

# No Remarriage: You Don't Deserve Me (Lenora and Zachary) Stay Away

## Stay Away 141

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Chapter 141 No Peace Even In Death

Chapter 141 No Peace Even In Death

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"It has to be her! Fuller Tower is right on Bankers Road Helen exclaimed, her voice sharp and loud. She stared at Lenora on the surveillance screen, a flicker of resentment flashing in her eyes.

A thought suddenly flashed across her mind, and she cursed angrily. "Jasmine! It must be that wretch Jasmine! No wonder I felt a sense of familiarity when I first saw Lenora!"

Before Kenneth got married, his relationship with Jasmine was already ambiguous. Unexpectedly, they remained in contact even after his marriage.

Decades later, that despicable Lenora had stolen her daughter's man once again.

It's true what they say. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree Both mother and daughter are equally despicable!

They're both promiscuous sissies, the kind who had been with countless men!

Susanna was still somewhat in disbelief; the coincidence was just too uncanny. Could it really be that Lenora was her father's illegitimate daughter?

She had once again leveraged her connections to obtain the surveillance footage along the route.

In the video, Lenora was initially seen riding a black car not far from Fuller Tower. The vehicle seemed to have encountered a problem and halted at the roadside. Lenora then exited the car and walked the rest of the way, passing through the Bankers Road intersection, before finally entering Fuller Tower.

Upon closer inspection of the license plate on the black car, Susanna's pupils constricted sharply, a storm brewing in her eyes. After a few seconds of silence, she suddenly hurled her phone against the wall like a madwoman.

With a sharp crack, the phone shattered into pieces.

It turned out that Lenora was actually her father's illegitimate daughter.

When did Dad find out?

Why did he choose to do a DNA test at this time?

Did Dad decide to abandon me just because Zachary made his relationship with Lenora public? Is he considering taking Lenora back?

Pah! He should take a good look at himself first. Would Lenore even acknowledge him?

Although Fernando came from a modest background, he was extraordinarily lucky. Before his death, he donated his liver to Gerald, successfully securing a place for Lenora in the Fuller family. Even though he had been dead for many years, he was still widely praised by people.

How could Lenora possibly reunite with Kenneth?

Susanna calmed herself down, taking a deep breath. "Mom, let's not let Dad and Uncle Kieran know about this for now."

Given the way her eldest uncle always sought power and influence, he would undoubtedly have tried to

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ingratiate himself if he had known about Lenora's status.

"I know." Helen gritted her teeth. "You should rest well in the hospital first."

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When she finished work, Lenora received a call from her driver. He informed her that the car had a flat tire and he needed to go back to replace it, asking her to wait a little longer.

Glancing at the sky outside the window, Lenora said, "You should leave work now. I'll take a taxi home."

"No can do. Mr. Fuller insisted that I must escort you home."

The driver was insistent, and Lenora didn't argue further. She simply requested that he call her when he was almost at their destination.

Once again, Lenora was working late in the office when the driver called. "Mrs. Fuller," he said, "I'll be at Fuller Tower in ten minutes,"

"I understand." Lenora responded. "I'll go down and wait for you now. You don't need to pull into the

garage.

"All right

Lenora shut down her computer and turned off the office lights before picking up her bag and heading downstairs. She stopped by the street on the left front side of the building, watching the flow of traffic in front of her as she waited for the driver to arrive. A van approached from ahead, coming to a halt before Lenora.

Lenora thought someone was getting out of the car, so she took two steps to the side.

Suddenly, two men clad in black emerged from the van. One swiftly covered Lenora's mouth with a towel, while the other held her tightly. Together, they dragged her into the vehicle.

The van promptly drove off, merging into the flow of traffic. [Search the website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.](#)

The entire process took less than a minute. It was over in the blink of an eye.

Inside the van, two men immediately muffled Lenora's mouth with a towel, bound her hands behind her back, and forced her into the seat furthest in the back.

Just then, the sound of a cell phone ringing emanated from Lenora's bag.

A man promptly unzipped his bag and retrieved her phone from within. He declined the incoming call, switched off her device, and without a second thought, lung it out of the opened window. All of this happened within a matter of minutes.

Lenora sat in a corner, forcing herself to stay calm, as she warily watched the two men.

After much thought, Lenora couldn't imagine who could treat her this way?

The only person I've offended is Susanna, right?

Isn't she still in the hospital right now?

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After an indeterminate amount of time, the van came to a halt.

#5 Free Coina

Leñora was hauled out of the carriage by two men and discarded onto the ground as if she were nothing more than trash.

With her hands bound, Lenora had no support. She fell face-first, a burning sting spreading across her cheek. She lay on the ground, unable to get up.

She strained to lift her head, taking in her surroundings.

The sky had already darkened. Under the faint moonlight, the outlines of the surroundings were barely

visible.

This was a graveyard.

"Ouch!"

Suddenly, a sharp pain surged from behind.

The high heels bore down on Lenora's back, grinding into her mercilessly. The sharp heel dug into her flesh, the pain so intense it left her gasping for breath.

"You little wretch! So you finally got what was coming to you!"

The owner of the high heels approached Lenora, bending down to hold her chin and scrutinizing this familiar face.

Originally, it was Jasmine's stunning beauty that had completely captivated Kenneth.

Lenora gazed at the unfamiliar woman before her, her heart filled with confusion.

Suddenly, the woman harshly slapped her.

With a resounding "smack," the sound echoed undeniably clear throughout the silent graveyard.

The impact sent a wave of warmth and coldness sprawling onto the ground. Half of her face was first seized by a burning pain, which was then followed by a sensation of heat and numbness. Even the corner of her mouth lost all feeling. Her cheeks swelled up rapidly, accompanied by two bloody marks from a scratch of the nails.

Lenora lay on the ground, tasting the metallic tang of blood at the corner of her mouth.

"B\*tch, get up! How dare you steal my daughter's man? Watch as I teach you a lesson!"

Helen seized Lenora's hair, forcing her to lift her head, the scalp aching from the harsh pull.

All Lenora could do was to let out a muffled sound.

She surmised that the woman standing before her must be Susanna's mother.

Helen had someone pull Lenora's hair, and with both hands, she launched a flurry of slaps. She struck Lenora's face over and over, landing more than a dozen blows.

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Warmth and chilliness struck her relentlessly, causing her head to throb and her vision to blur. Her cheeks felt fiery hot, so swollen and red they seemed on the verge of bleeding. The man, gripping Lenora's hair, forcefully pushed Lenora's head toward the ground.

Lenora let out a stifled groan, as a wave of intense pain washed over her, causing her vision to flicker in and out of darkness.

The man tugged at Lenora's hair again, forcing her to lift her head.

"Shameless little b\*tch... You've ensnared Zachary with that seductive face of yours, haven't you? Today, I'll ruin that pretty face of yours. Let's see if Zachary will still want you then!" Helen glared at Lenora venomously, pulling out a fruit knife from her pocket, and swiftly made her move.

"Urgh!"

A sharp sting of pain coursed through her face, causing a shiver that was both warm and cold, and a cold sweat broke out on her forehead.

She felt a warm liquid trickling down her face.

Helen brandished a knife in front of Lenora, the blood still dripping from it.

"Who told you to be such a b\*tch? How dare you seduce men?"

Helen was overwhelmed with emotion. It was as if she was looking at another woman through Lenora, and she fiercely marked two lines across the other half of Lenora's face.

A shiver ran through Lenora's entire body, her cheeks burning fiercely, a sensation both painful and hot. Her eyes involuntarily reddened and swelled.

Crimson blood trickled down her cheek, pooling onto the ground.

Observing Lenora's disheveled appearance, Helen gave a satisfied nod.

"Fernando Wilkin's tomb." She dropped the knife, re

## **Stay Away 142**

Chapter 142 Utterly Heartless

Chapter 142 Utterly Heartless Clang!

The urn had shattered.

+5 Free Col

Ashes were scattered all over the ground, a layer of gray white powder, accompanied by partially burned bone fragments.

"No!"

Lenora stood there, stunned as she watched everything unfold before her. Her vision was blurred by a misty haze, and tears uncontrollably welled up in her eyes, spilling down her cheeks. Accompanied by a stinging sensation, the tears mixed with blood trickled down her face-

Dad!

I'm sorry!

It's all my fault!

All of this happened because of her. Even after her dad's death, he was still subjected to humiliation.

Lenora was writhing intensely on the ground, struggling to stand up.

The man behind her placed a foot on her back, effectively immobilizing her.

Helen looked at Lenora's desperate expression, feeling a surge of satisfaction. She scoffed. "She's all yours now! I hope you ruin her. This lowly b\*tch... I refuse to believe that Zachary would still want her after that!" Having said that, she turned around and left.

Three men lecherously scanned Lenora from head to toe, flipping her over. They were simultaneously groping her indiscriminately and crudely tearing at her clothes.

"This woman has quite the figure! So ample!" The man was groping around, laughing lewdly as he did so.

"This is Zachary's woman. Even a single night with her is worth it!"

Suddenly, a beam of light appeared in the distance.

From a distance, the sound of a car engine drew nearer

"Oh no! Someone's coming! Run!"

The two men quickly got into the van.

Another

person was so infatuated that he even wanted to bring Lenora along. But the driver stopped him,

Unlock succeeded

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Chapter 142 Utterly Heartless

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The van roared off into the distance.

Lenora lay on the ground, tears streaming down her temples, dampening her sideburns. She struggled to turn over, inching her way toward the urn, bit by bit. Dad...

A car came to a halt a few steps away, while another one chased after a vall.

Zachary stepped out of the car and dashed toward Lenora.

"Nora! Nora, how are you?"

He quickly removed the cloth stuffed in Lenora's mouth, untied the ropes binding her wrists, and helped Lenora to her feet.

When Zachary saw her swollen cheeks, marred with traces of blood, on both sides of her face, his breath hitched. His heart ached as if it was being sliced by a knife.

He immediately carried Lenora horizontally and started walking toward the car. "Let's go, I'm taking you to the hospital!"

Gently gripping his arm, Lenora looked toward the direction of the urn. With great difficulty, she managed to speak, her voice hoarse. "My dad..."

Zachary followed Lenora's gaze and saw that Fernando's grave had been dug up. A glimmer of coldness flashed in his eyes. "Don't worry," he reassured, "I'll have someone take care of this. Let's get you to the hospital first!" They desecrated Lenora's dad's grave right before her eyes, scattering his ashes. This act is both heart-wrenching and utterly despicable!

Lenora finally felt her tense nerves relax, leaning onto Zachary's shoulder.

A subtle ache spread across her lower abdomen, akin to countless ants gnawing, causing her consciousness to gradually fade.

Upon reaching the hospital, Zachary rushed Lenora into the emergency room.

As he watched the red light flicker on, he took a deep breath and sat down on the nearby chair. To his surprise, he noticed a darkened patch on his black suit trousers, as though stained by blood.

Helen returned home, heading straight up to the second floor.

Kenneth was standing at the stairwell, looking at Helen with displeasure. "Why are you back so late?"



Upon seeing Kenneth, Helen was immediately filled with irritation, curtly retorting, "What's it to you?"

"Did you touch the documents in my study?" Kenneth questioned.

Upon noticing Kenneth's discovery, Helen didn't bother to deny it. She confronted him defiantly, "So what if I did? If not for this, I wouldn't even know that you and that despicable Jasmine had a child out of wedlock!"

III

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Chapter 142 Utterly Heartless

"Shut your mouth!"

+5 Free Coins

will say it. Your illegitimate child! Helen's anger escalated as she spoke, her words showing no mercy. "Illegitimate child! Illegitimate child! If Fernando knew that his only daughter was in fact someone else's, he'd probably be livid enough to rise from the grave!" You... You shrew! I'm warning you! Don't make any rash moves!"

Susanna lacked the ability, but Lenora was capable. As long as he reunited with Lenora, he would still be Zachary's father-in-law, and others would still have to respect him.

"It's too late! Are you still hoping to acknowledge that illegitimate child and become Zachary's father-in-law? You're dreaming!"

Kenneth suddenly had a bad feeling. "What have you done?"

"Ha! That illegitimate child must have been toyed around by other men by now. The video has already been sent to Zachary! If Zachary has any dignity left as a man, he won't want anything to do with that illegitimate child!" "You../despicable b\*tch!"

In a fit of rage, Kenneth let out a furious roar and swung a hard slap.

This venomous woman!

She has ruined the future of the Carston family!

Helen's head jerked to the side from the blow, disbelief etched on her face as she glared at Kenneth, her eyes filled with fury. "You dare to hit me? Kenneth, you're going down with me!"

Helen charged forward, wildly swinging her arms. She left several scratch marks on Kenneth's face.

Kenneth was not one to be outdone. He grabbed onto Helen's hair.

The two were entangled in a fight.

Amidst the chaos, Kenneth misstepped, about to grab Helen for support. But Helen instinctively gave a forceful push.

Kenneth let out a horrific scream, tumbling down the stairs. He collapsed on the ground, falling eerily

silent.

She then stood at the top of the stairs, looking down at Kenneth below, her mind going blank for a

moment

A few seconds later, she managed to collect herself and hurriedly descended the stairs. She crouched beside Kenneth and nudged him twice. "Kenneth? How are you? Stop pretending!" Kenneth remained completely still.

Helen was about to push further when she suddenly noticed a pool of blood on the ground where his head had made contact. She was instantly filled with alarm.

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Chapter 142 Utterly Heartless

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She slowly extended a finger, testing the breath from Kenneth's nose. Her heart suddenly stopped, causing her to collapse onto the ground.

Susanna, who was bedridden, received a phone call from Helen.

The voice of Helen trembled through the phone. "Susanna, I've killed someone..."

A moment later, Susanna, feeling beside herself, hung up the phone..

The events of the past two days had completely taken her by surprise.

Just yesterday, she discovered that Lenora was her father's illegitimate daughter. Today, she received a call from her mother. She had taken Lenora to the cemetery and disfigured her. Upon returning, she accidentally pushed her father down the stairs. Her father had passed away.

Helen's voice trembled with agitation over the phone, pleading with Susanna to seek Zachary's help. She didn't want to end up in jail.

How useless!

Susanna was barely keeping herself together, so how could Zachary possibly heed her words?

Especially after Helen had hurt Lenora, how could Zachary possibly let her off the hook?

Helen cursed vehemently, accusing Susanna of being an ungrateful wretch. With a string of harsh words, she hung up the phone,

Susanna was in utter despair.

After such an incident occurred, Zachary wouldn't just let Helen off the hook; he would immediately send her abroad.

She couldn't leave.

If she were to leave, she wouldn't have another chance,

No one could help her now.

Susanna sat weakly on the hospital bed.

After a long while, she made up her mind. She found that number in the phone book, a number that had been untouched for many years. Her finger hesitated for a moment before she pressed the call button.

After a considerable wait, the call connected. A male voice echoed from the other end of the line. "Hello?"

"It's me."

There was a prolonged silence on the other end of the line. Then, a voice questioned, "Why are you reaching out to me?"

"He wants to send me abroad!"

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Chapter 142 Utterly Heartless

"I've warned you not to

a return.

"I need your help."

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+5 Free Cons

"Why should I?"

"Aren't you afraid I'll spill the beans about what happened back then?" Susanna threatened.

"Heh, when I forced you to leave the country back then, you threatened me in the very same way. Did you find it useful?" The man spoke casually, not at all intimidated by the threat.

Beep!

Listening to the sound of the call ending. Susanna was utterly frustrated. She threw her phone onto the hospital bed and lay down, feeling completely drained.

As she closed her eyes, all that surfaced in her mind were memories of her time with Zachary at university.

He was aloof, and she pursued him for a long time before he finally agreed to give it a shot.

When they were together, he was completely oblivious to the concept of being in a relationship. His days were consumed with studying, bouncing between classrooms and the library. It was always her making the adjustments, keeping their relationship afloat. Though somewhat tired, she felt exceptionally fulfilled inside.

Even back then, she didn't love him.

Back then, she was still naive to the ways of the world and didn't take a liking to Zachary's aloof personality.

Instead, she was in love with that person who exuded warmth and kindness.

He was also the one she deeply loved, who, step by step, had led her to where she was now,

Had she not listened to him back then, perhaps by now she would have already become Zachary's wife.

Only

heart.

now did she understand that Zachary, who always seemed so aloof, was in fact deeply passionate at

As for the person who appeared gentle and warm, seemingly full of affection... He was, in fact, the most heartless.

## **Stay Away 143**

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Chapter 143 Their Child

Chapter 143 Their Child

At the hospital.

The emergency room's red light switched to green, as the medical staff emerged from within.

Zachary immediately rose to his feet. "Doctor, how is my wife's condition?" +5 Free Coins

The doctor removed his mask, letting out a sigh. "The pregnant patient has had a threatened miscarriage. She must stay in bed to ensure the safety of the fetus in the future! The injuries on her face are external, which are secondary. After they heal, persistent use of some scar-removal medications, along with the use of medical equipment, should prevent any prominent scars from remaining."

Pregnant patient?

A threatened miscarriage?

Zachary stood frozen in place. It took him a moment before he managed to ask in a deep voice, "Doctor, what did you say? My wife... She's pregnant?"

The doctor gave Zachary a puzzled look, feeling a sense of familiarity with him, yet he couldn't recall who he was.

He simply retorted in a deep voice, "Are you even a husband? Your wife has been pregnant for four months, and you're just finding out?"

Zachary's expression froze for a moment, asking with a hint of disbelief, "Four months?"

Four months ago, Susanna hadn't yet returned to his homeland, and their relationship was still stable.

very

Had it really been that long already?

Did Lenora know she was pregnant?

That time, he asked her if they were to have a child, would she still choose to divorce him?

She declared, even if she were pregnant, she would not carry the baby to term.

So, she was unaware that she was pregnant?

However, four months had passed. How could she not be aware?

So, when she harshly stated that she didn't want children, it was all a lie to deceive him.

These were merely words spoken in the heat of the moment after being hurt. She truly didn't have the heart to get rid of the child. This child was theirs. The one he was going to have with Leno

Their child...

Chapter 143 Their Child

45 Free Cong

Unexpectedly, just as he was preparing to let her go, their marriage found a chance to revive from the brink of collapse.

This was his final opportunity. He absolutely had to seize it!

The doctor observed Zachary's expressions fluctuating between seriousness and joy and felt compelled to voice a reminder. "Pregnant women have unique physical conditions. In her case, she was born with an abnormal uterus and thin uterine walls, making her prone to miscarriages. Even if she's past the three-month mark, she cannot afford to be careless. Given her condition, if she miscarries this pregnancy, it will be very

difficult for her to conceive again in the future. Therefore, she must be bedridden to ensure the safety of the fetus and receive extra care!"

"I understand," Zachary said seriously, "I will certainly be more careful."

This time, he was determined to protect both mother and child.

Lenora was still unconscious, being wheeled into the hospital room.

Her face was still swollen, with gauze adhered to both sides of her cheeks.

Zachary took a seat beside the sickbed, his gaze deeply fixed on the slumbering face of Lenora. His eyes were filled with tenderness.

He effortlessly held Lenora's hand in his, while his other hand was gently placed on Lenora's abdomen.

Unexpectedly, their child was really here.

The child was already four months old, gradually growing up.

Fortunately, there were surveillance cameras at the entrance of Fuller Tower, capable of capturing the roadside.

When the driver realized he couldn't reach Lenora on his phone, he immediately accessed the surveillance footage. He noted down the license plate number of the van and gave him a call.

If he had been any later, he didn't dare to imagine what could have happened..

Suddenly, the ringtone of his phone echoed.

Zachary stepped outside the hospital room to answer the call.

The voice of a young man echoed from the receiver. "Mr. Fuller, the three individuals have been apprehended. They were under the command of Helen. When we arrived at the Carston residence, we found Kenneth dead at the staircase entrance, and Helen

had fled!" "Call the police and let them join the search. She couldn't have gone far. No matter what, you must find her!" Zachary's eyes radiated a chilling intensity.

Understood."

"As for Susanna, take her to the airport. I've arranged for someone to deliver the plane tickets."

"All right."

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Chapter 143 Their Child

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After hanging up the phone, Miranda called. "Mr. Fuller, it's getting late. Why haven't you and Mrs. Fuller returned yet?"

"Nora had a bit of an incident and needs to stay in the hospital for a few days. Miranda, could you come by tomorrow to bring her some clothes and perhaps prepare some nourishing soup for her?" Miranda immediately voiced her concern. "What's wrong with Mrs. Fuller? Is the child in her belly okay?"

Zachary paused unintentionally, casually asking. "Are you aware that Mrs. Fuller is pregnant?"

From Zachary's words, it was evident that he already knew, Miranda, no longer keeping it a secret, sighed. "Ah. I've known for a while. I wanted to tell you, but Mrs. Fuller wouldn't allow it." Lenora didn't allow her to tell...

At this point, Zachary was finally certain that Lenora had known about her pregnancy all along.

Despite everything, she still wanted to divorce him and leave the country with Jonas.

At this moment. Zachary's grip on his phone tightened abruptly, his hanging hand forming a clenched fist.

Seeing that Zachary remained silent, Miranda spoke up. "Mr. Fuller, you shouldn't blame Mrs. Fuller too much. She's also feeling distressed..."



Zachary fell silent for a moment, then said in a deep voice, "I know."

Lenora had truly lost all hope in him, which led her to consider leaving with their child.

During those four months, she had endured the trials of pregnancy with an unspoken emotional turmoil silently bearing all the injustices she faced.

He wasn't a suitable husband before, and now, he was even less of a qualified father...

Zachary returned to the sick room, settling back down by the bedside. Leaning over, he gently pressed a kiss to her cool forehead.

He would never let her go again.

There was no way he would allow his child to call Jonas "Dad"!

Absolutely not!

Inside the hospital.

With a loud crash, the glass cup hit the floor, shattering into countless pieces.

The hospital room was in complete disarray.

Two men were attempting to drag Susanna out, but Susanna was clinging onto the bedpost for dear life.

The medical staff dared not approach.

In the adjacent VIP single-patient rooms, resided either the rich or the noble. They had witnessed all-sorts of dark realities under unwritten rules. Yet, they all chose to shut their doors, remaining indifferent as long 12:46 Wed, Nov 6:

Chapter 143 Their Child

as they were not personally involved.

"Let me go. I need to call Zachary!" Susanna cried out.

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"Mr. Fuller is the one who sent us, so making a call won't help. You might as well come with us to the airport right away!"

"No. I need to hear it from him directly, or else I won't leave! If any of you dare to touch me again. I'll jump from here!"

The two men exchanged a glance. One of them spoke. "Go ahead. Take your shot. Once you're done, you're coming with us! If you're not afraid of dying, jump. The worst that can happen is that I'll spend a few more years behind bars!"

The man loosened his grip, and instantly, Susanna fumbled to get her phone from the hospital bed. In a fluster, she dialed Zachary's number.

Before Zachary received the call, he had just received a photo sent by the young man. It was a DNA test

report.

After the call connected, Susanna's voice, filled with tears and panic, echoed from the other end of the line.

Zack, someone's come to get me. Can you come and save me, please?"

"It was I who sent them. There's no future for you here in this country. Your mother's murder case hasn't fully come to light yet. If the media gets wind of it, you should know the consequences."

At that time, the media was vying to cover the story for the sake of popularity.

The mother of the female celebrity committed murder, and the victim was none other than the celebrity's father.

Susanna also found it difficult to remain within the circle.

Susanna didn't expect Zachary to find out so quickly. She was sobbing, her heart torn apart. "No, I don't want to go abroad. Zack, I love you. Can you come and see me, please?" There's no need to i

again."

Sensing that Zachary was about to hang up. Susanna had no choice but to threaten him. "Wait! Aren't you curious about why my mom harmed Lenora? Don't you want to know about Lenora's true background? Aren't you afraid that I'll expose it? Aren't you afraid that Lenora's reputation will be ruined?!"

From her words and the paternity test report, Zachary guessed something His voice was low. "You can give it a try.

Susanna gave a sorrowful laugh, despairingly setting down her phone.

Once upon a time, Zachary had also devotedly protected her, favored her, and indulged her. Yet, she hadn't cherished it... Back then, all she wanted was to marry someone else.

In the end, she was left with nothing.

"Let's go. Stop struggling for no reason!" The man hoisted Susanna up from the ground.

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Chapter 143 Their Child

45 Free Cons

+ Free

Susanna didn't resist any further. She followed the two men out of the hospital room and got into the car.

Susanna sat in the backseat, unusually silent, her eyes unblinkingly fixed on the view outside the window. The man beside her let his guard down.

On the broad highway, a red semi-trailer loaded with goods was approaching head-on.

Just as they were about to pass each other by, Susanna suddenly lunged for the steering wheel...

The driver's heart skipped a beat, but it was already too late.

Bam!

## **Stay Away 144**

Chapter 144 Passionate Yet Heartless

Chapter 144 Passionate Yet Heartless 74%1

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Bewildered and groggy, Lenora opened her eyes to the sight of a white ceiling.

Memories before she fell unconscious flooded back, as if she was dreaming. She closed her eyes for a moment, slowly raising her hand to touch her cheek, only to feel a patch of gauze. "Nora, you're awake!"

Upon hearing a sound, Zachary hastily walked over and sat by the bed. "How are you feeling?"

A hum buzzed gently in Lenora's ears, her eyes catching sight of the subtle movement of his lips. Unconsciously, she asked, "What did you say?".

As soon as she spoke, her voice was raspy and hoarse. The pain in her throat felt like it was being sliced by a knife.

Immediately, Zachary brought over a glass of water. He gently lifted her head and cautiously helped her take a few sips.

"I'm asking how are you feeling right now? Is there any discomfort anywhere?"

Zachary placed the water cup on the table, leaning in closer, almost resting near Lenora's ear.

Lenora turned her head to look at him, slightly puzzled. "What are you doing so close to me?" she asked, her tone nonchalant.

"The doctor mentioned that you're currently suffering from a perforated eardrum due to an external ear injury, causing a decrease in hearing on both sides. However, your hearing should gradually improve over time." "Oh, my dad's ashes..." Lenora looked at Zachary, her voice hoarse as she spoke.

"Don't worry. I've already arranged for someone to transfer his ashes into a new urn. He's now resting peacefully."

"That's good to hear. Once I get discharged from the hospital, I want to visit my father," Lenora said, letting out a sigh of relief.

"Sure. I'll go with you."

"Do you have a mirror?"

Zachary understood what she meant. Gently, he caressed her cheek, brushing aside the stray hairs by her temple. "The doctor said there won't be any scars left in the future," he reassured her.

"I want to see...."

"Is it okay to use a phone since there's no mirror here?"

"All right."

Zachary took out his own phone and held it up in front of Lenora.

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## Chapter 144 Passionate Yet Heartless

The black screen of the phone reflected her current appearance.

+5 Free Coins

Her hair was disheveled, with some redness and swelling visible on her eyelids and face. White bandages were adhered to the wounds on both sides, presenting a sight that was far from appealing. "You can put it away."

Zachary put away his phone, offering words of comfort in a soft voice. "Don't worry. You will get better."

"The culprit from yesterday was a middle-aged woman."

"I know. It was Susanna's mother. She murdered Susanna's father and has already been apprehended." Lenora was utterly taken aback.

Did Susanna's mother really kill Susanna's father?

"Don't overthink it," he advised. "The doctor mentioned you had a threatened miscarriage. You'll need to rest in bed for our baby's sake. Let's delegate your work responsibilities for now. All right?" Taken aback, Lenora turned to look at Zachary.

A moment later, without realizing it, she found her hand resting on her own abdomen, her gaze dropping down.

Zachary eventually found out the matter concerning the child.

He probably wouldn't let her go even more now.

"Are you so certain that the child is yours?" she suddenly asked in a soft voice.

"Who else's could it be, if not mine?" Zachary asked casually without a hint of doubt in his tone.

He knew Lenora would absolutely never be unfaithful during their marriage.

The child could only be his.

With a smile, Lenora said, "You're quite confident, aren't you? Aren't you afraid that the child might be someone else's? Maybe I was afraid you'd find out, and that was why I

insisted on divorcing you?" "So, what you're saying is, you want me to divorce you? I won't fall for your tricks."

Lenora was at a loss for words.

Looking at Lenora's expression, Zachary curled his lips into a smile as he held her hand. "Nora, you knew you were pregnant all along, didn't you? You claimed that you had digestive issues and often took those two bottles of medicine. I had a doctor look at them, and they're actually prenatal supplements. Why didn't you tell me you were pregnant? If it wasn't for this accident, were you planning to keep it a secret from me, divorce me, and give birth to our child all by yourself?"

Lenora fell silent for a moment. "I had thought about telling you, right on the day after you returned from your business trip, but... you proposed the divorce first"

Zachary's expression stiffened, his hand slowly tightening around Lenora's. He held her hand firmly in his

biss

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Chapter 144 Passionate Yet Heartless

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+5 Free Coins

"I'm sorry..."

She had been eagerly waiting for his return from the business trip, hoping to share the good news of her pregnancy with him. However, what awaited her was his return to the country with Susanna, proposing a divorce. With a steady gaze, Lenora continued, "Later on, I tentatively asked you that if we were to have a child, would you still consider divorce..."

Zachary's breath hitched, a lump formed in his throat, and his heart filled with regret.

The memory surfaced clearly in his mind. Back then, he had spoken impatiently. "There is no 'what if'. Even if there was, I would never have let it happen."

She must have felt incredibly disappointed and helpless back then.

Therefore, she had kept it a secret all along.

Lenora continued, "I'm actually quite relieved that I kept my pregnancy a secret. Otherwise, after what happened yesterday, I surely wouldn't have been able to save this child."

She had managed to deceive Zachary, as well as Susanna and Susanna's mother.

If Helen had known about her pregnancy, she would have never overlooked the child growing within her.

Zachary felt as if he had been stabbed in the heart, a feeling so intense it was as if he was bleeding profusely. "Nora, I promise you it will never happen again..."

"The divorce..."

"Nora, for the sake of our child, could you give me another chance, please?"

She knew it would turn out this way.

But could Zachary, even now, distinguish whether his feelings for her were out of concern or obligation?

Or perhaps it was his slight, almost insignificant guilt.

Without love, how much longer could he really hold on?

Lenora closed her eyes, letting out a sigh. "Ms. Carston"

"Last night, there was a car accident while she was on the way to the airport. She's currently in the hospital receiving treatment. From now on, let's not bring her up again. Her affairs have nothing to do with us anymore.

Lenora looked at Zachary, a

chill creeping into her heart. This man, at times, could be both incredibly passionate and utterly cold-hearted.

Miranda had brought breakfast over; it was a wholesome meal consisting of almond and honey oatmeal, scrambled eggs, shrimp pancakes, mushroom ravioli, and a serving of chicken broth.

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Chapter 144 Passionate Yet Heartless

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Zachary carefully helped Lenora up, propping a large pillow behind her. He then took the bowl and spoon from Miranda's hand, personally feeding Lenora her meal.

Lenora thought she could do it herself. After all, her hands weren't injured. At most, her wrists were slightly chafed from the ropes.

However, Zachary wouldn't allow her.

After breakfast, Lenora glanced at Zachary. "I'm done eating. You should have some too. Once you're done, head to the office. There's no need to keep me company here all the time. Miranda is around." "Can't the company function without me?"

Lenora remained silent.

"All right. Call me if you need anything."

Zachary set down the bowl, having casually eaten some breakfast, and then left the hospital.

Before leaving, he reminded Miranda to take good care of Lenora.

Miranda watched as Zachary walked away, letting out a sigh. "You've finally seen the end of your -hardships, Mrs. Fuller. I'm sure Mr. Fuller will treat you well in the future."

Lenora remained silent.

Gerald, Allison, Mallory, and Griselda came to visit Lenora one after another.

Originally, Allison wanted to let her husband rest at home while she came alone.

Upon learning of Lenora's pregnancy, Gerald insisted on coming in person.

Allison mentioned that after Gerald found out about Lenora's pregnancy his spirits lifted significantly. All

day long, he was caught up in the anticipation of embracing his great-grandchild.

Lenora knew that Gerald had always been longing for her and Zachary to have a child. She also hoped that Gerald could stay with her a bit longer, at least long enough to see the birth of her baby.



However, Gerald also expressed his hope for her and Zachary to raise their child together. His words subtly conveyed his reluctance toward the idea of her divorcing Zachary.

At least for the next few months, the divorce proposal put forth by Lenora had been put on hold.

Lenora had spent three days being observed in the hospital.

Over the course of these three days, Miranda had been constantly by her side.

As soon as Zachary finished work, he hurried over from his company, turning down all social engagements.

Lying in the hospital was simply too dull for Lenora. She wanted to get out of bed and take a stroll, but Zachary disagreed. After consulting with the doctor, a nurse brought in a wheelchair, suggesting that if Lenora wished to get some fresh air, she could sit in the wheelchair and have someone push her around.

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Chapter 144 Passionate Yet Heartless

Lenora did not accept that.

She still had the bandages on her face and was reluctant to go out looking like that.

And so, every night after Zachary finished work, he would lift Lenora in his arms and walk a few laps around the hospital room.

## **Stay Away 145**

Chapter 145 Expectant Father

Chapter 145 Expectant Father

Three days later, Lenora was discharged from the hospital.

+5 Free Coins

Zachary lifted Lenora into the car, and upon returning to the mansion, he carried her from the car to the master bedroom. Throughout the journey, he made sure Lenora's feet never touched the ground.

Two days had passed, and Lenora had removed the gauze from her face.

The swelling on her face had long since subsided, leaving only three dark red scabs behind.

One of the cuts was located near the cheekbone, just a bit higher and it would have injured her eye. Zachary gently caressed her face, offering utmost reassurance. "Don't worry. It won't leave a scar."

He would search for the most effective scar removal treatments and devices for her.

Lenora's expression remained indifferent, as if she didn't seem to care.

Claiming not to care about beauty was a lie, but Lenora knew her own body. She wasn't prone to scarring. Once a scab fell off, the new skin that grew was slightly softer and lighter than the surrounding area. It could be easily concealed with foundation and concealer. "I want to go and see my dad," Lenora said, lifting her gaze to meet Zachary's.

"All right. I'll go with you."

When he stepped out, Lenora put on a face mask, covering her features thoroughly.

Zachary lifted Lenora into the car. Upon reaching the cemetery, he retrieved a wheelchair from the trunk. He carefully placed Lenora onto it, then wheeled her into the graveyard, stopping in front of Fernando's tombstone.

At that very moment, the tomb had been completely restored, showing no signs of any damage.

"Dad, I'm sorry. I've failed you as a daughter, even causing you unrest in the afterlife."

Lenora placed the flowers she had prepared in front of the tombstone, her fingers gently tracing the engraved letters on the stone. Her eyes gradually welled up with tears.

"Not too long ago, I had a dream abo

you. In the dream, we were back at our old home. I was doing my homework under the shade of the trees, and you were descaling fish under the faucet... I often wish that dream would never end. I want to grow old with you..." Zachary stood behind Lenora, taking

in everything that was happening.

He understood that Lenora had grown up in a single-parent household and had an exceptional reliance on

her father.

wed,

Chapter 145 Expectant Father

Kenneth's death was rather timely. He wouldn't bother Lenora anymore.

It would be best if this matter were buried forever, never to be revealed to Lenora.

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+5 Free Coins

Helen had already been apprehended, facing the calamity of imprisonment. Since she hadn't informed Lenora that night, there was no need to mention it in the future.

It was easy to dismiss Derek, as he didn't dare to offend Zachary.

Only Susanna remained...

Upon returning home, Lenora wanted to head to the third floor.

On the third floor, there was a storage room, filled with items that weren't frequently used.

All the stuff her father left behind were in there.

Zachary carried Lenora upstairs.

"I'd like some time alone," Lenora said in a calm voice.

Without uttering a word, Zachary turned around and left.

However, he had gone out once and came back in, bringing up a wheelchair for Lenora to move around freely. He instructed, "Call me when you want to get down." "Okay."

"Nora, the doctor mentioned that it's beneficial for the baby if the expecting mother maintains a positive mood."

He didn't want her to be consumed by the painful memories of the past.

"I understand."

Zachary turned around and descended the stairs.

Lenora pushed the wheelchair into the storage room.

Speaking of it, the car accident back then really caught her off guard.

In just a fleeting moment, she was left without a father.

It was just an ordinary Saturday. Her father had to work overtime at the newspaper office, as he was closely following a case at that time. On his way, he dropped her off at the city library. Just a moment before the car accident, she and her father were still engaged in a lively conversation, filled with laughter and joy.

Her father had told her that he would pick her up for lunch and asked what she felt like eating.

She didn't want to have lunch out.

She yearned for the grilled fish her father used to make

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Chapter 145 Expectant Father

Before he could utter a single word, a large truck came barreling toward him.

This was followed by a thunderous sound that shook the heavens.

The world fell silent after that.

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+5 Free Coins

Before she lost consciousness, she saw her father swerve the steering wheel to the right, fully exposing himself to the oncoming truck, using his body to shield her...

After waking up, she found out she was the only one left.

Following the incident, reporters were eager to cover the story. With the assistance of Gerald and many other kind-hearted individuals, the funeral and memorial service for her father were arranged. During that period, Lenora was completely bewildered and helpless, much like a puppet on a string.

Her father's death came so unexpectedly that she was left at a loss, unable to even shed a tear.

It wasn't until a long while later, on a Friday evening, that she was returning home from school. As she passed by a grilled fish restaurant, she peered through the glass window, watching the hustle and bustle inside.

In that simple, unremarkable moment, something within her was inexplicably stirred. By the time she regained her composure, her face was already streaked with tears.

It was only then that she realized, belatedly, that her father had left.

He had left her forever.

After being adopted by the Fuller family, she would often visit the house where she had once lived with her father, reminiscing about him.

Later on, when the area was demolished, she collected her father's belongings and brought them back home.

Her father's clothes had been burned. All that was brought back were some everyday items, books, and notebooks.

Every single object could evoke memories of her father's image in Lenora's mind.

For instance, the metallic lighter. Its edges were severely worn. Whenever her father would be working late into the night on his manuscripts, overcome with fatigue and sleepiness, he would use it to light his cigarettes. Besides that, his camera was a classic model from the camera brand SE. It was always brought along by my father every time he went on-site. He used it to capture and document everything.

There were also stacks of magazines and newspapers clipped into folders. All of them contained articles published by her father.

Also, there were boxes of negatives and albums, all collections of reports her father had been involved in.

The notebook at hand was frequently used by Fernando for rough drafts. It was filled to the brim, every single word within it was penned by him; each and every character was a manifestation of his dedication

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+5 Free Coins

and effort.

Her father's handwriting was impeccable, rarely marred by corrections or alterations. It was the kind of neatness that, if displayed in a university entrance exam, would have scored full marks for presentation. The most renowned article by Fernando was a follow-up report on a food additive scandal. Lenora had read the original manuscript of this article over and over, each word etched into her memory.

She had even compared the published final draft with her father's version, meticulously analyzing his thoughts behind each individual word and phrase alteration.

The last draft in the notebook was hastily written, only consisting of an introduction.

The report was about a kidnapping case that had occurred at the time. There was also a photograph tucked into the notebook. The angle was peculiar as if it was taken clandestinely, seemingly related to this case.

Before he could finish the manuscript, a car accident occurred. In his dazed and weakened state, Lenora was no longer able to follow whether the hostage in the case had been rescued.

Lenora closed the notebook, meticulously reorganizing her father's belongings once more. She then made her way to the stairway, pushing the wheelchair before calling out to Zachary. Zachary arrived promptly, scrutinizing Lenora's complexion. There were no traces of tears. "All sorted out?" he asked.

"Mm-hmm."

Zachary gently lifted Lenora from the wheelchair, carrying her securely down the stairs and placing her onto the bed in the master bedroom.

Lenora asked, "You've been frequently out of the office these past few days. Is everything okay?"

"It's okay. I just want to spend more time with you."

Lenora didn't respond to that.

"I bought a few books."

"What books?" Lenora asked.

Zachary handed over the books, and upon seeing them Lenora couldn't help but widen her eyes slightly.

Pregnancy Companion, Congratulations! You're A Daddy!, Pregnancy Encyclopedia, 99 Tips for Expectant Fathers...

"Can you really finish all of these?"

"Don't worry. We still have a few months left. I'll take my time."

At that moment, Zachary's cell phone began to ring.

"I'm stepping out to take a call."

He made his way to the second-floor terrace and answered the phone.

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+5 Free Coins

From within, a young man's voice could be heard, "Mr. Fuller, after Susanna woke up, she left the hospital and her whereabouts are unknown."

Considering Lenora's identity, there was no doubt that Susanna was a ticking time bomb.

He was adamant that she could not stay in the country,

"Hurry up and find her!"

## Stay Away 146

Chapter 146 Zachary Will Eventually Leave You

Chapter 146 Zachary Will Eventually Leave You

That day, Zachary personally saw Lenora finish his breakfast before he left for the company.

When Lenora received the call, she was sitting up in bed, engrossed in a book.

She also purchased several books for herself about pregnancy and child-rearing.

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Previously, she had been afraid of Zachary discovering her lack of knowledge in this area, so she hadn't taken the time to learn. Now, at last, she had the time.

The incoming call displayed a string of numbers, contrasting the new phone in Lenora's hand that lacked the original contact list.

She answered the phone. "Hello, how can I assist you?"

Immediately, a woman's voice came through the phone, taunting, "Lenora, you must be feeling pretty smug, aren't you? Zachary has publicly declared your relationship in front of the media, and now with you being pregnant, do you think you're so fortunate?" It was Lola.

Zachary had already initiated a lawsuit against her and had also dismissed her from the subsidiary

company.

However, legal proceedings took time, and Lola was still at large.

On the day Lenora was discharged from the hospital, Lola happened to be there. She personally witnessed Zachary carrying Lenora to the car with an air of tender care, a sight that deeply wounded her eyes. How is she deserving of him?

Why on earth would a country bumpkin like Lenora receive Zachary's affection?

She's unworthy!



Lenora listened and smiled, deliberately saying, "Actually, I should be thanking you. If it weren't for your revelation, Zachary wouldn't have chosen me over Susanna and decided to go public with our relationship. You probably don't know this, but he had already proposed a divorce to me for Susanna. Ironically, it was your move that made him change his mind about me! Lola, I am truly grateful to you!"

After Lola heard Lenora's words, there was a few seconds of silence on the other end of the line. Then, Lola's sharp voice echoed through the receiver. "Lefioral You vile woman! I'm going to kill you!"

"All you can do now is satisfy yourself with phone calls

Lola let out a cold, bitter laugh. "Lenora, don't get too cocky! You probably don't know yet, but Fuller Group is about to get a new CEO! Zachary is about to be kicked to the curb! And it's all because of you! You jinx! Not only did you cause your father's downfall but now you're about to ruin Zachary too. Sooner or later, Zachary will abandon you!",

\*The CEO of Fuller Group is about to be replaced? By whom?" Lenora asked casually.

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Chapter 146 Zachary Will Eventually Leave Your

"Just you wait and see! What's this? Zachary didn't tell you about the board meeting today?"

Lenora remained silent.

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From the day she was admitted to the hospital, Zachary had passed on her work duties to someone else.

She had been contemplating quitting her job anyway, so she just went with the flow and didn't pay any more attention to the company's affairs.

During those days, Zachary would return home early every day, Lenora would ask him if there were any issues at his company, to which Zachary would always respond, "No issues."

It seemed like he was trying to comfort her.

Having spent so much time in the company, she understood well. Zachary was known for his decisive and swift approach; he never allowed personal feelings to interfere with business matters. Not everyone on the board shared Zachary's mindset. Observing Lenora's silence, Lola felt her emotions surge, her tone laced with a hint of triumph. "You joined the company later, so you might not know. When Zachary first took office, he was autocratic and forceful, offending several directors. One of them complained to the chairman, but the chairman didn't intervene. In the end, that director was forced to sell off most of his shares, causing widespread fear. Who wouldn't worry that after the chairman leaves, Zachary might turn against them? Although he has toned down now, those directors have been dissatisfied with him for a long time. Now that there's a suitable opportunity and a suitable candidate, how do you think they will choose? At the end of the day, it's all because of you! If you hadn't seduced Zachary, I wouldn't have had to expose your relationship, and the company's stocks wouldn't have plummeted! Zachary wouldn't have driven my uncle away for your sake, giving those board members a chance to attack him! You're nothing but a disaster!"

Lenora's mind was awash with thoughts, yet she voiced out, "Thank you for the reminder. No wonder he mentioned yesterday that he regretted not spending enough time with me in the past and promised to stay home more with me and our child in the future. He has some private businesses of his own, so stepping down as the CEO won't really matter. We have more than enough for the three of us to live comfortably.

Lola fell silent for a few seconds, then spat out in anger. "You wretch, keep being stubborn! We'll see how it goes!"

She refused to believe it.

She reckoned Lenora was just talking big.

How could Zachary possibly give up his position as the CEO of Fuller Group for her?

He was still so young, yet he had already reached the pinnacle of the pyramid, holding immense power. How dazzling and illustrious he was.

How could he possibly resign himself to leave?

After hanging up the phone, Lenora sat on the bed, recalling Lola's words.

If what she claimed was true, then who were the suitable candidates in the eyes of those board members?

It must be someone who would be good with managing the company.

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Chapter 146 Zachary Will Eventually Leave You

So, there a handful of potential choices.

Could it be Uncle Nathan?

Though he was a board member of the company, he rarely intervened in its affairs, being constantly occupied with his own chain of restaurants. A few days ago, when Griselda had come to visit, she mentioned that Nathan had run into some trouble at one of his stores in Bloudence and had to go there on a business trip.

Zachary's cousin seemed unlikely as well.

Zachary had previously suggested promoting his younger cousin's position, but his cousin declined. He said he didn't want to deal with all that, preferring to stay in the research institute to focus on his studies. And so, there was only one person left - Johanne.

Johanne's gentle and warm demeanor indeed made him a favorite among the board members.

After some thought, Lenora decided to give Zachary a call.

The call connected quickly, and Zachary's voice came through the receiver. "Nora, what's wrong? feeling unwell somewhere!"

"No. What I want to ask you is did you have a board meeting today!"

Are you

Zachary was seated at the head of the conference table with Miles, his assistant, standing behind him. All around him, seated on either side of the table, were the board members who were attending the meeting. Before answering the call, Zachary made a quiet gesture. Instantly, the surrounding area fell silent, all eyes were uniformly fixed on him.

He spoke to her gently "Who told you that! Don't overthink. Just rest well"

not been in their presence, these board members couldn't even begin to imagine that Zachary, known for his ruthless decisiveness and strong-handed tactics in the business world, could also have such a gentle side.

"If you don't tell me the truth, I won't be able to rest eas

Ill tell you when I get back, okay?"

Lenora realized that she couldn't extract any more information from Zachary. Even if she could, there was nothing she could do about it

Regardless, once he returned that night, there would inevitably be an answer.

She had already intended to divorce Zachary. She didn't care whether he remained a CEO or not. All she didn't want was for Zachary to lose his position as CEO because of her

She no longer wanted to be overly involved with him.

Moreover, Zachary had contributed significantly to Fuller Group. His subordinates respected his methods and capabilities. It was unjust to completely negate his contributions due to the power struggles and personal interests of the higher-ups.

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Chapter 146 Zachary Will Eventually Leave You

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After ending the call, Zachary placed his phone face down on the table. He looked around at everyone present and said, "Let's continue."

In this particular board meeting, the chairman couldn't attend due to illness, and so the vice-chairman presided over the meeting instead.

Jeremiah spoke directly. "During his tenure as CEO and general manager, Zachary's personal style and emotional issues have severely damaged the company's image. This led to a continuous decline in the group's stock price in recent months, a significant shrinkage in the group's market value, and a drastic decrease in shareholders' confidence in the group's leadership. There were even instances of public disturbances, with demands for us to provide an explanation. Moreover, the case of the industrial park fire was mishandled due to a decision-making error by Mr. Zachary. This allowed the

situation to escalate, causing a significant societal impact. It directly damaged the group's image in the public eye, leading to a severe decline in public trust toward the group. Furthermore, Mr. Wimble has been with the company for many years, diligently working without any complaints about his performance. However, Mr. Zachary, due to personal reasons, has been excluding others and abusing his power, seriously violating company regulations. Therefore, I propose that we dismiss Zachary from his positions as CEO and general manager!"

## Stay Away 147

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Chapter 147 Do You Still Want Me

Chapter 147 Do You Still Want Me

+5 Free Coins

As soon as the words were spoken, a silence fell over the conference room, and the atmosphere suddenly became tense.

The board members exchanged glances.

Some were whispering to each other, others were indifferent, and a few were exchanging glances.

Jeremiah surveyed the room, then continued, "Of course, I won't deny Mr. Zachary's contributions to the corporation. But that doesn't excuse his negligence. A general, no matter how many victories he has under his belt, must take responsibility if he causes significant losses in a defeat. Furthermore, many of these issues arose from Zachary's personal life. I believe everyone here understands that his actions and words represent the image of the corporation. Yet, he has shown no consideration for the corporation, leaving us and the vast number of shareholders in a lurch. Where does that leave us?"

After Jeremiah finished speaking, someone immediately responded, their voice tinged with uncertainty. "If we replace the CEO at this point, I'm afraid the shareholders might not easily accept it."

"At the very least, we need to show our shareholders our stance and give them an explanation. Are we just going to let them sell off the group's stocks?" Jeremiah immediately responded.

"Personal feelings have recently been mixed into the work. Before, there were suggestions that the MQ director should be replaced to handle the oncoming public

opinion and temporarily avoid the limelight. But Zachary, in order to protect his wife Lenora, disregarded the interests of the group. This is not something a qualified leader would do! The industrial park fire incident sparked a significant online response, largely representing the views of everyday wage earners. The company's corporate culture is one of inclusivity and while the deceased may have been at fault, there was no need for relentless persecution, driving them to their demise. Doing so would be self-destructive and harmful to others!"

The director subtly hinted that Zachary was relentless, showing no mercy and leaving no room for others to survive, which led to Heston resorting to violence.

"What an impressive display of inclusivity! A leader should be humble and open-minded, able to listen and absorb opinions from all sides and deliver satisfactory results. They must not be obstinate or act unilaterally. We shareholders and stockholders are the true owners of the company, and the CEO is accountable to the board of directors and the general meeting of shareholders!"

"The corporation has been steadily growing over the years. I believe our primary task should be to solidify the business modules we currently hold, rather than rushing to develop any new energy projects..."

"My perspective, however, is different," a board member expressed, backing Zachary's decision. "In recent years, environmental consciousness has become a significant trend. The government supports renewable energy projects. There's no issue with venturing into this new energy sector. If we continue to hold on to our old ways, we are bound to decline sooner or later!"

"Easy for you to say," Jeremiah retorted. "If the project was viable, everyone would have had a piece of the pie by now! What's the harm in entering the market a bit later? Jumping to conclusions this early comes with great risks. You need to consider the consequences of failure. If the Fuller family makes a wrong decision, we can still hold our ground, but the small and medium-sized suppliers below us don't have the capacity to withstand such pressure and risks. They'd only end up bankrupt!"

"Actually, as long as our shareholders' interests are safeguarded, I don't mind who takes the role of the

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Chapter 147 Do You Still Want Me

+5 Free Coins

group's president. My only hope is that any changes in top-level personnel are made with the company's interests in mind, not for personal power or gain."

"Mr. Quinn, what do you mean by that?"

Watching their endless squabbling, Zachary appeared nonchalant, leaning back against his chair. His right hand, adorned with a steel watch, was casually tapping on the armrest. His posture was relaxed as he interjected, "You've all said so much. Now, let me say a few words."

As soon as he began to speak, all the directors immediately fell silent, their attention collectively focused on him.

"Ever since I took the helm as the CEO of Fuller Group, five years have swiftly passed by. I wouldn't dare claim that I've exhausted every ounce of my wisdom and energy or that I've toiled in solitude for the company, but I've indeed worked tirelessly. All I aimed for was to live up to Old Mr. Fuller's expectations of me and to ensure the company thrived under my leadership. At the beginning of my tenure, everyone had a good grasp of my character. I wasn't someone who easily compromised, nor was I swayed by public opinion. My firm belief was that a leader must possess the ability to oversee the big picture with a far-sighted vision, the acuity to assess situations, the courage to make decisive decisions, the strength to unite everyone, and drive the company toward positive growth. The development of the company hinged on three keys innovative strategy, organizational intelligence, and talent selection. Whether it was product innovation or paradigm innovation, both were crucial aspects of the company's development phase! However, given that everyone gathered here today probably disagrees with my principles and style, I won't insist on my way. After all, if our paths diverge, we shouldn't scheme together. Therefore, as of today, I'm stepping down from my position as the CEO and general manager of Fuller Group! Even though we've had our share of unpleasant experiences, I'm still grateful for the support and trust you've all shown me in my work over the past few years. Moreover, next year is a significant one for me, as I'll be reaching a milestone age and also becoming a father. My wife is pregnant, and I want to make more time to be with her."

The directors wore a variety of expressions.

The conference room fell silent for a few seconds.

One of the board members said, "I believe we all understand what the position of CEO means to Fuller Group. Mr. Fuller, let's not let our emotions cloud our judgment. I think it would be best to decide this matter through a vote."

"No need." Zachary rose from his seat, his chair sliding back automatically. "I've already submitted my written resignation to the board's email. I ask you all to approve it as soon as possible, conduct a proper work audit, and select a new CEO. I will also follow the company's regulations in completing the work handover."

Clearly, everything that happened in today's board meeting was within Zachary's expectations.

Zachary's smooth resignation caught everyone off guard.

Some of the directors hadn't anticipated that things would go so smoothly.

Some of the board members had just regained their composure. Was the CEO of Fuller Group going to be replaced by someone else?

They were deeply worried about their future interests.

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Chapter 147 Do You Still Want Me

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"As for the selection of the new CEO, it's still up to the board members to decide. However, I believe you all must have a suitable candidate in mind already. I won't be participating in this anymore. Until we meet again."

After he finished speaking, Zachary turned around and left the conference room.

He left everyone exchanging bewildered glances.

Jeremiah quickly regained his composure. "The CEO position being vacant is detrimental to the corporation. We need to promptly select a new CEO to get the company back on track. I propose that Mr. Johanne Fuller assume the roles of CEO and general manager of Fuller Group..."

Upon exiting the conference room, Johanne came face to face with him, with the already resigned Billy trailing behind him.

Zachary halted, his gaze steady and unwavering. He showed no surprise at the sight of the two of them together. "Johanne."

"Zack.

The two exchanged a glance, an unspoken understanding passing between them. Johanne didn't bother to elaborate further, maintaining his smiling demeanor.

"I wish you success at work, Johanne. I'll be leaving first

After leaving the company, Zachary went straight back to his mansion in Galaxy Bay



Upon hearing the sound of a car engine in the courtyard, Lenora lifted her head from her book. She was itching with curiosity, yet she couldn't bring herself to go and take a look.

So, she called out to the door, "Miranda, who's there?"

"It's me. I've returned," a male voice responded. Zachary appeared at the entrance of the master bedroom. He was dressed in a black knit top, with the collar of his shirt peeping out from the V-neckline. His lower half was clad in black suit trousers. "Why are you back so early?" Lenora asked immediately.

"The board meeting has concluded."

"Was there really a board meeting? Why didn't you tell me? What was the outcome?" Lenora asked, a note of worry etched on her face.

Under normal circumstances, Zachary wouldn't have returned at this time.

"Are you worried about me?" Zachary asked with a chuckle as he sat down on the edge of the bed.

Lenora was baffled.

"From now on, I'm no long

## **Stay Away 148**

Chapter 148 Stop Deceiving Yourself Chapter 148 Stop Deceiving Yourself

Zachary was staring straight at her.

He seemed so pitiful, so wronged, much like an abandoned dog.

A slight shiver ran through Lenora's heart. She was almost beguiled by his demeanor.

Ironically, it was he who had first suggested divorce.

The person he loves isn't me at all

The person he's fond of is Susanna.

She didn't want to continue this entanglement with him just because of their child.

+5 Free Cons

Lenora lowered her gaze. "This has nothing to do with whether or not you're the CEO of Fuller Group."

"All I have now is you and our child." Suddenly, Zachary embraced her, resting his head on her abdomen, his expression was tender and affectionate like never before. This scene was something she had yearned for countless times in the past. The person she used to be would have given anything for this moment.

But now, her heart was as still as a tranquil lake.

Zachary wouldn't be fond of her, and she wouldn't make the same mistake again.

"Once the child is born, you're welcome to visit them often."

Zachary abruptly stiffened, suddenly lifting his gaze to Lenora. "What are you implying? Are you saying you still want to divorce me after the child is born?"

Before Lenora could respond, Zachary abruptly stood up. "You expect my child to call Jonas "Dad?"

"What does this have to do with Jonas? I can take care of the child myself."

"Do you want him to be like you, growing up in a single-parent household, without a father since childhood?"

A pang

of pain struck Lenora's heart, causing her complexion to turn slightly pale.

"Or are you planning to find the child a stepfather? Zachary stared intently at her, his gaze burning. "How much genuine affection can he have for a child that's not his own?"

Lenora held a knot of frustration in her heart, yet she managed to respond, "So, you don't want to divorce me because of the child I'm carrying? If that's the case, once the child is older, you can take over their upbringing

Zachary's expression shifted, and his gaze darkened. "You'd rather give up our child than stay married to me? Do you despise me that much?"

"Yes," Lenora lowered her gaze and nodded. "I despise you, and you don't like me either. Why should we

## Chapter 148 Stop Deceiving Yourself

+5 Free Coins

force ourselves to stay together? Even if we get

divorced, we can still be good parents to our child."

"Nora!" Zachary grasped her hand. "Nora, let me be clear. It's not that I don't like you. I do like you, and I don't want a divorce!" Lenora looked up at him, a hint of faint mockery in her eyes. "When did you start liking me?" she asked.

"A long time ago.

"Why did you want to divorce me before?"

Observing Lenora's sarcastic gaze, Zachary moved his lips slightly, his throat filled with a bitter sensation, leaving him speechless.

"Zachary, stop deceiving yourself," she said. "Your feelings for me are nothing more than a sense of duty and guilt. You don't need to force yourself to stay for the sake of our child. After we part ways, you can visit the child and let them know that their father loves them too. That would be enough."

"I'm not deceiving myself or anyone else..." Zachary let out a bitter laugh, for the first time understanding what it meant to shoot oneself in the foot.

She probably wouldn't believe whatever he said now.

If he were to confess that he had only recently started to fall for her, she would inevitably question why his affections shifted so easily.

Ironically, he had broken her heart, and she no longer believed in him.

"It's okay if you don't trust me," he said, "I'll prove it to you, slowly but surely."

Seeing Zachary's insistence, Lenora furrowed her brows

What was Zachary really up to? Did he genuinely not want her to leave, or was it that he didn't want his child to be left adrift in the world? Perhaps it was the latter. Zachary, such a proud and aloof individual, would never allow his own bloodline to coexist with outsiders.

Lenora's expression was somber. She no longer wished to argue with him, so she tactfully changed the subject.

"Do as you wish," she said, "By the way, did Grandpa not attend the board meeting today?"

If Grandpa had been present, he would have surely been very supportive of Zachary

Surprisingly, her mind was quick to change topics, Zachary nodded. "No, I didn't want to disturb him, fearing that his health might not be able to withstand it "Did you guess their objective today?"

"Do you really think I'd be foolish enough not to see through it?"

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Chapter 148 Stop Deceiving Yourself

Lenora let out a gentle sigh. "Who is the new CEO of Fuller Group? Johanne?"

"Hmm. How did you know?"

+5 Free Coins

It really is Johanne.

"Lola called me," I said.

Zachary's expression subtly changed. "Did she say anything provoking?"

Lenora didn't answer his question. "From what I gathered, it seems like she knew about today's events all along."

Zachary gave a slight nod. "When I left the office, I saw Johanne walking with her."

"It seems like it was premeditated, and I'm not sure what role Johanne has in all of this....."

To be honest, before this incident occurred, Lenora never imagined that Johanne would have any dealings with Billy, let alone oust Zachary to become the CEO of Fuller Group.

In the past, when she lived in the Fuller residence, Johanne was quite different from the aloof Zachary. Johanne was kind and took good care of her. If she encountered any troubles that she couldn't discuss with her elders, she would definitely turn to Johanne for help. For instance, during her school days, a boy pursued her. After she rejected him, he became persistent. It was Johanne who stepped in to handle the situation. She never knew what he did, but the boy never approached her again.

The decision as to why the younger Zachary, rather than Johanne, was chosen to take the helm as the CEO of Fuller Group, was made by Gerald Lenora also believed that Gerald's decision was not wrong.

Back then, when she was fond of Zachary, she saw him through rose-colored glasses. In her eyes, Zachary outshined Johanne in every aspect, be it academics or work capabilities, the only exception being his personality. Even now, from an observer's perspective, she still thought the same.

Perhaps, right from the start, Johanne was never truly content,

"Don't overthink it," he said. "Even if I weren't the CEO of Fuller Group, I could still provide enough for our child's needs."

Having been the CEO of Fuller Group for so many years, it was impossible that he didn't have his own. investments and industries.

"So, you're truly willing to hand over the CEO position to Johanne? I don't mean to make unfounded assumptions, but it's possible that he orchestrated this entire situation... I know you've always felt indebted to him, constantly accommodating him, but you were chosen by Grandpa' to be the CEO of Fuller Group. There's no need for you to step aside..."

Zachary patted Lenora's shoulder. "Don't worry. I've got this under control. There are only perpetual interests, no perpetual enemies. Those board members may not be hands-on usually, but if anyone. threatens their interests, they will certainly react. Whoever can bring them benefits, they will support them. Not just anyone can be the CEO of Fuller Group

Lenora glanced at him. "But, what if Johanne manages Fuller Group successfully..."

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Chapter 148 Stop Deceiving Yourself

"Then, I'm willing to accept defeat."

Seeing that Zachary showed no signs of unwillingness, Lenora also felt more at ease.

62%

Zachary gently placed his hand on her belly, softly inquiring. "Has the baby started to move yet?"

Lenora shook her head. "Not yet."

"Let's go for a check-up tomorrow." Zachary said in a low voice..

+5 Free Coins

He recalled a statistic he had read in a book. It stated that during the seventeenth week of pregnancy, the miscarriage rate for those who experienced fetal movement was three percent, while for those who did not, the rate skyrocketed to ninety-eight percent. Even if there were signs of a threatened miscarriage, ninety percent of the fetuses with movement still managed to survive safely.

At eighteen weeks into her pregnancy, Lenora had yet to feel any movement from the baby in her belly.

However, during the last visit to the hospital, the doctor had merely mentioned a threatened miscarriage. The child's heartbeat was still detectable, albeit there were some developmental issues.

It would be best to get it checked out more thoroughly

He had to protect their child, their very first child.

"All right." Lenora nodded.

Just then, Zachary's phone rang.

He glanced at the screen. It was his grandmother's number.

A sudden feeling of unease rose within Zachary, his face betraying no emotion. He said to Lenora, "I need to take a call."

Okay."

Zachary left the master bedroom and walked to the second-floor terrace. He answered the call, "Hello, Grandma?" "Zack, hurry to the hospital. Your grandpa is being resuscitated!"

## **Stay Away 149**

Chapter 149 The Final Encounter

"Tim on my way!" Zachary's heart tightened as he immediately responded.

"Let's not let Nora know just yet."

"I understand."

+5 Free Coins

Before leaving. Zachary returned to the master bedroom once more. "Nora," he said, "There's some work at the office that needs to be handed over. I need to make a trip there."

"Go ahead. I have Miranda with me at home." Lenora didn't give it much thought.

When Zachary arrived at the hospital, the emergency room's lights were still on.

Allison and the housekeeper were sitting on the chairs outside, waiting.

"Grandma!" Zachary rushed over to the elderly woman, anxiety etching into his voice. "What happened? How could Grandpa suddenly..."

Allison wore a solemn face and sighed, remaining silent

Interestingly, the housekeeper glanced at Zachary, "Ms Carston came by this morning. I'm not quite sure what she said to Old Mr. Fuller... But then he somehow found out about the company matters and suddenly..."

Zachary pursed his lips, a sharp glint flashing in his eyes. He took a deep breath and walked to the entrance of the fire escape. Dialing a number, he spoke into the phone. "This morning, Susanna was seen at the Fuller residence. Find her as soon as possible!" "Noted."

After ending the call, Zachary returned to the waiting area. He knelt on one knee in front of Allison, grasping her hand. As he looked up at her, his eyes glistening with unshed tears, he asked, "Grandma, you're upset with me, aren't you?"

If he hadn't brought Susanna back to their country, Lenora wouldn't have asked him for a divorce, nor would this situation have occurred.

Had he sent Susanna away earlier, this situation wouldn't have occurred.

He was the root cause of all these issues.

"My dear, get up." Allison immediately extended her hands to help him up. "I don't blame you. I just didn't expect... Johanne..."

"Grandma!" Johanne sprinted from the elevator entrance, anxiously inquiring, "How is Grandpa?"

Allison shook her head. "They're trying to save him inside..."

"But why did Grandpa..."

The housekeeper repeated to Johanne what she had previously told Zachary,

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+5 Free Cont

After Johanne found out that Susanna had a talk with Gerald in private, his expression subtly shifted. Turning his head away discreetly, he slapped his face twice, muttering, "It's all my fault! All my fault" Griselda, Stanley Fuller, and Mallory arrived one after the other.

An hour later, the red light outside the emergency room turned green, George emerged, removing his mask as he surveyed the crowd around him. Shaking his head, he let out a sigh and said, "You can go in now. Take the chance to see Old Mr. Fuller one last time." As the words fell, they hit like a thunderclap, leaving Zachary dazed and reeling, a buzzing ringing in his

Allison's vision blurred.

"Grandma!"

"Grandma!"

Zachary and Johanne reacted swiftly, supporting Allison in time.

Allison caught her breath, her eyes rimmed red, struggling to hold herself upright. "Help me inside."

The two of them assisted Allison into the emergency room.

On the operating table, Gerald lay motionless, his eyes tightly shut. His complexion was ashen, devoid of any vitality.

"Grandpa!"

"Dad!"



Johanne, Mallory, and Griselda, along with Stanley, each took their positions on either side of the operating table, unable to hold back their tears.

Zachary stood two steps away from the operating table, gazing from a distance at the lifeless body of the

old man.

Within the shadows, his gaze held a depth of darkness, obscurity, and restraint.

He knelt on the spot, his face calm yet filled with sorrow. He then bowed his head in respect three times.

"Everyone, please leave us alone for a while." Allison's voice aged noticeably in an instant. "I need some time with Gerald."

"Mom, you must take care of your health, Griselda tearfully implored.

"I know."

Stanley halted before Zachary, offering him a supportive pat. "Zachary, let's head out first."

"All right."

Zachary rose from the ground, silently exiting the operating room.

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62%

Chapter 149 The Final Encounter

+5 Free Coins:

Upon reaching the outside of the operating room, Stanley immediately got in touch with Nathan who was on a business trip out of town

Soothing words were shared between Mallory and Johanne, offering a brief moment of comfort. Johanne then began to instruct his assistant to make the necessary arrangements. Contacting the funeral home was the first task, followed by reaching out to close relatives. He meticulously prepared for the various matters related to the impending funeral.

He ended the call, and as he turned around, he saw Zachary sitting alone on a chair. His eyes were vacant, staring motionlessly ahead, as still as a statue.

Johanne walked over, gently patting his shoulder. "Zack."

Zachary snapped back to reality, meeting Johanne's worried gaze. With a hoarse voice, he reassured him, "Johanne, I'm fine."

He just couldn't fully process what had happened.

To Zachary, Gerald was like what Fernando was to Lenora.

He didn't know who his mother was, nor could he remember what his father looked like..

From the moment his memories began, he had always stayed by Gerald's side.

He was raised by Gerald and Allison, and even though they were a generation apart, they felt more like his

parents.

"Should I tell Nora about it?"

"Let's keep it from her for now. She's not in a stable condition. I'm worried she won't be able to handle it, Zachary said, his gaze distant.

Even though he knew, he couldn't keep such a significant matter hidden for long.

"All right, then."

"Johanne, Zachary, there's a journalist approaching." Stanley pointed out toward the distance.

"Have the security stop them first. I'll send my bodyguard over," Johanne said.

The chairman of Fuller Group was urgently admitted to the hospital today, leading to a shift in the company's presidency. For some media outlets, this was indeed a significant piece of news.

In those days, for the sake of increasing viewership, there were plenty of media outlets that wouldn't hesitate to exploit people's misfortunes. There was a time when a female celebrity was critically ill with cancer, and a horde of journalists camped out in front of her hospital room. They were just waiting for the moment the doctor announced her death, so they could rush to publish the news.

Despite the overwhelming number of reporters, the security guards didn't dare to assertively intervene, resulting in a chaotic scene.

Someone rushed to the front of the emergency room. Upon looking around, a camera was thrust directly toward Zachary. "Mr. Fuller, hello! May I ask you-

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+5 Free Cons

Bang!

The reporter stared at the shattered camera on the ground, then at Zachary who had just stood up. He was completely taken aback, the remaining words he was about to say got stuck in his throat, and he swallowed them back down.

Zachary casually dusted his hands, his face void of any expression. He pulled out a business card from the inner pocket of his suit and nonchalantly tossed it onto the ground. "Whatever the cost, contact my

secretary.

Johanne immediately walked over, patting Zachary on the shoulder, signaling him to stay calm. He addressed the reporters, "I'm truly sorry. Our grandfather has passed away, and our family is in deep grief. We're unable to accept interviews at the moment. We can discuss everything after the memorial service."

Yet, there was a reporter who couldn't let it go. From a distance, they snapped a few photos of the emergency room entrance, then promptly released the news.

He reported that the chairman of Fuller Group, Gerald Fuller, passed away in Mercy Hospital on the first of November at ten o'clock

The accompanying picture was a snapshot taken in front of the emergency room. Zachary was seen sitting

blurred out. desolately on a chair by the entrance, with the surrounding scenery

The topic discussed Gerald's life story.

Perhaps, in the past, this piece of news wouldn't have garnered much attention.

The recent leaks and subsequent interviews had introduced Zachary to a wider audience. Consequently, more people started paying attention to this news.

Although there were some discordant voices, most netizens still adhered to the principle of respecting the deceased. They lit virtual candles in the comment section of the news article, wishing them a peaceful journey.

There were also comments saying-A gentle reminder that this is Zachary's grandfather. May Old Mr. Fuller rest in peace.

Not long after Zachary left, Lenora

quite a while.

found herself somewhat restless, the pages of her book untouched for

She brushed her hand over her belly, set the book aside, and lay down on the bed.

After becoming pregnant, Lenora drastically reduced her use of electronic devices for the sake of her baby. Her phone was often left untouched on the bedside table.

She would only check if there was a notification.

However, out of the blue, she received a multimedia message from an unknown number.

Who even sends multimedia messages these days?

Lenora opened her eyes, picked up her phone, and clicked on the picture message. To his surprise, it was a screenshot of a news article.

## **Stay Away 150**

Chapter 150 Do Not Keep Vigil

Lenora's heart skipped a beat, then promptly began to throb incessantly.

It must be someone's idea of a prank, right?

+5 Free Coins

Yet, at that very moment, notifications from various platforms came pouring in. Regardless of which one she clicked on, they all contained related news.

In the news, Zachary was still wearing the same outfit he had on when he left earlier that day.

So, he really did end up going to the hospital.

Grandpa... Grandpa's gone?

Grandpa, who has always doted on me, has passed away?

The news hit Lenora unexpectedly, like a brutal punch to the heart. Her emotions twisted painfully within her, a sour sensation filled her nose, and her eyes immediately reddened, brimming with unshed tears. Just a few days ago, when Gerald had come to visit, he was perfectly healthy.

Just a few days ago, he had expressed his wish to hold his great-grandchild, promising to wait for her child's birth.

Why all of a sudden...

No, no way. How could Grandpa bear to leave without seeing my child being born?

Lenora sniffed, immediately sitting up in bed, and called out, "Miranda, get the driver. I need to go to the hospital!"

She had to see Gerald one last time,

Miranda came in from outside, clearly having seen the news already, and advised, "Mrs. Fuller, Mr. Fuller called earlier, asking you to rest at home and not to go anywhere. You need to take care of your health..." "I must go!" Lenora said through her tears. She didn't want to trouble Miranda further, so she directly called Zachary

Once the call connected, Lenora didn't wait for Zachary to speak. Choking back tears, she blurted out, "Zachary, have your driver come pick me up! I need to go to the hospital!"

"Nora, you-

"Don't

try to persuade me! If the driver doesn't come to pick me up, I'll just walk there!"

After her father's passing, Gerald and Allison were the kindest to her. They were her family. When her grandfather passed away, as his granddaughter, as his granddaughter-in-law, how could she not go? Frowning, Zachary spoke in a low voice. "Stay put at home. I'm coming to get you."

"Can you hurry up, then?" Lenora said, wiping away her tears.

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Chapter 150 Do Not Keep Vigil

"Don't cry. I'm on my way."

Lenora let out a noncommittal "Imm" in a subdued manner.

After hanging up the phone, Lenora changed her clothes, waiting anxiously.

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+5 Free Coin

By today, the scab from the wound on her face had already fallen off, so showing up like this to see Gerald wouldn't be too embarrassing-

Not long after, the sound of a car engine echoed through the courtyard.

Lenora hastily slipped on her shoes, eager to leave the bedroom.

As Zachary entered the living room, he immediately spotted Lenora appearing at the top of the second- floor staircase. He quickly called out to her, "Don't move!"

He ascended the stairs in a few strides, immediately scooping up Lenora in his arms. Looking at her swollen eyes and the tears still wet on her cheeks, he frowned and asked, "Why did you get out of bed?"

"It's just a few steps. No worries,"

"That won't do either."

Lenora didn't argue with him about this. Instead, she quietly asked, "Grandpa was fine just a few days ago. How could he suddenly...."

Zachary paused for a moment, his eyes downcast. "The last time Grandpa was hospitalized, Dr. Landon said he could only ensure Grandpa's survival for three months at most... Grandpa's health was deteriorating. He could pass away at any moment. It wasn't sudden..." Upon hearing this, Lenora started shedding tears again.

Zachary sighed, gently placing Lenora in the back seat of the car. He tenderly stroked her cheek, his thumb wiping away the tears that had gathered under her eyes. "Don't cry," he said softly, "Grandpa's spirit, wherever he may be, wouldn't want to see you like this. He always wanted to hold his great-grandchild. For Grandpa's last wish, you must take good care of yourself and the child."

With a soft whimper, Lenora responded while haphazardly wiping away her tears. Yet, her throat was raw and sore, and her lips involuntarily curved downwards. No matter what she did, she couldn't stop the tears from flowing

Feeling helpless, Zachary pulled Lenora into his embrace, gently patting her back, as if comforting a child. "If you keep crying, you'll turn into a little crybaby, he said.

The driver loaded the wheelchair and started the car.

The vehicle headed straight for the funeral home.

At that time, under Johanne's arrangements, Gerald's body was taken to the funeral home. There, his final appearance was tidied up and he was dressed in his funeral attire. The mourning hall was also being arranged.

As they were nearing the funeral home, Zachary held Lenora's hand gently instructing, "Once we're there,

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Chapter 150 Do Not Keep Vigil

all you need to do is stay by Grandpa's side. You don't have to do anything else. Understand?"

"All right."

+5 Free Coins

Mallory, already dressed in white, was waiting at the entrance of the funeral home. Upon seeing Zachary and Lenora approach, she handed them two white mourning outfits. After they had changed into mourning outfits, Mallory voluntarily pushed the wheelchair forward and said, "Zack, you can go attend to your duties. I'll take care of Nora here." "Thanks for your help, Mallory." Zachary bent down again, instructing Lenora, "If you're not feeling well, don't force yourself to endure it. Make sure you tell me, I have to get back to work now."

"All right."

Zachary strode away quickly, leaving Mallory to guide Lenora toward the lounge. She looked at Lenora's reddened eyes, offering words of comfort. "Nora, don't be upset. Everyone goes through tough times. Grandpa wouldn't want to see you like this."

"I understand, Mallory," Lenora spoke, her voice choked with emotion. "I just... I just miss Grandpa so much..." She couldn't finish his sentence, tears welling up in her eyes.

"Ah, Zack had initially planned to keep this from you. However, he couldn't help but blame those unscrupulous media outlets. It infuriated Zack so much that he ended up smashing a camera."

Indeed, this was Zachary's character.

at this time

When his grandfather passed away, his grief was no less than hers. The arrival of the media at this would only add fuel to the fire.

"Such a significant matter... How could it possibly be concealed? It would be better to tell me the truth..."

"He was only thinking of your best interest. Grandpa is currently being tidied up, while Grandma and Aunt Griselda are in the lounge. Let's head over there and wait for them."

"All right."

In the lounge, Allison sat alone in a chair, lost in thought.

At this stage in Gerald's life, his health had been consistently poor. Allison had long since prepared herself for this.

Before Gerald fell unconscious, he held her hand and spoke a great deal. The tears that needed to be shed had already been shed. At this point, she wouldn't break down in grief again, but her mood was incredibly heavy.

Upon seeing Mallory guiding Lenora in, Allison snapped back to reality. She gestured for them to come closer, saying, "Come over here."

Mallory guided Lenora to a halt before Allison.

"Grandma."

Allison clutched Lenora's hand, letting out a sigh. "Nora, how did you end up here?"

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Chapter 150 Do Not Keep Vigil

+5 Free Com



Lenora's eyes reddened again. "Grandma, I had to come and see Grandpa one last time."

"My dear... After visiting your grandpa, you should head home. He won't blame you."

Traditionally, the deceased would be kept in the memorial hall for three days before the grand funeral procession. During these three days, descendants were expected to mourn at the hall. However, modern society didn't strictly adhere to these rules; exceptions were often made. For instance, pregnant women were not expected to keep vigil, and no one would question it.

Lenora shook her head in refusal, her gaze unwavering "Grandma, don't worry. I'm fine."

The three-day vigil wasn't literally about kneeling in front of the spirit altar for three days straight. It was possible to take turns, and when exhaustion set in, one could rest in the lounge.

She was seated in a wheelchair, not kneeling, taking timely rests, so there shouldn't be any issues.

Not having the chance to exchange a final word with Gerald was her greatest regret.

The Fuller family's family mausoleum was located on the mountain, and she couldn't accompany the funeral procession. She couldn't witness her grandfather's burial with her own eyes. All she could do at that moment was to express her filial piety to the best of her ability.

Allison, Griselda, and Mallory took turns trying to persuade her, but Lenora remained unmoved.

Zachary also tried to persuade her but to no avail. Left with no other options, he could only ask the housekeeper to stay by her side and take care of her, urging her to rest more.

Allison gently patted Lenora's hand. "You're such a good child. It's no wonder Gerald adored you. Even when he was on his deathbed, he was still thinking about you, apologizing for not being able to help clear your name when public opinion was against you..."

