

Trapped in Love #Chapter 31 - Read Trapped in Love Chapter 31

Chapter 31

Chapter 31 Over My Dead Body

Scott typed. [Your father came over last night and had a big fight with your mother. He even forced the hospital to give him your mother's medical fees.]

Caroline furrowed her brows in concern. [Is my mother alright?]

Scott explained. I'm here with her. Don't worry. I gave him 150 dollars, and he backed down.]

Caroline was taken aback. She couldn't fathom how her dad could have the audacity to take money from her mother's doctor.

Although she disapproved of Scott's independent actions, she couldn't argue with the fact that he did it for her mother's sake.

However, since it had happened once, she feared it might happen again.

Pondering over it, she made up her mind to talk to him about it.

After transferring 150 dollars to his account, she typed. [Dr. Wilson, thank you for helping my mother in this situation. But please don't give my father any money again. If he approaches you, tell him to come to me. Thank you]

Scott didn't decline because he knew Caroline disliked being indebted to others.

If he didn't promise her, she might try to convince him all night, so he simply agreed.

Afterward, he asked a question. [Got it. So... when will you be coming back?]

Caroline replied. [In a few days.]

Before she could finish typing the sentence, she heard the bathroom door open.

Evan emerged, wearing a black bathrobe and drying his short hair with a towel.

Quickly, Caroline hid her phone behind a pillow, pretending to watch TV.

However, Evan caught sight of her action.

He approached her and stared at her with his penetrating eyes. "What are you hiding?"

She tried her best to suppressing her anxiety and replied calmly, "The pillow wasn't very

comfortable, so I was just adjusting it."

Evan narrowed his eyes. Then he tossed the towel aside and forcefully pulled her off the sofa.

As a result, the pillow fell, and he happened to see the conversation between her and Scott, as she hadn't had time to close her phone.

When he noticed Scott's name, a cold aura suddenly emanated from him.

+15 BONUS

He picked up her phone. Fury consumed him as he read the final part of their conversation.

Clenching the phone with his slender fingers, he glared at her fiercely. "How dare you lie to me!"

Caroline felt frightened by his gaze, but she realized she hadn't done anything wrong, so she responded calmly, "I knew you would be angry, so I chose to keep it from you."

Unfortunately, he didn't even give her explanation a chance.

His voice grew colder and more intense. "Are you so eager to see each other?"

Caroline pressed her lips together. "Evan, please try to calm down."

Just as she was about to turn away and leave, he grabbed her arm and forcefully pushed her back

onto the sofa.

Then, he sank his teeth into her shoulder with brutal force.

Caroline cried out in pain. "Evan, have you lost your mind?"

She raised her hands to push him away, but he seized her wrists.

With a face that was both dark and handsome, he looked up, gritting his teeth, and uttered each

word forcefully, "Caroline, this is the price you must pay for deceiving me!"

Abruptly, he leaned down and kissed her, biting her lips forcefully to unleash his anger.

The taste of blood flooded her mouth, mingled with the bitterness that pricked her nostrils. !

Brimming with anger, she cursed at him with a mix of frustration and defiance, "Evan, you're a

damn pervert!"

"Pervert? Well, I'll show you something even more outrageous!"

Caroline curled up on the sofa, her lower body throbbing with excruciating pain.

She shot a resentful glare at the retreating figure of the man before her and asked hoarsely,

"When will you let me go?"

Evan, now clad in a bathrobe, cast a cold sidelong glance at her. "You want to leave? Not a chance."

He squatted down, his fingers tightly pinching her chin. "Caroline, take this as your final warning. If I catch you involved with him again, he will cease to exist in Angelbay City."

Caroline defiantly pushed his hand away. "All you ever do is threaten me."

Evan sneered, straightening himself up. "No, I also enjoy tormenting you."

+15 BONUS

"You despicable and shameless jerk!" She swallowed the curses that swirled in her heart and silently endured.

She knew that provoking him would lead to unimaginable consequences. She had to hold on until

the day her mother was discharged from the hospital.

After spending five arduous days in Florencia City, Evan brought Caroline back.

During her time confined there, she managed to complete her design drafts. Now, all that remained was to submit her design concept. novelbin

As they arrived at Florencia City Airport, Daniella and Paige were already there, awaiting them.

A tinge of envy glimmered in Daniella's eyes as she observed Caroline approaching, accompanied by Evan.

Chapter 32

Chapter 32 Crossing the Line

+15 BONUS

Despite her envy, Daniella she maintained her gentle and virtuous demeanor in front of everyone.

A few hours later, they returned to Angelbay City. This time, Evan didn't ask Reuben to give Caroline a ride back to Villa Rosa. Instead, they went to the company together.

Upon stepping back into the office that she hadn't seen in so long, Caroline was taken aback by the sight of the missing glass wall that once separated her office from the president's office. Now, it was transformed into a shared space. Her excitement about returning to the company instantly

shattered

‘Does he intend to monitor my every move and word?’

A surge of anger ignited within her, and she stormed towards Evan, who was seated at his desk.

Don’t you think you’re crossing the line here?”

Evan looked up calmly. “Are you upset?”

“Upset? How dare he ask me that? Would he accept being monitored in the same way?’

Caroline gritted her teeth. “I don’t feel like working right now. I want to leave.”

Evan’s handsome face sank. “Are you planning to run off and schedule with Doctor Wilson the

perfect time to meet him when I’m not around?”

She stared at him wide-eyed and asked, “Can you stop being so unreasonable?”

Evan found her reaction amusing and thought inwardly, “Lately, she has been showing her emotions openly in front of me. She’s more intriguing when she’s irritable rather than maintaining her distant facade.’

Evan picked up a document on the desk and tossed it to her. “Instead of spouting nonsense, you

better focus on this task.”

Her anger was abruptly interrupted, and she stared at the document for a moment before. reluctantly beginning to work on it.

At five o’clock in the evening, Daniella popped into Evan’s office.

Her face turned grim when she realized that Caroline and Evan’s offices had been merged.

Coincidentally, Evan was absent. Always the opportunist, Daniella approached Caroline.

*Caroline, I must say, I'm impressed," Daniella mocked.

Caroline looked up at her icily. "You flatter me."

+15 BONUS

Infuriated, Daniella's face reddened. "Do you really believe you can win his heart? Don't forget, he was the one who stayed by my side when I fell ill!"

Caroline nodded thoughtfully. "Oh, if you were so affectionate with him, why did he rush to my aid when I needed help?"

Daniella's anger flared up at the mention of that incident.

"Cut the act. What will it take for you to leave him?"

With a sneer, Caroline stood up and approached Daniella. "Let's get this straight. He's the one who refuses to let me go. And why are you so proactive? Are you attracted to his handsome appearance or his high social status?"

With each sentence Caroline spoke, she took a step closer to Daniella. 1

Daniella was forced to retreat, panic flickering across her delicate face.

"Nonsense! I just have a

crush on him."

Caroline laughed coldly. "Really? I'm quite curious how you always know exactly when he will appear at the company. And why do you always happen to be downstairs at the perfect time to meet him? Everything just seems a little too coincidental. I don't mind if you want to pursue him, but please remember one thing: Don't keep provoking me! You're not even his wife yet. What right do you have to boss me around?"

Being retorted, Daniella's charming face became hideous.

As Daniella prepared to respond, the door suddenly opened, causing her to stumble and end up sitting on the floor, tearfully and pitifully exclaiming, "Ms. Shenton, I only want to repay Evan's kindness. Why are you scolding me?"

When Caroline saw Daniella's pretentious pitiable state, she knew Evan had returned.

She stood calmly, observing the man as he entered the office.

Evan glanced at Caroline before reaching out to help Daniella up. Frustration seeped into his

voice, albeit subtly.

“You should go home first.” novelbin

Shock enveloped Daniella. “Evan, I...”

“Go home!” He didn’t give her a chance to refuse.

Daniella burst into tears and hastily fled the room.

Once the door closed, Caroline inquired, “Why aren’t you blaming me for mistreating your first

+15 BONUS

Evan glared at her, then loosened his tie. “I know what you’re trying to do.”

Amused, Caroline retorted, “And what, pray tell, am I trying to do?”

Evan narrowed his cold eyes and approached, pinching her chin. “You’re simply trying to disgust me so that I’ll drive you out of Villa Rosa. And then, you’ll be free to escape to distant lands with Doctor Wilson, am I right?”

Caroline was at a loss for words.

‘Why is he entertaining such wild thoughts?’

She felt a dull pain in her chin, prompting her to pull away without denying his words. 1

“In that case, I’ll continue tormenting Daniella every time I see her, just as you suggested.”

“Caroline!” Evan roared, his breath heavy.

His eyes burned with anger, as if he wanted to tear her apart. “How many times do you think you

can bully her?”

Caroline was taken aback. “What do you mean?”

Evan withdrew his hand. “She saved my life, so I’ll do everything in my power to repay her.

“If you wish to avoid severe consequences in the future, you’d better stop tormenting her.”

Chapter 33

Chapter 33 Sinking Without a Trace

Caroline’s expression twisted with disdain. “If that’s the case, then you better make sure to discipline her properly from now on. Tell her to stop finding fault with me all the time!”

With those words, Caroline forcefully stormed out of the room, leaving Evan standing alone in his novelbin

office, his brows furrowed in thought.

After a moment, he retrieved his phone and dialed Reuben’s number. “How’s the investigation

progressing?”

Reuben’s voice came through the line. “Mr. Jordan, the deputy dean has passed away, so we couldn’t confirm anything. However, we did find the teacher who taught Ms. Love that year.”

He continued, “She explained that Ms. Love was bullied during that time, which caused her to suffer from some sort of trauma. But the orphanage covered it up.”

A dark cloud crossed Evan’s face.

“There’s another matter,” Reuben added.

“Go on,” Evan urged

“The dean informed me that the girl with the red mole on her earlobe went by the name Lyra. It’s possible that Ms. Love changed her name after being adopted.”

Deep lines etched across Evan’s forehead. “Did you manage to contact her adoptive parents?”

Reuben replied, “I had someone reach out to them, but by the time our contact went to their address, they had already moved without leaving any traces behind.”

“Keep investigating.” Evan commanded firmly.

Knock! Knock! Knock!

Suddenly, a knock interrupted their conversation. “Mr. Jordan! Please come to the fashion design. department immediately. Ms. Love has collapsed.”

When it was time to leave work, Caroline realized she was the last one remaining in the office. To

her surprise, Reuben was not waiting for her at the company entrance as usual.

Feeling a sense of relief, she made her way toward the road, intending to hail a taxi and visit her

mother at the hospital. However, after waiting for over ten minutes, she grew impatient.

Just then, a Lamborghini stopping in front of her.

+15 BONUS

The car window rolled down, revealing a gentle and vaguely familiar face. “Ms. Shenton?” the man inquired.

Caroline was momentarily taken aback, trying to recall where she had seen that face before. After a brief moment, she asked, “Mr. Xander?”

A smile crept onto Neil’s face as he spoke tenderly, “Where are you headed? Allow me to give you

a ride.”

“It’s alright, I can find a taxi,” Caroline tactfully declined.

Neil persisted, “It might take you at least an hour to find a taxi during this rush hour. Let me save

you the trouble.”

Caroline was struck speechless.

Reluctantly, she accepted the offer and got into the car, wanting to reach the hospital sooner.

After fastening her seatbelt, Neil turned to her with a smile, “Where are you going?”

Caroline replied, “Angelbay Private Hospital. Thank you, Mr. Xander.”

Neil chuckled. “It’s no trouble at all. I still owe you a sincere apology for my cousin’s behavior the

other day.”

Awkwardness settled between them. “That wasn’t your fault. You don’t have to apologize to me.

Neil turned to look at her. “Are you sick? Why are you going to the hospital?”

Caroline shook her head. “No, my mother is hospitalized.*

Stunned by her reaction, remorse flickered in Neil’s eyes. “I’m sorry to hear that,” he offered.

sincerely.

Caroline responded with a casual smile before falling into silence. Meanwhile, Neil couldn’t help

but steal glances at her, struck by the uncanny resemblance she bore to his mother.

Their features exuded a similar blend of stubbornness and tenderness, particularly their captivating eyes that held an ancient charm. They could easily pass for siblings.

Neil attempted to break the tension with a gentle tone. “Ms. Shenton, you remind me of someone I know.”

Caroline was left speechless, her mind swirling with thoughts. ‘Is this some kind of modern-day tactic people use to flirt with others?’

Observing him with a hint of wariness, she adopted a more assertive tone. “Mr. Xander, what exactly do you mean?”

www

+15 BONUS

She found it hard to believe that someone would go out of their way to give her a ride after just

one encounter.

Neil responded honestly, hoping to clarify the situation. “Perhaps you bear a striking resemblance

to her, so...”

Caroline interrupted, her tone sharp with sarcasm. “So, you gave me a ride before asking for my contact information. You want to approach me by pretending that I resemble someone, right?”

Neil was taken aback by her defensive reaction, not expecting her to be so vigilant.

Quickly, he explained, “Ms. Shenton, I apologize for the misunderstanding. I was referring to my sister, who disappeared when she was very young.

Caroline was rendered speechless once again.

Is he taking me for a fool?!!

She spoke sternly, noticing the hospital just ahead. “Mr. Xander, please stop the car and let me out.

Neil immediately pulled over, a tinge of regret in his gentle eyes. “Ms. Shenton, I did sense a familiarity when I saw you, but I assure you, I’m not the person you think I am

Caroline scoffed coldly. “Thank you, Mr. Xander. But I’m not the type of woman to be easily fooled by wealthy heirs like yourself.”

With those words, she opened the car door resolutely and left.

Sitting alone in the car, Neil was left shell–shocked

He couldn’t fathom how someone could resemble both Lyra and his mother so closely in both appearance and character...

Meanwhile, Caroline arrived at the hospital’s inpatient department and discreetly inquired if Scott. was on duty that day. Upon learning that he wasn’t, she proceeded toward the ward.

However, when she reached the door of the ward, she heard Katie’s distressed voice, barely stifling her sobs. “Why do you insist on tormenting a child who isn’t even yours? Bradley, you’re a

heartless monster!”

Chapter 34

Chapter 34 How Dare You Turn Off Your Phone

After that, there was total silence...

Caroline was speechless at the door, her mind filled with questions. “Who is the child Mom is

talking about? It can’t possibly be me. I am definitely Dad’s child. Yes, his behavior has changed

drastically over the years, but he was always a responsible father when I was young.’

Caroline shook her head, dismissing the wild thoughts from her mind.

Opening the door and entering, she found Katie sitting on the bed with an angry expression

“Mom, did you argue with Dad again?”

Startled by her daughter’s presence, Katie turned to look at Caroline with a hint of panic. “Why

didn’t you tell me you were here?”

Caroline took a seat beside the bed. After a brief silence, she inquired, “Mom, what did you mean.

when you mentioned a child who isn’t Dad’s?”

Avoiding eye contact, Katie replied, “It’s a child from one of your father’s relatives. It has nothing novel in

to do with you. Don’t meddle in this.”

Caroline sensed something amiss, but she wasn’t sure how to approach the topic. After all, she

had very limited contact with her father’s side of the family. Her mother had always described

them as having peculiar personalities, so she preferred to keep her distance.

So, Caroline decided to change the subject and peeled a fruit for her mother.

“Mom, you’re unwell

now. Don’t worry about other people’s affairs.”

Katie replied, “I just want to prevent your father from committing more wrongdoings...”

It was past nine o’clock at night when Caroline left the hospital.

She hailed a taxi to hurry back to Villa Rosa. The exhaustion and the effects of her pregnancy

caused her to doze off shortly after getting into the cab.

In her dream, she found herself in a spacious house, Children were running and playing in the

yard, except for one girl with braided hair who sat alone beside a flower bed. Suddenly, another

girl with a ponytail approached her and asked, "Why do you always look so sad? Stop sulking."

The girl with braided hair lifted her head, slightly displeased. "You're mean."

The girl with the ponytail pushed her shoulders, causing her to fall into the flower bed and get covered in dirt. She continued to taunt, "I'll slap you hard if you say that again!"

+15 BONUS

Undeterred, the girl with braided hair endured the pain and defiantly looked at her tormentor. "No

matter how many times I say it, you'll still be mean. I'm not telling lies!"

"I'll teach you a lesson!"

The girl with the ponytail gathered her friends and they started hitting the girl with braided hair

together. Caroline watched anxiously, wanting to intervene but unable to reach them no matter

how hard she tried.

"Hey, Miss. We've arrived!" the taxi driver called, waking Caroline from her dream.

Realizing she had reached her destination, Caroline quickly straightened herself and retrieved money from her purse to pay the driver.

Stepping out of the car, the cold wind snapped her back to reality.

Pondering over her dream, she gently massaged her forehead. 'Maybe it's because of Daniella's recent behavior that I had a dream about being bullied.'

As she dwelled on the dream, she couldn't help but place a hand on her lower abdomen, feeling a slight uneasiness,

For a moment, she felt a wave of concern wash over her, thinking about the possibility of her

child experiencing isolation and bullying in the future.

Shaking off the distant thoughts, she focused on walking towards the villa.

As she entered the yard, she noticed there were no cars, indicating that Evan was not yet home.

Opening the door and stepping inside, Caroline was greeted by an anxious Lily.

“Ms. Shenton, where were you?”

Confused by Lily’s worried tone, Caroline inquired, “What’s the matter?”

Lily glanced toward the door and replied, “Mr. Jordan called you many times but couldn’t reach.

you. He even smashed a few things in the living room ”

As Lily spoke, she gestured towards the scattered items strewn across the floor in the living room.

Caroline stood there in shock, then quickly took her phone out of her bag to check it.

Realizing her phone was dead, frustration crept over her. “My phone ran out of battery.”

Worry filled Lily’s eyes. “Ms. Shenton, I’ve never seen him so angry before. When he returns, don’t make him even more angry.”

Caroline nodded, her mind filled with unease. She bypassed Lily and hurried upstairs to charge her phone.

+15 BONUS

A minute later, her phone lit up, bombarded with notifications of missed calls. There were missed.

calls from Evan, Reuben, and even her mother.

Just as Caroline was about to return their calls, Evan's name appeared on the screen, and her heart

raced as she answered.

"Caroline, how dare you turn off your phone!" Evan's voice boomed angrily.

Caroline swallowed, trying to remain calm. "My phone ran out of battery...."

"Where are you now?" Evan roared angrily again.

Caroline replied honestly, "I'm at Villa Rosa."

He abruptly hung up, intensifying the premonition in Caroline's heart. She had witnessed Evan's

anger before, but this level of fury was unprecedented.

As Caroline pondered how to handle the situation, Katie called once again.

Caroline answered immediately, her voice filled with worry. "Mom..."

"Carol, where are you right now?" Katie's voice trembled.

Anxiously, Caroline asked, "Mom, what's wrong? Has something happened?"

Katie explained, "A group of men in black suits stormed into the ward earlier, asking if you had

been there."

"I told them you were here, and they rushed out again. Carol, have you angered someone you

shouldn't have?"

"Don't worry, Mom. I haven't offended anyone. They're just the security personnel my boss hired to

protect me."

Chapter 35

Chapter 35 Don't I Deserve the Money

"Your boss?" Katie was astonished.

Caroline responded nonchalantly, "Dad's creditors keep bothering me. My boss noticed and he offered to provide a few bodyguards for my protection."

Relieved, Katie let out a sigh. "I'm glad you're safe. Don't turn off your phone like that again. You scared me."

Caroline briefly comforted her mother before ending the call. She then walked over to the window, feeling nervous as she looked down below and waited

In less than ten minutes, a black Maybach sped into the yard. Evan stepped out of the car and entered the villa, his demeanor ominous and gloomy

Caroline closed her eyes. Exhaustion consumed her as she anticipated Evan's fury that awaited

her.

Turning around, she headed towards the bedroom door with a sense of unease. As she reached for

the doorknob, it suddenly swung open with a loud bang, striking her shoulder and causing a sharp

pain.

Instinctively, she cradled her shoulder and gazed up at the handsome yet gloomy face. Veins

bulged on his forehead, his once impeccable countenance now filled with weariness.

His gaze frightened her, causing her to instinctively take a step back. Before she could retreat to

safety, he grabbed her shoulders and forcefully pressed her against the wall.

"Tell me, why did you turn off your phone?" Evan demanded in a cold, aloof tone.

Caroline endured the pain shooting through her shoulders and met his gaze, explaining, "I told you, my phone's battery died..."

Whoosh!

Before she could finish her explanation, he abruptly threw several cold photographs at her face.

As they fluttered down to the floor, she lowered her head to examine them.

Soon, she recognized the familiar Lamborghini and saw herself standing beside the car, engaged

in conversation with the driver.

"Were you fooling around with another man in my absence?" At that moment, he resembled a

beast that had lost control.

His furious roar pierced her ears. "Caroline, I never knew you were capable of this!"

Caroline's heart sank as she anticipated another wave of relentless scrutiny and torment.

+15 BONUS

Taking a deep breath, she looked up into his bloodthirsty gaze. "Will you believe me even if I explain?"

"It won't make you any less repulsive!" Evan's anger was terrifying.

Caroline's eyes flickered 'Repulsive...

"He finds me repulsive even before I have a chance to explain."

"Aren't you the repulsive one? Caroline lowered her gaze and snorted.

"You that once you found her, you would terminate the contract automatically. So

promised me why are we still stuck together now? You adore Daniella but treat me like a disposable dog. You cruelly trample on my dignity every single day. One word from you controls my entire life. But why? I worked hard and wasted my youth serving you for three long years. Don't I deserve the money?" :

As she posed these questions, tears welled up in her eyes and streamed down her cheeks.

Fiercely wiping them away, she pushed him away and firmly declared, "I'm resigning!"

Evan felt as if he had been dealt a fatal blow, witnessing her tears and hearing her final words. A tinge of panic flickered in his dark eyes as an uncontrollable feeling surged within him.

That panic only lasted a brief moment. Very quickly, his eyes turned cold once more.

"Resign?" Evan sneered. "You can never escape until I grow tired of you"

That statement shattered all of Caroline's hopes for her future.

"Come in!" Evan coldly shouted. novelbin

Several footsteps echoed from the stairs.

The bodyguards appeared one by one at the door of the room

"No one is to let her out without my permission!"

After issuing the order, he callously left the room.

As the door closed firmly, Caroline closed her eyes in complete despair.

Caroline spent the entire night sleepless, enduring until Lily arrived to bring her breakfast.

When the door opened, Caroline noticed the bodyguard still stationed motionlessly at the entrance.

“Ms. Shenton, you can’t resist Mr. Jordan like this,” Lily sighed, placing the food on the bedside

+15 BONUS

“You don’t understand how worried he was last night. He had over a hundred bodyguards searching for you all over the city. I saw the panic on his face when he couldn’t reach you on the phone. I’ve seen this kind of thing before. His behavior stems from his deep concern for you. Why are you so stubborn?”
1

‘Does he really care about me?’ Caroline sneered inwardly. “I suppose I’d be worried too if I lost my
pet.”

She restrained herself from uttering that she was merely a dog he kept.

Feeling sympathetic towards Caroline, Lily advised kindly, “Ms. Shenton, this won’t end well. You should give in to him. It’s better than being locked up like this...”

Caroline slowly curled her knees up, hugging them tightly with her hands. In a soft voice, she said, “Lily, please stop trying to persuade me.”

She had given in to him for three years, and now she refused to continue down that path. Otherwise, she would see herself as a despicably shameless woman.

Chapter 36

Chapter 36 Who Do You Think You’re Fooling

Evan decided to visit Daniella in the hospital after completing his tasks for the night. As he entered her ward, Daniella quickly sat up, a smile forming on her face.

“Evan, you’re here!” she said happily.

He responded flatly, “Lie down, you don’t need to get up.”

A flicker of disappointment flashed through Daniella’s eyes when she realized he didn’t come

closer to her.

“I’m fine. I feel much better after a night of rest,” she sighed. “Sorry for causing you trouble again.

yesterday.”

He furrowed his brows “Don’t go to her again. She’s terrible. Please protect yourself.”

Daniella asked shyly, “Can I assume that you care about me?”

Evan’s eyes dimmed significantly. There are certain things you can definitely avoid.”

Daniella’s expression froze, not hearing the response she hoped for. But then, she noticed his tired,

and handsome face.

“Didn’t you get a good rest last night, Evan?” she asked with affection.

He responded curtly, devoid of emotion, “I’m going to go since you’re fine.”

She didn’t dare ask him to stay. She had to maintain the image of being considerate in front of

him. Even if she felt unwilling, she suppressed her feelings. ‘Sure, you should leave.’”

After he left, her face turned grim.

‘What do I have to do to win this man’s heart? she wondered to herself.
novelbin

She had pretended to be unconscious twice, yet she didn’t sense any care from him. It seemed like he only cared for her as he would a regular friend.

As she pondered, her phone suddenly rang. Her face paled significantly when she saw the phone

number.

Quickly, she removed the blanket and ran to the door. After making sure Evan had left, she

answered the call.

“Did you miss me, Daniella?” a man’s crooked chuckle came through the phone.

Daniella clenched her teeth and replied with a forced smile, ‘Of course. But next time, please send me a text before calling. If you had called a few minutes earlier, he would have found out.’”

+15 BONUS

The man chuckled. “How’s it going, babe? Did you get it?”

“How can I get it so quickly? I need a little more time,” she said.

The man paused for a moment. I’ve been tight on money lately. Can you send me some?”

Frowning, she lowered her voice. “I don’t have any!”

“He gave you a house but not money? Who are you trying to fool?”

“I’m not!” she said in panic. “All the money I have is my salary!”

The man’s voice suddenly turned cold. “Do you think I’m a three-year-old child, Daniella? Don’t forget, if I hadn’t told you about the secret of the red mole, how could you have convinced Evan

that you’re the love of his life? If you don’t want to give me money, I guess I can accidentally

reveal some things to Evan.” 1

Daniella’s expression changed drastically. She tightly gripped her phone and comforted him. “I

know, Nic. Don’t be mad at me. Why don’t I transfer you half of my salary? I’ll work harder to

convince Evan, how’s that?”

“That’s more like it. I’ll be in Angelbay City tomorrow. Be a good girl and accompany me, all right?”

Nic said.

“I’ll do as you say, Nic. But can you help me one more time?” she pleaded.

“How can I say no to my baby?”

She held back her disgust. “You know Evan has a secretary, right? Find a way to get rid of her for me.”

“Sure. But I’m tight on money. I’ll need some to do that...”

“Got it, I’ll transfer you the money later.”

Back at Villa Rosa, Lily approached Evan as soon as he returned.

“Sir, Ms. Shenton is refusing to eat. Why don’t you talk to her?” she suggested.

He glared coldly at the second floor. “Let her be. Let’s see how long she can keep this up!”

Lily looked concerned. “But her stomach is still upset...”

“Let her be! She won’t die of hunger!” Evan declared, heading upstairs. He paused for a moment as

he passed Caroline’s room before eventually returning to his own.

After taking a shower, he lay on the bed. Despite his annoyance, he couldn’t fall asleep. He decided to chat on his phone instead

+15 BONUS

He texted, [Hey].

Alex, who received the message, was shocked. The typically uncommunicative Evan Jordan sent

him a message!

[What's up]. Alex replied.

[What does it mean when a woman who has been working with you for many years suddenly insists on resigning?]

Alex couldn't help but roll his eyes at the question. Couldn't he just mention Caroline directly?

Intent on stirring things up, Alex responded, [Just let her go! Out with the old, in with the new.]

Evan frowned. 'Let Caroline go?

He immediately dismissed that thought. It was impossible!

[She's capable], he replied.

Alex continued to instigate. [She's either not making enough money or she's in love, ready to start

a family.]

Evan ignored the first suggestion completely. Just as he suspected, Caroline had an ulterior

motive for leaving! She was even starving herself for it!

Evan's anger flared up again. After seeing Alex's suggestions, there was no way he could sleep

peacefully tonight.

Chapter 37

Chapter 37 Are You Guys Together

+15 BONUS

For the next three days, Lily would inform Evan about Caroline's refusal to eat every time he

returned home. He had initially tolerated it, but at the end of three days, he had reached his limit.

She was willing to trade her health to run away freely with another man?!

With a grim expression, Evan made his way upstairs. After dismissing the bodyguard, he entered

Caroline's room.

The only source of light in the dark room came from the computer. He noticed Caroline curled up

on the bed, peacefully asleep.

As he approached her, he caught sight of two bottles of medicine on the side of the computer. His frown deepened when he picked them up and realized they were acute pain relievers, not the gastric medicine he expected. Opening the cap, he discovered that there wasn't much left.

Putting the medicine aside, he walked closer to the bed and gently shook Caroline awake. "Get up!"

Caroline, feeling dizzy from hunger, opened her eyes and saw his handsome face. She thought it was a hallucination caused by her empty stomach.

Slapping his arms away, she mumbled with closed eyes, "Why am I seeing him even in my

dreams?"

Evan heard her words clearly, and he couldn't snap out of his shock. Was she talking about him? His grim expression softened considerably as he contemplated her statement.

Sitting by the bed, he asked in his deep voice, "Do you want to see your mother?"

Caroline, still thinking she was imagining things, heard his voice again and sensed that

something was amiss. Opening her eyes wide, she realized it was really him.

She instinctively wanted to get up, but she just did not have the strength to after not-eating for

three days.

Confused, she gulped and asked, "Why are you here?"

His expression turned cold as he came up with a flimsy excuse. "The New Year is approaching, and I don't want anyone to die in my home."

Angry, she retorted, "Then bury me somewhere. I'd rather die than lose my freedom."

She would rather die sooner. Although she didn't verbalize her innermost thoughts, he could perceive the weight of her unspoken desires, and a flicker of irritation danced in his eyes.

Determined to change the situation, he issued a commanding order, "Get up, we're going out!"

1/3

Caroline gazed at him, a mix of astonishment and uncertainty reflecting in her eyes.

+15 BONUS

At a spa villa in the suburbs, Evan brought Caroline for a spa day after she reluctantly ate a

spoonful of porridge made by Lily.

As she immersed in the hot spring surrounded by beautiful scenery, she felt a sense of relaxation. novelbin

Secretly, she glanced at the man with a perfect face who was resting with his eyes closed.

His lips were pursed, and the mist in the air gave him a mysterious aura. After a moment of

contemplation, she gathered her courage and asked, "The year is coming to an end. How is the

secretary's office managing?"¹

His voice was husky as he responded, "If you want to go to work, just say so.

She was taken aback. It wasn't that she wanted to work, but she needed to find a way to gain her

freedom. That way, once her mother was discharged from the hospital, she could leave at any

time. ¹

Playing along, she replied, "Yes, I want to work. Staying at Villa Rosa is boring"

Evan opened his eyes slowly, fixing his gaze on her. "Aren't you studying fashion design online?"

She carefully lied, "I don't have the talent for it, so I gave up."

Evan stood up from the water, his muscular body on full display. "Come with me to the room."

Caroline looked down and calmly asked, "Can I ask you something?"

He took a step forward and put on a white robe. "Yes."

"Are you and Daniella..." She licked her lips. "Together?"

She couldn't accept the fact that she was caught in the middle of their relationship.

"As long as you behave, I won't be with her anytime soon."

It wasn't only that, there were some matters he needed to investigate. He had been searching for

her adoptive parents for years, but many women had faked their identity for money. Even though Daniella had shared her side of the story, it didn't guarantee that she was the person he was

looking for. He had to proceed cautiously.

Meanwhile, Daniella lay in bed at the International Residence in Angelbay City. Nic caressed her back as he asked, "How are things going with your adoptive parents? Have they agreed to be your

witnesses?" 1

Viciousness flashed in her eyes as she replied, "No. They're still stubborn, even after being locked

up for so long!"

He kissed her red lips. "I heard your adoptive mother's parents are still alive."

+15 BONUS

She looked up in shock. "Are you saying that I should threaten them with my grandparents?"

"Why not? Look at Evan. He's suspicious of you, which is why he doesn't want to commit fully.

Isn't that the case?"

"No, my conscience won't allow it! They're too old."

"Why are we talking about conscience now? Don't you want your status? Money? Don't you know

how to weigh the pros and cons?"

Daniella froze, Evan's handsome face suddenly appearing in her mind.

Noticing her reaction, Nic continued to fan the flames. "I'm not asking you to harm them

physically. Just use verbal threats on your adoptive parents. If you don't act quickly, you might lose your chance to be with Evan. After all, his real true love hasn't appeared yet.

Chapter 38

Chapter 38 Don't You Dare!

+15 BONUS

Daniella's expression turned grim, and she immediately rose to her feet. "Fine. I understand."

After Nic left, she took a shower and donned a robe before settling in the living room to make a

phone call.

When the call was connected, she demanded, "Put them on the line."

As the door creaked open, her adoptive father's disapproving voice reached her ears. "Go away! I won't

speak to her!"

The watchman spoke, "You can speak now, Ms. Love."

With a smile, she greeted, "Mom, Dad, it's been a while since I called. Seems like you've both developed quite a temper

"Shut your mouth! We never should have adopted you!" Her adoptive mother's voice was filled

with anger.

"Don't be so harsh. I just want to know if you've reconsidered my proposal.

"I've been an honest man my whole life! I can't lie with my eyes wide open!"

Her adoptive father

declared firmly.

"What about you, mother? Do you share the same sentiment?" Daniella inquired after taking a sip

of wine.

"My decision stands! Just let us rot here. We'll never lie for you!" Her mother's voice trembled with

rage.

Daniella scoffed. “Oh, yes. It’s been a while since I visited Grandpa and Grandma. I wonder how they’re doing? Are they still around, or...”

Her adoptive mother’s voice quivered with anger. “What are you planning to do?!”

“Nothing much, just seeking your opinion. Would you prefer them to age gracefully or suffer in misery?” Daniella taunted

“Don’t you dare!” Her mother collapsed.

“Fine, I’ll give you one more day to think about it. Face the consequences if you fail to decide by then, she concluded before hanging up.

Raising her head, she emptied the glass of red wine, feeling a shiver run down her spine as she imagined kissing Evan...

10

The following day, Caroline went to work.

+15 BONUS

The secretary’s office was overflowing with pending tasks that awaited her attention. She became engrossed in her work and forgot to eat throughout the morning.

Evan had another secretary buy two lunches and handed one to her while she was absorbed in front of the computer screen, typing away.

He admired her dedication to work and didn’t want to disturb her. But when he recalled the nearly empty bottles of medicine, he couldn’t help but remind her to eat.

Placing the food on her table, he issued a commanding order, “Eat first.”

The two simple words carried an undeniable authority that she couldn’t refuse.

Surprised, she stopped typing and lifted her head, touched by his concern. It was the first time he had shown such care about her eating habits at work.

As she whispered a heartfelt “thank you,” he had already departed

At 5:30 p.m., Caroline finished sorting the last document and brought it to Evan for his signature.

After he finished signing, she asked, "Can I visit my mom at the hospital now?"

Setting down the pen, he stood up and replied, "I'll take you there."

She nodded, grabbed her bag, and followed him out of the office.

When they arrived at the hospital, she turned to him. "I won't be long. What about you?"

He closed his eyes briefly. "I'll wait here."

She got out of the car without saying a word. If he wanted to wait, she would let him

Just as she took a few steps forward, a blinding white light flashed before her eyes.

Instinctively, she looked toward the source and saw a van speeding toward her from a short distance away.

Her eyes widened, and as if her feet were rooted in place, she couldn't move.

"Caroline!!!"

Evan's desperate voice rang out from behind her.

Her heart squeezed, and she quickly turned her head. Before she could fully process the situation,

he had thrown himself at her, and they were both knocked to the ground.

Closing her eyes instinctively, she didn't feel any pain of the impact.

+15 BONUS

After a moment, she opened her eyes and found herself lying on top of him, his arms still around

her. He looked like he was in a lot of pain. 1

Panic-stricken, she exclaimed, "Evan! Are you hurt?"

He grunted. "Shut up and get up!"

Caroline quickly got up away from him. She gazed at the van, which was speeding away, its number plate obscured.

Reuben rushed over to help Evan up, asking in shock, "Mr. Jordan, are you all right?!"

Evan squinted at the grass beside him. "Did you manage to jot down the number plate?"

Reuben nodded. "Yes, I did. I'll get someone to track them down right away!"

Caroline was still trembling with fear as she stood up. Who wanted to kill her? If Evan hadn't

intervened, she might have been hit.

She looked at Evan, his grim face filled with determination. Was he not scared?

The van had been speeding so recklessly. If Evan had been just a second slower, she might have

been seriously injured or worse.

A mix of complicated emotions swirled within her.

He had risked his own life to save hers.

How could she ever repay such a debt?

Chapter 39

Chapter 39 You've No Right to Negotiate Terms

"What were you thinking?!" The man's voice pierced through Caroline's thoughts, jolting her back to reality.

She lifted her head, her expression filled with guilt. "I'm sorry. I couldn't react in time."

Seeing her guilty look, Evan's anger seemed to dissolve, and he sighed. "Forget it, get in the car."

Caroline nodded quietly and looked at the hospital from afar. Then, she followed him into the car.

As the engine roared to life, she mumbled softly, "Thank you."

Evan removed his dirty coat without acknowledging her gratitude. There was a flicker of irritation in his beautiful eyes as he wondered, I rushed out without thinking to save Caroline at the first sign of danger. What's wrong with me? My life is more valuable than hers!

"Who do you think you might have offended lately?" He asked coldly, his tone filled with a hint of suspicion

Caroline shook her head, her brows furrowing. "I don't know. Besides Mark, I can't think of anyone else I might have offended."

"He's still bedridden, so it can't be him." Evan's words crushed her speculation.

As they arrived at Villa Rosa, they continued to speculate on their own.

Soon after, Reuben arrived with news. "Mr. Jordan, we found him. The car owner is a man named Jared Walker."

Evan loosened his tie, his gaze focused "Bring him here."

"Yes, Sir!" Reuben responded and left the villa to fetch Jared Walker.

Half an hour later, a man with a pale complexion was brought in by two bodyguards. Caroline was sitting at the table, drinking the nutritious soup Lily had prepared. She observed the man, 1 who seemed around 50.

"I don't know anything, Sir! I really don't! I didn't even touch the car today!" the man blurted out in fear as soon as he saw Evan.

Evan's eyes were sharp as an eagle's as he leaned forward. "Did someone borrow your car?"

The middle-aged man shook his head frantically. "No, no! My wife can vouch for me!"

Evan raised his hand, and one of the bodyguards stepped forward, kicking the man in the belly.

+15 BONUS

The man collapsed onto the ground, writhing in pain, while Caroline watched with a mixture of

shock and unease

Despite witnessing the man's suffering, she couldn't find it in herself to feel pity. After all, Evan and she had nearly lost their lives because of this man's actions.

"I'll cripple your arm if you don't start talking." Evan said coldly, his voice filled with resolve.

The man, drenched in cold sweat, pleaded, "I really don't know, Sir! I swear, I don't!"

Evan scoffed, his frustration evident. "If you don't know, then why did you start explaining as soon as you came in? Did I ask you about your car? Or did my men ask you something about it?"

The man's face turned pale, and he stammered while clutching his belly, "I... I..."

Seeing the man's stubbornness, Evan glanced at the bodyguard. "Do it."

"I'll tell you!!!" the man screamed frantically. "But please, show mercy to my family and kids!"

"You have no right to negotiate terms," Evan declared firmly.

The man sat on the ground, defeated. "I don't know the man. He offered me 7,000 dollars to borrow my car, a sum I couldn't possibly earn by selling that old vehicle. I let my greed cloud my judgment, so I agreed to his request without questioning further. But he made it clear that my family's lives were at stake if I dared to speak a word to anyone."

H

"Do you remember what he looked like?" Reuben asked, hoping for a clue.

The middle-aged man furrowed his brow, recalling the encounter. "He had a mask and a cap on but his eyes... His eyes were fierce, triangular."

Caroline sighed softly, realizing that it would be difficult to track down the culprit with such limited information.

Feeling powerless to intervene, she excused herself and went upstairs after finishing the soup.

Meanwhile, at the International Residence in Angelbay City, Daniella sat on the couch, seething with anger. She glared at Nic and confronted him. "You could have kidnapped her! Why did you have to do that? What if you had harmed Evan?"

Nic, visibly upset, raised his voice. "Are you falling in love with him or something?"

Caught off guard, Daniella quickly changed her tone, trying to diffuse the tension "How could you say that, Nic? I'm just worried about our future."

He scoffed, his frustration evident. "I hope that's the case, otherwise, don't blame me for what I do

next!" novelbin

+15 BONUS

Suppressing her anger, she clenched her teeth and spoke through gritted teeth. "I got it, Nic. But. since the mission failed this time, it won't be easy the next time." "

"What's the rush? We have plenty of options. But we can't kidnap her."

Daniella pondered for a moment before a realization struck him. "Oh yeah, I remember her mother is in the hospital."

Confused, he asked, "What do you mean?"

She leaned closer to him, sharing her thoughts. As she finished explaining, he burst into laughter, reaching out to grab her breasts.

"I love it when you're ruthless and cunning!" he exclaimed, flipping her over and pressing against

her.

She wrapped her arms around his neck. As the couch started shaking, she closed her eyes and willed herself to imagine him as Evan.

Amidst their intense entanglement, her moans filled the room, a symphony of her private desires.

Chapter 40

Chapter 40 I Don't Plan On Doing That

For the next two days, Caroline found herself accompanied by two bodyguards whenever she

wanted to go to the hospital.

Surprisingly, she didn't mind their presence as they were a constant reminder that the culprit responsible for her recent ordeal remained unknown.

There was, however, one troublesome issue she faced she couldn't go to the gynecologist for a

pregnancy test.

After careful consideration, she decided to reach out to her friend Paige for help.

She swiftly sent a text, 'Paige, can you help me with something?'

Paige responded promptly, expressing her willingness to help. "Sure, what's up?"

Caroline shared the details of her predicament and conveyed a rough idea of what she needed

from Paige's support.

"Right now?" Paige asked.

"Yes, can you?"

"Of course. Meet at the hospital entrance at 10."

Realizing it was already nine o'clock, Caroline quickly changed her clothes and headed out.

When she arrived at the hospital, Paige glanced up and was taken aback by the presence of the

two imposing bodyguards behind Caroline. "The boss sure takes it to another level. No one would dare to come near you with these guards around."

Caroline let out a sigh. "Let's go inside."

Under the pretense of accompanying Paige, Caroline successfully managed to undergo the

ultrasound examination. Once it was done, they decided to have lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Seated comfortably, they took advantage of the bodyguards stationed at the door and engaged in

conversation.

Paige's gaze shifted towards Caroline's belly, concern etched on her face. "Carol, the doctor

mentioned that you'll start showing in about three months. I think it's time you consider telling

the boss."

Caroline took a sip of water, contemplating Paige's words. "I don't plan on doing that."

Paige persisted, offering her advice. "Have you ever considered that he might want to marry you. because of the child? After all these years, surely you must feel something for him."

+15 BONUS

Caroline was momentarily taken aback by Paige's statement. So what if she had feelings for Evan? She had never entertained the idea of him staying in her life, especially not stealing him from Daniella. Furthermore, revealing the truth carried the potential threat of having her child aborted.

“Carol, I’m telling you, children from single–parent families often face gossip and judgment from a young age. Aren’t you worried that your child will feel envious of other kids with fathers? What will you

say when they ask about their dad?” Paige pressed on.

Caroline hadn’t given much thought to those implications. “I haven’t considered that,” she admitted.

Paige let out a sigh of exasperation. “You should test him. It’s better than not knowing at all.”

Caroline took a deep breath, steeling herself. “You’re right. I’ll find an opportunity and give it a try.”

Upon returning to Villa Rosa, Caroline found Evan and Reuben engaged in conversation in the

living room.

“Mr. Jordan, we didn’t find anything the past two days. This person is quite good at hiding his trails. Please give me more time. Reuben said

Evan, his handsome face marked with a grim expression, spoke fiercely. “I want results, not

excuses!”

Reuben’s head drooped, and he furrowed his brow. “Yes, Mr. Jordan!”

Evan’s head began to ache, and he rubbed his temples. “Tomorrow is the company’s annual dinner. It’s going to be a large gathering, and security needs to be flawless. There can be no

mistakes.”

Reuben acknowledged his instructions and accidentally bumped into Caroline while turning to leave. He greeted her briefly before making his way out.

She changed into slippers and walked into the living room. She saw Evan walking toward her.

Recalling Paige's advice, she instinctively avoided eye contact. "I'm going upstairs," she muttered.

Just as she took a couple of steps away, Evan's deep and hoarse voice reached her ears. "Why did

you go to the gynecologist?"

Her heart squeezed in her chest, but she clenched her fists and looked up, feigning composure as she met his gaze. "I accompanied Paige for a consultation," she replied calmly.

Evan smirked, his tone laced with amusement. "You better not bring any diseases home."

Caroline's expression turned ugly. Unable to hold back herself, she retorted, "If that's what you

+15 BONUS

She walked to the stairs after saying that, and she soon said something else casually,

With those words, she proceeded towards the stairs, her anger barely contained. Before

disappearing from view, she casually added, "And by the way, it's perfectly normal for women to

undergo medical check-ups at the hospital. Don't read too much into it, Evan."

As Caroline vanished at the top of the stairs, a mixture of frustration and anger simmered in

Evan's eyes.

The following day, the deputy director called for a meeting with all the employees to announce

the date and venue for the company's annual dinner. Paige kept chatting with Caroline, inquiring about Evan's attendance. "Carol, the boss will be coming too, right?"

Caroline nodded. "He'll be there unless something urgent comes up."

"And what about you? Will you be coming?"

"Mm-hmm."

She considered herself lucky when it came to the annual dinner. Each year, she would win prizes

like a mobile phone, a computer, or even cash amounts exceeding 150 dollars. It was all money in

the end, and it would be a waste to miss out. Her concern wasn't having too much money; instead,

she worried about not having enough once she left

Paige held onto her arm. "You'll be with the boss tomorrow. What if he asks you to drink?"

She smiled. "I'll come up with something."

Daniella overheard their conversation and, after the meeting concluded, made her way to the

stairs to call Nic. "Nic, I need you to help me retrieve something before tomorrow night..."