

Read Stop It She's Remarrying by Stellar Strands

Chapter 1051-1060

Chapter 1051

Clenching her teeth, Britney did her best to bear the pain on her face. The man slapped her so hard that her mouth bled.

However, she did not dare to show any defiance.

Seeing her being so obedient, the man waved his hand and said, "Go to the lab and get ready. I'll restore your voice."

"Thank you, Master." Britney thanked the man earnestly. As long as she could restore her original self, Britney did not care about her dignity.

"Heh!" The man stifled a laugh. "You b*tches think you're so pure and untainted. Yet, in the end, you can only serve me as my dogs! Only I can show you the joy of living!"

Britney felt disgusted hearing his words. Still, she could not afford to defy him.

"Be a good girl and obey me." The man grabbed Britney's shoulders and said, "Compared to you and her, Esme is too filthy to be used as a pawn. Her use is about to be fully spent. As long as you obey me, I can make your wishes come true!"

"Thank you, Master."

The man patted her skinny shoulders and said, "Good. Now, behave and don't play games with me. I'm going to restore your voice. However, know that it's not easy to restore your face."

"I will never betray you, Master." Britney affirmed softly.

"Heh, you'd better not."

"Conrad Maxwell, come out now!"

Jason yelled loudly in front of the Maxwell villa, wearing just a few layers of clothing. He had just recovered and was not supposed to get down from bed.

The bodyguards stepped forward to stop him from getting near the gate. One of them said, Mr. Evans, you better leave if you want to live.”

Jason glared at him furiously and said, “He promised to make Fia happy all his life. Yet, what has he done?!”

“Cough! Cough! Tell him to come out!”

Conall got down from his car and spoke to the bodyguards. Even though his face was as pale as a sheet, the bodyguards could still recognize the man as Fia’s birth father. In that instant, they did not know how to proceed.

It was then that Tiger arrived in his car. As soon as the car was parked, Sophia got down from the car and hurried to Jason. “Mr. Parker, Mr. Evans, you should leave.”

“So, is he too ashamed to see us?!” Jason yelled so loudly that his throat hurt, “What has he done to Fia?! Why did he make her disappear?!”

Right now, no one could get in touch with Fia.

Despite feeling uneasy with all this, Sophia still tried to comfort Jason. “Our boss did not do anything. It’s just...”

“Sophia.” Tiger got down from the car and stepped toward them. “You head inside.”

Sophia said, “Madam cares about them. Don’t be rash.”

Tiger glanced at her coldly and said, “Sir said if you dare to meddle in things again, we’ll have to send you back to the camp!”

Letting out a sigh, Sophia went into the villa.

Tiger then glared at Conall and Jason coldly. “Mr. Parker, Mr. Evans, you still need rest. Don’t meddle with our boss’s business.”

Jason grabbed Tiger’s collar and yelled, “Tell Conrad to come out now and face us like a man!”

He and Conall had gone to several places to look for Conrad. They had been to Maxwell Corporation and the wealthy residential areas, yet there was no sign of Conrad.

Bearing the urge to resort to violence, Tiger maintained eye contact with Jason and said, Evans, I suggest you use your head before acting recklessly. You don't want to hurt your mother's feelings, do you?"

"Just what do you mean by that?!"

"Mr. "Garrett Maxwell had been by you and your mother's side all these years. He had completely forgotten his duty as Sir's father. So, my boss does not owe you anything!"

If Jason were to upset him now, Conrad would begin scheming against Argonauts Corp, which in turn would mean ruining Clarice's life work.

"Gentle Stream is your mother's life work. I suppose you know this very well, since you've worked in Argonauts Corp for such a long time, right?"

In other words... without Argonauts Corp, "Gentle Stream" would be no more.

Just as Jason was about to retort, his phone rang. He let go of Tiger and answered the call. As soon as he put the phone to his ear, he heard his secretary's anxious voice, "Sir! There is a strike at several of our factories! If we don't restore the production line and get the products delivered on time, things could get ugly...!"

Hanging up, Jason glared at Tiger. "Is this his doing?"

Chapter 1052

Tiger said coldly, "Argonauts Corp has survived this long because of Sir's mercy. You should be grateful! If you insist on getting involved in things you shouldn't, Sir will have no choice but to shut Argonauts Corp down!"

"You!" Jason did his best to calm down before saying, "I just want to know if Fia is safe!"

"This is none of your business, Mr. Evans," Tiger retorted.

When Jason was prepared to throw a punch at Tiger, Conall held his fist, consoling him, " Jason, calm down. Let me talk to him."

"Mr. Parker..."

Conall nodded and said, "I understand you're just concerned about Fia. Still, you're not in the position to ask. So, allow me to ask them."

Recalling just how maddening Conrad could get, Jason relented and took a step back, allowing Conall to take charge.

Putting a hand on his aching chest, Conall said in a pained tone, "Tell Conrad, no matter how late it is to do so, I still want to fulfill my responsibility as Fia's father. Please, let Fia go. I'm asking him not as the chairman of Parker Group, but as her father."

Tiger furrowed his brows as he looked at Conall. He knew just how devastated his boss had been in the past few days. Yet, the press and public had done nothing but slandered him. He wanted to defend his boss in public so much. However, he needed to follow his boss's orders- as his boss's most trusted right-hand-man, he had to! Even if it meant his boss would be misunderstood by the whole world!

That cruel, evil man had forced his boss to a corner, not being able to resist his demands at all. How could he? After all, his dearest wife was in his hands. Not only that, that man was a powerful member from Hellish Training Camp.

"You're his most trusted underling. Perhaps you know what he's planning?"

Conall kept on probing for information from Tiger. He had a hunch that Conrad had truly fallen for Fia, so it was impossible for him to hurt her like that. This all happened for a reason!

"If you don't tell me, I won't know what went wrong and I won't be able to help," Conall said as he lowered his head, lamenting at how powerless he was despite wanting to help his daughter.

Tiger closed his eyes and said, "Nothing really happened. Haven't you heard? Our boss had announced to the public that he and Madam had broken up. Madam vanished from public's eye because she needed some peace and quiet for herself."

"Liar!" Conall yelled out furiously, "Tell me! Is Fia being held hostage by someone? Is Conrad being blackmailed?!"

Tiger looked at Conall calmly and answered, "No, Mr. Parker."

“Then why can’t we find Fia anywhere?! There’s no trace of her at all!”

“Madam just wants some peace and quiet for herself, Mr. Parker. She will return after she feels better.” After a pause, Tiger said, “You just need to wait patiently for her.”

Then, he turned and ordered the bodyguards, “See our guests off.”

Receiving their orders, the bodyguards dragged Jason and Conall out of the residential area against their will.

Fearing that there would be more uninvited visitors, Tiger ordered the guards of the

residential area to not allow any outsiders through the gate. The guards took up the job right away. After all, there were not many residents here, and they preferred living quietly, not wanting visits from friends and relatives.

Time flew by quickly and the clock struck five in the afternoon. Tyler and Mary had just returned from picking up their daughter from school. When they reached the residential area’s gate, they noticed a lot of guards stationed there.

Mary handed her daughter to Tyler before approaching them to ask what the occasion was. After receiving her answer, Mary returned and kicked Tyler in the foot furiously.

“Have you gone mad?! What is it with you now?!” Tyler immediately jumped away, evading the kick

“I’ve not gone mad! It’s Conrad who’s gone mad!” Mary responded furiously as she walked through the gates.

Carrying Sharon in his arms, Tyler quickly followed his wife. “Hey, calm down, Mary! Don’t do anything rash, okay?!”

“I want to see him! How could he be so cruel?! Fia is his wife! Not his enemy!”

Mary’s tears rolled down her face as she voiced her anger. She felt so sorry for Fia!

Chapter 1053

Mary marched toward the Maxwell villa as she wiped her tears.

“What a heartless man! Did he fake his love for Fia in front of us all this while?! And for what? To avenge that first love of his? For that witch?!”

Sensing how discontented her mother was, Sharon got down from her father’s arms and hurried to grasp Mary’s hand.

“Mommy, are we looking for my godmother?”

Hearing this, tears began streaking down Mary’s face again as she kneeled down to hold her daughter.

“I’m so sorry, Sharon. I don’t know where your godmother’s gone. I have sent her so many messages but she did not reply to them at all... I... I am so...”

Then, her sobs turned into weeping.

Seeing this, Sharon began to tear up as well. She stepped forward to hug her mother. “Then let’s wait for her. Let’s pray for her to come back to us again.”

Tyler, on the other hand, was standing next to his wife, conflicted. He really wanted to tell his wife and daughter about the plan but he was too afraid to do so! He was afraid that if he unveiled Conrad’s plan to them, it might lead to Fia never coming back!

So, all he could do now was stand there utterly powerless. This time, Conrad had no one but himself to overcome this crisis. It was up to him to catch the perpetrator.

A few moments later, night had cloaked the sky and Mary had gone to bed with Sharon. Seeing that they were fast asleep, Tyler quietly snuck out the house to meet Conrad.

When he reached the Maxwell villa, he saw a silhouette creeping nearby. Tyler cried out in shock, which attracted the attention of the bodyguards. They immediately had the stranger surrounded, waving their torchlights at him.

“Holy moly, what the hell is wrong with you people?!”

It was Victor. He put a hand above his eyes, struggling to look into the bodyguards’

torchlights and said in a seething tone, "It is I, Victor Maxwell! What? You don't recognize me anymore?!"

Seeing this, the bodyguards switched off their torchlights. The bodyguard's leader looked at Tyler before asking Victor, "Why are you two here?"

Tyler pointed a finger at Victor and said, "I'm here to see your boss. I saw this shady man creeping about so I called out for you guys."

"Shady my *ss!" Victor was so pissed and hurt from hearing that. Frankly, his eyes were still hurting from the torchlights in his face earlier!

Tyler looked at Victor in disgust and said, "So why are you sneaking around here in the middle of the night? Have you lost your way to your bed?"

"Sneaking?! Who's sneaking?! I'm standing right here, out in the open!" Victor glared at Tyler. "What about you?! Why are you out late at night, huh?!"

"I'm here to see Conrad for business, of course. Unlike a certain someone who likes to keep causing trouble for him, I'm a trusted ally who has proper business with him."

"I've not caused him any trouble recently, you *sshole!" Victor retorted furiously as he rubbed on his aching stomach. Geez, he was so pissed that his wounds were about to be torn open!

"So, why are you here?" Tyler said sarcastically, "Don't tell me you're so worried for Conrad that you can't sleep and that's why you're here to check up on him, aye?"

"So what if I'm worried for him, huh?! What? Are you the only person on this planet allowed to not sleep in the middle of the night?!"

"Heh! You? Worry for him? Save it, bruh! He'll live more peacefully if you don't cause him any more trouble."

Tyler retorted as he dialed Conrad's number.

"Hello?" Conrad's cold voice could be heard from the phone as soon as the call was answered. Tyler immediately told him about Victor sneaking in front of his house.

"I see. Let him be." Conrad sounded indifferent after learning it.

Victor raised his voice and shouted, "I really am not here to cause you trouble! It's Eileen! She asked me for help! So, I'm here to ask you on her behalf!"

Hearing Victor's words, Conrad paused for two seconds before saying, "Tyler, tell the guards to keep an eye on him. Don't let him get anywhere near my house. I don't want to see him within 500 meters radius around my house."

Then, he hung up.

Hearing Conrad's words, Tyler ordered the bodyguards, "Guys, your boss has ordered to keep him 500 meters away from the house!"

"You're lying!" Victor became agitated from hearing that. "He wouldn't say that! You're just bullsh*tting!"

500 meters? What did his cousin think he was? A pest? This was a huge insult to him!

More importantly, the distance between the gate of the villa to the main entrance was, 500 meters! Conrad had made it clear that he wanted to shun him!

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Chapter 1054

"Give him another call! No, you dial his number and give me your phone! I'll tell him myself!" Victor said.

Tyler raised an eyebrow and scowled at the man. "Don't you have a phone too?"

"Conrad had blacklisted my number! Why would I need to come here if I could just give him a call?!"

"I see. Well, it's still none of my concern!" Tyler ordered the bodyguards to send Victor away before stepping into the villa.

As soon as he entered Conrad's study, he could smell a strong scent of alcohol. Covering his nose with his hand, Tyler said, "What the hell are you doing? Brewing wine?"

He then looked around and noticed that the study was pitch black. “And why didn’t you turn on the lights?”

Yet, Conrad simply sat on the floor, not giving a response at all.

Seeing this, Tyler took out his phone and turned on the torchlight to search for the room’s light switch. A few seconds later, he found the switch and flipped it on. Then, he turned and saw the empty bottles scattered around Conrad on the floor.

“Come.”

Suddenly, Conrad called out to Tyler. “Come here and drink with me.”

Letting out a sigh, Tyler said, “No can do, buddy. My wife and daughter are waiting for me at home.”

“Hehe, how nice.” Conrad lazed back and leaned against the wall next to him. “I envy you, Tyler Lane.”

“What’s there to envy about? You’re a genius in business, sitting atop the throne of the business world. It should be us that envy you!”

Tyler sat next to him and opened a bottle. Despite his words, he still could not bear to see his friend drown in sorrow alone like this. So, he might as well provide him some company.

“Oh, envy me?” Conrad gave a bitter smile and lamented, “I grew up in a broken family. My grandfather loved me but he was very strict in molding me to be his successor. I’ve never truly experienced unconditional love when I was a child. I suppose this made me completely clueless ways of treating others with love. I thought I loved someone, but the feeling I had for her was a feeling of guilt. What’s even funnier is that feeling of guilt was elicited from me through trickery.”

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Gulping down the XO brandy in his bottle, Conrad’s eyes were filled with pain and

“So, that girl who tricked you.... That was Ms. Manning?”

regret.

“Yes.” Conrad replied in a tone of regret, “I was so foolish. I accepted her and became her boyfriend. I’ve been tainted by that wench. It’s no wonder Fia thinks I’m filthy!”

Tyler then asked curiously, “Have you ever slept with Esme?”

Upon hearing that, Conrad kicked Tyler. Still, the kick was not painful as he was drunk at the

moment.

“No, I haven’t! I’ve only ever bedded Fia!”

“For real?” Tyler doubted it. “I mean, you’ve always been surrounded by women before and after you got married. You’re telling me you’ve never slept with any other woman?”

“No! I’ve never!”

Conrad wanted to throw up when he recalled just how many times Esme tried to trick him into sleeping with her.

When did he ever realize his feelings for Fia...?

Was it the moment Fia meekly agreed to take her cousin’s place to marry him? Or was it when he saw her getting close to Jason? Or... was it when he saw the wife he’d married for three years begin to act differently around him...

Envy, anger, sorrow, anxiety... The only woman who could rile him up like that was none other than Fia Lawson.

At first, he was not sure what feelings he had for her. In fact, he resisted them quite fervently. at first too.

On nights when he was tormented by these feelings until he could not get a good night’s sleep, Conrad would seek help online. Every reply online would then tell him that he had ” fallen in love”.

“Tyler, I’m such a fool!”

Conrad smiled at his friend bitterly before gulping down his brandy.

Seeing this, Tyler quickly stopped him. “Look, you should stop drinking. If you health, who’ll take care of Fia when she comes back?”

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“She won’t forgive me.” Conrad said self-loathingly, “I’ve done too many things that broke her heart. She’s been keeping a distance from me for a long time.”

Recalling Mary’s seething words about how heartless Conrad was, Tyler could see just how unforgivable Conrad was to women.

Chapter 1055

“This time... she must be even more heartbroken.”

Conrad knew that this enemy of his would definitely let Fia know about his and Esme’s wedding. This would make her hate him even more.

“Is there anything I can do to help?” Tyler asked.

Twisting open the next bottle, Conrad said, “That person will definitely appear on the wedding day. He will definitely bring Fia over too.”

Tyler shivered when he thought about Fia witnessing her husband marrying another woman before her eyes. The poor girl would be so devastated!

“When that happens...” Conrad smiled at Tyler and said, “I will kill that *sshole. I’ll need you and the others to take care of Fia for me.”

“Sure.”

Conrad grasped on Tyler’s shoulder and said, “Please! You have to help me make her stay.”

Tyler nodded and reaffirmed his promise to him. “Don’t worry. I’ll make her stay. Even if it means tying her up with a rope!”

“Jase, I’m so sorry! I can’t help you do that!”

Kent had been evading Jason for two days. He did not think he would be cornered in the elevator like this... Still, he was now working under Conrad and his new boss had told him to not get too close to Jason.

So, he had to evade his friend. It was all in the name of professional distance!

“I don’t believe Fia will disappear like this!” Jason grabbed Kent’s collar and said, “Aren’t you good at hacking? Help me hack into Conrad’s computer to track Fia down, please?”

“Mr. Maxwell has nothing to do with this!” Kent rubbed on his aching temple and said, “He would never hide her away like this. He would never hurt her!”

“Then why did she disappear? Other than Conrad Maxwell, who else has the ability to make her disappear?! He’s also the one who framed Fia on the internet!” Jason became more agitated the more he spoke.

It was then, the elevator door opened. Kent quickly pushed Jason out of the door and brought him to a staircase to explain to him patiently, “Firstly, that video wasn’t uploaded by Mr. Maxwell! Secondly, the content in the video was real. Everyone in the hospital knows about this!”

“Impossible!” Jason said in disbelief, “Fia is such a kind girl! She would never hurt anyone!”

“Jason Evans!” Kent yelled at Jason furiously, “When pushed to desperation, even the kindest person would resort to extreme measures! Fia had been under extreme pressure back then. She was not emotionally stable either! So, it’s very possible for this to happen when those people emotionally cornered her! You were her doctor back then, don’t tell me you don’t know about her mental illness?!”

Jason shook his head. “It’s impossible! They were trying to frame her, drive her insane! They want her to lose her will to keep on living!”

Kent sighed and hugged his friend, patting his back.

“Please wake up, Jase. Mr. Maxwell is her husband. There’s no way he would hurt her!”

“Then why is he marrying that fake Britney?!” Jason shoved Kent away in anger. “Now we all know that fake Britney is, in fact, Esme Manning! That witch, Esme Manning! His first love! Fia miscarried her baby because of her! Because of them!!”

Kent took a few steps back as he scratched his head in frustration.

“Man... Why aren't you listening to reason? No matter how estranged you are, you two are still brothers by blood! Don't you know your brother? He won't do something like that.”

“I don't care what kind of grudge he has against us! What I do know is that he has been hurting Fia ever since I've known her! If it weren't for him, Fia would never be like that!”

“Jase, come on. Don't be like this, man. I'm begging you! Let it go, alright?” Kent was so worried that his friend would act recklessly. He continued trying to persuade him. “I'm now under Mr. Maxwell's employment. He has assigned me to track down Fia with his men. If there's news of her whereabouts, I'll let you know. Okay?”

“I see!” Jason was so disappointed hearing that. “You've become Conrad's lapdog!” 11

Kent was speechless hearing this from Jason. They were childhood friends and grew up

together! How could he say that about him? Geez, he must have gone mad in the name of love!

Chapter 1056

“You're all scums who hurt Fia!”

Jason's eyes had turned red from the immense anger he felt. After glaring at Kent for a moment, he marched away, seething.

Seeing this, Kent quickly made a call.

“Silas, send someone to keep an eye on Jason Evans. I fear he will do anything reckless.”

“Sure. Thanks for the heads-up.”

Hanging up, Kent looked at his phone speechlessly. Thanks for what? He was just worried that Jason would do something that he would regret, and that Conrad might lose his cool and also begin to retaliate hysterically. He did not dare to imagine just how much damage would be caused by these two!

Meanwhile, Silas put down his phone and turned to the woman who was browsing jewelry." Miss Thomas, are you done?"

Esme raised her eyes and looked at Silas. "When is Conrad coming to accompany me?"

"My apologies. Our boss is currently busy with work. He is unable to come."

Mrs. Thomas held Esme's arm, feeling sorry for her daughter. Her baby girl was about to get married with this man yet he did not even bother accompanying her to shop.

"Even if he's busy, he should still try and make an effort to accompany you. There are so many things we need to purchase for the wedding. How could he let Britney do this all alone?"

"Mom, it's okay. I don't have a job yet so I have a lot of free time." After faking her generosity, Esme turned to Silas and asked, "Are you meeting Conrad later?"

Silas laid his eyes on the jewelry counter, not bothered to even look at Esme. "Miss Thomas, would you kindly get your shopping done quickly? I still have a lot of work to attend to!"

"How could you talk to your boss's future wife like that?!" Mrs. Thomas was so angry seeing an assistant act so defiantly at her daughter.

Patting on Mrs. Thomas' back, Esme said, "Mom, don't get upset. Silas is Conrad's most capable assistant."

"But, he's still just an assistant! There are plenty of people that can replace him! Why is he acting so cocky?!"

Mrs. Thomas was so upset with Silas' treatment of her daughter. She was already worried sick when she heard that her daughter was about to marry someone as wealthy and powerful as Conrad Maxwell. She was afraid that her daughter would get mistreated by this man after the wedding.

Now, not only did Conrad seem so uninterested in the wedding preparation, his underling disrespected her daughter too! This made her even more upset!

“Heh! So, are you implying that you want to fire me, Mrs. Thomas?” Silas glanced at Mrs.

Thomas sarcastically. “Then, by all means, get Mr. Maxwell to agree with it first.”

“You’re just an assistant! There’s no way you’re more important than his wife! Just you wait! I’ll have him fire you after the wedding!”

Silas glared at this woman. What a joke of a woman! She could not recognize her actual

daughter. If things hit the fan later, she would be one of the first people to taste the ugly consequences!

Glancing at his watch, Silas said, “Ten minutes. You better wrap up your shopping trip in ten minutes. If not, I’ll leave you here and get back to my work!”

He did not want to waste any more time on these two!

“Silas, why don’t you go back to work first? I can shop on my own,” Esme said gently.

Stifling a laugh, Silas handed her a credit card.

“I’ll be going then. See you at the wedding tomorrow.”

Mrs. Thomas looked at Esme worriedly. “Britney, you’ve got so little time to prepare for the wedding. Are you sure everything will be fine?”

“It can be solved with money. What’s the big deal?” Silas retorted sarcastically.

If it were not for that mysterious enemy asking them to make the wedding as grand as possible, he would not even bother spending so much money hiring a wedding planner to organize the whole thing! If he got to choose, he’d rather have Esme wearing black for a funeral-her funeral!

Mrs. Thomas was so pissed that she grinded her teeth. “What about the wedding dress?”

Silas took a look at Esme, who was continuing with her shopping, and said, "I'll send someone to deliver it first thing in the morning tomorrow."

"Then, you better make it look noble! She's marrying your boss! If things go awry in the wedding, I'll tell on you! Your head will be on the line!"

Mrs. Thomas was so anxious and angry that she felt she could only calm down by making empty threats like this.

"Fair enough!" Silas shrugged and left.

On the other hand, Esme was able to muster up her courage to buy anything she wanted now that she had the credit card in hand.

Mrs. Thomas asked her worriedly, "Tomorrow's your wedding. Why aren't you worried about the wedding preparation and your wedding dress?"

"Why should I? Conrad's promised so it'll all be fine!" Esme had faith that Conrad would make everything go smoothly. So, there was no need to worry about anything.

Besides, Silas was right-they had the money. And everything could be solved with money! It was no big deal!

In fact, Esme thought that having the wedding on the next day was too slow! She had wanted to get married right away after the announcement!

Chapter 1057

That's right! If she could make the wedding day today, she would have officially become Conrad's wife by now!

"Britney, you weren't like this before."

Mrs. Thomas began to sense something was off about her "daughter". Responding with a sweet smile, Esme asked the shop attendant to bring over a necklace that was worth hundreds of thousands of dollars and put it on Mrs. Thomas' neck.

"Look, Mom. This necklace suits you so much!"

Looking at the beautiful necklace, Mrs. Thomas felt a little calmer. She was like most women. She was not able to resist the temptation of gold and jewelry.

Hence, Esme's shopping trip was a joyous one. She had never felt so happy and hopeful all her life! As long as her new master did not let Fia out, she would forever be Conrad's wife! She would be able to enjoy her life spending his wealth forever!

Not only that, this was just the beginning. When she and Conrad got married, his life would be hers. She would become more powerful than most people, never needing to worry about anything in her life anymore.

This new master of hers was ten times better than that pathetic Peter Hall!

"Britney, you've bought too many things. You haven't done much preparation for your wedding, you know? Let's stop and go back to handling the preparation." Mrs. Thomas was worried that her daughter would get too embroiled in shopping that she forgot to prepare for her big day.

"Relax, Mom. Conrad's got it covered. He's got a fragile ego. Since he can't accompany me shopping today, I'll buy as many things that might make him happy as I can. This would help lift his mood, right?"

Pondering for a minute, Mrs. Thomas said, "I see. If that's the plan, have at it then."

Thus, Esme had purchased everything that was expensive and luxurious at every floor of the shopping mall. After paying with the credit card, she even asked the shops to deliver the goods straight to their home. When she and Mrs. Thomas arrived home, her expensive luxuries had already been safely delivered.

Opening the packages, Esme recalled her mother who was still lying in bed at the hospital. So, she came up with an excuse to head out at night to visit her.

Worried for her safety, Mrs. Thomas said, "Remember to come home early. Tomorrow's your big day!"

"Okay, Mom." Esme waved Mrs. Thomas goodbye and drove away.

At the hospital, Beth opened her eyes as she breathed through the breathing mask. Her head was wrapped in bandages as various kinds of medical equipment were attached to her body.

After going through the surgery, her life was not in danger anymore. However, she was not able to move a muscle in her current state.

She could feel nothing but pain right now. Everything she saw was a blur.

Just then, she heard the door opening. She thought it was the nurse coming back to check on her. So, she did not bother to turn her eyes to see who it was.

“Mom, I’m sorry.” Esme stepped to the bed and held Beth’s hand.

Beth painfully opened her mouth and asked, “Where...Where’s your father?”

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Esme gave her a bright smile and said, “He’s going to be punished for betraying you, just as you wished.”

A flash of shock glittered in Beth’s eyes as she asked, “What...What happened to... him?”

“Mom.” Esme lowered her head and whispered in her mother’s ear, “Didn’t you ask me to forge a fake paternity test of his b*stard son? I forged one and sent it to them. Then, Dad went completely crazy! He hit that homewrecker with a car and choked his son to death.”

Beth widened her eyes in shock.

Seeing her mother like this, Esme asked, “Isn’t this what you want?”

“You father... Is... Is he someone that heartless?”

Beth had known him all her life. She knew her husband was not a heartless devil. The only heartless thing that he had done was not helping their daughter when she was in trouble, all because he wanted to help his brother.

Chapter 1058

“Yeah, that’s right. Aren’t you happy, Mom?”

Esme's smile was so sweet yet so terrifyingly creepy. She gently caressed Beth's hair and said, "You've been through so much for me, Mom. From now onward, you can't move anywhere other than your head."

Beth began tearing up silently as she heard that.

Esme continued on whispering in her ear. "You've acted so tough all your life. You never thought you'd end up like this, huh?"

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In that instance, Beth felt something was off.

"Allow me to release you from your torment, Mom."

Under the surveillance camera, Esme seemed like she was caressing her mother's arm gently. She knew where the camera was facing. She knew where to face so that her mouth would not be filmed. So, no one could read her lips when they watched the footage later.

"Esme..." Beth called out to her daughter anxiously.

Sacrificing herself for her daughter was one thing. However, having her life taken by her daughter was something she could not bear.

Esme beamed at her prettily as she said, "Dad is going to be punished for his betrayal. Don't you worry, Mom."

Beth yelped as tears welled up in her eyes, "No... No!"

Suddenly, darkness enveloped the entire hospital. There was a sudden blackout! Having a blackout in a hospital was a life-and-death matter as even just a few seconds could result in the loss of a life.

"Help!" Esme rushed out of the intensive care unit anxiously. By the time she stepped out of the door, a doctor and nurse were already running to this ward.

"What's wrong?" The doctor was extremely anxious. Mr. Maxwell had ordered the hospital to take good care of this patient.

"There's a blackout all of a sudden. And... And Mrs. Manning seems out of breath! Quick! Help her!" Esme said tearfully, seemingly saddened by the turn of events.

It was true that she felt sad. On top of that, she was feeling guilt and fear too. Still, she could not let others see through her other feelings. So, she made her sadness extra apparent to the doctor.

A few minutes later, the doctor walked out of the ward defeatedly.

Still in tears, Esme asked, "Doctor, how's Mrs. Manning?"

"We've done all we could. But... My condolences."

The doctor spoke dejectedly. If Mr. Maxwell caught wind of this, the whole hospital would be in trouble.

Esme looked at her mother's ward, overwhelmed with guilt and sadness. Still, she had to do this to secure her future. She was left with no choice.

It was easy for a human to forget their promises when they were in pain. She could not afford to wager

that her mother would not betray her when she laid in bed in pain like that. There was always a chance that Beth would betray her after a few words of encouragement from a

foe.

After weeping for a while in the hospital, Esme stood up and wanted to leave. It was then she saw Conrad arriving at the hospital.

"Conrad!" Overjoyed to see him, she hurried to him.

Whiffing the scent of alcohol on him, she asked, "What's this? Brandy? I thought you've stopped drinking?"

Conrad smirked at her coldly and said, "I'm impressed. I didn't think you'd do just anything for your own interest!"

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Esme furrowed her brows upon hearing that. Did Conrad find out something?

Conrad said, "Although there's no evidence of you murdering your mother, I believe you know very well what you just did! Esme Manning, are you sure you can sleep soundly from today onward?"

“I don’t understand what you’re saying!” Esme instinctively retorted, “I’m not Esme Manning! I did not murder anyone!”

Conrad smirked. “Oh, then I wish you the best of luck as you continue on with your lies.”

Then, he turned and left.

Seeing him leaving like that, Esme clenched her teeth and chased after him.

“Why are you here? Are you not feeling well? Don’t forget our big day tomorrow.”

Conrad did not say anything as he walked into the elevator and pushed the button to close the door.

Esme took a step back so as to not be clamped by the closing door. She glared at him and said, “We’ve known each other from when we were kids. It’s fate that we’d be together. You can’t run away from your fate!”

Chapter 1059

Conrad simply rolled his eyes and looked at the elevator wall.

The elevator door closed, stopping Esme outside.

“What are you up to so late at night, Britney?” When Mrs. Thomas heard the sound of the car outside, she quickly greeted Esme.

Esme got out of the car and could feel Mrs. Thomas’s genuine care for her.

Beth was very strict with her when she was with the Mannings. She would scold her most of the time and rarely consoled her.

When she saw how Mrs. Thomas genuinely cared for her, she had mixed feelings about it.

“It’s quite late. Why aren’t you asleep?”

Mrs. Thomas held Esme’s hand and said, “Your big day is tomorrow. The wedding is so rushed but you’re still not at home... I’m not feeling good about all of this.”

Esme's eyes turned red. "You're a good mother."

Mrs. Thomas led her back home and asked, "You've changed a lot since you returned. Are you becoming distant from me after not being at home for so long? Is it because you're not used to it so you can't get close to me like when you're little?"

"No," Esme said. "It's just that I'm older now. After experiencing so much, I can't stick so close to you like when I was little anymore."

Mrs. Thomas sighed. "If I had known that you and your sister would be so independent, I would have accompanied both of you more when you were little."

"When we're little, why were you always so busy?" Esme asked carefully.

Mrs. Thomas sighed again. "That's because your dad is very ambitious and he couldn't manage it alone. I have no choice but to help him!"

There was a hint of disdain in Esme's eyes. She had felt his ambitiousness after staying here for just a little while.

It was quite pitiful to marry someone who was so ambitious but didn't have any abilities. "And look at how things are now. Your dad isn't happy with me, so I don't have to help him anymore. But you and your sister no longer need me," Mrs. Thomas said, sadly.

Something stirred in Esme's heart. "What do you mean I don't need you? Once I have children, you'll need to help me take care of them."

"Sure!" Mrs. Thomas nodded as her eyes glowed with life. However, when she remembered something, she asked, "Can I really help you with your children? Conrad has his own mother and he's from such a rich family. He'll probably hire a nanny later, right?"

Esme held Mrs. Thomas's shoulder and said, "Grandmas and nannies are different. If I tell him that you'll take care of our children, he won't refuse me."

"That's for the best. I'll wait for you to have your child!"

"Sure!" After calming Mrs. Thomas down, Esme returned to Britney's room and her expression instantly turned cold.

She muttered to herself, “You must be crazy... You don’t need your own mother, but a fake mother?”

“It’s all just an act. If you don’t put some effort into it, how can they fully trust you?”

“If I have their trust... I’ll have a use for them eventually.”

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She talked to herself alone and went to wash up. She finished her skincare routine before going to bed.

Tomorrow was going to be a great day for her! She would be Conrad’s true wife!

From then onward, they would become one! No one would be able to hurt her ever again!

At three in the morning, Esme suddenly woke up from her nightmare.

Her breathing was all over the place as she was drenched in her own sweat.

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Beth was grabbing her in her dreams, covered in blood, asking... “Why do you want to kill me, daughter?!”

She kept on saying, “It’s not me! It’s Fia! She hit you with the lamp! She was the one that killed you!”

“It’s you... You messed with the equipment! You choked me to death because I can’t breathe!”

“No! It’s not me!” Esme refuted in her dreams as she cried.

“It’s just a dream... Just a dream... a dream...” She consoled herself for a long time.

She turned on the lamp and was about to wash her face. Suddenly, she sensed something watching her from the window.

She turned around, saw what those things were, and reflexively screamed.

Chapter 1060

As chills traveled down her spine, Esme stared at those things that were on the window.

It was a pale face with a green glow, and it was floating on the curtain with its eyes bright. Suddenly, there was a bang. It sounded like something had fallen from the outside.

Esme jumped off her bed in horror and switched on the light in the room.

Bright white light instantly flooded into the room, and the face on the curtain disappeared.

She had just calmed down when the window suddenly opened, and the curtains were pulled by the wind.

“Ah! Ah!” She screamed continuously. She wanted to close the window, but she had just taken the first step...

When a terrifying voice came from outside.

“Give my life back to me, my daughter...”

“It’s not me! Not me!” Esme screamed. “It’s not me!”

“Britney! Britney, are you alright?” The banging of the door and the sound from the outside mixed together, terrifying her even more.

Mrs. Thomas had no choice but to use a duplicate key to open the door and she ran in together with her husband.

“Britney!” The two of them ran toward Esme, wanting to hug her. But all they did was make her scream even more.

“Go away! Go away! It has nothing to do with me! It’s not me!”

“Britney, what’s going on?” Mrs. Thomas held Esme’s hand tightly.

Mr. Thomas looked at the opened window and the curtains that were drifting in the wind. He quickly went over and closed the window tight.

He mumbled, "Why did you leave the window open while sleeping? You'll catch a cold because of the cold weather. Tomorrow is your wedding. What if something evil comes in from the outside?"

"Stop being so ridiculous!" Mrs. Thomas gave him a stare. "Can't you see how scared she is? Why are you still talking about things like that?"

Mr. Thomas simply said, "I'm just worried about her, alright?"

Outside the door, Barbara was snickering in silence as she had her back by the doorframe.

Esme had already calmed down and she looked at her viciously.

"What are you laughing about?!" Mr. Thomas said angrily.

Even Mrs. Thomas couldn't help scolding her. "Barbara, your sister's in shock. Why are you smiling like that?"

"I'm just smiling. She can't have a good night's sleep after doing so many sinful things,"

Barbara said, full of smiles. She showed her no mercy when she continued saying, "Look at how scared you are. Is the ghost of someone you killed here for you?"

"Of course not!" Esme said angrily as she gritted her teeth. She was already dead! Why wouldn't she leave her alone even in her dreams?

She became her parents' pride after going to all sorts of tuition classes since she was little.

She didn't owe them anything, right?

She simply made the necessary choices. Their sacrifices in exchange for her good life!

Why were they torturing her like this?!

"Then, what are you afraid of?" Barbara sneered before leaving.

“How can you be so cold-hearted?! She’s your sister! If you’re going to show such cold- heartedness to your sister, you’ll be judged for it eventually!” Mr. Thomas yelled out in anger.

Barbara paused and said, “You’re going to regret your own blindness.”

“How dare you!” Mr. Thomas raised his fist.

When Mrs. Thomas saw it, she quickly pulled him back.

“What are you doing? Barbara probably said that because of her stress from her divorce.”

Mr. Thomas broke free and said, “It’s all your fault for not being an example to them when they were little!”

After hearing everything, Esme was no longer afraid. Instead, she found the whole situation laughable.

She pulled her hand out from Mrs. Thomas’s grasp and said, “It’s fine. I was just having a nightmare.”

“What kind of nightmare?” Mr. Thomas asked curiously.

Mrs. Thomas then shot back, “You still want to ask her about it? Aren’t you worried that she’ll get scared again?”

Mr. Thomas simply argued back, “I care about her!”

Esme then said, “I want to rest now.” If they continued like that, she would die from their incessant bickering after surviving that scare!

She had seen her parents fight since she was little. Now seeing Mr. and Mrs. Thomas acting the same, she grew even more disgusted!

She wished that she could slap them both!