## Chapter 26

Hesper looked hurt.

Why does my baby suddenly dislike me?

Did Juniper do something, or is it because I haven't been home for the past few days?

She was doubtful all of a sudden. Madam Duval took a glance at her in disgust and scolded, "You always spoil the fun! We were having a wonderful time too until you had to meddle! If I knew that this would happen, it would be better for you to stay in the hospital and not come home."

"That's right! That's right!"

Hesper looked at them in confusion. She saw Madam Duval and Sophia's contempt, Juniper gloating in her misfortune, Rickard's frown, and also the baby's inexplicable rejection.

Everything that was happening felt like a silent mockery. Hesper felt as if she was the excessive one there. She shouldn't be there, she shouldn't have come back at all...

Rickard could not bear to see her looking so upset and

dejected, so he said with a frown, "Since the baby doesn't want you right now, you can return to the room to rest. Take a good shower and change into new clothes to remove the smell on your body."

He figured that the reason the baby rejected her so much was that Hesper smelled of disinfectant liquid after staying in the hospital over a long period of time.

It would be better when she removed the smell from her body with a shower.

Hesper's face turned ghastly pale. Is Rickard implying that I'm dirty?

She could not stand the sadness from being rejected by her own child, so she ran away with tears in her eyes.

Hesper ran into the bathroom, filled the bathtub with water, and dove into the water.

She scrubbed her body again and again and wondered what she did wrong and how the situation had turned out like this.

Why would the child that she risked her life to bring into the world reject her within a few short days? Hesper had never felt her heart ache in such a manner before. It felt as if she would die from the pain in the next moment.

"Why ... Why is this happening?"

Tears streamed down her face, and she cried loudly.

She did not cry when she jumped off the building, she did not shed a tear when she was forced to apologize to the murderer who hurt her, and she did not even cry when the doctor told her that she would suffer from chronic pain in the future due to her leg injuries.

However, she could not hold back any longer.

Hesper's boiling hot tears dropped on her arms before flowing into the bathtub. Her heart wrenched in pain, and she felt as if it was stabbed by a thousand needles.

She lost track of the time while soaking in the tub. When her skin turned white, she stood up indifferently.

The water in the bathtub had already turned cold and Hesper could feel herself shuddering with every step she took. She laid on the bed and wrapped herself in a blanket tightly.

Meanwhile, her phone placed on the bed suddenly rang. Hesper felt for the phone and accepted the call. "Hello..."

"Hesper, it's grandfather."

Mr. Duval Sr.'s caring voice was heard coming from the other end of the call.

"It's been some time since I last got in touch with you. How you are now? I believe that your body has recovered from the childbirth, right? You can order the servants in the family to prepare any food that you wish to have. Don't inconvenience yourself."

Hesper's eyes reddened with tears instantly. Mr. Duval Sr. was the only person who gave her hope and warmth in the family.

Flooded by a wave of emotions, Hesper was unable to stop sobbing.

Mr. Duval Sr. was flustered. "Hesper, what's going on? Did Rickard bully you again? Or did Sophia anger you again?"

Hesper did not wish to worry Mr. Duval Sr. so she refrained herself from telling the truth. "No... I'm feeling great, grandfather."

Mr. Duval Sr. was wise enough to know that she was aggrieved. He was so anxious that he spoke at a quicker speed.

"Hesper, don't hide anything from me. No one else in the family is going to watch over you aside from me!

