

Seduced 251

Chapter 251

“How could it not be love? Lulu, stop deceiving yourself. No matter how I treated you, whether I was ignoring you or scolding you, you’d always smile and listen to me. I know you have a special spot for me deep in your heart.

“Even when I got a tiny cut on my finger, you would cry your eyes out. How could you say that deep feeling isn’t love?

“Lulu, you love me. You really do. Have you forgotten? I’ve read your diaries, all of them. They were all about me. You said I was your life, your everything, and that you had to marry me. Did all those words you wrote mean nothing now?

“Lulu, do they really mean nothing?”

I stepped back in shock, my heart sinking.

“So you know everything, Felix. You knew, yet you still humiliated me! You belittled me and treated me like a dog in front of so many people. You were so cold.

“It was you who killed all the feelings I had for you. It was also you who pushed me further away time and again. What right do you have to blame me now?

“Fine. You said that was love, so let’s call it that. But how did you treat me after knowing how much I loved you?

“When you were whispering sweet words in the corner to Lilac, wanting to be her knight in shining armor, did you ever think of my love for you?

“When I was struggling alone on the cliff, facing life and death, where was the thought of my love for you?

“When you left me in the rain, making me almost lose my life, did you think of my love for you?

“When Lilac provoked and humiliated me time and again, did you ever consider that I loved you, Felix White?

“It’s all in the past now. I’ve already let go of everything. I’m starting a new life now. But here you are, a man with a girlfriend coming here to question and blame me. Felix, on what grounds are you saying all these things to me? Who gave you the right to say all that? What makes you qualified to do so?”

Unconsciously, tears had flowed down, covering my face.

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All the pain and grievances that had been buried in my heart for many years came pouring out uncontrollably.

I had thought to just tamp down those buried feelings. At the very least, they were proof that in my youth, I had once lived so vividly.

But facing Felix’s shamelessness, I couldn’t help but spill everything out.

It turned out that I wasn’t without resentment, hatred, or regret. It was just that I looked past it all and didn’t care anymore. Everything didn’t matter anymore.

Today, I wanted to make everything clear in front of him. I wanted to get everything out.

We should go our separate ways from now on.

Actually, we had gone our separate ways long ago. It was just that he refused to admit it.

My heart ached, and the past replayed in my mind like a movie.

There was something I couldn't understand. He had Lilac in his arms every day and even asked me to give Lilac a sense of security. But now, he was here to stop me from dating his brother and brought up the past as a weapon to stop me.

What exactly was Felix thinking? What was he trying to do?

What did he take me for!

He wanted to stay with Lilac and enjoy romantic times with her while keeping me under his control. Did he expect to have it all? What a jackass!

It turned out the once noble and pure Felix was just a scumbag.

No matter what he wanted to do, it didn't change the fact that he was a scumbag.

"I'm sorry, Lulu. It was all my fault. But you can't deny your love for me just because of the mistakes I've made. Do you dare to say that you never loved me?"

Felix stepped closer, his pale face showing a mad persistence.

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"I won't deny it. After all, I once truly invested my feelings in you. But even the deepest love will come to an end. Felix, if you consider the affection I had for you in our youth as love, then I'm telling you now that I don't love you anymore.

"I haven't loved you for a long time. My feelings for you have been battered to shreds, worn away by time. I don't love you, Felix White, listen to me, Luna Lawson no longer loves you."

"It's been 18 years. How could you say you don't love me just like that? Luna, do you love him? Do you dare to swear by the heavens that you love him?"

"I swear that I love Colin White, and I'm willing to be with him for the rest of my life, through thick and thin without wavering. As long as he still wants me, I'll never leave nor forsake him."

Actually, I hadn't sorted out my feelings for Colin. But at this moment, Felix's actions had led me to a further understanding of my feelings for Colin.

Perhaps falling in love with Colin wasn't that difficult.

Compared to Felix, I was more willing to believe in Colin's love.

"No, I don't believe it. You're lying. You must be seeking revenge, and that's why you're doing this. You barely even talk to him. How could you possibly love him?"

"You're just using him to get close to me, aren't you, Luna? I'm right, aren't I? I know I'm right." He stepped toward me again as I retreated a few steps.

His face was filled with madness and obstinacy.

"Shut up, Felix. You're not allowed to talk about Colin like that. If you had asked me these things yesterday, I might not have had an answer. But today, right at this moment, I truly understand that I love him. I've loved him for a long time.

"It's just that I was foolish and didn't realize it. Now that I know, I don't think it's too late. Perhaps I owed him in the past, but I'll spend the rest of my life making it up to him. I'm sure he won't blame me."

“That’s impossible! You’re lying!” Felix screamed in madness, not caring that we were still in school and that people had started to stop and watch.

He had lost it!

“I’m not lying. I really do love him. For so many years, it was Colin who comforted me when I was hurt. It was he who silently supported me when I learned to paint. It was he who quietly stood by me when I was in pain.

“In those days when I was immersed in darkness, he was like a beam of light, pulling me out of the dark and toward the dawn.

“For three years,

he painstakingly prepared every meal for me. When I had a fever on a stormy night, it was he who carried me through the storm to see a doctor. When I had

menstrual cramps, a grown man like him broke into a store late at night to buy me a heating pad and sanitary pads.

“When I was sick and couldn’t eat, it was he who sat by my bed and fed me. When I won a competition, he was happier than I was. He dragged me around the city to pick out my favorite gift.

“When I came to the unfamiliar Jesselton for my postgraduate studies, he gave up the favorable conditions at Lincoln University to come here to teach. He started over from scratch, all because he was worried about me.

“He was always by my side, quietly and never confessing his love, nor burdening me with any expectations. He just silently took care of me, treasuring me as if I were the apple of his eye. After so many years, even a robot would be warmed by his sincerity.

“Felix, I’m not a robot. I’m a person with a heart. How could I not love a person who cares for me with all his heart and soul?”

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“I don’t believe it. You must be lying to me. He couldn’t have done so much for you. It’s impossible! You’re lying, you’re all lying to me.” Felix staggered, his frail body shivering in the wind as if he would fall at any moment.

I didn’t want to believe it, but his eyes were filled with profound pain.

Such pain couldn’t be faked.

Suddenly, I wanted to believe that he really liked me.

Unfortunately, his affection came far too late.

“Felix, there was never anything between us. Now, you have Lilac, and you’ve promised to be with her. Focus your thoughts on her; don’t waste them on someone irrelevant like me.

“Felix, for the sake of our childhood years, let me remind you one last time. We’ll never be able to return to the past, so cherish the present.”

We had attracted quite a crowd of onlookers watching from a distance. I didn’t want to become the center of gossip again, so I turned to leave quickly.

I didn’t know what Felix’s expression was. I only heard his cries behind me. “Lulu, come

back. Don’t leave me, please!”

His plea was filled with a despair akin to facing death.

I turned back.

Felix's tall, lean body staggered unsteadily as he clutched his chest hard. His eyes were brimming with scalding tears, his once radiant lips trembling. His whole being emanated

sadness.

It made me recall the past.

That Thanksgiving during my senior year of high school, I experienced devastating torture that was just as painful.

It was me five years ago.

It became him five years later.

This damned love, why did it leave so much regret, always bringing people to the point of powerlessness?

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Tears fell unwittingly for Felix's belated affection, as well as for the pain and regrets that couldn't be mended.

If he had given me a sliver of hope back then, things wouldn't have come to this situation today.

Back then, I endured the pain and tried to let him go.

Now, he regretted it and wanted me to open my heart to him again.

But I no longer knew whether there was still room to accommodate him if I opened my heart again.

Did Felix, who let his feelings waver between two women, still deserve my affection?

Times had changed, and the past couldn't be revisited.

There was no turning back.

"Felix, it's all in the past. Don't be like this. Move on with Lilac," I cried silently. I was like a wildflower battered by wind and rain, unable to find my direction.

Felix finally cried out loud, extending a hand toward me. "What about you, Lulu? Are you willing to come back to me? I love you, I truly do.

"I promise to stay with you forever, never to betray you, and to give you my all. I can do anything as long as you come back to me. Will you?"

Tears streamed down my face.

I didn't know. I really didn't.

My heart ached intensely. Something was pulling at me. Memories of our moments from our youth appeared before my eyes.

He was my first love, and I had vowed to marry him.

I thought that after such a tragedy, I'd never shed another tear for him, nor would my heart be in pain for him.

But when he said he loved me in agony, I inevitably cried again.

Suddenly, I was unsure of my feelings.

Who was the person I loved? Was it Colin, who had cherished me for over 20 years, or Felix, whom I had vowed to marry?

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My heart ached.

My mind was in turmoil.

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No, I couldn't agree to Felix's proposal.

Lilac was indeed not good enough, but that wasn't a reason for me to hurt her. Felix was her man now. I couldn't be the one who wrecked other people's relationships.

I needed to think carefully and figure out my true feelings.

Before that, I couldn't casually make my choice between Felix and Colin.

Especially with Colin. If I chose him, I had to love him wholeheartedly and consider him the love of my life. He couldn't be a tool to fend off Felix.

I had to leave this place and get away from Felix.

I needed to think carefully and make the right decision.

The 18-year-old Luna Lawson could be capricious, but the 22-year-old Luna Lawson was already an adult. I had to be responsible for every choice I made.

Wiping away my tears, I turned and strode away. Unexpectedly, I found myself in a firm yet warm embrace.

The man was holding me tightly. His proud head was nestled in the crook of my neck. His warm breath and clean scent of pine calmed my irritation and frustration bit by bit.

Lifting my blurry, tearful eyes to look at him, I saw that his deep eyes were brimming with indulgence. Behind that lay his worry and sorrow.

“Lulu, you look the prettiest when you smile. Don’t cry,” he murmured in a deep voice, each word striking my heart. “Whatever your decision is, I’ll respect it. So, just follow your heart.”

Look at this. This was how Colin spoiled me.

He just wanted me to be happy and never troubled me.

Gradually, my heart leaned toward him.

“Why are you eavesdropping again?” I nestled in his embrace, breathing in his scent deeply. I felt utterly at peace. The anger provoked by Felix slowly dissipated.

Colin wanted me to follow my heart, but I wondered whose heart mine rested with. How should I choose?

I was unable to find an answer.

Some might question me for not knowing who has been good to me. Was it so hard to make a decision? Was I simply greedy, wanting both? Or maybe I had never forgotten Felix and had been waiting for him to have a change of heart!

I really didn't know.

I wasn't being absurd, really. I wasn't as bad as some might think.

I just didn't want to make a decision that I'd regret and would hurt others. I needed to think calmly and rationally.

"If I hadn't eavesdropped, how would I have known that my beloved, whom I've loved for more than 20 years, loves me back? My love, believe me, I'll never let you go in this life."

"Stop saying such touching things. It's hard enough to hold back my tears. If you keep talking, I'll cry again."

"Alright, if you want me to stop, then I will. But thinking about it, did I really do all those things? It must've been tiring for me back then. Don't you think I was silly? I never felt tired at all."

"Yeah, what should we do about that?"

"You have to compensate me."

"How should I do that?"

He released me slightly and looked at me with his deep gaze. It was like the ocean, drowning

me.

“Be my girlfriend.”

“I’m sorry, Colin. Can I have some more time to think?” 1

His bright, star-like eyes dimmed. A slight look of sadness emerged in them. Yet, he still managed to force a smile. “Okay, I won’t ever trouble you. As long as it’s you, I’m willing to wait.”

My tears, nearly dried by the wind, welled up again. They quickly streamed down my cheeks, a few teardrops making their way into my mouth.

This time, the tears were not salty but had a hint of sweetness.

Chapter 255

I didn’t know who did it, but the words Felix said to me in public on campus quickly reached Lilac’s ears. I wasn’t sure if the story got twisted along the way.

When I walked out of class with the crowd, I spotted Lilac standing against the flow at first glance.

She was dressed in a long light blue dress. Her hair, which was previously in a bob cut, had grown past her shoulders and was draped softly on her back. Wearing a pair of white soft-soled leather shoes, she looked both ladylike and exceptionally pleasing to the eye.

If not for the significant difference in our heights, I’d almost think I was seeing another version of myself with the way she was dressed. It made me pause for a moment.

An answer seemed to emerge, but I quickly dismissed it in my head. No woman would willingly become someone else’s substitute, nor would they want to imitate someone else to gain the attention and love of the man they liked.

A classmate who was walking behind me bumped into my shoulder with hers and asked with a mischievous wink, “Luna, is that your substitute or your sister?”

“Some people can be so ignorant. They can copy the way someone is dressed, but they can never emulate their temperament. No matter how much they try to look like someone, it’s just an embarrassing imitation.”

This young woman was named Abby Clay, and she came from the northwest region. She was raised amidst sands and winds. She was not one to tolerate any nonsense.

She was an onlooker during the standoff between me and Felix. Somehow, she picked the right moment to catch me and thoroughly inquired about the past events. She then immediately expressed her great disdain and aversion toward Lilac.

The righteous Abby declared on the spot that if given a chance, she would gladly help me vent my frustrations.

But we didn’t expect the opportunity to present itself so quickly.

Lilac obviously came in anger, probably intending to embarrass me. But she didn’t anticipate the unexpected appearance of Abby. When she was ridiculed by Abby, Lilac was momentarily stunned before exploding in rage.

We couldn’t let an outsider make a scene in front of our faculty building.

Soon, Lilac was defeated and fled in embarrassment.

Before leaving, she venomously threatened me again, “Luna Lawson, just you wait.”

This was the second time she said those words. Her vicious tone sent shivers down my spine.

I could never have imagined she would go to such insane lengths.

She wanted to destroy me.

Abby said the incident was her fault. She declared she would protect me from that rotten Lilac from now on, ensuring that I wouldn't be harmed.

But we were just classmates, after all, not conjoined twins. It wasn't possible to be together

all the time.

Lilac's maliciousness exceeded everyone's expectations, nearly ruining both me and herself.

That evening, at around five or six in the evening, there was a light rain that didn't last for more than an hour.

Because of the rain, Colin didn't pick me up for dinner but ordered me a meal instead.

After eating and with nothing much to do, I focused on my painting.

When the rain stopped and the sky had completely turned dark, I went to the studio in our faculty building to get some supplies. I realized I was running low on some tubes of paint. I recalled the professor, who had rushed me twice.

The night in early autumn was already somewhat cool. In addition to the recent rain that added a damp chill, it was even colder than usual.

I left in a hurry, wearing only a thin jacket over my short-sleeved shirt. The autumn wind pierced through it, wrapping me in coldness.

Hoping to get back sooner, I chose a path that was seldom used even during the day.

The path wasn't secluded, but because it was flanked by densely grown shrubs, walking there always felt ominous. That was why few people took it.

For some reason, the night after the rain made it even more deserted. Several street lamps were out, leaving the path dark and even more eerie.

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Looking at the dark alley, my whole body just broke out in goosebumps. I hesitated at the intersection but thought that it wasn't too late. Besides, the campus had always been safe. I didn't want to scare myself and went straight over.

With each step, my anxiety increased.

My damned sixth sense seized hold of my unease, letting fear creep into my heart from time

to time.

Suddenly, I remembered that year when I stumbled upon Lilac and Shawn's affair. I was cornered by him on a dark night like this.

Although Colin was right on time and came to my rescue that day, I had been particularly averse to the darkness when alone ever since then.

A cold breeze swept over me, rustling the leaves and causing the branches around to sway gently. Fear swept over my senses, and every hair on my body stood on end.

The ominous premonition grew stronger.

I regretted taking this path.

I wanted to turn back and run the way I came, but it was too late.

Two men, one tall and one short, approached me with something unclear in their hands. They were grinning wickedly.

Cold sweat suddenly soaked through the fabric clinging to my body.

“Hey, young lady, aren’t you scared of walking alone in the dark? We’ll protect you! Come, let me hug you.”

The short man reached out with his disgusting hands, his lecherous laughter echoing like a demon in the dark night. Despite being several yards away, I could still smell the nauseating odor emanating from them.

“I adore pretty women like you the most. I promise I’ll make you feel good. Come on, come to me,”

“This chick is so hot. It’ll be so exciting to sleep with her.” The tall man greedily licked his lips, his eyes filled with lustful anticipation.

A deafening roar echoed in my mind. Fear, like an endless sea, immediately enveloped me. It

left me with nowhere to escape.

The last time at Lincoln University, Shawn just wanted to beat me up. This time, Lilac wanted to ruin my innocence and my life.

The two disgusting men continued to approach me. Their faces were not clear in the dim light, but I could see their cruel smiles and lecherous excitement.

Terrified, I used all my strength to struggle. I tried to escape this hateful darkness and the impending assault.

However, as a female, how could I be a match for two adult males regardless of how tall or brave I was? Moreover, they had already decided to take my innocence to satisfy their disgusting desires.

Lilac never showed up, and I couldn't even produce evidence that it was her who set me up.

But I knew it was her. She had left a cold warning that day.

This had to be the revenge she prepared for me.

However, I didn't have time to think about it in detail. I just wanted to break free from the men and protect my innocence at all costs.

No matter who I gave myself to in this world, it couldn't be these two disgusting scum.

If I couldn't break free, I'd rather die than let them have their way with me.

After just ten minutes or so, I fell into their hands after exhausting all my strength.

The short man caught my arms while the tall man pinched my chin, forcing me to raise my face.

After seeing my face, he grinned and revealed a mouthful of yellow teeth. "Haha, I never thought I'd get to sleep with such a beautiful woman in my life. Even if I die, it's worth it. Hey, it'll be your turn after I'm done."

Their filthy language was unbearable to listen to.

The immense sense of shame made me tremble violently, and the impending sense of doom threw my mind into chaos.

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The immense sense of shame made me tremble violently, and the impending sense of doom

left my mind in chaos.

I had never been so scared and desperate before!

The feeling of helplessness with no one to turn to made me wish for death.

The tall man's filthy hand reached up to my shirt collar, his cold fingers touching my neck. Something started to surge violently in my chest. A strong sense of nausea assaulted my

tense throat.

In the last second before the man's hand tore open my collar, I vomited.

The half-digested food, which carried an unpleasant odor, sprayed all over the tall man's chest and arms.

After a moment of shock, the man shook his right hand with disgust while cursing me under his breath. The short man pushed me to the ground and began to retch, his hands clutching

his knees.

Fortunately, I had eaten quite a bit for dinner. Despite feeling dirty myself, it was this undigested meal that helped me temporarily escape the clutches of the criminals.

The tall man angrily took off his coat and T-shirt, revealing his emaciated upper body. He charged toward me, cursing and swinging his fists. "You bitch, just see how I deal with you."

His words were filled with hatred, flames of anger flicking in his eyes.

“Help, help!” Finally, I found my voice and started screaming for help.

Despite being an atheist, I prayed to all the gods to hear my cries and pleas. I prayed they would help me escape the attack and preserve my innocence.

I didn’t know if my voice was too soft or if the place was too remote for me to be heard.

My throat was burning, yet no one came.

“Shut up, you bitch!”

The short, fat man came at me like a wall. His dirty, chubby hands covered my mouth.

In no time, the two subdued me again. I was left too powerless to resist.

At that moment, I was painfully aware of everything.

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I hated the clarity of this moment.

I had to witness the loss of my 22 years of innocence with such clarity. Was I going to be defiled by these beasts just like this? No, I refused! I didn’t want to!

“Colin, save me-

The rest of the words didn’t come out as my throat was strangled by someone.

Tears poured out like water.

Besides crying, I couldn’t do anything to protect myself.

I felt sorry to Colin. I couldn’t give him an answer in time. I didn’t want him to wait for me

anymore.

When the idea of biting my tongue to death appeared in my mind, I felt I had found my final redemption.

My teeth sank into my tongue, causing excruciating pain.

In order to preserve my innocence, this was my final struggle.

These two men were here to vent on behalf of Lilac. They probably did not want to kill anyone. As long as they were afraid, I still had hope of saving myself.

Today, with my blood, I would save my own innocence.

The taste of blood spread in my mouth. Something hot and sticky flowed down my lips, dripping onto the skin of my

neck.

I closed my eyes in despair as my consciousness gradually faded.

The two men began to panic and discuss whether they should continue their actions. They were afraid too. They must have understood that while sleeping with a beautiful woman was a rare opportunity, their lives were more precious.

Suddenly, a roar was heard, and something rushed over like the wind. Then, the dull sound of fists colliding with flesh could be heard.

Someone was wailing, another person kept begging for mercy, and one more person was shouting angrily. They said they would take the lives of the two men and make them suffer.

As my consciousness returned, I endured the pain in my mouth and opened my eyes. I saw a tall, strong figure fighting with the two men.

His fists were fierce, his eyes burning with flames. He looked fearless as he delivered every

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blow with full strength, leaving no room for mercy.

Suddenly, another figure appeared. He was tall and slim but exceptionally agile.

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He ran a few steps to my side and helped me up from the ground. His large hands trembled. as he wiped away the blood that kept flowing from the corner of my lips. The pain in his eyes was so deep and heavy.

He kept apologizing repeatedly and swiftly took off his clothes. He rolled them up to cushion them under my neck. Then, he turned around to join the fight.

The two men were already retreating under Colin's furious onslaught. They were seeking an opportunity to escape.

With Felix joining in, the brothers became formidable. The two men were both knocked to the ground and continued to be beaten up.

They no longer had the chance to escape.

I struggled to sit up and assess myself. Thankfully, my clothes were intact. Except for the injury to my tongue, everything else seemed fine.

This was the second time Colin appeared when I needed him the most. He kept me safe and protected my innocence.

Colin delivered a fierce kick to the taller man. It was only until the two men had completely lost their ability to escape that Colin ran toward me again.

The moment he held me in his arms, I cried bitterly, feeling aggrieved and scared.

For a long while, he gently patted my back to comfort me. My tears ended up wetting his shirt on his shoulders.

“Everything’s fine now. Don’t be scared. Why is there so much blood? Be good and open your mouth. Let me see. It’s such a big wound, and it’s still bleeding. I’ll bring you to the hospital now.”

Without any hesitation, Colin lifted me. Felix wanted to stop him, but upon seeing Colin’s fierce and cold gaze, he turned away. He was unable to say a word.

Two equally outstanding men stood facing each other on a silent battlefield, one wanting to stop the other from leaving. They were silently confronting each other.

Everyone was clear about the truth in front of us and who was pulling the strings behind the scenes. It was so obvious that it didn’t need to be pointed out.

After all, what happened to me this time seemed closely related to Felix.

If he hadn't repeatedly pestered me, causing Lilac to misunderstand and refusing to explain things to her, would I have suffered like this?

Moreover, this incident was far worse than the last time.

A beating was nothing compared to being violated. If I had been violated, I would have a stain on my reputation for a lifetime. I would never be able to hold my head up again.

Because in the eyes of the world, victims were always the weak ones. They often became objects of ridicule and contempt.

Lilac wanted to ruin my life.

Lilac's viciousness was beyond my imagination.

She might look gentle and delicate, but she had a cruel heart. It seemed that she wouldn't stop until I was dead.

But what had I done to deserve her hatred?

I didn't want to know why Felix came, but it was a fact that he indirectly brought disaster upon me. I had to avoid him at all costs.

Finally, Felix was the defeated party in this confrontation. He took a step back, making way for Colin and me.

My bloodied face was leaning against Colin's chest as he wrapped his arms tightly around me. It was as if he were protecting a treasure, as if I would disappear if he let go

of me.

Even when lying in his arms, I could feel his arms and the rest of his sturdy physique trembling slightly. It was out of worry, distress, regret, and fear.

He placed me in the passenger seat and rushed me to the hospital.

Along the way, he kept talking to me, trying to find something to say. My tongue was hurting terribly, so he just said, "Lulu, you don't have to answer me. Just blink if you hear

me."

I knew he wanted me to stay awake. He was afraid that I would fall asleep and never wake up again.

Warmth slowly filled my chest, warming my whole body and my heart. Moments ago, I had just made up my mind to die.

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When we reached the hospital, Colin carried the bloodied me and rushed down the corridor. People passing by avoided us, speculating behind our backs about what had happened. They wondered how a young woman like me ended up covered in blood.

Colin glared at them, his icy demeanor shutting up their mouths. They did not dare say

another word.

No one wanted any trouble just for some gossip.

The doctor on duty in the emergency room was a man in his 30s. He asked me to open my mouth. When he saw the wound, he sucked in a cold breath. I didn't know if it was my imagination, but there was admiration in his eyes as he looked at me.

He calmly tried to stop the bleeding. But when the cotton touched my wound, a sharp pain shot through my brain. I was dizzy just a moment ago, but my head suddenly cleared.

The doctor said the wound was slightly deep and needed stitches. He said that I had sharp

teeth and a fierce determination to have inflicted such harm upon myself.

How could I tell him that at that moment, I would rather die than lose my innocence?

Besides, it took a lot of courage to bite my tongue to death! If it weren't for the desperate situation where death was the only option, who would do such a thing? Nobody was that

stupid.

Colin coughed disapprovingly. The doctor, being a smart man, shrugged and stopped talking. Instead, he instructed the nurse to prepare the instruments needed for the

operation.

From the corners of my eyes, I saw a tall figure in a white coat holding a disposable needle. He stood in front of me, asking me to open my mouth. The next moment, a sharp pain

stabbed at the base of my tongue. After that, I lost consciousness.

When I woke up, I found myself lying in a hospital bed with an IV drip on my hand. Colin was sitting beside me, holding my right hand with his left. Our fingers were intertwined.

In recent years, I had more intimate encounters with hospital beds than in the first 18 years of my life.

After becoming an adult, it seemed like I encountered more troubles and dangers, especially

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with my involvement with the Whites, I was constantly facing life-threatening situations.

Dealing with the Whites was truly unpredictable. Now, it seemed that the bad outweighed the good.

Colin's fingers were nice and strong, holding me firmly but without causing me pain. But it was enough to prevent me from breaking free.

I didn't know why, but I suddenly remembered the post he shared a few days ago. It was the same intertwined fingers, but a few roses were missing from the background. Remembering the jealousy I felt then, I couldn't help but chuckle.

Colin, who had been sitting quietly, heard my laughter and turned to look at me. His bright eyes were bloodshot.

My laughter tugged at the stitched wound, causing me immense pain. I broke out in a cold sweat, my eyes reddening,

He rubbed my thumb tenderly, but his words weren't very pleasant. "The doctor said no sudden movements, and you can only eat liquid food with a straw for now. Otherwise, it'll affect the healing, and there may be complications in the future. So, keep quiet."

"What complications? Are they serious?" I tried to raise my voice, but it came out small and hoarse. Every word I uttered sent a clear pain signal to my brain, intensifying the agony.

Colin looked serious. “They’re not too serious, but it’s likely that because the base of your tongue is injured. You might not be able to speak clearly in the future. If it doesn’t heal properly, you might end up having slurred speech.

“But even if you can’t speak, you can still write. You’re an artist, after all. There’s nothing you can’t express through your art.”

Slurred speech? Just thinking about it gave me goosebumps.

I didn’t want to become like that. It would be terrifying.

Perhaps my expression looked dreadful, Colin smiled helplessly. He ruffled my hair as he said dotingly, “Alright, don’t be scared. I was just teasing you. But the part about liquid food

is correct.

“You were quite ruthless to yourself. Didn’t it hurt to bite your tongue so hard?”

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Colin started to grumble, every word sounding like a complaint. But behind each word was clearly his concern for me and his fear.

“When I heard you scream for help, I almost went crazy. I was worried I came too late, afraid you would be hurt because of it. God knows how angry I was seeing you covered in blood while lying there. If I had a knife, I would’ve killed them right then and there.”

Now that I thought about it, Colin was still full of suppressed anger. His gaze was so fierce it was frightening. He ground his teeth loudly.

If he had a knife then, I had no doubt he would have turned those two into minced meat.

“It wouldn’t have been worth it.”

“It would’ve. As long as it’s for you, everything’s worth it. Lulu, stop doubting yourself all the time. You have to know that you deserve the best of everything in the world. So, don’t always choose to step back, forgive, and accommodate others. Stop sacrificing yourself.

“In my eyes, you’ll always come first. For you, I wouldn’t hesitate to commit any crime, even if it means harming others. I wouldn’t even furrow

my brows.”

The air between us was flowing with warmth and tenderness.

I never expected Colin to have this side to him. He was so doting while being authoritative.

I wanted to laugh again, but my tongue hurt too much, so I gave up.

“Colin, if those two guys had really... Would you still like me?”

“Nonsense,” he rebuked me sternly, his gaze unusually serious.

“I like you for who you are and not for any of the superficial reasons. I went crazy earlier not because you might’ve lost your innocence but because....

“Because you didn’t want to see me get harmed. Colin, I know that,” I quickly interrupted him, finishing his sentence.

The topic was unpleasant, but I wanted a genuine answer.

His expression softened slightly, the coldness in his eyes gradually melting away. It was replaced by a gentle warmth.

“I want to get to the bottom of this matter, but that’ll depend on your opinion.”

1/2

“Of course, we must get to the bottom of this. Her behavior this time is too despicable. If she isn’t punished appropriately, who knows what she might do next?

“Colin, I can’t keep a venomous snake around me. It’s too dangerous. Besides, she has to take responsibility for what she’s done.”!

“Okay.” Colin gently kissed my hand, successfully making me blush. His chest was vibrating with muffled laughter as he said, “Typical young women would choose to suffer in silence when faced with such situations. So, I wanted to know your opinion.”

“Well, you seem to forget that I’m not a typical young woman.”

He laughed with joy and relief. The depths of his eyes, like the vast sky of stars, were suppressing the raging anger.

This incident not only angered me but also made him worry. Regardless of who Lilac was, Colin wouldn’t let her off. I just didn’t know what role Felix played in this matter.

“You don’t have to worry about this matter anymore. Leave it to me. I’ll be sure to get you justice,” he said.

After all that had happened, I was tired. I wanted to sleep for a while.

The door of the ward creaked open, and two sets of footsteps pulled me out of my drowsiness. My hazy consciousness instantly cleared.

Felix had appeared in the ward, and he was dragging Lilac by the collar of her clothes. He shoved her forward.

Lilac bit her lip and rushed toward me, kneeling in front of my bed. As her knees hit the floor, the pain made her furrow her delicate brows as tears pooled in her eyes. Suddenly, my head began to hurt.