he killed six infants. Yet, he was only incarcerated for seven years.

"More than a decade later, those buyers of trafficking victims can still only receive a maximum sentence of three years in jail. In the meantime, both sellers and buyers involved in animal trafficking will be sentenced to at least ten years! Even if you buy a parrot, the buyer must serve the same sentence as the seller!

"Meanwhile, for human trafficking... the sellers and buyers are both considered to be

accomplices. Why can the seller and abuser be let off so lightly?"

Angeline added, "That's because human trafficking is a part of our culture!

"I hope that many people will notice that something is wrong with the laws governing human trafficking after watching this episode."

Her expression darkened.

1/2

After that, she finally expressed what she had been wanting to say all along.

TIS BONUS

"To stop the traffickers, we must first place enforcements on the purchasers. There is a market for these traffickers as the sentences they receive when caught are too light. If the sentence is severe enough, human trafficking rates will decreasel Without demand, there won't be a market for it!"

"That's great!"

Marion stood up with tears in her eyes and clapped furiously. Then, she turned around and looked at Angeline, who was smiling at her. Marlon realized that Angeline was a strong and calm young woman. So that was why Angeline said that she had to be on television!

The customers who had been watching the show also started applauding.

Meanwhile, Alva smiled with tears in her eyes and patted Henrietta's head. Then, she patted Angeline's shoulder.

The camera panned to the studio audience. All of them had tears in their eyes and clapped for Angeline.

During this time, Angeline simply lowered her head and smiled at Henrietta, who was holding.

her hand.

Henrietta understood what her older sister went through.

So, her beautiful and big eyes were filled with tears. She knew that Angeline had always been brave and powerful.

Henrietta believed that if she could be as brave and powerful as Angeline, her mother in

heaven would be at ease.

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Henrietta wiped her tears with the back of her hand and held Angeline's arm firmly. When she saw the last clip of her mother on the television screen, she swore to herself, "I must live a good life so my mother won't worry about me."

Meanwhile, The Family Search was still airing on television.

"Lastly, I would like to address the children who were born to kidnapped women like me..."

Angeline looked like she was about to cry, but her voice was filled with conviction.

"If your mothers managed to survive and escape, please don't... Please don't remind them of what they have suffered!"

During the two years that Angeline was in a coma, she kept dreaming about the past. In her dreams, she wished to rescue her mother and help her out of Emmerson Village, even if it came at the expense of her own life.

That was because Angeline loved her mother greatly.

"Even though my mother is dead, I still want to tell her that I'm doing great right now! Although she isn't by my side, I have Anne with me. She treats me very well and loves me like I'm her own daughter! I'm content with my life now!

"If there is an afterlife, I hope my mother will forget about me. If she forgets about me... She'll be able to forget the living hell she went through in the past and only remember the good times she had." This was what Angeline had always wanted to tell Jessica.

Then, she thanked the audience once more and wiped away her tears. She passed the microphone to the staff.

"Jodie, you're an ungrateful person. I should've killed you when you were born!"

Juliet lunged at Angeline violently but was stopped by the security staff.

Simultaneously, lan's face turned serious. He held his microphone and spoke to the cameras.

"If there's no demand for it, human trafficking will cease to exist! I commend Ms. Emmerson's courage. After reviewing the evidence she provided today, I visited her in her dressing room.

"Ms. Emmerson said she chose to go onstage today because she wasn't powerful enough. She hopes that this episode will make more people realize that the sentence for human trafficking is illogical. If the laws change, then human trafficking cases will decrease!"

In the meantime, the Emmersons, who were stopped by the security staff, kept struggling and

cursing.

Jan stood in front of the cameras and continued talking

Back in the restaurant, Angeline's schoolmates turned around to look at her and Henrietta.

Marion was an emphatic person, so she couldn't stop crying.

"Angie..."

She was about to say, "I didn't know you had such a pitiful life", but was stopped by Reese.

He covered Marion's mouth and plated some meat for Angeline and Henrietta.

"The two of you should eat more! You're so skinny!"

"That's right! You're too skinny!"

"This is very delicious! Angie and Henrietta, have more meat! You'll gain more weight that way!"

Angeline's schoolmates kept giving them more food.

"Thank you."

Angéline smiled.

After bringing Henrietta to their dormitory and showering, Angeline discovered that the episode she had made a guest appearance had gone viral on Twitter.

#humantraffickingisscarierinreallife

#kidnapped16yearoldgavebirthninetimesin11yearshadherfemalechildrenkilled #theemmersonsaresexisttheykilledfemaleinfantsandarehumantraffickers

#sentencingbuyersoftraffickingvictims

#humantraffickingsentencingmustincreasenodemandnoharm

Henrietta showed Angeline the hashtags on her phone.

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Angeline teared up when she saw that the topic had

gone viral.

Search was to use the show's influence to

After all, her reason for appearing on The Family raise the sentence for buyers of trafficking victims.

prize. In her speeches, she would always rem of Angeline every time she received a

At the same time, online netizens discovered

trafficking issues.

one to pay

more attention to human

Moreover, someone discovered that Angeline would donate the money she received from bursaries to foundations that raised awareness for trafficking victims ever since she was in junior high school. This proved that she wasn't putting on an act by attending the television program.

Several netizens replied to the trending hashtags.

Pancakes replied to #sentencing buyersoftraffickingvictims: "She probably wanted to help others in the same position as her mother!"

EatingSlowly replied to #human traffickingsentencingmustincreasenodemandnoharm: "I'm touched. She has been working so hard to help trafficking victims since she was young!" SlackingStudent replied to #sentencingbuyersoftraffickingvictims: "This lady worked so hard because she wanted to save her mother! She is so determined to prevent human trafficking. Maybe she believed that by increasing the punishment for buyers sooner, her mother could have been spared from trafficking. I want to cry!"

LovelyCloud replied to #humantraffickingsentencingmustincreaseno demandnoharm: "When you repost this, please remember to include the hashtags. We must spread the word!" OrangesForSale replied to #humantraffickingsentencingmust increaseno demandnoharm: "My goodness, when she won the gold medal for the Polympic Games, she urged others to pay more attention to the issue in her speech. She's such a lovely but pitiful person!"

The Emmersons, on the other hand, were poorly criticized.

LazyPerson replied to #shewantsassetsnothermother: "Fuck, I can tell what that family is plotting! After causing the death of someone's daughter, the Emmersons still sought after her family's properties. How despicable are they?"

Are YouCrazy replied to #rumorsthatshewasforcedtomarryacripple: "The internet is too advanced now. Everyone will be infuriated after watching this. Residents of Emmerson Village are evil demons." After that, the comments attacking Angeline's private pictures were criticized by other

*15 BONUS

netizens, whom the Emmersons angered.

PetiteAndKind replied to #jodieoceanfordcollegedrugsothersforsex: "I don't believe this lady will drug others to have sex with them! The other party has already issued an official apology. Why didn't other people believe her? Why are female victims always to blame when sex rumors are spread about them?"

Henrietta hugged Angeline.

After seeing Angeline crying, she signed, "Our mothers in heaven are looking at us from above. They must be proud of you, Angeline. You've made so many people aware of human trafficking!" Angeline nodded.

"Yes!"

Meanwhile, Robert was sitting in his study at Lawson Residence.

He pursed his lips as he watched the program that Angeline was in using his smart tablet.

Despite the low volume, he could hear everything she said clearly.

Sometime later, he finally removed his glasses and massaged his eyes.

Although Robert was unwilling to admit it, he realized why Angeline needed to use The Family Search to raise awareness.

Chapter 70

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Robert now understood that Angeline wanted to save women who were in the same situation as Jessica.

He realized it was the reason why Sean said that Angeline was brilliant.

Angeline had endured

and exercised extreme patience to achieve her goals.

This showed she could steady her emotions well, like a Lawson family member.

There was an abrupt knock on Robert's door.

With that, he switched off his smart tablet and wore his glasses,

"What's the matter?"

"Mr. Lawson Senior, it's getting late. You should rest/soon."

Sandy opened the door carefully and reminded Robert, "Tomorrow morning, Mr. Hughes is coming over to check up on you and Sean."

"I got it."

Robert turned his head to look at Sandy,

"You should go to bed as well!"

In the meantime, Ned couldn't get a wink of sleep either.

He had already left the hospital and was recuperating at the Fletcher residence.

He knew that The Family Search was airing that night. Moreover, Ned knew that Angeline had

attended the show.

He was on a video call with Ingrid, helping her run through a script when the show was being

aired.

Ned couldn't refrain from watching Angeline's video after Ingrid retired to bed.

Her speech stunned him.

He then read the comments on the video and looked for Angeline's speech from when she was still studying.

In the video, there stood the girl he saw in his dreams. Her hair was tied back, and she looked young and lively. She urged everyone to pay more attention to human trafficking issues and for the legal system to raise the sentence of traffickers. No matter what language she spoke, Angeline made an impact on her audience.

Angeline shone brightly onstage. She looked very determined.

Just then, Ned realized the reason for her reaction when he said that she was Jodie, a rapist's.

child.

That was because it caused her a great deal of trauma.

Her mother was a trafficking victim and died as a result.

As such, Angeline kept pushing for an increase in the prison sentence for buyers of trafficking.

victims.

Angeline had teared up in the video.

She clutched the microphone and said, "Even though my mother is dead, I still want to tell her that I'm doing great right now! Although she isn't by my side, I have Anne with me. She treats me very well and loves me like I'm her own daughter!"

Ned automatically put his legs down from the table and stared at the screen.

Loves her like she was her own daughter?

He recalled Angeline slapping him at the morgue previously.

He wondered if he had indirectly caused the death of Angeline's adoptive mother.

It was evident that Anne's relationship with Angeline was more than just her aunt.

Ned clutched his phone. He was frustrated.

Since Angeline had slapped him, his anger toward her for pushing Ingrid disappeared.

Ned lit a cigarette and walked toward the window. He looked at the jasmine tree next to the cobblestone path in his courtyard.

The scent of jasmine flowers was familiar to him. Memories of him kissing Angeline and being pushed against a wall by her in the afternoon flooded his brain.

Simultaneously, his heart skipped a beat.

Ned bit the cigarette butt in annoyance. He leaned against the wall and took out his phone. He wanted to call Angeline. However, he ultimately switched off his phone after remembering her cold demeanor toward him at the courthouse.

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