Serve NOTL 291

Chapter 291 Shifting the Blame

Winter not only recanted Angelina's previous statements but also positioned herself as a good senior, effectively shifting the blame.

Angelina was caught off guard by this turn of events and became frozen in place.

The police confiscated her phone, reviewed the contents, and then inquired, "You claimed that someone manipulated you, but now she alleges that you are defaming her. Now, do you have an alternate explanation for the rumors?"

"I swear I didn't defame Angela. Winter was the one who informed me that Angela secured her position through illicit means and cheated her way to the top. I trusted her completely, but she betrayed me!"

Fanny lashed out at Angelina, "This is all your fault! If you hadn't been so foolish to post that, I wouldn't be here!"

After reprimanding Angelina, Fanny turned to the police with a pitiful expression. "Officer, she's solely responsible for this. I'm innocent. Can you release me? I was deceived by her."

The police officer took a step back. "You have a history of similar incidents. This isn't your

first offense."

Fanny appeared displeased, but the officer brought up her past record.

"This morning, you were involved in a dispute with Miss Martinez, also related to -defamation against her."

The officer fixed his gaze on Fanny. "And now you are defaming Angela. You can be considered a repeat offender. If I'm not mistaken, she's your sister, correct?"

Angelina rolled her eyes at Fanny and impatiently remarked, "Since Angela is your sister, you should call her now."
The officer added, "If you can reach the party involved and obtain her forgiveness, you may avoid detention."
Fanny felt a mix of annoyance and anxiety. When she learned that she needed Angela's forgiveness to evade detention, her initial response was not to reach out to Angela but to call Christopher.
Christopher did not answer the call, as before.
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frightened.
She inexplicably recalled Sophia's previous words, mentioning that Christopher had vowed never to answer her calls again.
"You can't reach her?" Angelina assumed Fanny was contacting Angela. She looked at Fanny with suspicion. "Are you really her sister?"
"What does it matter to you? Even if I reach her, she'll be here to forgive me, not you!"
Angelina opted not to pursue further contact and was escorted away, leaving Fanny uncertain about whom to reach out to next.
She considered contacting her brothers but heed to dial their numbers, recalling the
remarks she had made on the forum.

"How long will I be detained in this scenario?" Fanny eventually asked the police officer. If it was a brief period, she could still keep it under wraps. "Your offense is not too severe, and you were just following the trend. If you display a good attitude and admit your mistake, the duration can be reduced from three days to one day." Upon hearing this, Fanny promptly confessed, "I admit. I admit my mistake. "Then issue an apology to the party involved on the forum now." Meanwhile, Angelina was also issuing an apology. She started a post to express remorse with a sincere tone, elucidating the incident where she was deceived and subsequently defamed Angela. Angela and Jonathan were dining when Cassie's call came through. "Angela, Angelina has apologized to you on the forum." Upon receiving the news, Arigela wasn't surprised. She responded casually before ending the call and turning to Jonathan. "What's the matter? Is there something on my face?" "Angelina has apologized and deleted her previous post." "Oh, they're quite efficient." Jonathan served Angela some food and reassured her, "Just enjoy your meal. Don't concern yourself with these matters."

Angela felt relieved. After she finished her meal and freshened up, she turned to Jonathan and asked,

"Has she been arrested?"

Jonathan pinched her and whispered, "Who?"
"That Angelina who slandered me. She apologized so quickly. Was she taken into custody by the police?"
Jonathan nodded. "Yes, other than her, they also apprehended an accomplice who was very
active."
Angela asked further, "Do we need to visit the police station?"
"No need. I've already told them that you won't forgive the culprits. They'll be held in custody directly."
Angela nodded. "It's a good idea to hold her in custody so she doesn't cause any more.
trouble."
Little did she know that Fanny was the accomplice arrested alongside Angelina, and she was cursing through gritted teeth in the police station.
The following morning, Angela visited Zacharias first.
After examining Zacharias, she started the acupuncture procedure.
"Thank you, Angela. Zacharias felt bad when he noticed Angela sweating profusely after the acupuncture.
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Angela casually remarked, "If you truly want to thank me, then recover quickly and stop relapsing."

The reason she was administering acupuncture to Zacharias again was due to his recurring
illness.
Most of the relapses were caused by overwork.
She couldn't comprehend why Zacharias, as a patient, always kept himself so tense and strained his body constantly.
Upon hearing this, Zacharias lowered his head.
Angela didn't care what he was thinking. She went out to rewrite a prescription for Joseph to follow and give to Zacharias, then she prepared to leave.
Joseph halted her. "Angela, Mom has been unresponsive. Aren't you going to check on her?"
"Mom?" Angela paused in her steps. When she turned to face Joseph, her expression turned
sour.
She really didn't know what Joseph was thinking when he said such words.
She had severed ties with the Kins Family. Previously, they had even tried to emotionally manipulate her when they wanted her to treat Zacharias.
Now, Joseph was attempting to involve her in Scarlet's matter.
"She's not my mom. Scarlet has made it clear that she only has one daughter, Fanny. Why are you mentioning her in front of me now?"

Angela harbored no affection toward Scarlet, despite the latter being her biological mother.
It was precisely because she was Angela's biological mother and had committed so many heartless acts that Angela was even more disillusioned with her.
She had never felt any love from Scarlet. She wouldn't make any concessions, even though Scarlet was in bad shape now.
"How can you be so disrespectful?" Joseph retorted coldly.
He seemed oblivious to Angela's thoughts.
"Even if she made a grave mistake, she's still your mother. Without her, there would be no
you at all!"
"It's astonishing that a medical student like you can say such things." Angela looked at Joseph with a mocking expression. "Do you not recall what she did in the past, or has your memory
been erased?"
Her gaze was sharp and cold, as if she could see right through Joseph.
After speaking, Angela disdainfully turned and walked away.
She felt it was pointless to say anything more to Joseph.
Joseph was incensed and was about to speak. Just then, he heard Zacharias' voice from the room. "Joseph, stop."

Chapter 292 His Suspicion Was Even Greater

Joseph was concerned about Zacharias' condition. Upon hearing Zacharias' voice, he immediately entered the room.

"Zacharias, how are you feeling?"

Zacharias nodded and replied, "Much better, thanks to Angela. Otherwise, I would still be feeling uncomfortable."

"Thanks to her? Did you not hear her attitude toward Mom?"

Just the memory of Angela's demeanor before she left made Joseph feel upset.

Angela's criticism made him feel embarrassed.

Upon hearing Joseph's words, Zacharias coughed before gently saying, "Joseph, don't blame Angela. Mom really didn't treat her well before."

Recalling those chaotic dreams, Zacharias felt even more bitter.

Seeing Zacharias' pale face, Joseph quickly stepped forward to pat his back. "Zacharias, don't dwell on unhappy things. Taking care of your health is the most important thing."

"I know." Zacharias nodded, still holding Joseph's hand with some concern. "Joseph, try not to have too many biases against Angela."

Joseph felt that Zacharias was not in his right mind now. However, seeing his poor complexion, he refrained from saying anything harsh, simply agreeing perfunctorily.

After that, he couldn't help but defend himself.

"I don't harbor any biases against her. She's just not likable. I simply asked her to go see Mom, not to treat her. And she acted so heartless and cold. She's really ungrateful."

"Angela is not as terrible as you make her out to be. If you treat her better in the future, she may not be as harsh. Perhaps she will relent and visit Mom."

Zacharias believed that despite Angela's tough exterior, she was actually soft—hearted, just like when she compromised to save him.

He could sense her genuine concern for his well-being, which led to his change in attitude toward her.

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"When has Angela ever listened to me? Will being kind to her make a difference?" Joseph was feeling irritated.

He already disliked Angela's condescending attitude, and hearing Zacharias defend her only fueled his anger.

"Well, then at least be a bit nicer to Angela for my sake. She saved my life, after all," Zacharias advised helplessly.

"She saved you with conditions! Fanny is still suffering outside!"

At the mention of Fanny, Zacharias lowered his head, gazed at his pale fingers, and fell silent.

Joseph said, "Forget it. Don't be concerned about these matters. Rest well and prioritize your health."

He worried that Fanny might be sick since she hadn't contacted him all day and hadn't visited Scarlet in the hospital.

She had always had poor health, and he didn't want her to jeopardize it due to their mother's situation. Zacharias watched Joseph depart, sighed, and said nothing mo Chapter 293 Desperate To Return Home James observed George's ever-changing expression and stated bluntly, "Since you have no intention of urging the police, I'll do that for you." "I don't need you to get involved!" George snapped. His agitation nearly tore his wound. He took a sharp breath. If James intervened, he would surely uncover something from the police. Even though George wasn't afraid of James, he didn't want to further complicate matters. He was the one who pushed Scarlet, and he was the one who reported to the police. He didn't anticipate that, despite Linda's erratic behavior, he would still be under suspicion by the police. If he had known that Linda was wandering the streets in a deranged state, he wouldn't have bothered reporting to the police to find her. In essence, George was now consumed by hatred and regret. When Joseph noticed that James was about to speak, he halted him. "James, Dad is injured. Let's discuss Mom's situation another day." James frowned, but complied.

George outwardly sneered, but inwardly felt relieved.

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Meanwhile, after leaving Zacharias' residence, Angela didn't head straight home.

Joseph's words had indeed affected her. Despite appearing strong and composed, she felt uneasy inside.

Passing by a park bench, Angela noticed a pile of fallen leaves on the seat. Suddenly, a strange pang hit her nose.

She felt desperate to return home.

However, a voice suddenly called out from behind her. "Angela? Is that you?"

Angela turned around and met Britney's surprised gaze.

Seeing Angela, Britney approached with a warm and friendly smile, saying, "Angela, it's been a while since I last saw you. You seem to have lost weight."

Her familiar demeanor caused Angela to frown.

"Do you have something to say?"

It didn't seem like Britney had come specifically to see her, as she appeared genuinely

her. surprised upon encountering

"I'm looking for Fanny. I couldn't find her, but I coincidentally ran into you. Do you know

where she is?" Angela responded, I'm not sure. I'm not close to her, as you're aware." Britney stomped her foot. "Can you contact her? I need to speak with her." She was detained for a few days for the previous incident. The first thing she did upon her release was confront Fanny. After all, it was really an accident that she stabbed Fanny at the time, so the wound wasn't actually severe. Also, Fanny was her daughter. She could have chosen to forgive. Yet she disregarded their relationship and had the police detain her for several days. If someone hadn't bailed her out, she might still be in custody. "I know you're not close with her. I just thought I'd ask." Britney didn't want to provoke Angela She had heard that Angela now held some influence, unlike before, so she sought to flatter her. Angela grew irritated by Britney's gaze. "I suggest you ask the Kins Family."

Recently, Fanny hadn't caused her any trouble, and she had almost forgotten about this bothersome individual. Yet Britney kept bringing Fanny up in front of her.

"The Kins Family?" Britney hesitated upon hearing Angela's suggestion.

The Kins Family cared for Fanny and would undoubtedly know her whereabouts. However, Britney sought to settle a score with Fanny, so she couldn't let the Kins Family find out.

"Yes, they can certainly help you contact her." After saying this, Angela was about to depart, but Britney suddenly tugged at her. "Is there something else?" "Well, Angela, I was just released, and I don't have any money on me. Do you have any spare cash that you could lend me?" She asked in a friendly tone, but Angela knew that she probably wouldn't return. Angela frowned. "What about the money I gave you last time?" One week after Mike's funeral, she had given Britney some money. It had only been a few days, and now Britney was reaching out for more. "It's at home. I'm going to find the Kins Family now. I need to have some cash with me, right?" As Britney spoke, she kept eyeing Angela's bag. Frowning, Angela took out a few bills and handed them to her. "This is all I have. Don't come looking for me again in the future." She didn't like Britney, but compared to Scarlet, Britney didn't seem as annoying. Perhaps because she wasn't Britney's biological daughter, her expectations of Britney were already low. And although Britney could be sharp—tongued, she didn't seem to have much malice most of the time. After giving Britney some money, Angela walked away.

Britney happily clutched the few bills in her hand. Watching Angela's figure, she said, "Bye, Angela. Be careful on your way." After receiving the money, she didn't dare go directly to the Kins Family. Instead, she first relaxed at a spa center.. She had always been a big spender, and the money in her hand couldn't stay for long. It wasn't until she had a good time that Britney continued to call Fanny. It seemed like Fanny had blocked her. Britney tried many times but couldn't get through. "This ungrateful daughter!" Britney cursed and hung up the phone in anger, leaving the spa. center. She didn't want to go back to Lynch's village. After all, the incident had caused quite a stir and spread in the village. Now, going back, she felt embarrassed. She decided to wait for a while before going back. After some thought, she headed toward the Kins Residence. However, Britney didn't expect that there was no one at home. She pressed the doorbell for a long time, but no one answered. There was no sound inside the gate, and it looked particularly deserted.

"Could they be deliberately avoiding me?" Britney observed the scene inside the gate, trying to find someone.

Someone passed by and saw her ringing the doorbell. "Are you looking for the Kinses? They have all gone out."

The neighbor drove away without waiting for Britney to ask further questions.

Watching the car drive away and smelling the gasoline, Britney felt tired and decided to sit on the ground next to the gate.

They have gone out, right? Then I'll wait by the gate for them to come back and ask about Fanny's whereabouts.

She was too embarrassed to go back to Lynch's village now. Fanny was her daughter, so it couldn't be wrong to look for her.

She waited for hours, and still no one came back. She felt a bit anxious and annoyed.

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Gritting her teeth, Britney decided to continue waiting. They'll eventually come back!

At this moment, Fanny and the Kinses had no idea that someone was waiting for them at the door. Fanny was detained, while James and Joseph had gone to the hospital because of George's injury.

Zacharias was staying near the hospital to make it easier for Angela to treat his illness.

On the other hand, in a high—end shopping mall, Christopher stared at his phone for a long time, not understanding why Fanny suddenly ignored him.



"For such an important matter, should I consult my dad again?" Christopher suggested.

Sophia thought about it for a moment. "That's a good idea. You can ask your dad for his availability, and our families can meet again." The last time the two families met was at the Martinez's household, where Michael brought Christopher to apologize.

After shopping around the mall for a while, Christopher, who was concerned about Fanny, found an excuse to leave early. "My dad is urging me to go back to the company, Sophia. I'm sorry, I can't

continue shopping with you."

Sophia held onto his arm. "Do you really have to go? Can't you stay?" she whined playfully. "Well, it's unavoidable. I'll make it up to you when I get back." Christopher finished speaking and kissed Sophia on the forehead.

Sophia smiled. "Well, make sure you don't upset anyone in the office. We are about to get engaged—you can't make me sad again."

Christopher naturally agreed. As he was about to leave, Sophia suddenly questioned him. "Oh, by the way, Christopher, has your ex—girlfriend bothered

you again?"

"Why are you suddenly asking about her?" Christopher asked, trying to hide his nervousness. Sophia continued casually, as if she hadn't noticed his stiffness. "I just recalled something. I ran into your exgirlfriend on the streets before this. She was with another man. They seemed close, and the man looked quite wealthy."

"Why are you telling me this?" Christopher's face darkened. "We broke up a long time ago, and she's not related to me in any way. It's normal for her to be with someone else." Although he said this, Christopher couldn't help feeling uncomfortable and angry inside.

"I'm just worried that she might still be bothering you even though she's with someone else. You're a great man, Christopher, and I'm worried that she might regret leaving you for someone else. I'm afraid someone might snatch you away from me," Sophia explained.

Despite Sophia's praise, Christopher was not happy. "Did you really see her with another man?" he asked. Christopher couldn't shake off the memory of Fanny crying to him just two days ago. The thought of her made him feel agitated. How could she move on so quickly to someone else? Is this just because of my staged performance with Sophia? But I made it clear to Fanny that I don't like Sophia at all. She's the only person I like.

"I'm sure I saw her. She was kissing that guy at the time, right on the streets! If you don't believe me, you can call and ask her. Even if she denies it, you're smart enough to see through her act," Sophia insisted.

Christopher fell silent. Sophia didn't urge him to take action—she simply observed his expression. After a while, Christopher finally spoke. "Sophia, give me a moment. I need to use the bathroom."

"Go ahead, but don't sneak away! You have to properly bid me goodbye even if you're heading off to the office." Sophia nodded and reminded Christopher before he left.

Christopher felt a little embarrassed as Sophia's words brought back memories of the last time that he had left her to take Fanny to the hospital. He knew he had made a mistake in that situation. "I'll just check with my dad's company to see if it's urgent. If it's not, then I'll stay with you," Christopher said before heading to the bathroom.

While in the bathroom stall, he sat on the toilet and tried calling Fanny again, but there was still no answer. He sent her a text but received no reply. Doubts started to creep into his mind, and he began to believe Sophia's words. After feeling angry for a while, Christopher eventually calmed down and decided to stay with Sophia'a little longer. Since Fanny had moved on so quickly, he felt he could do the same.

Meanwhile, Fanny, who was being detained, kept asking for the phone to call Christopher. The police officer was exasperated at this point. "How many times have you tried calling already? Why do you

keep trying when the calls are clearly not getting through?"

"I'm sure it'll work this time. He was at work just now, and he must've been busy. He should be done with work by now." Fanny's explanation was also something that she was trying to convince herself. She dialed his number eagerly, but the call didn't connect. After a few more tries, the police officer finally warned her. "This is the last time I'll allow this!"

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Fanny hastily made the call, but as she waited patiently on one end of the phone, the dial tone simply went on until the call was cut off on its own. "Why are you still trying? It's obvious that this guy is trying to ignore you. You need to find someone else to call." Fanny wanted to make the call again, but the police officer reached for the phone before she could do so.

The police officer couldn't bear to watch Fanny trying for another time. Even though what Fanny had done was mean, she was in a tearful and vulnerable state at that moment. Her gentle features and the helpless look in her eyes made it easy for others to sympathize with

her.

There's no one else I can call..." Fanny was on the verge of tears. "I can't let my brothers know what I've done to Angela..." she explained. Angela was responsible for Zacharias' treatment, and Fanny didn't want her brothers to hear about what she said on the forum as she didn't want them to overthink things. She didn't want them to think that she was trying to sabotage Zacharias' recovery.

You should just stay for the day and head out to look for the person you were calling comorrow." The police officer thought that Fanny's attitude was decent, and they couldn't Fault a young girl like her for wanting to hide this from her family to protect her dignity. So, hey agreed not to contact her family at all.

Chapter 295 Let's Discuss the Invitation Later

Even if Fanny attempted to call her family, her attempts would be futile. The defamation on the forum was orchestrated by Jonathan, and he had made it clear that he wouldn't forgive her. The individual involved was definitely going to be detained.

"It's easy for you to say. It's not like you're the one being detained." Fanny was on the verge of tears, and her voice was meek as she expressed her grievances. "I don't engage in defaming others, so why

would I be detained? You're being unreasonable. Just stay put and stop. insisting on making phone calls. Even if you manage to get through, he can't bail you out. Whether you're detained for a day or longer, it's up to him." With that said, the police officer silenced his phone and walked away.

Upon hearing this, Fanny was so angry that her eyes and nose turned red. "It's all that Angela's fault!" she cursed through gritted teeth.

Meanwhile, Angela, who wasn't aware of Fanny's curses, had already returned home safely. Jonathan had not returned home yet. She took out the book Terence had given her and carefully took notes while reading it. Angela was lost in concentration when she suddenly received a call from Terence.

"Professor Terence, what's up?" Angela wondered why Terence would suddenly contact her. She assumed that something must have happened. "I heard about the incident on the forum. I've been busy the past few days and didn't notice it. Today, an apology was posted on the forum, and I saw it. You've been wronged." Terence's voice carried a sense of helplessness and guilt.

He had high hopes for Angela as a student, so he also hoped that she would succeed. However, he hadn't expected that someone would dare to spread rumors about her. Furthermore, from the content of the apology letter, it can be seen that Winter instigated the person who slandered Angela.

Winter, whom he had also met a few times, was not a particularly impressive student. She was, however, considered a relatively good student in the college. He hadn't expected that Winter wouldn't be able to tolerate someone being better than her.

"It's okay, Professor Terence. I'm not bothered as long as you don't get dragged into it. Those rumors can't hurt me either." Angela felt a sense of warmth in her heart when she heard the concern in her professor's voice. However, she also sensed some self–blame in Terence's words, so she quickly reassured him.

When Terence noticed how Angela was comforting him instead, he felt even more indignant on her behalf. He finally had a promising student, and he couldn't let her be bullied! "Don't worry. The school will definitely give you an answer to this matter. The police have already

punished the two who apologized, and the school will investigate to know whether Winter is involved in this matter."

After speaking, Terence made a promise to Angela. "If she really instructed others to do this, then her spot will be forfeited."

Angela didn't expect the school to investigate this matter vigorously and even look into Winter. "Okay, Professor Terence. I understand. If there is anything I need to cooperate with, please let me know directly," Angela replied after thinking about the situation for a moment. She had been troubled by other unpleasant things in her life recently, so she didn't find the school's matter particularly distressing.

But if there could be a better outcome, she would naturally be pleased. After discussing the second exam with Terence for a while, Angela hung up the phone. Jonathan also returned home around then. As soon as he entered, he went to Angela and gave her a hug. Angela felt nearly suffocated by his tight embrace, but she quickly reached out to hug Jonathan back.

"What's wrong, Jonathan?" She asked, leaning against Jonathan, worried that he had encountered something bad too. "I miss you," Jonathan said as he lifted her into his arms bridal–style.

"Huh?" Angela was startled. She hastily wrapped her arms around his neck. After the couple was affectionate for a while, Oliver knocked on the door with a fancy invitation in hand.

"Mrs. Lawson, Master Jonathan, someone specially sent an invitation over," Oliver said.

Jonathan finally let go of Angela, but his expression didn't look too pleasant then. Angela planted a gentle kiss on his check before stepping out of his embrace and hurrying to open the door. Oliver handed her the invitation and departed. Angela accepted it and returried to the room, unfolding it to examine the contents.

The invitation was for Cassandra's birthday celebration. "Whose birthday is it?" Jonathan had a suspect in mind, but with the influx of visitors lately, he couldn't pinpoint which family had sent the invitation.

"It's for the Hayes Family's daughter," Angela replied, her hand trembling as the invitation slipped from her grasp and fluttered to the floor. She was shocked upon seeing Cassandra's name. "We won't go if

you don't wish to attend this." Jonathan reassured her as he disregarded the invitation and pulled her close.

Upon hearing his words, Angela quickly quelled the faint fear in her heart. "Let's attend this." She reminded herself not to be afraid. Even if Cassandra had been Jonathan's legal wife in his previous life, she refused to be intimidated. Now, she was Jonathan's wife.

And perhaps, through the Hayes Family, she could uncover the reason behind Jonathan's

death in his past life. She had been preoccupied lately and had neglected to investigate the circumstances of Jonathan's demise in his previous life. Angela couldn't fathom the idea of Jonathan taking his own life in his past existence.

Jonathan nodded before he planted a kiss on Angela's forehead and stepped back. "Alright.. We'll do as you say." A romantic atmosphere surrounded the couple as Angela fixed her eyes on Jonathan's.

A day later, Fanny was finally released. Angelina was set free at the same time. Despite only being confined for a day, both of them appeared weary. "Move aside. Don't block my way. Angelina was filled with resentment, and upon catching Fanny' gaze, she snapped at her sharply.

"Why are you snapping at me? If you despise Angela so much, why don't you direct your anger at her?" Fanny hissed back at the woman.

Angelina snorted. "Who told you that I despise Angela? I'm disgusted with you now! Are you truly Angela's sister? The comments you posted make it seem like you're not!" If it weren't for Winter's deception, Angelina wouldn't have targeted Angela! However, since Winter had managed to deceive her, she was going to make Winter pay for her actions!

After taunting Fanny, Angelina walked away. She clearly couldn't care less about Fanny. Fanny's mental state was crumbling after enduring a series of injustices. She took a while to compose herself at her rented accommodation before she headed to the hospital. Her first priority was to visit Scarlet, and she tearfully knelt by her bedside once she got to the ward.

"Mom, please wake up soon. If you don't, I will be tormented by Angela. She's been bullying me while you were away." Fanny didn't care if Scarlet could hear her; she simply poured her heart out to the figure lying in the hospital bed. "Mom, I want to go home. Please wake up and take me home, okay?"

While Fanny wept, Scarlet's caretaker stood by her side for a while before addressing her in an awkward tone. "Miss Angela, you're pressing on your mother's chest. She might have trouble breathing..." Fanny's expression darkened. She glared at May before stepping back and sitting down to continue crying on the couch.

The caretaker also stepped back as she let out a silent sigh in response to the two–faced young lady. The caretaker didn't think too much about it—she simply assumed that this was because Fanny had been pampered in her wealthy family. After crying for a while, Fanny went to Joseph with her eyes still red and swollen.

Upon seeing her, Joseph felt a pang of sorrow.

Chapter 296 Try Asking Her

Joseph quickly set aside his work and gently urged Fanny to sit down before questioning her in a gentle tone. "Why are you crying like this? Didn't you have a good time yesterday?" He trusted Fanny's explanation that she had visited a friend's house the day before, and he assumed that her tears were due to a disappointing experience.

Fanny hastened to clarify herself. "No, that's not it. I was upset to see the caretaker mistreating Mom when I visited her earlier. Joseph, why don't we dismiss the caretaker and let me care for Mom instead?" Upon hearing this, Joseph immediately pressed for details. "Did the caretaker mistreat Mom? What exactly happened?" Despite his efforts to hire reliable help, it seemed like they had failed to fulfill their duties properly.

"I witnessed the caretaker being rough while attending to mom, and when I confronted her, she responded inappropriately..." Fanny recounted the events tearfully. Her red eyes were filled with sorrow as she spoke.

Joseph's anger flared up at that moment, but he made sure not to direct it at Fanny. "Fanny, don't worry. I will find a replacement for the caretaker," he assured her.

Fanny nodded. "I can look after mom. We don't really need to rely on any caretakers," she suggested. However, as she spoke, she was overcome by a fit of coughing. She bent her frail body to the side as she coughed.

Joseph reached out to support her. "Fanny, don't concern yourself with the hospital. Your health is the most important thing now, and you need to prioritize self—care."

-Fanny paused for a moment, and she looked as if she had awakened from a daze. Her expression made her seem like she was frustrated for not taking better care of herself. "When will Mom wake up,

Joseph?" Her teary—eyes were filled with hope as she spoke.

Joseph felt a pang of sorrow, and he comforted her by enveloping her in a tight embrace. "The doctor has not provided a definite timeline for her recovery." The uncertainty surrounding their mother's condition left them at a loss for what to do.

Moreover, although George was reluctant to divulge details, both Joseph and Jonathan harbored suspicions that their father might be responsible for their mother's predicament. Hence, they confronted George about the incident that prompted his call to the authorities the previous night. Although George did not confess to any wrongdoing, both brothers braced themselves for the possibility.

Fanny departed in disappointment upon learning the truth.

Meanwhile, George, who was still at the hospital, seethed with resentment. Not only had

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James and Joseph jointly interrogated him, but James, who had left for work after he didn't get any answers, had the audacity to return during noontime. On top of that, James was clearly keen to revisit Scarlet's incident with him.

"Are you meddling in my affairs, James?" George fumed. He felt offended by James' lack of respect. When James noticed George's agitation, he continued speaking in an assertive tone. "I am not interfering in your affairs, but if you are involved in this matter, then this isn't just

about you."

"What do you mean?" George was perplexed.

"If you were indeed involved in the incident, then there is only one way to make sure that the police stop bothering you," James stated bluntly. George looked as if he was offended by James' accusations

at first, yet he couldn't help but continue the conversation. "What's the solution? Even if I didn't do it, it's worth knowing in case someone mistakenly accuses me."

James chose not to expose him yet. "The solution lies in waking Mother. Her testimony will prevent the family from falling apart. If Mother puts the blame on Linda, who has gone mad, the police will cease their investigation, and you will be free from further scrutiny."

George slapped his thigh. "Exactly! Why don't we wake her up right away!?"

"If we had a way, do you think we'd choose to delay this? The doctor also mentioned that the chances of her waking up are slim, but there is still a possibility." James rubbed his temples. He felt exhausted listening to George's authoritative tone. It wasn't just the company that was in disarray at that point—even the family was in turmoil.

"Why did you come to me, then?" Upon hearing that the chances of Scarlet waking up were slim, George felt irritated and a bit concerned that the police would continue to bother him. about it. If they eventually found something incriminating and pressed charges on him, it would be a major problem!

"You can get Angela to take a look at Mom. Angela cured Zacharias' illness before, so maybe she can help Mother too," James suggested. James had considered reaching out to Angela himself, but he had been too preoccupied lately to find the time: Furthermore, Joseph had informed him that he had attempted to persuade Angela, but she had declined. Angela probably wouldn't listen to James anyway, and James figured that he didn't want to face that rejection.

"Angela again?" George felt irritated every time Angela's name was mentioned. The person they had kicked out of the family was thriving and becoming more capable. That truly irked him. "Are you certain she can help?" George asked skeptically.

"We have no choice but to give her a chance." James didn't provide a definitive answer—he simply suggested that George consider it. Before George could further contemplate this

matter, James stood up

to leave. "Alright, I need to attend to matters at the company. You take care of yourself. You can recuperate slowly in the hospital while you think about how to persuade Angela."

George didn't particularly appreciate his eldest son's attitude, but what James said did make some sense, so he began to ponder it. He recalled how he had also given Angela a call on the day of Scarlet's accident. However, he had been in a rush to take Linda away, and he didn't even have the chance to meet Angela. But he heard that Angela had gone over, only to depart without seeing Scarlet.

With this in mind. George dialed Angela's number. When Angela received George's call, she instinctively frowned. She suspected that he was up to no good, just like the last time. Nevertheless, she still answered the call. As soon as the call went through, George spoke in his usual harsh tone.

"Angela, why aren't you at the hospital with your mother? She still hasn't woken up!"

"Do

Angela responded coldly. "So what?" George was infuriated by her composed response. you have no conscience or sense of responsibility at all? She is your mother! Your mother is now in a vegetative state. Can't you think of a way to wake her up?" George shouted into the phone.

"Do you think I'm a fairy or a miracle worker? When someone gets into a coma, isn't your first instinct to reach out to a doctor? Do you just want me to come up with a solution?" Angela was almost amused by George.

"You were able to cure Zacharias, so why can't you cure your mother?" George—gritted his teeth. "Don't you have any sense of responsibility at all?"

"Then may I ask: Has she ever shown any sense of responsibility towards me?" Angela just wanted to scoff. The Kins Family was full of eccentric individuals, and each one seemed more peculiar than the next. They even attempted to guilt—trip others with their bizarre ideas! What a joke, Angela thought.

Chapter 297 Stop Pretending

"What do you mean? You need to come to the hospital today! Otherwise, I'll cause a scene at your school and expose you as being a heartless person who wouldn't even save her own mother!" George was in trouble with the police, so he was willing to go to extremes if he thought that it would benefit him.

"It's been a while since we last spoke, and it seems like you've become even more shameless." After Angela finished speaking, she abruptly ended the call.

George hadn't expected Angela to have the audacity to hang up on him. He was on the verge of exploding in rage! He tried calling Angela a few more times, but each time, she ended his call. Later on, he couldn't even hear the dial tone on his end. It was as if he had been blocked!

"The audacity! How dare that brat block me!" George was fuming. He left the hospital in a rush and headed to Angela's residence. He knew Angela's address in Springgate Estates, but upon his arrival, Oliver intercepted him at the gate.

With a stern expression, Oliver set down his meal and questioned George. "What's the matter?"

"I need to see Angela!" George was still seething, and his demeanor turned even more hostile after being stopped by Oliver. "Mrs. Lawson does not wish to see you." After Oliver spoke, he resumed his meal at the table in the yard.

George was taken aback by the other man's words. "I am Angela's father! How dare she refuse to see me? Let me in immediately!" he exclaimed angrily. However, Oliver completely disregarded him and continued eating. George was both frantic and irate, and he began to shout.

He didn't seem to care about the potential ridicule or embarrassment he would face then. He simply demanded to see Angela immediately.

"Shush!" Oliver eventually stood up and opened the gate. Just as George was about to enter the gate triumphantly, Oliver lifted him up and tossed him several meters away from the gate. "You can continue shouting now." George's face paled as he attempted to rise and grab Oliver. Yet, Oliver effortlessly threw him over his shoulder and onto the ground.

"Ouch! It hurts!" George lay on the ground, howling without any concern for his dignity. With no one else around, he howled even louder. "Stop pretending. Why are you clutching your stomach? You fell on your bottom!" Oliver found it rather amusing to watch the man howling on the ground.

George ceased holding his stomach. His bottom was indeed a bit sore, but he was too

1/3

embarrassed to clutch it. The fact that he was lying down on the ground and howling showed how desperate he was—the police had practically cornered him into this. Since he was unable to swallow his pride and nurse his bottom, George began to threaten Oliver once more. "You better bring Angela out! Otherwise, I'll make sure you pay for today! Do you I won't call the police!?"

think

"Go ahead and call the police. 1 acted in self–defense, and there's surveillance here. Feel free to call the police." Oliver gestured to the surveillance camera on the roadside and then retreated into the yard. George's expression darkened. He walked to the gate and started shouting once more.

"No one is going to come even if you

Oliver couldn't be bothered at the shouting. The house has good soundproofing

point. He simply resumed his meal.

"You-!" George had no choice but to call James. James was surprised that George had personally gone to Springgate Estates to look for Angela, and he didn't understand why he had to call Angela to inform her. Despite his confusion, he was too busy to delve into the reasons behind it. He only had time to give Angela a short call.

However, when James called Angela, the call went unanswered. His assistant alerted him of a meeting that he had. He didn't hesitate to proceed directly to the conference room, as he figured that Angela would return his call after seeing his missed call.

Meanwhile, George continued shouting outside Springgate Estates even after telling James to give Angela a call. After Oliver's harsh treatment, George made sure to keep some distance. However, he continued to call out for Angela and even started to curse.

Oliver told him that the house had good soundproofing, but he thought that someone would still hear him in the end. But to his surprise, no one came down to get him even after an hour. Didn't James notify Angela? He called James again, and James, who had just finished a meeting, responded in a weary tone. "What how?"

James felt like no one in the family was reliable at that moment. George, in particular, was unreliable not only because he abandoned the company, but also because he kept involving himself in embarrassing incidents in public. "I asked you to call Angela. Did you tell her I'm downstairs?" George yelled at James in anger.

"I just finished a meeting, and I forgot to call her. Give me a moment." After saying that, James hung up and called Angela.

Meanwhile, in Springgate Estates, Angela closed her book after reading for a while. She was feeling anxious over the banquet that was happening the next day. Although she had only met Cassandra a

few times, she couldn't help but worry that she wouldn't measure up to someone as outstanding as Cassandra and that she wouldn't be good enough for Jonathan

Lawson.

In an attempt to clear her mind, Angela decided to practice her acupuncture techniques. She had learned medicine from her grandmother since she was young, and over the past decade, she had perfected her skill in the art of acupuncture. She diligently practiced day after day to achieve such skills.

Often, practicing needlework allowed her to calm her mind and focus solely on the tiny needles. It helped her to block out distractions coming from the outside world. After half an hour of practice, Angela felt a thin layer of sweat on her forehead. Immersed in her favorite and focused activity, her sense of frustration began to dissipate.

After a quick wash—up. Angela noticed several missed calls on her phone. All the missed calls were from James, so Angela returned the call. "Is everything okay?" Angela's tone was not warm—she was just concerned that there might be an issue with Zacharias. That was what prompted her to call back.

"Dad is looking for you. He's downstairs. Also, you should unblock his number." George only came to bother James because he couldn't reach Angela on the phone. This was giving James a headache, and he wanted to find ways to resolve things. During the hour when he couldn't reach Angela, George had called him seven or eight times to urge him.

But what could he do? Angela seemed to have disappeared, and she wasn't answering his calls. If Angela hadn't called him back, he would have thought she had blocked him, too.

"What's with the attitude? Mr. Kins, are you ordering me around?" she snapped. As soon as ames heard Angela's words, he knew something was wrong. He quickly tried to remedy the situation. "Please, for Jonathan's sake, don't argue with our dad. Just unblock his number."

'He's

your dad, not mine." Angela replied. She had drawn clear boundaries after leaving the Kins Family. She could still recall vivid memories of how they had looked at and treated her. How can James choose to conveniently forget such things? How can he say that George is 'our dad?

Alright, he's downstairs now. Just go meet him. He wants you to go to the hospital to see mom. I promise he won't cause any trouble!" James uttered.

Tell him to wait, Angela said. George was downstairs, and he seemed to have waited for a while. She didn't want to be too cruel, so she reluctantly agreed. After receiving Angela's response, James immediately called George.

Chapter 298 She Was Afraid of Feeling Nauseous.

"Angela will come down to meet you shortly. Please be polite when you speak to her! Don't provoke her!"

James' words carried a warning.

"If you upset her again, I won't be able to help you either! You need to figure things out with the police."

Despite George's initial reluctance, he ultimately agreed after taking the circumstances into

account.

"Alright, I won't provoke her! As long as she agrees to go to the hospital with me to visit your mom. If your mom doesn't wake up, I'll handle her myself!"

James felt relieved as George grasped the situation, and he advised, "Make sure to treat her with kindness from now on!"

After a while, Angela came downstairs, and George seemed much calmer than before.

Even Oliver noticed that George was behaving strangely.

Especially after Angela came downstairs, George even put on a smile.

"Angela! It's good to see you down here. I have been waiting for you downstairs for a while. I just wanted to meet you, and the gatekeeper at your house even stopped me!" Angela was repulsed by George, and goosebumps appeared on her arm. She said coldly, "If you don't want to come in, just keep talking George quickly fell silent. Only then did Angela allow Oliver to open the door and let George in. Upon George's arrival, he attempted to enter the house, but Angela halted him, saying, "No. need to come in. Say what you have to say here, and then you can leave." "Say it here? How exactly do you expect me to say it here? Is this your version of hospitality? Not even a glass of water?" George had been yelling for a while, his throat parched and raspy. He fixed an intense gaze on Angela. 1/4 In response, Angela called out, "Oliver, get him a bottle of water." A bottle of mineral water, usually placed in the yard by Oliver after meals, was readily available. Upon hearing Angela's request, Oliver promptly handed a bottle of water to George. "Drink up, and then you can continue shouting." Angela looked at Oliver in surprise, as George seemed quite composed at the moment.

Oliver explained, "He was shouting downstairs for over an hour, but as soon as you came down, he suddenly changed his behavior."

Oliver couldn't help but chuckle as he looked at George's slightly twisted expression.

"It looks like all that shouting took a toll on your throat. Take your time drinking the water and then say what you want to say," Angela remarked with a smile, settling into a chair in the yard.

George drank the water with a hint of indignation. While he didn't voice anything explicitly offensive, his displeasure was unmistakable on his face.

Without waiting for an invitation, he seated himself across from Angela.

"Angela, have you thought about when you might visit your mom?"

Angela looked puzzled. "When did I promise you that I would go visit her?"

"After all, I'm your dad. I'm earnestly asking you to consider this. Please go to the hospital and visit your mom. She's still unconscious, and the doctors there seem to be incompetent. It's only you who can treat her," George pleaded after exercising much restraint.

Angela raised an eyebrow, sensing a shift in George's tone and opting not to engage in an argument. She responded casually, "I will go visit her, but let's discuss the treatment later."

Angela did plan to visit Scarlet and check on her condition. She had only left the hospital. that day because she was disgusted by Fanny, and at that moment, she had no intention of entering the ward.

Now George was seeking her out again. Although she was repulsed by George, she had not

intention to refuse...

"Let's go now!" George heard Angela agree and immediately got up, as if he was ready to take
her away.
Oliver stepped forward to block George, not allowing him to get close to Angela,
"Let's go the day after tomorrow," Angela suggested.
She had to attend Cassandra's birthday banquet the next day, and she was not pleased with George' attitude. She didn't want to spend too much time with him today, fearing it might make her feel sick.
Upon hearing her request for a delay of a few days, George's patience wore thin. "Why wait until the day after tomorrow? Let's go today. The sooner, the better!" he insisted, trying to persuade her.
However, in his eyes, Angela seemed untouchable, akin to a deity, leaving him frustrated.
"I'm busy. I'll go the day after tomorrow," Angela asserted before rising to leave.
She was informing George, not seeking his approval.
"What could you possibly be so busy with every day? Is it more important than your mom?" George shouted after her as she was leaving.
Although Oliver blocked him, he continued to speak.
"What do you mean, Angela? I'm asking you to come and you're still giving me attitude!"
Angela was getting a headache from his yelling, and she turned around coldly and asked, "Do you still want me to go visit her?"

She had important matters to attend to, and taking time out the day after tomorrow to visit Scarlet was already going above and beyond. George was pushing his luck. Does he really think I have no limits? "What about tomorrow? Today is not an option, and neither is tomorrow?" Seeing Angela's displeasure, George backed off. "It can only be the day after iomorrow. If you're not willing to wait, then we won't go the day after tomorrow either." After saying that, Angela left. Oliver assisted George in walking out. George attempted to break free, he shouted, "I can walk by myself!" He already bore injuries from a previous incident, caused by Linda, which had been 3/4 adequately bandaged. However, after the struggle a moment ago, the bandages came loose. Oliver let go of George, watching as he clutched the scratches and bite marks on his body, maintaining a silent stare. Oliver inquired, "What are you looking at? I didn't scratch or bite you." Little did he expect George to perceive it as mockery and belittlement, triggering a surge of anger that darkened his vision. "You!" George wanted to retaliate, but fearing Oliver's muscular build, he could only point at him tremblingly, as if experiencing a cramp.

"What's wrong with me? Don't falsely accuse me." Oliver stepped back.

George was even more furious, with no outlet for his emotions. Eventually, he left in anger.
Oliver touched his nose, feeling puzzled.
After leaving, George called Joseph.
"Arrange for the day after tomorrow. Angela wants to go to the hospital to visit your mom."
Joseph received a call from George, thinking that George had gotten into trouble again.
Upon hearing that Angela wanted to go to the hospital to see Scarlet the day after tomorrow, his first thought was that Angela must have some ulterior motive and was up to no good!
"What request did she make this time? Why didn't James tell me about this first?"
Believing that James was the one who ultimately convinced Angela, he asked his question.
I'm the one, your old man, who went to find Angela! She agreed because of me! You and ames are alike, couldn't get anything done!"
fit weren't for you two being unable to persuade Angela, how could I personally come to find her? I am ven forced to be polite and courteous to her!
Upon hearing that it was George who persuaded Angela, Joseph was somewhat surprised. He continued to inquire, "So, what did she ask for?"
He couldn't fathom that Angela would have a sudden change of heart for no reason! Chapter 299 I Will Help You Find Her

Upon hearing Joseph's inquiry, George responded with a chilly tone, "She hasn't made any specific demands. However, she did mention that she will go merely for a preliminary look and is uncertain about committing to treatment."

"She's not interested in proceeding with the treatment?"

Joseph, having only heard this statement without any explicit demands, pondered to himself that Angela was growing increasingly unyielding.

"That's exactly what she said! That's why I urged you to be prepared!"

In a frustrated tone, George exclaimed, "She will be present. Can't you find a way to persuade. her to proceed with treating your mom? She needs to do it even if she's reluctant!"

After exchanging a few more words, George hung up the phone.

The wound on his body had reopened and required attention. He was tired of the way people in the hospital looked at him, so he directly contacted a doctor to come to his house.

Joseph couldn't say anything about George' arrangements and began to ponder a solution.

"Mr. Joseph... Can you tell me why you replaced me? I've been diligent these past few days; did I do something wrong?" A nearby voice softly inquired.

Joseph glanced over and noticed the nurse who had just been replaced.

"You know it yourself."

Recalling Fanny's remarks about someone irresponsible not deserving a second glance, Joseph turned away, ready to leave.

"Mr. Joseph, I genuinely don't know the reason, which is why I came to ask you." The nurse helplessly called out to him, reaching to tug at his sleeve.
She had been diligently caring for patients, unable to fathom why she was replaced without.
cause.
"What else could be the reason? Because you didn't take care of people well!" Joseph shook off her hand with disgust. "All your actions were witnessed by others. Are you still pretending to be innocent here?"
"Can you tell me what I did wrong? If there's anything unsatisfactory, I can change it. Can you
not replace me?"
The nurse, maintaining her patience, addressed Joseph respectfully even in this situation.
She had secured this job through a job agency, paying an introduction fee.
Losing this job within a few days would mean wasted money and an unjust dismissal.
"Fanny mentioned seeing you not being careful while cleaning our mom's body. She reminded you multiple times, and you talked back to her. Now, do you have anything to say?" Annoyed by her, Joseph straightforwardly shared what had transpired.
The nurse exclaimed, "Are you mistaken? That never happened!"
"I knew you wouldn't admit it! You don't want to confess, that's fine. I won't penalize you; just take the money and leave." Joseph looked at her with a face full of injustice, sensing her acting skills were truly impressive.

Fanny is the one who personally informs me about this. How could it be untrue?

The nurse was at a loss for words, explaining, "Are you talking about your sister? She did come before, but I had already finished wiping your mom's body before she arrived."

Suddenly, a realization struck her, and she continued, "It's your sister; she threw herself on your mom and even applied pressure. I was concerned about the patient's breathing, so I reminded her, but she cursed at me."

"You may not admit to your mistakes, and that's fine, but now you're attempting to smear Fanny? Leave! Or I'll take legal action against you for slander!"

The nurse was on the verge of tears due to frustration, but Joseph remained unconvinced. She reluctantly left.

Even if it wasn't her fault, she didn't want to hinder matters with a police report. She still had other duties to attend to.

Upon witnessing her departure, Joseph headed to Scarlet's ward to check on the new nurse.

"Mr. Joseph, you're here. I was just talking to Madam; they say it can stimulate her to wake up

sooner."

The new nurse was a slightly plump woman. She greeted him with a cheerful smile and a pleasant manner of speaking.

"Please take good care of my mom. If my sister comes to visit, please don't upset her."

Joseph issued clear instructions, recalling the previous nurse who had slandered Fanny.

He wanted to prevent the nurse from displaying any attitude toward Fanny during her visits to the hospital.
"I understand. Mr. Joseph. If your sister comes, I will take good care of her. You can trust me."
Joseph nodded and left.
He was somewhat satisfied with the new nurse, hoping she wouldn't make any mistakes like
before.
Remembering the deceit and slander of the previous nurse toward Fanny, he did not believe
a word of it.
Meanwhile, George had just gotten out of the car and saw someone squatting near the front door of his house,
Approaching to get a better look, he woke the person up directly, "Why are you here?"
The person at the entrance was none other than Britney, who had been waiting for almost half a day. She woke up, saw George, and immediately stood up.
"I'm here to find Fanny! Where is she? She is now part of the Lynch Family, you can't keep hiding her!" Britney asked bluntly.
George snorted. "No one is hiding her. You can't even find your own family members, and you come here looking for her; it's ridiculous."
George wasn't fully aware of the fact that Scarlet and Joseph had arranged a house for Fanny

to live in.
Even if he knew, he couldn't simply divulge Fanny's whereabouts when Britney came looking
for her.
After George finished speaking, he was about to enter the house.
"What do you mean? She is my daughter!" Britney saw him about to leave, went up to grab his arm, and shouted.
"She is your daughter; go find her yourself. Don't come looking for ine! And didn't you stab her, and she ended up in the hospital? How did you get out so quickly? Did you escape?"
"I was just detained for a few days! And, someone bailed me out." After coming out, Britney even speculated whether it was someone from the Kins Family who bailed her out.
Now she was certain. It's definitely not someone from the Kins Family.
People from the Kins Family were all so selfish; they wouldn't do such a good deed!
George was annoyed by her and threatened, "Let go of me, or I'll call the police and have you arrested again."
"Fine, I'll let go of you." Britney released George, then squatted down on the ground and said, "If you don't tell me where Fanny is, I'll just stay here and wait for you downstairs!"
George snorted coldly. He had just used this trick on Angela, but he didn't expect someone to use it on him!

"Whatever you like." Seeing George about to leave, Britney immediately shouted, "The Kins Family is so ruthless! They took my daughter! And they hid my daughter!" As soon as she shouted, neighbors immediately looked out of the window, making George cover her mouth in a hurry! "Shut up! I'll help you find her; I'll help you ask!" George said. Britney finally closed her mouth triumphantly and looked at George, saying, "Hurry up and Chapter 300 Why Should I Give You Money George called Joseph once more, inquiring about Fanny's address. Although Joseph was perplexed, he was casually dismissed by George. After obtaining the address, George hung up the phone. "Where is she?" Britney couldn't wait to locate Fanny and immediately inquired. As soon as George provided Britney with the address he had just acquired, the doctor arrived.

Fanny had been confined for a day. Upon her release, she first went to the hospital. Currently, she was not in high spirits, so she was catching up on sleep.

Britney proceeded directly to the address and knocked on the door without uttering a word, creating a

loud noise.

Upon being awakened by the noise, her initial reaction was that someone had knocked on the wrong door, so she disregarded it.
However, as the knocking persisted, she suddenly sat up in bed, curious about who was outside and slightly apprehensive.
After a while, the knocking continued.
She approached the door and inquired, "Who is it?"
Upon hearing Fanny's voice, Britney recognized her and believed that George had not deceived her.
Although Fanny did reside in this location, she hesitated to open the door!
Yet, Britney refrained from speaking directly, fearing that doing so might deter Fanny from opening the door.
Continuing to knock on the door, Britney even crouched down and deliberately avoided the door's peephole.
Looking through the peephole and seeing no one outside, Fanny assumed it was a child from another household knocking on the door. She intended to open the door and reprimand
them.
Unaware that Britney was already crouched outside the door, as soon as Fanny opened the door Binney burst in
"How dare you hide, Fanny! Are you avoiding your own mom as well?" She stormed into the room, scolding Fanny

Fanny was taken aback by Britney's sudden entrance. "How did you find me?" She took a few steps back, evading the fierce Britney.

Without hesitation, Britney seated herself on the sofa, loudly biting into a piece of fruit. Observing Fanny's puzzled expression, she sarcastically retorted, "I have my ways of locating you. Don't you want to see me?'

Aren't you supposed to be in custody?" Fanny didn't stop Britney when she saw her casually eating. She couldn't help but wonder how Britney had been released so quickly.

She had been stabbed by Britney, resulting in the latter's detention. At that moment, she believed it was worthwhile, as it meant she wouldn't have to return to Lynch's village and could potentially rejoin the Kins Family.

"Can't you wish me well for once? Are you truly my daughter?"

3

"How can I wish you well? You stabbed me with a knife!"

Naturally. Fanny couldn't find it in her heart to wish good things for Britney. If she could, her

-a deceased most fervent wish might have been for Britney to face the same fate as Mike person.

"How dare you bring up the fact that I stabbed you? If you hadn't arranged for someone to kill your father, would I have accidentally stabbed you?" Britney was so incensed that she slammed the table, glaring at Fanny.

With involving the authorities and sending Fanny to jail, there wouldn't have been much benefit for Britney. She genuinely desired to take legal action and rid herself of the troublesome Fanny.

"I didn't do it! Don't accuse me!" When Fanny heard Britney mention Mike, she immediately felt guilty.

Fearing that Britney would persist in bothering her, she inquired once more, "If you stabbed me, you wouldn't be out so soon; did you escape? If you did escape, you should return promptly! Don't risk being apprehended again and facing an even lengthier confinement!"

Britney spat out a fruit pit on the ground and proudly exclaimed, "I was bailed out by someone. Didn't expect that, did you?"

Upon hearing this. Fanny immediately inquired, "Who? Who bailed you out? Was it Angela?"

The first person she thought of was Angela, as she believed Angela was the only one who would oppose her and not want things to go smoothly for her.

The more Fanny thought about it, the more she became convinced that Angela had likely bailed out Britney to cause trouble for her.

"It wasn't her"

Britney had also considered the possibility of Angela being the one who bailed her out, but when she encountered Angela the day before, Angela seemed surprised to see her outside.

Then who else would bail you out?" Fanny asked; puzzled.

"I came to visit you, not to have this discussion!" Britney asserted bluntly, her impatience mounting as Fanny fixated on who bailed her out. "I'm here to get some money from you, so

urry up and hand them over.""

Fanny was taken aback. "You came to ask me for money? Why should I give you any?"

However, Britney remained unabashed. "Simply because you're my daughter, and I'm your mother
"You're not my mother. My actual mother has already provided you with money! She explicitly instructed you not to bother me again!" Fanny shouted.
"The money she gave me before is
You better give me money now! Otherwise, I'll expose the fact that you harmed your own father! I am your biological mother, and people will believe what I say!"
"I won't give you any money! That case was closed long ago, and I have cleared my name. Why should I give you money?"
Realizing threats were ineffective, Britney decided to act shamelessly.
"If you won't provide me with money, who will? I can't go back to the village because of you. I have to make a living elsewhere, so you must give me the money!"
Upon hearing her audacious demands, Fanny's anger flared, and she sternly instructed Britney to leave. "I have no money. Leave now!"
"No money? I don't believe you have none. If you won't give it to me, I'll find it myself," Britney declared, then hastily entered Fanny's bedroom, making a beeline for the bedside
table and wardrobe.
3/4
"Indeed, there's money! How dare you try to deceive me! Hmph! Britney discovered the cash, seized it, and prepared to leave.

"Give that back! That's my money! Fanny attempted to stop her, but Britney pushed her away, causing her to stumble. Fanny tried to chase after her but accidentally collided with the table, tears streaming down her face from the pain. Helplessly, she watched as Britney walked away. After crying for a while, Fanny tearfully called James. Upon hearing her uncontrollable sobs, James left his work and rushed over. Fanny was taken to the hospital. She had just fallen and bumped her arm. It was nothing serious, but she was still crying uncontrollably. Her face was pale. James felt sorry for her and asked what had happened. After crying for a while, Fanny sobbed and explained that Britney had stolen her money and threatened her. Shortly after, Joseph received the news and rushed over. ames pulled Joseph aside, who looked bewildered, and inquired, "What's going on? Why am not allowed to see Fanny?" Did you tell anyone where Fanny lives?" oseph thought for a moment. "I only told Dad. ames realized something and said, "Fanny was robbed by Britney, who likely found out where she lives from Dad."

How could Dad do this?" Joseph was furious. He never anticipated that when George nquired about Fanny's location, it was to relay the information to Britney!