

## **Seduced 31**

### Chapter 31

I was hesitating when my finger accidentally swiped the screen lock. Felix's voice rang out clearly from the phone.

"Open the door, Luna." His voice was as proud and dictating as ever.

I used to admire him in the past, never seeing any issue with the way he talked. In fact, I thought that was how Felix should be—proud, cold, observant. When he was no longer the center of my world, I found myself feeling uncomfortable hearing him talk like this.

"What?" My tone wasn't pleasant either because of how much I disliked him.

"I'm here to see you because I'm worried about you. Aunt Harper wouldn't let me see you. I noticed that she had left earlier, so hurry up and let me in!"

"My wound is still hurting. I can't get up." I was actually right by the door, peering through the peephole. I

could see the hint of impatience on Felix's face.

If he was impatient, he should have left. It wasn't like I invited him here.

"Get up slowly. I'm in no hurry. I can wait right out here. I'll go in whenever you'r

to open the door."

What was wrong with Felix?

Since he was so stubborn, it wouldn't do well for me to persist. Maybe it would be better that I let him in.

I slowly opened the door. I regretted it the moment I did.

I thought Felix had come alone.

But hiding behind him was Lilac, who was clinging to his waist. She was staring right at me.

Lilac looked delicate, yet the emotion in her eyes made me uncomfortable. It wasn't meek, nor was it

jealous. It was just hard to read.

I was a simple, open-minded girl. If I couldn't read her expression, then so be it. It wasn't like I wanted to befriend Lilac anyway, so there was no point in trying to understand her.

My head throbbed lightly when I saw Felix's and Lilac's intertwined hands. I grumbled internally.

Though I was already regretting my decision, I couldn't just shut them out the door now. My refined upbringing forbade me from doing so.

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"Come on in," I said.

Felix shot me a look and squeezed past the doorway while holding Lilac's hand. They then sat down on the couch as if they owned the place.

Lilac clung to him as if they were conjoined twins.

I rolled my eyes. Yes, I knew they were in love with one another, but they didn't need to put up a show all the time for me. The weather was sweltering hot. Weren't they worried about getting a rash with how close they were to each other?

I could only grumble those words internally. On the outside, I had to cut up some fruit to treat my guests in the spirit of hospitality.

"I didn't get to save you in time the other day when you fell from the cliffs, Luna. I'm sorry about that. I've failed my duty as your brother."

Hah!

"There's nothing to be sorry about. It's not like it was your responsibility. Don't worry about it." I said.

"I knew you were forgiving, Luna. You'd never be angry at me. My mother told me to visit you and get your forgiveness, or else she would disown me. I was forced to do this."

I smiled lightly. "I really don't blame you. I can talk to Aunt Mel myself if you want."

I wasn't being forgiving. I just knew my place in Felix's heart. There was no way I would get angry at

someone whom I had no expectations for, no matter what they did. Nor would I feel as terrible as I used

to.

"Your house is beautiful, Luna." This was the first time Lilac had visited my home. She was looking around the place curiously.

"My mom decorated it. She's an interior designer who's pretty famous in her circle. I probably got my artistic talent from her," I said.

I walked out of the kitchen with a fruit platter and set it down on the coffee table. I speared a piece of fruit and gave it to Lilac. I then ate a piece myself.

It felt amazing to eat ice-cold fruit on a hot summer's day, especially for someone

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Felix calmly raised his head to look at me. I didn't understand what he was doing. Heck, even the fruit in my mouth tasted bland now.

"The heck are you looking at?" I asked.

"Where's my fruit, Luna? Is this how you treat me?"

I was speechless.

Couldn't he take some himself? Didn't he have hands? Was he still expecting me to feed him like how used to? Sorry, but I decided never to treat him the same way again after he insulted me like I was a piece of trash.

"Take it yourself. Why are you acting like you're a guest here? You even know where all our passbooks are in the house."

I swore I meant nothing when I said those words. I was just bantering like usual with Felix.

But Lila's expression changed immediately. There was some anger and some upset, but mostly, there

was envy.

“Is your family rich, Luna? Do you tell just anyone where your family keeps their passbooks? Aren’t you worried something would happen?”

I shrugged nonchalantly. I was just giving an example to demonstrate how familiar Felix was with my house. As for our passbooks, if I had no idea where they were, Felix definitely wouldn’t either.

But Lilac’s questions really were peculiar. While she was wondering whether my family was actually rich, she was also questioning Felix’s personality.

I gave up. Lilac’s way of thinking was too strange.

“My dad’s a high school teacher, and my mom’s an interior designer. Their income is

pretty decent. My family can’t be said to be rich, but we do live pretty decently. In my mother’s words, we fall somewhere in

the middle of the pack,” I said.

My words were truthful without any exaggeration. We were just chatting, after all.

But Lilac’s expression grew even uglier. She held onto Felix’s arm all meek-like and said softly. “It’s actually pretty nice not being rich. I heard that well-off families aren’t happy. There’s either sibling rivalry over i

inheritance or the parents’ divorcing because of their bad relationship.”

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Was she hinting that my parents were going to divorce soon?

I immediately grew upset hearing her words. Lilac was practically jinxing my family. It looked like Jade was right about her being conniving. It was pretty irritating.

Felix felt like Lilac's words were off, too. He squeezed her hand. "Nonsense, Lili. Uncle Austin and Aunt Harper's relationship is really strong.

Lilac rolled her eyes and used the opportunity to lay in Felix's arms. She turned to look at me in a challenging manner. "That's not what I meant. Don't think ill of me."

Her voice was soft and sweet. Her gentle embrace was met with Felix's adoring gaze. He then kissed her on the lips. "Such a sweet girl."

I wanted to kick them out of the house as I watched them put up this lovey-dovey act.

They should've gone home if they wanted to kiss. There was no need to visit me and put up such a show!

Lilac's implied meaning was apparent. If someone as open-minded as me could understand what she was saying, there was no way Felix couldn't. He was clearly pretending to be an idiot, all to defend Lilac.

That meant Lilac knew that with Felix around, I couldn't do anything about her behavior. She was here to

pick a fight on purpose.

Yes, I hadn't said much in the past two years primarily because I was too lazy to. But that didn't mean I was a pushover. I wasn't going to just stand there while someone attacked me.

In the past, I had no choice when Felix pushed me around because I had a crush on him. But who was

she to come into my house and insult me?

Did she really think that Felix could protect her from all manner of harm?

I had never picked a fight, but that didn't mean I was scared of them. If they came to my house to mess with me, then they shouldn't blame me for not holding back.

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"I'm sure you don't know this, but Felix does. We grew up together and have known each other for over at

decade.



“I feel like I was an accidental baby while my parents are the ones in love. Their relationship is super strong. They’d never take advantage of one another’s unfortunate situations.

“Plus, I’m the only child in my family, so I get all the good things they give me. I don’t have to worry about

anyone fighting over that with me.”

I knew how to be a bitch, too.

“You misunderstood me, Lulu. That’s not what I meant. Felix was worried about you, so I accompanied

him to visit you. I really mean nothing else. You’re overthinking it.”

Maybe my words struck a sensitive point, Lilac’s eyes were brimmed with tears. She gnawed on her lip.

looking aggrieved as if I had bullied her.

I was recuperating at home. She shouldn’t have come in the first place if she didn’t want to see me.

I could understand that Lilac was jealous of me because of my past history with Felix. Nearly everyone in

the school knew about it.

I didn’t mind that Lilac couldn’t bear to see my family living in such good circumstances. After what

happened with her family, it was expected.

But Lilac shouldn’t have directed the topic to my parents. There was no way I could allow others to insult

the people who raised me.

“Did I misspoke, Lili? Weren’t we just chatting? Why are you crying? Don’t cry now. Here, I’ll give you a tissue. If anyone else saw this now, they’d think I was bullying you. Oh, you’re so pretty when you cry.”

I took some tissues and shoved them into Felix’s hands, gesturing for him to help Lilac wipe her tears. “Is

Lili on her period, Lix? She doesn’t seem too emotionally stable. Hurry up and dry her tears, else her makeup will be ruined.”

Lilac was great at acting, wasn’t she? I was going to do the same to her!

I never really bothered with them, but that was only because of our past friendship and my feelings for Felix. But when they started treating my kindness as a weakness, they would see just how powerful I was when I retaliated.

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Still, Felix would probably be angry with me for snapping back at his girlfriend like this. But that was up to him. I wasn’t going to yield to him like I always did.

Strangely, Felix wasn’t angry. Instead, he looked at me in shock.

I used to think the world of Felix and do whatever he said. I would compromise with his instructions even though I had my own beliefs. Felix probably thought I was a loser who could be bullied by anyone.

I was known for having a good temper back then, especially in front of Felix. I could really obey every single word he said.

But everyone had their breaking point. He touched mine, so now, he had to face the consequences.

Mom and Dad were my breaking point. I wouldn't allow anyone to disrespect them whatsoever.

Not even Felix's girlfriend!

They weren't here to visit me. Lilac was clearly here to get revenge on me after Felix went to pick me up at the hospital the other day. She was only using the excuse of visiting me to do so.

Meanwhile, Felix was indulging her without restraint.

Lilac really was quite something to be able to make Felix putty in her hands like this.

I didn't understand it. I had utterly changed who I was ever since Felix made his stance clear. I wasn't clingy, didn't seek revenge, and even gave up going to Jesselton College.

I had walked away to peacefully live my own life, letting them indulge in their relationship however they pleased. I felt like I had done everything I could.

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I hadn't done anything, so how did I piss off Lilac enough to cause her to come all the way to my house to provoke me?

Lilac's tears began falling when Felix didn't come to her defense. She clung onto Felix's waist and buried her face in his chest, crying pitifully.

"Please don't be like this. Lulu. I know my father is in prison, and my family isn't as wealthy as yours. I can't possibly meet your standards. But I really didn't mean anything else. I just wanted to visit you and

keep you company.

“If you really think less of me, Lulu, then I—I’ll leave right now. I’ll never come and bother you again,”  
Lilac

whimpered.

What did I do to make her cry so much? How could she be able to cry as if on command? It would surely be a pity if she didn’t get a career in acting.

I got more and more annoyed by the second. I really hated Lilac’s bitchy little waterworks show.

“Thank you for visiting me, Felix. You can both leave now. I’m tired, and I want to rest,” I said faintly.

There was no point talking further if we couldn’t see eye to eye.

My afternoon was ruined by Felix and Lilac just like that. What a pity.

Felix’s expression darkened as anger brewed in his eyes. He stared at me as if angry that I asked them  
to leave.

The displeasure in his eyes was clear to see.

Felix looked at the sobbing Lilac and held her in his arms. He kissed her forehead lovingly and said,

Don’t cry, sweetie. Your eyes will start hurting.

“We came to see you out of goodwill, Luna, yet this is what you do? If you really look down on Lili, then we can just stay out of your way from now on. There was no need to insult her like this.”

The first half of his words were directed at Lilac, while the second half was directed at me.

I was infuriated. I had finally seen a new side to Felix now. If Felix were a king, then he would be a terrible

king—the kind who would leave their entire country in ruins with one word from his queen.

Ever since Felix and Lilac arrived, Lilac had been doing all she could to torment me. It was her who provoked me first.

Felix was a smart man. I was sure he could tell what Lilac was doing, yet there he was, completely indulging it.

I had only retaliated with a few words, yet somehow, he saw it as insults to Lilac.

Did that mean my parents deserved to be insulted by Lilac, then?

Felix was no longer who I thought he was.

“Are you sure you’re here to see me, not piss me off? Are you deaf? Did you not hear what Lilac said about my parents?”

“I don’t mind if you’re biased, but there should at least be a limit. You two can say whatever you want

about me. I don't care.

"But you cannot do the same to my parents. I don't want to argue any longer. You two should leave now.

If there's nothing important, don't visit me anymore."

Felix paused for a moment. Lilac said pitifully in his embrace, "Felix, I really didn't mean what Luna

thought I meant. She misunderstood me. You must believe me."

Believe, my ass!

I

I speechlessly watched the scene unfold before me, hating myself for opening the front door to them in

the first place.

It was better to go our separate ways, never to cross paths again!

"Luna, Lili really crossed the line when she spoke about Uncle Austin and Aunt Mel like that. But she

never means the bad things she says. Why do you have to be so unforgiving? Didn't you have your own

faults?

"You knew Lili's family wasn't in the best situation, and her parents are now separated. Yet you still

talked about how wonderful your life was in front of her. Weren't you just trying to upset her? How did you

turn out like this, Luna?"

At this point, all that was missing from Felix's comment was how evil I was.

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I scoffed angrily. Was this still the Felix White I had known for 10 years? He had no conscience and such misguided principles. He was a Jackass!

When did I provoke Lilac? When had I ever given her an attitude? What other made-up offenses were he

going to pin on me?

This bitch deserved Felix the jackass

"I really don't know what to say about you, Felix White, You have a brain, so why don't you go back and think things through for yourself?"

"I'm tired of talking to both of you. Kindly leave my house. Thank you for visiting, but I'm afraid I must

decline your kind gesture. Now, please leave!"

Felix pulled Lilac by her hand and left the house fuming. I was left alone in the large living room, standing

there like an idiot.

Before stepping out of the door, Lilac shot me a look. The glee in her eyes was clear as day.

I wanted to scoll.

Lilac was only so bold because Felix spoiled her.

But I neither wanted to fight for his affections nor steal them from Lilac. It wasn't like Felix was the only man I ever wanted to marry in my entire life. Where did Lilac's glee stem from, exactly?

After Felix and Lilac left, I went back to lie in bed. I covered myself in my blankets and silently cried.

Felix had changed. His moral compass now purely served Lilac's needs.

He was no longer the sweet young boy I had a crush on.

Two days later, Jade and Zara came to find me. Only then did Mom begrudgingly let me out of the house.

The moment I stepped out the front door, Mom came up behind me to tell me all sorts of dos and don'ts.

I pulled Jade and Zara down the stairs, running to meet the bright, sunny day.

Our families lived in the same building with two units per floor. Each one of us had a small yard to tend to, courtesy of the developer.



It wasn't a big yard. Both Mom and Aunt Mel had decided to plant several plants that were easy to take care of. Their vines and leaves filled the space up, separating the inside of the yard from the outside.

I didn't know they were sitting inside, nor did they know I was right outside. Neither of us could see the other.

I sat outside Felix's yard fence, admiring the day. I was about to take a couple of pictures to set as my phone wallpaper.

Just then, Aunt Mel and Felix's conversation floated into my ears. I didn't even have time to avoid it.

"Why do you look so listless? Didn't you get enough rest?"

"No. Lili and her mother went back to visit her grandmother earlier today."

"Hmph! Why did I end up with such a useless son? You looked so lost the moment Lilac left. Why don't you go play with Lulu?"

"I don't want to. Luna's been really angry lately. I don't wanna get scolded."

"Who do you have to blame but yourself? Lulu wasn't this angry before, right? Think about what you've been doing all this time. When did you not hurt Luna with your actions?"

"I don't mean to pick on you, Felix. I don't want to interfere with your relationship, but I need to tell you to

think this through.

“Lilac isn’t as mature as Lulu is. Who knows what she’s plotting behind those devious eyes of hers?

You’ll definitely get into trouble in the future.”

“Can you stop talking nonsense about Lili? I like her a lot, and I know what she’s really like. I’ve already promised to marry her. If you really love me, then try and get along with Lili. After all, you two are the

dearest people to me.

“Lilac is the only person I want to marry for the rest of my life, Mom. You need to get along with her. That

way, our family can be happy together,” Felix said.

“How old are you to be talking about marriage? Just because you see Lili as the only person you want to marry doesn’t mean she thinks the same of you.

“Don’t get in over your head. You’ll have no one to cry to when she dumps you.

“I’m telling you, Felix. You’ll sorely regret losing Luna.”

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“That’s enough. It’s pointless.” Felix’s tone was annoyed. “I’ll say this for the last time, Mom. Luna is, at most, only a sister to

me, though not by blood. I will never have romantic feelings for her as long as I live. I'm going back inside. You can work on this yourself."

I crouched outside the fence, crying while thoughts ran through my mind. I really needed to get rid of this eavesdropping habit.

I thought I had shielded myself enough, but the moment I heard Felix say that he would never like me romantically and that he only wanted to marry Lilac, my tears fell uncontrollably.

If he didn't want me, then I didn't want him either!

I told myself again and again—I needed to get over Felix for good!

It had been several days since I'd seen Felix. I quietly enjoyed my vacation time without interruption.

Felix came knocking on my door Saturday afternoon. I didn't really want to see him. What happened the last time he was here still remained fresh in my memory. But Mom quickly opened the door and asked

what he was there for.

Felix peered in past the door to look inside. I was splayed out on the couch watching a TV show,

laughing my head off.

I never dared laugh out loud in the past, no matter how happy I was, nor lay on the couch in a mess like this, all because Felix once said that he liked demure girls. Afterward, I tried my best to appear ladylike

so he would pay more attention to me.

Now that he and I had nothing to do with one another, nor did I need to consider his likes and dislikes, I

could be more relaxed again. I could be myself.

Felix's brows seemed to furrow briefly when he saw me. But they then loosened immediately. With a smile, he told Mom he wanted to invite me out for a barbecue.

Mom hesitated briefly but still let him into the house to talk to me.

"There's a new barbecue place on Agave Street. They have really good cuts of meat and sauces. Get dressed. I'll treat you," Felix said.

I lay there unmoving, save for the shaking of my head. "I don't want to go. It's too hot outside."

+15 BONUS

In the past I would've been overjoyed if Felix had invited me out. I liked him before, after all.

But after all that had happened. I just wanted to stay away from him whenever I could.

Plus, in the past year, accidents seemed to always happen whenever he and I were together. Things got so unlucky for me that Felix might as well be jinxing my life.

That just recovered from the cliff incident. I didn't want anything else to happen and end up in the hospital again.

No matter how much Felix insisted, I continued shaking my head and refusing to go out with him.

Must come out with me. Think of this as an apology for what happened last time.”

“Why do you need to apologize?”

“Lili was wrong the other day. She’s afraid of conflict, so I’ll apologize on her behalf. This barbecue serves to prove how genuine I am.”

Felix really had changed a lot ever since dating Lilac. He barely talked in the past, especially when it came to saving things like this.

Lilac really had changed Felix.

Oh, that thing. I already forgot about it. You don’t need to apologize. I couldn’t possibly bear such a great weight”

tuna, you and I grew up together. I know you more than you know yourself, so I can tell when you’re telling the truth and when you’re lying. You’re basically blaming me and refusing

what’s right and wrong. Lulu.

a forive me. I know

“Don’t blame me for being biased toward Lilac. She’s so meek I can’t

upset. and chutha hear to see her

But what's right is right, and what's wrong is wrong. If you really have forgiven me, then join me for a barbecue."

## Chapter 37

Felix's implied meaning was basically—I'd dote on my girl no matter what, including taking the blame for her mistakes.

In other words—come at me if you had a problem with her, not her!

When I still refused, Felix began lecturing me about life values. It was irritating.

So, in the end, I changed my clothes and went out with him.

It was just a barbecue dinner. It wasn't like Felix could do any harm to me. If I insisted on not going, it'd only make me seem like I hadn't gotten over that matter.

So I went!

Mom gave me an umbrella before I left. She told me to come home early in a less than happy tone as it seemed like rain was coming. I had just recovered, so it'd be best not to get caught in the rain and catch a cold.

Felix promised he would take care of me, which put a smile on my mother's face in return.

I changed into a white dress and let my hair down. I then put on some light lipstick. Mom said my hair

looked healthy and was most suited to be left falling down along my shoulders.

Surprise glinted in Felix's eyes the moment I left my bedroom.

I was around five feet five inches tall, and I had long, slim legs. I wasn't too skinny nor too plump. My body was curvy and looked pretty good.

The two of us walked on the roadside, talking about this and that.

The pedestrian walkway was narrow. Children ran around from time to time playing, creating a tight squeeze for us.

I stopped a half step back, creating a short distance between us. Felix shot me a displeased look.

I looked away nonchalantly, calmly maintaining my walking speed. I maintained a step behind him.

Standing side by side with Felix used to make me so happy. I used to look forward to walking by his side on the way to school instead of following behind him like a lackey.

But Felix never cooperated. He always took a step forward with a cold expression while I ran after him like an angry girlfriend.

In retrospect, I really was all over Felix back then. I never stopped, even when he responded with the cold shoulder. It seemed like I didn't care about my dignity at all.

Yet now that I had the chance to stand beside Felix, I had lost all my excitement. I would rather stay behind him now because my perception had changed. Felix was no longer the most important person in my life.

The barbecue restaurant had a fiery name—Burning Bacon.

Felix chose a spot by the window for us. The view there was amazing. You could see all walks of life from out the window. I could see myself reflected in the glass, too.

Not long after sitting down, rain began falling outside. I was grateful for my mother's foresight.

Otherwise, I would've been drenched in rainwater.

Felix ordered us some prime cuts and side dishes. He then started grilling the meats. When they were done, he wanted to place them on my plate.

I stopped him, blushing slightly. "Eat. I can help myself."

Felix looked at his fork before smiling crookedly. "What, afraid of a little saliva? We even shared the same

spoon once to eat pudding when we were kids. You and I ate the whole thing, but you weren't shy then."

"Hmph! It's not too late to regret my decisions and change for the better."

"Can you not say such strange things, Luna? With how cold you've been. I've wondered so many times. whether you're still the Luna I know. What happened to you?"



It wasn't me who changed. I was still the same old Luna who had a crush on him. He was the one who changed to the point where I didn't dare recognize him.

"Hurry up and eat. It'll get too tough if it overcooks."

I ate a piece of grilled onion. It was pretty tasty.

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Felix placed the meat in his mouth and chewed.

I didn't have much of an appetite. I ate a couple of mouthfuls of beef before stopping. I then waited for him to finish eating.

My mind couldn't help but wander off as I looked at Felix's mop of blond hair.

I thought back about our time as troublesome little kids, how we spent our youth as teens, and everything.

that had happened between us for 19 years.

Felix stopped eating after getting full. He glanced at me and gave me a tissue to wipe my mouth.

He and I hadn't been so close ever since that Thanksgiving incident. His gesture came out of the blue, making me dodge quickly.

Felix paused before retracting his hand with a smile.

“We’ve finished eating. What do you want to tell me?” I asked.

Felix’s brows wrinkled. The emotions in his eyes were complicated. I was unsure what was on his mind.

“Lili was wrong for what she said last time. I’m here to apologize on her behalf. But you were at fault, too.

\*She was deeply affected after what happened to her father and felt especially down. You and I both grew up together and have close relations. We’re going to be family in the future, so I thought...

When Felix paused, I looked up to meet his eyes, curious about what he would say. “Thought what?”

“I thought that maybe you could be more careful with your words around Lilac, for my sake. She cried so much after going home that day. She went on and on about how low her self-esteem was while dating

“Lilac was worried I might be made fun of because of her. She said she felt like a lesser person by your

side. I don’t want to see her sad and cry, Lulu. Do you understand?”

I smiled bitterly.

I couldn’t comprehend it. Felix was clearly being biased and manipulative.

I actually believed his words when he said he was here to apologize to me with this barbeque dinner. I

really was too stupid.

+15 BOHUS

This was no mere dinner. Felix was clearly using this opportunity to talk things through with me. He was

asking me not to upset his lover.

I could do all that he asked, but why did I have to?

I willingly reduced myself to nothing in front of Felix. Did I have to do the same in front of his girlfriend?

Who gave him the right to dictate what I should or should not do?

I snorted, feeling empty inside. "Lilac is your girlfriend, not mine. I'm not obliged to indulge her like you.

do. You were there to witness what happened in my home today. Lilac was clearly provoking me.

"Why can't I fight back? If her provocation is due to her low self-esteem, then does that mean I deserve to

be lectured here by you all because I defended my family? Are you blind, Felix White?"

Felix's expression shifted instantly. He looked at me in shock, not expecting me to react so dramatically,

After all, I listened to everything he said since we were young. This was the first time I had argued with

him so bluntly.

It wouldn't be the last time.

Maybe I was still that little lackey in his eyes, allowing him to do whatever he wanted without refusal.

Sadly, the Luna Lawson who only had eyes for Felix had been pushed far away by his own hand, never to

return.

Felix gazed at me silently for some time. I ignored him and got ready to leave with my umbrella in hand.

This was a bummer of a barbecue, that was for sure.

Felix, quickly grabbed my sleeve to stop me. "I'm sorry, Lulu. Don't go. It's been so long since we've sat

down together and chatted like this. Can we talk for a while?"

### Chapter 39

I would've caved in immediately back then.

But when I grew up and knew what love really was. I would find that the me in the past merely caved in because I hadn't let Felix go.

Felix spotted the minute changes in my expression and smiled. He grabbed my hand. "I never knew you could be such a wildcat. You're pretty amazing."

Right? It also got me thinking. I was committed to being his lackey back then and listened to every word he said. I never got my time to shine, that was all.

We didn't really talk much after that. I mostly listened to what Felix had to say.

He told me about his life in university, his loving relationship with Lilac, and his plans for their future. He spoke of so many things and different people, yet never mentioned me.

I couldn't help but wonder whether Felix actually knew what I was thinking or if this was his way of telling me to stop holding out for him.

It wasn't really a pleasant barbecue.

Felix really was cruel to tell the girl who had a crush on him for years all about his relationship with another girl.

The rain grew heavier on the way back home. The wind made the trees sway heavily. Dark clouds broiled ahead, thunder crackling within them. Lightning occasionally flashed across the sky, cutting through the

clouds.

I recalled the weather alert earlier this afternoon and regretted coming out.

Sure enough, nothing good would come when I was with Felix.

The both of us shared a small parasol ladies often used. It was...

"A small umbrella is better than none. We should hurry up and run. We won't get too much rain on us that

way." Felix said as he looked up at the night sky in front of Burning Bacon.

I was five feet and seven inches tall, while Felix was six feet tall. He was taller than me by a head, so I

had to look up at him when we spoke. "How about I use the umbrella to get home while you run back?"

"No way." Felix took my umbrella and opened it up before walking out into the rain.

The rainfall was heavy against my small umbrella. The both of us stayed close to one another, yet that didn't stop the rain from falling mercilessly onto us. Half of my clothes were quickly drenched.

The rain pattered as it landed on my umbrella. All I could smell was Felix.

My heart began pounding. I quickly reminded myself to keep a clear head and stepped away from him slightly.

Felix pulled me back close under the umbrella. "Just a little more. We'll be home soon."

The umbrella had already shortened the distance between us. His sudden tug of my arm only pulled me closer to him as if he were cradling me in his arms.

Blood rushed up to my cheeks, making them blush. To my surprise, I wanted this rain to last a little longer. I wanted Felix's embrace too much. I missed the smell of him.

But my mind was clear.

Felix was not mine.

I stubbornly tried keeping a distance from him, but he held onto my hand with a steadfast expression. I couldn't wrench out of his grasp, so I let him hold onto me.

Soon after, I suddenly heard someone call Felix's name. It sounded like whoever it was had been crying. The voice broke apart in the loud noise of the rain, though one couldn't deny its existence.

Felix's behavior changed immediately. He shoved the umbrella into my hands and started looking around wide-eyed. "I didn't hear wrongly, did I, Luna? I heard Lill's voice."

Chapter 40

“No, it really is her,” I said faintly.

Lilac had supposedly returned home with her mother after several days. She was standing under a small kiosk by the roadside. She held a large umbrella above her as the rainwater splattered her short skirt, making her curves all the more apparent.

Lilac looked like a fake flower sprouting in the rain.

She placed her hands near her mouth again before yelling. “Felix!”

Felix saw her this time. Light glowed in his dark eyes. He ran out into the rain like an excited child, his white sneakers splashing in the dirty rainwater. “You’re back, Lili.”

Felix ran over and held Lilac in his arms. She giggled happily.

I stood there in the torrential rain, not even noticing that my umbrella was off-kilter. My heart felt numb.

Felix always managed to hurt me without so much as lifting a finger.

The wind and rain swirled around me cruelly. My heart was colder than the weather right now.

Lilac and Felix spoke to one another in the rain. Lilac giggled again and nuzzled into his arms.

Felix shot me a look as if considering my situation. But Lilac’s smile was too sweet, and her embrace too alluring. Felix wasn’t able to control himself in the end. He kissed her deeply on the lips like a starving man being offered food.

The image of Felix holding tender little Lilac in the rain and kissing her was quite sweet.

I heard the sound of my heart breaking.

Felix shielded Lilac as they ran in the rain, leaving me behind. Lilac turned around and yelled out to me.”  
We’ll be leaving first, Luna. Be careful!”

It was supposed to be a caring phrase, yet it broke my heart so much.

The two soon left, leaving only me alone in the usually busy street.

As wind and rain tore the skies above me. I stood there in the street and cried.

I used the rain, thunder, and lightning, as well as the pain in the deepest corners of my heart, to mourn  
this love that I had never had.

The rain grew heavier. The clouds seemed to nearly swallow me whole. Water began pooling on the  
streets. Lightning flashed ahead from time to time, my heart flinching in tandem.

“Wake up, Luna. Didn’t you know from the start that Felix wasn’t yours? He never was and never will be,  
so why are you still crying for him?”

“Haven’t you already let him go? Why are you still crying? There are so many other boys in this world.  
Why hurt yourself again and again through him?”

“Aren’t you scared of hurting again? Won’t you give up out of desperation?” I asked myself again and  
again, yet my heart hurt too much.

I couldn’t find an answer, not with how in shambles my mind was.

I had feelings for Felix and gave him my all for 18 years. It wasn’t something you could just retract or



forget about in a day.

Perhaps I could really get over him in the future. But his existence had long saturated all my youth.

Even if the day that I finally got over Felix came, there might still be a tiny spot in my heart that belonged

to him.

Felix left me alone in the pouring rain, so I could only walk back home alone.