

Seduced 281

Chapter 281

Felix was hospitalized two weeks ago. Colin had lost a lot of weight from taking care of him, but he had to forge on. His parents were also quite old, so he had to be the pillar of the household.

However, his eyes still sparkled with life when he was with me. He'd grin seductively at me. Like opium poppy, it was beautiful, lethal, and addictive.

He'd coo and ask if I had eaten or why I looked under the weather. Then, he'd feed me the chicken soup Mom brewed personally.

He'd also apologized for not spending more time with me and promised that once Felix felt better, he'd travel with me and bring me to a beautiful place.

I smirked and nodded my head.

Unbeknownst to Colin, he was the most beautiful thing in my world. I didn't need to see any other tourist sights.

For his stellar performance, I added even more flowers next to his name in my mental note. He was closer to becoming my official boyfriend!

One day, Mom told me during dinner that she had visited Felix in the afternoon. She told me that he refused to talk to anyone or get out of bed. He also refused to eat. Melinda was so worried that she lost a lot of weight too.

I gave no comment, but I had an ominous feeling.

Sometimes, I hated the fact that I almost always jinxed myself.

After dinner, Melinda came to my house with teary eyes. She grabbed my hands as soon as she stepped inside and begged me to talk to Felix.

Colin was right behind Melinda. He kept telling his mom that this had nothing to do with me and that she shouldn't bother me. He said that they only needed to send Felix to a hospital.

But Melinda was headstrong. She grabbed my hands and began dragging me to her home.

Seeing the distraught state of her friend, Mom asked Melinda what had happened in a concerned tone.

We then learned that after Felix was discharged from the hospital, his appetite slowly dwindled. He had not eaten anything for two days, and he looked almost skeletal now. He refused to listen to anyone's advice, and his breathing had become faint, almost as if he was about to die.

Given how advanced medical technology was and the lack of any pathogens, it had to be Felix's intention to starve himself.

Melinda then implored while sobbing, "Lulu, forgive me for being selfish. But Felix keeps calling out your name during his sleep. Can you please talk to him and ask him to eat something? Help me.

Colin tried to dissuade Melinda and protested, "Mom, Felix is an adult now. He knows what will happen if he stops eating, but he's doing it anyway. He should live with the consequences. Why should Lulu help him? No one can help him if he gives up on himself."

Melinda wouldn't have any of it. She sat on the couch and expressed her heartache and fear. My mom was touched by the emotions, and her eyes

turned watery too.

Grabbing my hand, Colin continued to argue sternly that Melinda shouldn't come and ask for my help.

My mom gave in in the end. She couldn't stand how much Melinda had cried, so she asked me to take a look at Felix. Whether he would listen to my advice or not was up to him.

She said we should do our best to help. "Colin, can you go with Lulu?"

I was forced to go to Felix's home.

Despite his disgruntlement, Colin had no choice but to come with me. I understood that as Felix's older brother, he had certain familial obligations to uphold.

I last entered Felix's room three or four years ago, but nothing inside had changed—including the little trinkets on the window frame. Four little tigers sat obediently on his computer desk.

Felix was lying on the bed quietly. We hadn't seen each other for a week, and

he was already gaunt and haggard. He looked so lifeless. If not for his

eyeballs' irregular movement or the minuscule heaving of his chest, he would look no different from a cadaver.

Chapter 282

I was appalled to see Felix in this state.

Only love could reduce someone to this worrying state, though I wonder who he loved.

He was sound asleep. The crowd in his room failed to rouse him.

A bowl of chicken soup lay dormant on the cabinet next to the headboard. Felix never even touched it.

I glanced at Colin. He led me to the stool next to Felix's bed.

I poked Felix's bare arm, which was resting on top of his blanket. "Felix, wake up. It's time to eat."

There was no response.

"Felix, it's me, Luna. Can you hear me? Wake up now. Eat while the food is still warm."

I called out several times, but there was no reaction.

Melinda covered her mouth and sobbed on her husband's chest. Mom sighed deeply, and Colin's eyes turned glossy.

Just when everyone thought all hope was lost, Felix's eyes fluttered open.

"Honey, Felix is awake!" exclaimed Austin. Everyone turned to look at Felix.

He blinked his eyes and scanned the room with great difficulty. Then, his gaze fell on me. "Lulu, is that you?"

His voice was creaky like someone suddenly pushed a hundred-year-old

rusty gate.

"Yes, I'm here."

"Lulu, I'm hungry. Can you feed me?"

It was at that exact moment that I realized Felix was well awake all this

time. He had heard everything we said, and he intentionally made himself look lifeless so that I could come and see him.

Colin's expression darkened too upon discovering Felix's conspicuous

attempt at deceit. He grabbed my hand and tried to leave with me.

But Melinda embraced me and shoved the bowl of chicken

soup into my

hand. "Please help me, Lulu. I can't just watch as Felix slowly starves himself to death. Please, I beg of you. Just feed him. It won't take too long."

"Mom, what are you doing? Send Felix to the hospital. Hook him up to an IV drip and he can live as long as you want. Why must you involve Lulu?" Colin scowled angrily. His grip on me tightened.

"You don't understand, Colin. This is my son. He's my baby. Where is your sympathy when he's this sick? Are you that heartless?"

Colin, tall and stubborn as he was, was powerless against his hysterical

mother.

I was unable to meet Melinda's despondent eyes. I understood that she loved her son unconditionally, and I didn't want Colin to be reproached further. I caved in and took the bowl of chicken soup. Then, I sat on the stool and began feeding Felix.

He had difficulty swallowing because he hadn't had anything for days. Yet he made sure he swallowed every spoonful of soup. His eyes were fixated on me as if he was afraid that I might vanish in the next second.

I had never been scrutinized this intensely before, so I felt uneasy. I wanted to run away, but I couldn't ignore Melinda's request either. I mustered whatever patience I had left and did my best to pretend that his burning

gaze wasn't there.

He couldn't force me to love him. Did he not understand that?

"It's so delicious, Lulu." Light began to return to Felix's eyes.

"Have more, then." Melinda patted his head affectionately but also v

sorrow.

It took Felix more than 20 minutes to finish the bowl of chicken sou

During the feeding, Melinda cried several times out of joy.

Chapter 283

It took Felix more than 20 minutes to finish the bowl of chicken soup. During the feeding, Melinda cried several times out of joy.

After the bowl became empty, I was relieved that the whole ordeal was over.

I wanted to go home, but Felix called out my name. “Lulu, will you come back again tomorrow? I want to see you.”

His voice was meek and faint. A strong gust of wind could have overpowered

it easily.

It was a simple request, yet it filled me with disgust.

I had already cut ties with him that day and told him my love for Colin. To my dismay, he still wanted me to stay in my life. It annoyed me, truth be

told.

Colin was mad. He hollered loudly, “Felix, you’re testing my limit here!”

Felix did not react or look at Colin. In fact, he looked at no one except for me.

It made me think that he was living inside his shell, oblivious to his surroundings.

The annoyance I felt earlier deepened.

What was happening? Why was he bothering me after Lilac broke his heart? If what he said was true—that he had always been in love with me—then he was a real jerk to have juggled between two women.

I was frustrated and irked. I wanted to leave and never see him again.

Melinda wiped the corner of Felix’s mouth and coddled, “Of course, she’ll be here tomorrow. We live so close to each other. Lulu will come to visit you.

“I won’t come to feed you, Felix. You’re responsible for your own life, and

no one will help you if you’re throwing it away. Melinda, have faith in

current technology. If he does this again, send him to a hospital. I can feed him a bowl of chicken soup, but I can’t save his soul.”

Colin went back to my home with me. We sat on the couch, frustrated.

He tried to hug me, and I let him.

Even someone strong like Colin could feel vulnerable. And when he did, he

wanted solace too.

I didn’t know how Colin usually coped with such things, especially when I

wasn’t there for him.

But things would change now. He had me.

His embrace was tight. It hurt me a little, but I made no complaints. I knew how much Colin had sacrificed for our relationship. I knew how insecure he

felt now.

Felix’s unusual behavior had ruined the day for everyone.

“Colin, I won’t leave you for another man.” To console Colin and give him some sense of security, I told him my resolution.

He gazed at me with his beautiful eyes and planted a kiss affectionately on my forehead. It was soft, fluffy, and light.

“Lulu, you’re mine. No one can take you away from me. Ever.”

I should have known that this was the prelude to what he would do to Felix

next.

But back then, I only threw myself into Colin’s arms. I failed to relieve him of his worries. And when that incident happened, my panic, rage, and pain

almost killed me.

It was a hellish period.

The yearning and the suffering turned me jaded. My passion for life

disappeared.

“Don’t worry, Colin. No matter who takes me away, I’ll find my way back. I just want to be with you in this life.”

What Felix had done seemed to unhinge Colin. He was nervous.

I comforted him with my voice. It took a long time until his nerves finally

calmed down.

“I’ll talk to Felix.”

Colin then went home. I lay on my bed alone. Sleep was eluding me.

I didn’t know what Colin told Felix, nor how Felix reacted. I assumed that Colin managed to persuade Felix to give up on me.

Chapter 284

For the next four days, Felix did not bother me.

On the morning of the fifth day, before dawn broke, I heard faint screams and crying noises. They were both near and far. I couldn’t hear them clearly. I thought I was dreaming, so I pulled the blanket over my head to continue my sleep.

Mom suddenly barged into my room and unburied me from the blanket.” Wake up, Lulu.”

Mom had always been elegant and composed. But her hair was now messy, and she wore a face of shock as if something tragic had just happened.

“What happened, Mom?” My heart was pounding.

“Felix, he... he might be gone. Melinda called an ambulance. Come with us. We’ll see if we can help with anything.”

My mind went blank. My hands were already putting on clothes as I struggled to process the whole thing.

I did not like Felix. In fact, oftentimes, I wanted to avoid him. But I couldn't believe that one day, he would take his own life.

The ambulance rushed to the neighborhood. After administering emergency aid, the medics carried the unconscious Felix into the ambulance. Melinda wailed and wept loudly as Mom went inside the ambulance with her.

Colin was driving. Together with his dad and me, we tailed behind the ambulance. My dad had some matters to attend to at school, so he couldn't

come with us.

The ambulance blitzed its way to the hospital. At the entrance, emergency medical staff members took over the gurney and sent Felix to the operating

room.

+ BONUS

Melinda was crying incessantly on the chairs outside while Mom was doing her best to console her. Austin was a man, so he was able to contain his emotions better. That said, he paced back and forth anxiously.

Colin leaned against a wall. He stared at the white wall opposite him, lost in his thoughts.

I approached him and held his cold hands.

Colin grabbed me by my waist and kissed my forehead lightly. "Babe, I thought I lost my brother just now."

The news was cutting. Calm and collected as Colin usually was, he was concerned about his younger brother's life all the same.

I regretted my decision slightly. If I had agreed to feed Felix every day, perhaps he wouldn't have had to be sent to the emergency room. Colin wouldn't have been wrought with worry.

"Sorry, Colin. I was too selfish."

"No, it's not your fault. It has nothing to do with you. It's his problem. I might need more time to take care of Felix now. Promise me you'll take good care of yourself, yeah?"

"Yes, don't worry about me."

Felix was awake when he exited the emergency room.

The medical staff entered the ward with him. A doctor hung a bag of nutrient solution on an IV pole.

Felix stared at the dripping liquid inside the tube. No matter who talked to

him, he made no response.

Colin left the ward to ask the doctor some follow-up questions. I did not like

how stuffy the ward was, so I went with Colin.

"The patient was eating irregularly and fainted from starvation. It's not a

serious problem. He'll recover with some nutrient bags."

“Doctor, do you know he refuses to communicate? Sometimes, I feel like he blocks out everyone and everything from the outside world.”

“This is our chief concern at the moment. I have reasons to believe that the patient might have a serious case of depression. His volatile outbursts and moodiness seem to correspond with the syndromes of depression.

“Don’t worry about this because I’ve contacted my colleagues from the Psychology and Psychiatry Department. They’re the experts in this field and will give you the most effective help.”

Chapter 285

Colin was silent when we made our way back to the ward. I was feeling anxious as well.

I had heard about depression. It was a mental illness, triggered by a

traumatizing event. In some serious cases, the patients might turn violent or take their own lives.

When I was studying at university, the sister of one of my coursemates had postpartum depression and jumped off a building, leaving behind a one- month–old baby.

If Felix took his life too, I...

I was too afraid to imagine further.

“Calm down, Colin. Maybe the diagnosis is wrong. The doctor only suspects it, doesn’t he? Perhaps Felix will return to normal tomorrow morning.”

Colin patted my head and pulled me into his embrace. He leaned in and

whispered into my ear, “Yes... Thank you, Lulu.”

The next afternoon, I came to the ward with the dinner Mom had prepared.

The ward door was ajar. I heard movement from the bed. Felix was sitting against the pillow with a stoic face.

Colin sat on a stool in front of him. They were having a serious talk.

“Felix, we all saw what you did to Lulu back then. You rejected her. You made her attend a university so far away from here. You owe her this. Our

family owes her this. I don’t know why you keep trying to bind her to you, but I’m telling you that you and Lulu are over.

“She’s my girlfriend now. To put it bluntly, you had it coming for all the

pain you’re feeling now. Don’t drag the innocent Lulu into this. Am I clear?”

Felix lowered his head and twiddled his thumbs. “Colin, I regret my

decision so much. I want her back.”

Colin tensed up. His grip on the edge of the bed tightened. Even from the outside, I could sense anger and defensiveness from him.

“Don’t you get it, Felix? Lulu is human. She has her feelings and free will. She can choose the kind of life she wants. She won’t dog behind you forever. She won’t wait until you come back to her when you’re sick of the girls out

there.

“No one will wait for you forever. Besides, you hurt her first. You think you deserve her forgiveness? Let me make this clear, Felix. Lulu is now my girlfriend. I won’t allow anyone to make her cry. Not even you.

“Please get over this. Lilac isn’t worth your time, and you’ll eventually find your true love. Stop pestering Lulu. She’s young, kind, and naive. I don’t want her to be upset, and I don’t want to put her in a difficult situation either.”

“That’s just your opinion, Colin,” uttered Felix stubbornly.

The food in my hands was heavy. Before I knew it, I already pushed open the door. Both brothers turned around and faced me, startled.

They tried to exclude me from this conversation, but I had overheard everything.

“Felix, I’ve already told you the last time. We’re not bound by anything anymore. I love Colin now, and I will spend my life with him. That won’t change at all.”

Felix fell silent. He looked at his fingers once again and blocked everything.

out.

The talk failed.

That night, I couldn’t fall asleep. The image of Felix staring at his fingers kept appearing in my mind.

I did not know how to describe him. He looked liberated but also crestfallen.

At around five in the morning, I was jolted awake by my ringing phone. I rubbed my pounding chest and picked up the call.

Chapter 286

It was Colin. As soon as I answered the phone, I could hear his trembling voice.

“Lulu, Felix fell into the lake... He almost drowned. He’s under rescue now, but his vital signs are weak...”

Before I hung up the call, I heard loud knockings on my door. I could also hear Aunt Mel’s cries through the door.

Wasn’t Felix so sick that he couldn’t even walk? How did he get out? He learned to swim in the gym and even won swimming competitions in the district. How could he

have almost drowned? Why was there a lake in the hospital?

It had only been a night, so how did he become like this? How could this happen?

My thoughts were so messy that I felt like I had a splitting headache.

Felix remained unconscious for the next two days, relying on an IV drip to keep his vital signs stable.

Colin and Dad visited the doctor several times to inquire about Felix’s condition. The results were surprisingly consistent.

“The patient has no significant physical issues, but we suspect that he has a serious psychological disorder. Perhaps he doesn’t want to confront a

specific reality, so he chooses to sleep to escape it.”

The doctor said that we needed to identify the source of the problem.

Healing Felix's psychological disorder would wake him up.

With this news, the Lawsons and Whites were anguished. Everyone stayed

in the hospital, hoping for a miracle to occur.

Four days later, Felix remained unconscious. Apart from occasionally

18 BONUS

murmuring my name and asking me not to leave, he was completely unaware of the outside world.

Following the injury, he lost weight, and his skin was pale to the point of being translucent. He lay quietly, much like Sleeping Beauty from the fairy

tale.

Colin accompanied Felix by the hospital bed throughout the day and night. With sunken eyes, he appeared listless, as if he were in a dark place.

I commuted between my home and the hospital every day. Mom expressed her concern that I had lost much weight.

Everyone was doing all they could for Felix's health. Only he, who was guarding the fantasy of nothingness, refused to awaken.

Colin's expression darkened every time Felix murmured my name, and my anxiety grew.

My heart ached as I saw Colin become withdrawn and gaunt from worry.

However, there was nothing I could do except stay with him.

I spent the last two days reviewing everything that had transpired in the past six months. I knew the source of Felix's problem, but I had no idea how to get him to wake up voluntarily.

Lilac's betrayal and leaving surely hurt him deeply. He couldn't bear the sorrow and despair, so he forced himself to return to the past, especially

before he met her.

What he said that day wasn't for me but for 18-year-old Luna and 19-year-

old Felix.

That year, he was young and carefree, and I used to follow him. Perhaps he yearned for the younger me because I only focused on him back then. He believed I could replace the emotional void created by Lilac's leaving.

In other words, he subconsciously wanted to use me to treat his emotional,

wounds.

I understood, and I assumed Colin did as well. Otherwise, he wouldn't suffer

so much.

During these days, he smoked a lot. He seemed to lose hope and support

without the cigarettes.

I felt sad for Colin and didn't want him to be uncomfortable. I didn't want to be Lilac's replacement, let alone have any involvement with Felix.

However, I might not have a choice when it came to Felix's life, even if I was unwilling to grant his wish.

Chapter 287

My sensitive heart, the time we spent growing up together, my elders' tears and pleadings, Colin's sorrowful back—they controlled me like chains, with

no way out.

When I entered the ward on the fifth day, Aunt Mel hurried over to me with reddened eyes. She grabbed my hand and began crying

"Lulu, please save Felix. I know he's done ridiculous things to you, but he still likes you. Can you forgive him? Please be with Felix. Only you can help

him!"

Everything I had feared was now coming true.

However, I didn't want to. Why should I bear the consequences of Felix's own choices? Why should I live a life dominated by others?

I had Colin. I only wanted to be with him.

What about Colin and me? What would happen to the love we'd just started?

I couldn't bear to part with him.

"Aunt Mel, there is nothing between me and Felix at all. Colin is the one I

love. Even without Colin, I won't be with Felix. You're aware of what

occurred back then. I'm also my mom's precious daughter. Why should I forgive him after he has hurt me so badly?"

Aunt Mel didn't listen to me at all. She repeatedly implored me to forgive Felix and save him. She stated that if something happened to Felix, she

wouldn't be able to survive.

I wondered how Colin would react when he heard that. Aunt Mel spared no

effort for Felix and even sacrificed her eldest son's happiness. How would

Colin feel?

Aunt Mel didn't let go of me. She shook off Colin's hand repeatedly, crying

1/2

and begging, "Lulu, Colin will be fine without you, but Felix will die! You don't want him to die either, right? You used to like him a lot! You must be unwilling to let him die! Please help me save him! Felix can't just die like this! He's still young. Lulu, I beg you!"

I refused to agree. "Aunt Mel, Colin is the person I love. If you want my organs, I can give them to you. But I only love Colin. I won't love Felix again.

Aunt Mel's request was just too much.

She still refused to give up. It wasn't until Uncle Austin returned to take her away that I could escape, but she was still pressuring me to get back together with Felix.

Later, Colin took me out of the ward, and we went to the terrace. Facing the chilly wind, we felt sorrowful.

He held me in his arms while calmly smoking one cigarette after another.

Shortly after, there were more than a dozen cigarette butts beneath our feet, and the ashes flew everywhere. Just like our hearts that had been tortured to

the point of collapse.

Trembling, I turned around and hugged his waist. "Colin, I don't want to leave you. Don't push me away."

Colin grabbed me in his arms, kissing my forehead and brows affectionately several times. His voice sounded broken in the wind. "Don't be silly, you're my life. How could I push you away? Don't be afraid. I'm here."

It was soon time for me to leave. Colin wanted to send me off, but seeing his tiredness and depression, I refused. I didn't want to make him even more

exhausted.

So, I took a taxi home alone.

Chapter 288

Dad and Mom were back. They were making dinner in the kitchen. When they heard me open the door, they came to greet me.

“Dad, Mom.” I collapsed on the sofa, exhausted. The sense of powerlessness

in my heart grew stronger.

“What’s wrong, baby? Tell us. We can find a solution together. Don’t worry.” Mom embraced me and patted my back gently to comfort me.

Her arms were so warm. I wanted to lie in her arms forever, forgetting about the trouble outside and the problems I couldn’t fix.

“Mom, Felix hasn’t woken up yet. Aunt Mel said that only I could save him. She wanted me to break up with Colin and be with Felix.”

“How could Mel say that? Lulu, tell us. What do you want?”

“I don’t want to. Mom, I want to be with Colin.”

Dad patted my hand lovingly and declared they would support whatever decision I made. However, I was so uncomfortable that even the warmth of

his hand couldn’t soothe me.

“Lulu, you’re our only daughter. What we want most in this life is your happiness. What happened to Felix isn’t your responsibility. It has

absolutely nothing to do with you. Just follow your heart. We’ll always be on your side.”

I tried not to cry and returned to my room with the excuse of being tired and wanting to rest.

I knew my parents sympathized with Uncle Austin and Aunt Mel. They also

felt bad for Felix.

After all, we had lived together for over 20 years. Even though we weren't, connected by blood, we were like a family. My parents were willing to do

whatever they could to keep Felix safe.

However, when it came to my life, they wanted me to be happy. They refused to do anything that would harm me.

Back in the room, I cuddled up on the bed and texted Jade and Queenie, telling them what happened this afternoon.

Queenie, who had always been careless, sent me a hug emoji before criticizing Felix.

"What has he done? He only admitted he liked you after he got dumped. Does he wish to pretend that nothing happened in the past? He probably doesn't want to see you with others even if he doesn't want you. I bet he's not sick. He's just causing you trouble!

"Luna, think about it. During those years, Colin has held a deep affection for you. Don't do anything dumb and hurt such a nice guy, or you'll regret it. Don't follow in Felix's footsteps."

Of course, I wouldn't do anything stupid.

Jade's focus was on Aunt Mel. "Isn't Colin her biological son? How can she be so biased? Lulu, to be honest, I can't tolerate how you've been chasing after Felix for years.

"You might not realize it, but I noticed Colin standing outside the school several times to admire you secretly. Back then, I assumed he was there to see Felix. Now I understand. He came for you.

"It must hurt Colin when he couldn't express his love for you. No wonder he never came back. He couldn't stand to see his beloved and his brother together. I can't bear it if I were him. Not even for a day.

"Don't be moved when Felix calls your name while unconscious. When he wakes up and Lilac returns, or he meets another girl, you'll be the only one getting hurt.

"Don't worry too much, Lulu. You're not the hero. Just live a steady life with

Colin and put everything else aside. Aside from your parents and Colin, the others aren't that important."

Chapter 289

Indeed, they were right. I understood it better than them, but things were not that simple.

If it were that easy, Felix wouldn't make himself so miserable.

After seven days, on a Saturday, my parents were resting at home in the morning when the phone rang.

Aunt Mel was unexpectedly calling Mom. She cried and stated that Felix had respiratory failure. He had been brought to the emergency room again.

Even though I was unwilling to think that way, I guessed he did it

purposefully to force me to be with him. His life was at stake, and we had no choice but to go to the hospital.

It took three hours for Felix to leave the emergency room, and we felt

horrible the entire time.

Colin leaned against the wall. He took a cigarette from his pocket, but his hands were shaking so badly he couldn't light it for a long time.

I held his hand and helped him steady the lighter's flame beneath the

cigarette.

Colin took a drag, leaving only half the cigarette. He then puffed smoke into the air, followed by an uncontrollable cough. He coughed for a long time as if he wished to clear out all his worries.

The psychological pressure on Colin had been too much.

Felix was finally rescued. The doctors advised us to take careful care of him. If this happened again, they might not be able to save him.

After getting Felix in the ward, Aunt Mel pulled Colin out.

Felix was sweaty, so the nurse instructed us to wipe him down. Uncle Austin

1/2

retrieved some warm water, twisted out a clean towel, lifted Felix's hospital gown, and cleaned him.

My parents left the ward and were resting on a bench in the corridor. I couldn't keep standing there and watch Uncle Austin wipe Felix's body, so I left the ward to find somewhere to relax.

Too many things had happened recently, and it swirled around Felix. Each of them was inextricably linked to me and weighed me down.

The building of the hospital was L-shaped. Turning right at the end of the corridor revealed a sunlit passage to the outpatient clinic. There was a

terrace with windows, but few people went there.

As soon as I grabbed the terrace door handle, I heard muffled voices and crying from the other side.

“Colin, you’re my son. You must save your brother. He’s your sibling.”

“Mom, Felix has a mental disorder. He requires proper medical attention. Even while in the hospital, he suffers from respiratory failure. Don’t you think there is something wrong?”

“I don’t care! I just want him to live! Lulu is the antidote to his mental disorder! Felix will recover if you break up with her and let him reconcile with her! Colin, you’re an excellent man. You can find anyone. Don’t grab her from your brother, please.”

“What are you talking about? Lulu is a human, not a belonging. It would be unfair to her. You’re aware of Felix’s actions in the past few years. He has hurt Lulu deeply. Why should we ask her to save him? She has no such obligation, whether emotionally or logically.”

“Is that what Lulu said? She’s so cruel! I dote on her a lot. Is there anything wrong with me asking her to save him? Felix is dying now! Do you believe she’ll be nice to you forever? She won’t, You idiot! Or else she won’t be so

ruthless to Felix!”

Chapter 290

It was as if something had suddenly pierced my heart. It stung so badly that I couldn't stand it. I leaned against the wall with difficulty and cried quietly.

I never expected Aunt Mel to say such a thing after we had known each other

for almost 20 years.

Although she wasn't my biological mother, she should be aware of my personality and have an accurate assessment of me.

Her attitude toward the incident between Felix and me led me to believe as

much.

However, when her son's life was in danger, she appeared to be a different person, prone to saying harsh words.

I couldn't see the familiar Aunt Mel anymore. In other words, except for Colin, I was unfamiliar with the rest of the White family.

"Mom, don't slander Lulu. She didn't say anything. This has nothing to do with her. You can't put pressure on her."

"Okay, I won't pressure her. But you must give her to your brother. Go break up with her. She'll listen to you."

"Why, Mom? Why must you force me?"

Colin's voice quivered. "Lulu is my girlfriend. Do you know how many years. I've been waiting for this day? I can understand if you aren't happy with me. But how can you say such things? She has the right to make her own choices.

“Why should I give in? I’m deeply in love with her. I’ve had a crush on her for more than 20 years. Why should I give her to Felix?” He sobbed, voice filled with deep grief and rage.

Men wouldn’t cry easily. I could tell Colin was anguished.

1/2

“I’ve liked her since she was born. For over 20 years, she’s everything to me.

It was just that she was promised to Felix at that time. Regardless of how much I liked her, I couldn’t confess to her. When Felix rejected her, she became depressed.

“I did my best to please her and encouraged her to join competitions. She managed to overcome her sadness and return to her cheerful self. And now she’s willing to accept me. Mom, do you realize how thrilled I was when she agreed to be my girlfriend? I was going crazy with joy.

“I understand that you are desperate to save Felix. You want him to live, and so do I. However, Lulu is my life. Are you going to trade my life for his? I’m also your son. Why are you being so unfair?”

Colin burst into tears. Hearing that, I wanted to open the door, hug him, and tell him I would never leave him, no matter who forced me.

Unfortunately, the timing wasn’t ideal. My interruption might irritate Aunt Mel and cause trouble for Colin..

I had no idea he loved me so genuinely. I felt heartbroken to hear him say

that.

I went to a secluded spot, wiped away my tears, and returned to the ward once my emotions had calmed.

Uncle Austin had finished wiping down Felix's body. He was sitting in a chair, squeezing Felix's feet.

After a while, Colin returned with reddened eyes. It was obvious that he had cried. I pretended not to notice and sat next to him. Regardless of who was in the room, I nestled into his arms and gently leaned against him.

His stiff body gradually relaxed. Then, he wrapped his arms around my shoulders, pressing me against his chest.