

## Trapped in Love #Chapter 51 - Read Trapped in Love Chapter 51

### Chapter 51

#### Chapter 51 Are You Planning to Take Action

Caroline's hands trembled as she checked her Facebook after ending the call. To her dismay, she

came across a series of alarming trending topics that caught her attention:

"Heartless chief secretary of a famous company cruelly sends her father to jail!"

Her face turned pale upon reading the headline. Overwhelmed with anxiety, she clicked into the

comment section, her finger shaking uncontrollably.

"Can you believe such a person exists? And she's the secretary of that famous company?"

"I know someone who works there. Rumor has it she's a mistress."

"She's not fit to be working at a prestigious listed company. This sets a terrible example for

newcomers!"

"Trash! Bitch! Disgusting!"

Disturbing words flooded her vision, engulfing her in a sense of icy dread. She was well aware of

the destructive power that words held, capable of tarnishing a person's reputation.

Paige noticed her distress and quickly inquired, "What's wrong? Are you feeling unwell?"

Panicking, Caroline thrust her phone in front of Paige, revealing the distressing content on the screen.

Seeing what was on the screen, Paige was enraged. "Who the hell is responsible for spreading this.

nonsense?!"

Caroline pinched her palm, trying to regain composure. As she had orchestrated her father's

arrest in front of numerous hospital patients, it seemed plausible that someone might have

witnessed it. However, why had this news only surfaced now?

She checked her phone again, searching for any videos but found none. She instantly ruled out the patients and their families as potential culprits.

Looking up at Paige, she said, determination flickering in her eyes, "Paige, get someone to find out who posted this and when it was posted."

Paige nodded, concern etched on her face. "Of course, but for now, you must return home. If someone wants to harm you, they might be watching you right now. If you don't leave soon, they could escalate things."

Just as Paige finished speaking, Reuben's call came in.

Caroline and Paige exited the building and spotted the familiar car waiting for them.

+15 BONUS As they got into the car, Reuben addressed Caroline, "Ms. Shenton, Mr. Jacob has arranged for the trending topic to be suppressed. However, the culprit paid a considerable sum to secure their prominent placement in the trending list. Many people have already read the news. I suggest you stay at Villa Rossa for the next few days. The storm will likely subside by then."

"Subside?!" Paige exclaimed, her anger boiling. "Are you asking Carol to endure the slander and false accusations passively?"

Reuben quickly interjected, “No, that’s not what I meant.”

“Then what do you mean?! Since your boss is so capable, can’t he find the mastermind behind this?” Paige angrily punched the car seat.

In contrast, Caroline had regained her composure and calmly grasped Paige’s clothes. “Don’t panic. The more frantic we become, the farther we stray from finding a solution.”

Paige fell silent instantly.

Gazing out the car window, Caroline realized that only her father would go to such lengths. Given his character, he would undoubtedly scold her for her actions today.

In truth, he had disappeared before she could provide the money. Someone must have approached him and influenced his actions.

Pondering over the situation, she turned to Reuben and requested, “Reuben, could you get me the

security footage of the company entrance.”

Nodding, Reuben made a call, and soon enough, he acquired the requested footage.

Caroline carefully reviewed the footage and, as she suspected, discovered Daniella conversing

with her father.

Paige seethed with anger. “I knew that pretentious b\*tch was behind all of this!”

Caroline glanced at her. “Without audio evidence, we lack concrete proof.”

Paige gritted her teeth in frustration, acknowledging the validity of Caroline’s statement.

Based on their behavior, it seemed likely that Daniella had orchestrated something. Perhaps she had paid off her father, explaining his sudden change of heart regarding the money.

Caroline looked at Paige as she pondered the situation and requested, "Paige, lend me your phone."

Paige calmly brought out her phone. "Are you planning to take action?"

Caroline rolled her eyes, then dialed a number on Paige's phone. After a couple of rings, the call

connected.

"Hello? Who is it!" Bradley's voice sounded cheerful.

+15 BONUS

"It's me, Caroline."

His tone immediately shifted to silence, only to speak again moments later.

"Just say what you've

got to say!"

Caroline scoffed, noting the change in his attitude from when he had requested money earlier. "I

purchased something and want to deliver it to you. Where are you staying?"

"Are you okay?" He sounded genuinely surprised before adding, "Why are you suddenly coming to

visit?"

"I'm giving you money. Don't you want it?" Caroline asked calmly.

Money meant everything to him, evident from the sudden change in his mood.

"Sure, I'll send you

my address."

After ending the call, Caroline instructed Reuben, "Take us to Sunny Street, Reuben."

"I'm concerned for your safety if you go alone, Ms. Shenton."

Caroline pursed her lips. "That's my business."

Reuben ceased his objections, and upon arrival, he sent Evan the location along with a brief

description.

Caroline reminded Paige before stepping out of the car that if she didn't receive a call within half

an hour, Paige should bring Reuben to Room 302 at the hostel

Caroline took a deep breath and knocked on Bradley's door, mentally preparing herself for what

lay ahead.

## **Chapter 52**

Chapter 52 What is Conscience

+15 BONUS

When Bradley went to open the door, he discreetly peeped into the corridor to ensure no one was

following Caroline. Satisfied, he let her in and scrutinized her as she took a seat.

"You mentioned that you brought something for me. Where is it?" he inquired.

Caroline lied, "Oh, I left it in the car."

He became suspicious and pressed further, "And what about the money?"

"I can give you the money," she said, staring coldly at him, "But I hope you can tell me the truth. about something."

His face darkened, and his tone turned defensive. "I know nothing. Don't ask me anything!"

"Do you

Rage consumed Caroline's eyes. "Do you dare to swear on Mom's grave that you didn't collude with someone else to defame me? If you dare, I'll give you 2,800 dollars. If you don't, it'll prove that you're guilty of it!"

Bradley's eyes widened in disbelief. "Caroline! How dare you speak to me in such a manner?! You're shameless, being someone else's mistress. I haven't even taught you a lesson for humiliating me! It seems what they say about you is true – you're nothing but a bitch!"

Shaking with disappointment, Caroline never expected her biological father to utter such horrible words. She had hoped he wouldn't stoop so low.

Clenching her fists, she retorted, "I'm sure you're paid quite handsomely to do this to me, right?!"

He looked arrogant. "Yes, they paid me! What are you going to do about it? Who asked you not to

pay me?"

"I didn't pay you?!" Her eyes reddened with anger. "Do you feel any sense of conscience when you say that?!"

"Conscience?!" He stood up and rolled up his sleeves. "Okay, you want to talk about conscience with me? I'll show you what conscience means today!"

Caroline's heart pounded as Bradley made a move to strike her. She instinctively stood up and retreated toward the door, warning him, "You know the consequences if you hit me!"

Ignoring her, he grabbed the ashtray from the table and threw it at her. She managed to dodge it, but she couldn't evade him as he charged towards her, swinging his fist and grabbing her hair.

As she was forcefully flung away, she instinctively protected her tummy.

Bradley vented all his pent-up rage from his time in the detention center, delivering a torrent of kicks and punches.

+15 BONUS

Meanwhile, downstairs, Paige paced anxiously, glancing upward every now and then. Half an hour

had passed, and Caroline hadn't come down. Paige considered dragging Reuben upstairs

Before she could act, a Rolls Royce suddenly pulled up outside. Evan stepped out of the car with a

cold expression and marched into the dilapidated hostel

Paige's jaw dropped in shock. It was the first time she had seen her boss looking so dreadful. His

eyes radiated a grim and menacing aura, as if he were ready to take someone's life.

Reuben and Paige hurriedly followed him into the hostel. When they reached the third floor, they

heard Caroline's screams loud and clear.

Reuben rushed to the room and forcefully pushed the door open. Evan's expression turned grave.

as he witnessed Bradley relentlessly attacking Caroline despite her already battered and bruised

body.

He intervened, kicking Bradley away, and then squatted down to carry Caroline. The rage within.

him intensified when he saw her unconscious form and blood dripping from her forehead.

"Reuben, catch him! Wait for my return, but don't kill him yet!" Evan commanded.

Coincidentally, they encountered Scott when they arrived at the hospital. He swiftly arranged for

Caroline to be taken directly to the operating room. Paige remained at the hospital, while Evan

stationed two bodyguards there.

Upon Evan's return to Villa Rosa, Bradley was on the brink of death from the severe beating.

Evan sat on the couch, his gaze icy as he stared at Bradley, who was being held by the bodyguards.

He asked coldly, "Does it hurt?"

Bradley nodded, feeling dizzy. "Yes... Yes."

"Good, Caroline is hurting too!" Evan sneered, barely containing his anger.

Bradley shook his head with arrogance, but fear quickly overcame him as he faced Evan's

menacing presence.

Trembling, he asked, "S-Sir, who are you? I was just teaching my daughter a lesson."

"You have no right to ask me anything. All you need to do is answer my questions," Evan replied. with narrowed eyes.

Bradley wasn't foolish enough to provoke the man before him. He immediately nodded, fear

evident on his face. "Y-Yes... Yes, sir."

Evan's cold stare locked onto him. "You're responsible for making Caroline a trending topic online, right?"

+15 BONUS

Bradley looked bewildered. "What do you mean? Trending topic? I don't understand."

Indeed, he had no knowledge about it, as he wasn't familiar with the internet.

Evan tried a different approach. "Did you tell anyone about her sending you to the detention novelbin

center?"

Bradley confessed honestly, "I did."

"Who was it?"

"A man wearing a cap and a mask. He approached me out of the blue. I don't know him. But he was generous and said he'd pay me 7,000 dollars if I told him about what she did."

Evan glanced at Reuben. "Check the security camera."

Reuben nodded in response and swiftly left the villa. Bradley looked around guiltily. "Boss, there's

something else about her that I haven't told anyone. Would you like to buy that information off

me?"

## **Chapter 53**

### Chapter 53 Sent to Prison

Evan let out a scoff, accompanied by a smirk. "Buy it off you?"

Bradley chuckled, slightly nervous. "I'll tell you, but only if you pay me and let me go."

Mockery filled Evan's eyes. "I'll consider it after you give me the information."

"Caroline isn't my child. Katie adopted her," Bradley revealed.

"I agreed to let Caroline stay with her when I was courting Katie back then."

'Caroline was adopted? She was an orphan?'

Evan frowned as a sudden realization struck him. Panic filled his voice as he asked, "Where did

she adopt her from?"

Bradley shook his head. "I don't know. But Katie had the adoption certificate, and it should be

written there.”

“Where is the certificate?” Evan inquired urgently.

Bradley gulped nervously. “I... I sent everything to the reclamation depot when I sold the house.

After contemplating for a moment, Evan asked another question. “One more thing. Why did she

send you to the detention center?”

“Because she’s a terrible person!” Bradley snapped.

Evan’s frown deepened, his frustration evident. “Are you itching to get beaten up some more?”

Realizing he had no choice, Bradley had to speak the truth. “Because I hit her mother, or perhaps

she no longer wanted to pay my debts.”

Evan’s eyes turned dark, his anger simmering. He immediately instructed the bodyguard next to

him. “Julian, sort out the recording and send it to all publishers.”

The next day, Caroline woke up, feeling a throbbing pain in her forehead.

As she opened her eyes, she noticed Evan sitting on the couch, engrossed in documents.

She knew it was him who had saved her before she lost consciousness. He had saved her life. She

couldn’t deny that he always appeared whenever she was in danger, making her harbor foolish hopes for him, even when she tried to forget her feelings.

A warmth filled her heart, but she suppressed it. She pursed her lips, noticing the IV needle in her hand. Since it was Evan who brought her here, her pregnancy....

She quickly called out to him softly, “Evan..”

+15 BONUS

Evan looked up and got up as soon as he realized she was awake. "What would you like to eat? I'll

have Reuben bring it over."

She shook her head slowly, her gaze fixed on his expression. "I don't have an appetite. Thank you.

for what you did this time."

He didn't press her further. The doctor had mentioned that her loss of appetite was normal due to

the concussion.

Pulling a chair, he sat down next to the bed. "Caroline, I believe you have the right to know."

Her heart raced. Was he referring to her child?

Maintaining a calm facade, she asked, "Know what?"

Evan's gaze turned cold as he spoke. "I sent your father to prison."

A sudden wave of

relief washed over her upon hearing those words. It seemed like he didn't know about her pregnancy, or else he wouldn't have started with a different topic.

Noticing her reaction, Evan furrowed his brows. "You have nothing to say about that?"

She smiled flatly. "Do you think I'm a loser and an idiot? I was beaten by my biological father. Why would I feel sad for him being put into prison?"

"You sure have a charming way of distancing yourself from family matters," he remarked, a smile playing on his lips.

She remained silent, not knowing how to respond. She simply acted according to her conscience, avoiding burdensome situations.

After a moment of silence, she mustered the courage to ask, "If I told you that the viral post online had something to do with Daniella..."

"Caroline!" Evan abruptly interrupted her, his voice laced with determination. "Daniella wouldn't. do something like that."

His trust in Daniella was unwavering. Caroline's heart sank, realizing the extent of her own

foolishness.

Clasping her hands tightly, she asked reluctantly, "Even if I present you with evidence, will you still stand by her side?"

His face darkened, and he stood up abruptly. "Caroline, what do you gain from slandering her?"

He didn't want to entertain the topic any longer. Frustrated, he left the room in haste.

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+15 BONUS

Caroline forced a smile, feeling upset by the turn of events.

However, the door opened soon after Evan's departure.

It was Daniella who came in this time.

She held a fruit basket and walked to the bed while smiling. "Oh my, you're up, Ms. Shenton?"

Caroline's eyes turned cold. She sat up quickly while suppressing the pain and yelled, "Get out!"

Daniella put down the fruit basket elegantly. "Don't be angry. It'd be terrible if you got a miscarriage."

## **Chapter 54**

Chapter 54 Whose Child Would He Keep

+15 BONUS

Stunned, Caroline stared at Daniella, her voice filled with disbelief as she asked, "What nonsense

are you talking about?"

Daniella responded with a smile. "Why are you so nervous? Is there really something to be nervous

about?"

The smile quickly disappeared from her face, replaced by a coldness in her eyes.

"How shameless are you to get pregnant with my boyfriend's child? But don't worry, I spread that

news online about you putting your father in jail to punish you, and that punishment is just the

beginning."

Caroline struggled to control the resentment boiling inside her. "Daniella, aren't you afraid of

karma? Aren't you scared that my mom will haunt you in your dreams and take your life there?"

Daniella raised even handle me when she

an eyebrow, unfazed. "Take my life? Your mom couldn

was alive, let alone in her afterlife."

Caroline's heart felt like it would burst. She yearned to tear Daniella apart.

But her rational side warned her against it.

Touching Daniella would only give her ammunition to complain to Evan

She was deliberately provoking Caroline, waiting for her to fall into her trap.

Taking a deep breath, Caroline suppressed her anger. She wore a mocking smile on her lips. "So, Daniella, are you officially with Evan now?"

"I'll be his fiancée in 20 days."

"And what is your relationship with him now?"

"We're a couple, of course."

"Is that a title you've given all on your own?" Caroline mocked. "Because he told me there is

nothing going on between you two!"

Daniella's expression changed. "Don't lie to me!"

"We're still living together, isn't that proof enough?" Caroline replied, her smile cryptic.

Daniella's face twisted in anger. "Even if we're not together now, we will be in the future!"

"I can't say as much for you! You know Evan and I will end up together eventually, yet you're still

clinging to him with those slutty claws of yours. Who's the real bitch here?!"

+15 BONUS

"He's single, I'm single. Is it wrong for adults to pursue what they want?"

"You!" Daniella glared fiercely at her.

But moments later, a smile crept onto Daniella's face. "Caroline, how long do you think you can revel in this? The title of Mrs. Jordan will be mine eventually. That's enough for me.

"Oh, and yes, Evan has been sleeping with you for three years, but he has never promised you anything."

"It's different for me. We only slept together once, and he's marrying me."

Caroline felt her energy drain away. Her body grew weak.

They... slept together?

Daniella's slowly lowered herself, staring into Caroline's eyes, searching for any sign of weakness.

With a bright smile, she asked, "Tell me, if I'm pregnant, whose child do you think he would choose to keep?"

It took Caroline a long time to snap back to reality after Daniella left.

She clutched her chest, feeling herself crumble.

It was only a matter of time before Evan and Daniella would be together. She had prepared herself

to let go of Evan and give him to Daniella. But why did her heart ache so intensely at those words?

In the following days, Evan was nowhere to be seen.

Caroline was taken care of by either Lily, Scott, or Paige during her stay in the hospital.

She asked Lily to bring her laptop, insisting on drawing despite the pain she held back for five

days.

On the sixth day, she was discharged from the hospital.

Scott insisted on driving her home since the wound on her forehead had yet to heal.

Upon reaching the entrance of Villa Rossa, he stepped out of the car to assist her with her bags in

the boot-

As they stood at the entrance, Scott offered a gentle reminder. "Make sure water doesn't touch

your wound, or it might get infected. And with the weather turning cold, try to stay home. Your

work is important, but taking care of your body should be a priority.”

Caroline nodded like a good girl. “I understand. Thank you for everything.”

+15 BONUS

Scott’s gentle eyes reflected a sense of helplessness. “Caroline, I know there are things I shouldn’t say, but as your friend, I have to remind you that you can’t keep your pregnancy a secret for long. If you don’t plan on telling him, you should consider leaving him. I...”

“Doctor Wilson!” Caroline lifted her head and interrupted him, offering a light smile. Thank you for keeping my secret.”

He pursed his lips, gazing at her face for a while.

Then, he reached out to touch the gauze on her forehead.

Caroline instinctively pulled back, her guard up.

He forced a smile. “It’s not sticking properly.”

Blushing, Caroline quickly took the bag from his hand. Thanks for driving me home. Goodbye for

now!”

Watching her enter the house, Scott finally turned to leave.

Unbeknownst to him, Evan, who had just returned from a business trip, witnessed the encounter.

Rage flashed between his dark eyebrows, and a terrifying coldness emanated from him.

Reuben sighed as he peeped at the rearview mirror. What an ill-fated relationship

Shortly after Caroline entered her room, heavy footsteps echoed through the corridor.

The door swung open, revealing Evan, his face grim.

Setting down the clothes she was holding, Caroline spoke with a flat tone. Evan.”

As she was speaking, Evan strode toward her and gripped her chin tightly.

His voice sounded icy. “Caroline! Are you trying to provoke me?”

## **Chapter 55**

### Chapter 55 Family Portrait

As Caroline’s gaze fixated on Evan’s cold and elegant face, disturbing images of him and Daniella having sex flashed through her mind. The mixture of heartache and disgust overwhelmed her.

She swiftly raised her hand, slapping away his outstretched hand, unable to contain her mocking

tone. “What on earth did I do to provoke you, Evan?!”

Evan scoffed in response. “You presented me with a gift as soon as I returned from my trip.”

A gift... Caroline panicked. Daniella shouldn’t have divulged her pregnancy to him. It wouldn’t

bring her any advantage, after all. I have no idea what you’re talking about!”

She turned her gaze away, unable to meet his cold eyes.

Feeling guilty, are we?” Evan’s eyes turned even colder as he noticed the fear lingering deep

within her eyes. “You brought a man home and flirted with him, didn’t you?!”

Caroline couldn’t help but scoff at the recollection of Scott’s behavior outside Villa Rossa.

That was flirting?

What about what he did?

Anger surged within her, and she suddenly looked up, her voice rising. “Evan, is everyone, apart

from Daniella, repulsive to you?!”

“What about you? You touched me after sleeping with her. What was that about?!”

“I can stay, but that doesn’t mean I can tolerate the disgust of sharing a man with another woman!

“And why can’t I do what you did? Is it because you gave me money?”

Taking a deep breath, Caroline held back the tears welling up in her eyes as she continued. “What

about the three years of my youth that I wasted on you, Evan Jordan?! You’re the most selfish

person I’ve ever met! I never asked for anything from you, but I hoped for the most basic fairness

and respect!”

After screaming while struggling to hold back her emotions, she pushed the man standing in

front of her and turned to run out of the room.

Evan stood frozen, disbelief etched onto his handsome face. He had never witnessed such an

expression from her before.

Disgust, repulsion, and most of all, disappointment.

For someone who was usually strong and stubborn, her tears, now visible, struck a chord deep

within his heart.

+15 BONUS

What was happening to him? She had merely been a backup plan all this time, so why was he

feeling this way now?

Caroline aimlessly wandered the streets after leaving Villa Rossa, watching as the sky gradually darkened. She soon realized she had nowhere to go. She couldn't bear to return to Villa Rosa and face Evan's mocking presence.

After careful consideration, she concluded that Paige was the only person she could turn to.

Feeling her pocket for her phone, she realized she hadn't brought anything with her.

Helpless sighs escaped her lips as she continued walking, burying her face in her hands.

Suddenly, a car came to a halt in front of her. The window rolled down, revealing Neil's face. "Ms.

Shenton?"

Stunned, she managed to offer a smile in response. "Mr. Xander."

He modestly smiled back. "What a coincidence to run into you on the streets again."

She was left speechless. It felt too coincidental, as if she were being tracked.

"Where are you headed?"

Caroline looked at him cautiously. "Just say what's on your mind, Mr. Xander."

Neil felt helpless. "I noticed it's about to rain, and it's unsafe to be in the suburbs at night."

Caroline hadn't even noticed the approaching rain until he mentioned it. She looked up, realizing

the area was secluded indeed. She wanted to refuse, but just as she contemplated, raindrops

began to fall.

Neil opened the car door and stepped out. Smiling, he looked at her and said, "Shall we go?"

After a brief moment of hesitation, she got into the car.

He fastened his seatbelt and asked, "Where to?"

Caroline pursed her lips, realizing she had no particular destination in mind. It would be pointless

to go to Paige's place if she wasn't home.

Observing her silence, Neil refrained from asking further.

After driving for half an hour, they arrived at a villa

Neil parked the car and turned to Caroline, explaining, "Don't worry, this used to be my mother's

house."

2/3

+15 BONUS

Doubt filled her eyes as she looked at him. "Why have you brought me here?"

He smiled gently and replied, "I couldn't let you wander the streets

She was left speechless.

could I?"

He led her into the villa, which, while not luxurious, had a warm and well-maintained interior.

The old furniture exuded a sense of charm and one could tell at a glance that it was well

maintained.

Caroline's eyes fixated on a photo frame on a shelf. Approaching it, she was stunned to find a family portrait of four. The woman in the photo bore a striking resemblance to herself, in both expression and eyes. novelbin

"This is my family portrait," Neil said, his eyes filled with sadness

Quickly averting her gaze, Caroline apologized, "I'm sorry, I thought your mother..."

Neil interrupted, asking, "She looks like you, doesn't she?"

Her cheeks flushed as she replied, "Perhaps a little."

He picked up the photo frame and looked down at it, his tone resolute. "Not just a little, you

resemble her greatly."

## **Chapter 56**

Chapter 56 She Forgot Her Phone

+15 BONUS

Caroline found herself at a loss for words in that moment. The weight of Neil's melancholy had permeated the air since they had stepped foot into the villa. The overwhelming sadness was suffocating for her.

"My parents have passed away. I'm left with only my younger sister, but she's currently missing." Neil confessed, his voice heavy with grief.

As he finished speaking, he reached for a photo album on the shelf and handed it to Caroline. "I believe these pictures will help you understand and perhaps alleviate the hostility between us."

Caroline accepted the album and began flipping through its pages. She saw numerous photos of a woman and a little girl. As she continued, a sense of guilt washed over her.

her was It seemed that Neil had not been lying before. The resemblance between her and his striking, and even more so with the little girl. The only difference was that Caroline had a mother,

and it wasn't the woman in the photos.

Caroline returned the album, realizing her misunderstanding. "I misunderstood you last time. I'm sorry, and I genuinely hope you find your sister soon."

Neil stared blankly at her for a moment before nodding. "If you don't have a place to go, you can

stay here."

Staying in a stranger's home was something Caroline couldn't easily adjust to. "Could I borrow your phone, Mr. Xander?" she asked Neil.

He handed her his phone. "Don't call me 'Mr. Xander. Please, just call me by my name."

Caroline smiled lightly and dialed Paige's number.

After a brief conversation, she returned the phone to Neil. "My friend will pick me up. Thank you."

In just over ten minutes, Paige arrived at Neil's house. Caroline bid Neil farewell and got into

Paige's car.

"Carol, who was that handsome man?" Paige's eyes lit up with curiosity.

"He's Neil Xander, the eldest son of the Xander family," Caroline replied.

Paige stopped questioning after learning he was from one of the three most prestigious families.

As Paige started the car engine, she asked, "What happened? Where's your phone?"

Caroline's mood turned melancholic. "I stormed out after a fight with Evan and forgot my phone."

1/3

+15 BONUS

Paige was taken aback. “Caroline, are you already suffering from ‘pregnant brain’?” Caroline glared at her, irritated. “Paige, can you help me find a house in the suburbs?”

“You’ve made up your mind?” Paige was surprised. “Are you really not going to pursue the boss?”

Caroline forced a smile. “If you were in my position, would you steal a man who’s had sex with

someone else?”

Paige’s eyes widened. “Are you telling me that the pretentious woman has slept with the boss?”

“That’s what she claimed. Considering they’re about to get engaged soon, it’s time for us to completely separate.”

Paige suddenly stopped the car and looked at Caroline seriously. “As your good friend, I feel obligated to remind you of something. The child doesn’t belong to you alone. No matter what, you need to find out how he feels about it. If he doesn’t want it, I’ll help you find a house. If he does, I

can’t interfere.”

Caroline looked down, knowing Paige was right, but she couldn’t bring herself to face it. She was afraid of hearing terrible things, and even more afraid that Evan would become suspicious and

force her into an abortion. 1

“What are you hesitating about, Carol?” Paige persisted.

Caroline’s expression grew sorrowful. “I can’t bear to lose my child, and I won’t use the child to gain something that doesn’t rightfully belong to me.”

The child was her only family in the world now, and she wouldn’t let anyone harm it.

“Test him, but don’t tell him,” Paige suggested.

“...let’s see.”

wwwwwww

The next morning, Paige and Caroline headed to the office together. Caroline had spent the entire night contemplating her decision, and as soon as she arrived, she began typing out her resignation letter on the computer.

Leaving Evan once and for all seemed like the best way to sever ties with him.

Half an hour later, she finally printed the letter she had composed.

Just as Caroline was about to place the letter on Evan's desk, Daniella's voice echoed outside the

door.

"Evan, what would you do if Ms. Shenton is pregnant with your child?"

Caroline froze upon hearing the question, her face turning pale.

+15 BONUS

Evan's response cut through her heart like a knife. "I won't allow a mistress to bear my child." Sadness washed over her, accepting that a dishonorable mistress had no right to carry his child. Suddenly, the office door swung open, revealing Evan and Daniella standing there.

There was a hint of mockery in Daniella's eyes as she smiled. "You're early, Ms. Shenton."

Suppressing her emotions, Caroline retorted, "How else would I know that Ms. Love is so interested in my personal life?"

Daniella put on a pitiful look and turned to Evan. "I'll take my leave now, Evan."

He nodded coldly.

After the door closed, Caroline approached him and handed him her resignation letter. "Evan, after everything we've been through in the past three years, I'm begging you one last time to let me go."

Evan looked down, his face darkening as he noticed the word "resignation" on the envelope. novelbin

“You disappeared all night and now you give me this without any explanation?”

Caroline looked at him expressionlessly. “Would my explanation change anything?”

If her explanations were effective, would he still doubt her repeatedly?

He squinted and stepped closer to her. “So, you’re willing to abandon your resentments for the sake of another man. I was wrong about you, Caroline.”

## **Chapter 57**

### Chapter 57 What Took You So Long

Caroline felt a pang in her heart when Evan mentioned resentment.

She had held onto it tightly, but had he made any effort to address it?

She was unsure if he had discovered something but chose to ignore it for the sake of protecting

Daniella. The uncertainty was unbearable, and the pain inside her continued to grow with no sign

of resolution.

Looking at him, she scoffed and said, “You can say whatever you want, Evan, but you’re getting

engaged. It’s unfair to Ms. Love that you’re preoccupied with my issues, isn’t it?”

Evan’s face turned chillingly cold. ‘Caroline, once you step out of MK, you won’t get a chance to

return.”

Her heart skipped a beat at his words, but she found solace in the fact that he was willing to let

her go. Maintaining a smile, she replied. “Thank you for everything over the past three years,

Evan. From now on, I wish you and Ms. Love a lifetime of happiness and love!”

With that, she placed her resignation letter in Evan’s hand and left without looking back. As soon

as she closed the door behind her, his grim aura permeated the entire office.

Meanwhile, Paige, upon learning of Caroline’s resignation, requested a paid leave.

She accompanied Caroline to pack at Villa Rosa and they went to the suburbs to search for a new

place.

Exhausted, Caroline collapsed on the couch in the living room after arranging for an hourly maid

to clean the entire place

Paige playfully nudged Caroline’s calves with her toe and joked, “Caroline, you’re not only exhausting me, but are you also trying to starve me to death?”

Caroline smiled and asked, “What would you like to eat?”

Paige pondered for a moment before suggesting, “Let’s have fondue! There’s a new fondue place in the city, but it’s a little pricey.”

Checking the time on her watch, she added, “It’s already 10:30 p.m. We should be able to have it for

supper if we go now.”

Caroline quickly drank a glass of water and agreed, “Sure, let’s go now.”

They hastily made their way to the fondue place after reaching a decision. The restaurant

happened to be near the International Residence.

+15 BONUS

Caroline looked at Paige rather helplessly. “Are you bringing me here to stir up trouble or to have

a meal?”

Paige sounded annoyed as she placed an order. “Are you talking about that pretentious person? We won’t be so unlucky to run into her while we eat.”

Just as she finished speaking, a rude voice suddenly echoed from a nearby table. “Waiter, bring

me the bill!”

Instinctively, Caroline and Paige turned their heads to see who it was.

Paige’s eyes widened in shock at a single glance. “Oh no!” she exclaimed.

Caroline looked at her, confused by her reaction.

Lowering her voice, Paige pointed discreetly behind them. “That blond man, Carol! I recognize him!

Caroline raised an eyebrow skeptically. “Is he your friend?”

Paige shook her head firmly. “No, he’s Daniella’s secret lover!”

Suddenly, Caroline recalled something Paige had mentioned earlier. Frowning, she said, “I don’t.

think so. Evan and Daniella are getting engaged. Unless she’s foolish, it’s highly unlikely she

would do something like that. It would be the end for her if Evan found out.”

Paige insisted, “Don’t you believe me? Let’s forget about eating and follow him!”

Without hesitation, she pulled Caroline away from the fondue place.

The blond man made his way toward the International Residence after leaving the restaurant. He

looked around cautiously before entering, using his key card to gain access.

Caroline could only shake her head in disappointment. “Okay, we can’t enter without a...”

Before she could finish her sentence, Paige revealed the International Residence’s key card

Caroline was taken aback. “How did you get that?”

Paige flashed a sly smile and led Caroline inside the International Residence grounds without.

explaining. 1 novelbin

The two suspicious women followed the man to a building. Once he entered the elevator, Paige

guided Caroline to the third floor through the fire exit.

As they stepped out, they heard Daniella’s flirtatious voice. “What took you so long, Nic?”

“Can’t wait for me to fuck you?”

Shortly after, the door closed behind them.

+15 BONUS

Caroline stood frozen, struck by a lightning bolt of realization. Paige was equally surprised. They hadn’t expected Nic to be so crude with his words.

Silently, they both understood what was going through each other’s minds. It was only after they left and got into the car that Paige broke the silence. That was quite something.”

Caroline muttered, “She sure is ballsy. Evan won’t tolerate this.”

“Maybe it was fate that we witnessed that today. It’s a stroke of luck that we ran into him,” Paige said, gazing at the International Residence.

If she managed to capture what she witnessed on film and showed it to Evan, Daniella would face

the ultimate revenge for what she had done to Caroline's mother.

Unfortunately, Caroline couldn't ignore the missed opportunity and regretted not believing Paige earlier.

"Paige, I'll transfer you money later. Please find someone to keep an eye on Daniella."

Paige rolled her eyes. "Gurl, do I look like I need money?"

Caroline insisted, "I just want to be fair. If you don't accept it, I won't ask for your help ever again."

Angrily, Paige relented.

Meanwhile, at the International Residence, Nic embraced Daniella after their intimate encounter.

"I won't be able to visit for a while," he informed her.

She gazed at him, taken aback. "Why? What's the reason?"

## **Chapter 58**

### Chapter 58 Entrusted With a Task

She was not pregnant yet. He must continue visiting her!

Nic's eyes burned with intensity. "Evan's men have uncovered some information about me. I'm

concerned that they might track me down."

"He's still investigating?" Daniella asked

He nodded. "Not only that, I found out I was being followed here."

Daniella was taken aback, almost jumping up. "Then why did you still come?"

"Keep pushing me, and you'll meet your end!" His glare was chilling. "You'll live only as long as I

allow it, and you'll die when I decide!"

Suppressing her anger, she clenched her teeth. She despised her inability to fight him.

For now, she had no choice but to obey him, like an obedient girl

But once she became pregnant, she vowed to silence him forever.

There was no way she would let a man who knew her deepest secrets continue to exist.

Taking a deep breath, she asked, “What do we do now?”

A faint smirk appeared on his lips. “I want to capture those who followed me before Evan finds out.

On Wednesday, Caroline went for a check-up at the suburban hospital.

As she discovered her baby was healthy, her spirits lifted. novelbin

During her journey back home, she received a call from an unfamiliar number.

“Hello, is this Caroline Shenton?” the voice on the other end inquired.

Caroline was cautious and suspicious. “Who is this?”

“I am your mother’s trustee. I wonder if you have a moment for me to deliver a letter.”

Perplexed, she thought to herself, ‘Trustee? When did my mom appoint a trustee?’

Maintaining her skepticism, she continued, “Sure, where shall we meet?”

“Why don’t we meet at Starry Cafe on North Sea Street at 10:30 a.m.?” the caller suggested.

Checking the time, Caroline agreed, ‘Alright, I’ll head there now.’

10

+15 BONUS

She arrived promptly at the cafe.

As she entered, a bespectacled middle-aged man stood up and waved to catch her attention.

Her guard immediately went up when she saw the strange man.

He recognized me the moment I walked in?’

However, the presence of other patrons put her slightly at ease.

Approaching him, she noticed an envelope placed on the table.

Taking a seat, she greeted him, “Hello.”

The middle-aged man smiled. “Hello, Caroline.”

He then handed her a business card. I am Mr. Hall.

Caroline was direct. “Mr. Hall, could you please tell me your connection to my mother?”

“We have no personal relationship. I am merely entrusted with a task,” Mason Hall explained.

“You mentioned my mother wrote a letter for me,” she said and looked at the envelope, “Is this it?”

He nodded and slid the envelope across the table. “She prepared this a year ago. She told me to

deliver the letter to you if she dies from her illness. My mission is now complete.”

Caroline was taken aback. A year ago...

She swiftly opened the envelope and retrieved the letter enclosed within.

The letter read-

[My dearest Carol,

By the time you read this letter, I will have departed to another world.

Time has flown by, and you have grown into a remarkable person in the blink of an eye.

I wrote this knowing that I am losing my battle with cancer. Please don't resent me for leaving you

behind. Take care of yourself while I am gone.

What I am about to reveal has been a secret for two decades. You may hate me and hold me responsible once you discover the truth.

Carol, you are not my biological child, nor are you Bradley's.

I adopted you from an orphanage. However, I cannot disclose the identity of your birth parents,

because nothing good comes from knowing it.

+15 BONUS

I understand that you may be driven to investigate, and I can't stop you, but I implore you to refrain from uncovering their identities and the circumstances of their death until you possess the power to do so.

The person to whom I entrusted this secret is capable. Seek his assistance if you ever need clues in the future.

Carol, you will spend future New Year's celebrations without family, but fear not. I will bless you from above. 1

That is all I have to say. I don't know much. but I have shared all that I can.

Remember this, my child!

Do not investigate the identity of your parents until you possess the power and capability! Don't forget that!

With all my love, Katie.]

Contained within the concise, single-page letter were profound expressions of Katie's love and longing for Caroline.

At the same time, it conveyed astonishing revelations that shattered Caroline's perception of reality.

She was not her mother's biological child?

How could this even be possible?

## **Chapter 59**

### Chapter 59 Cloude Orphanage

Mason handed Caroline a tissue, empathetically offering support. I understand that accepting this situation is difficult, but crying now won't change anything."

Caroline, unaware of her tears until he pointed them out, accepted the tissue with a lowered head. Her voice carried a hint of moodiness as she muttered, "I'm sorry."

He responded calmly, "It happens.

After collecting herself, Caroline lifted her gaze and addressed Mr. Hall. "Mr. Hall, my mom mentioned in her letter that you might be able to help me."

Mr. Hall retrieved a document from his backpack and handed it to her, saying, "I can provide assistance, but it comes at a cost. In my line of work, we don't offer help out of kindness. It's for our livelihood, and I hope you understand."

Nodding in acknowledgment, Caroline accepted the document, which contained a list of prices for various services. She quickly skimmed through the prices and found them within her budget.

"Money isn't the issue," she asserted, looking directly at him. "Efficiency and accuracy are all I care about."

Mason took out another document and handed it to her. "You'll trust us after seeing this."

Caroline read through the document meticulously. It detailed the firm's successful case history over the years. After perusing it, she felt much more confident in Mr. Hall's capabilities.

"In that case, when can we sign the contract, Mr. Hall?" She asked.

“Tell me, what would you like me to investigate first?” he asked, genuinely interested.

Caroline’s eyes fixed on the letter, and she responded, “I’d like to find out which orphanage my mom adopted me from.”

On the presidential office floor in MK, a secretary ran out from Evan’s office with tears streaming down her face and hands clutching documents to her chest. With her head held low in misery, she accidentally collided with Daniella, who happened to be passing by..

Rage flickered in Daniella’s eyes, but she maintained composure and feigned concern. “Are you okay?”

The secretary quickly bowed and apologized upon recognizing Daniella. “I’m sorry, Ms. Love! I wasn’t paying attention. It’s entirely my fault!”

“It’s alright,” Daniella glanced at Evan’s office and asked, “Did Mr. Jordan scold you again?”

+15 BONUS

Amidst her tears, the secretary complained, “Ever since Ms. Shenton left, Mr. Jordan has been angry every day. Everything we do seems to be wrong.”

Although seething with anger, Daniella spoke gently to the secretary, masking her true feelings.” Don’t worry, I’ll talk to him.”

Grateful for Daniella’s words, the secretary expressed her thanks through tears and hurried back

to the secretarial office.

Daniella’s expression turned grim. Was Caroline really so important to Evan?

Despite his constant tantrums, he hadn’t invited her to live in Villa Rossa since Caroline’s

departure.

She was so angry that she forgot to knock. As she reached for the door handle, she overheard

Evan's voice from within.

"Have you double-checked? Are you certain Caroline stayed at Cloude Orphanage?"

-Startled, Daniella froze in shock. Cloude Orphanage? Caroline? Didn't she have parents? Why did

she reside in the very same orphanage Daniella once called home?

Images flooded Daniella's mind—Caroline's red cinnabar mole on her earlobe. In a panic, Daniella

recoiled her hand and took a couple of steps back.

She quickly scanned her surroundings, realizing no one had witnessed her reaction. Swiftly.

turning on her heels, she rushed towards the elevator, unable to calm her racing thoughts even

after reaching her office. 1

Childhood memories flooded back like an overpowering storm

Daniella recalled seeing a girl from the same orphanage carrying an unconscious boy out of a

river. The two of them had sought refuge in an abandoned warehouse nearby, where they stayed

for a considerable time.

Driven by curiosity, Daniella had ventured to investigate. She witnessed the girl tending to the boy

-lighting a fire to keep him warm, dressing him in clothes. At the time, Daniella had scorned the girl, considering her nosy and intrusive.

However, during her previous stint as an escort at a nightclub, Nic had enlightened her on Evan

Jordan's quest to find a girl from Cloude Orphanage. The girl, distinguished by a red cinnabar

mole on her earlobe, had captured Evan's attention.

In that split second, Daniella connected the dots. The unconscious boy she had seen back then

was, undoubtedly, Evan himself.

That realization prompted Daniella to scheme with Nic, pretending to be the girl who had saved

+15 BONUS

her current position alongside Evan.

The more Daniella dwelled on these revelations, the more her panic intensified.

Could Caroline be that very girl who had saved Evan?

That didn't seem plausible. If she was that girl, why couldn't she remember any of it now?

Determined to ensure her own safety, Daniella resolved to eliminate Caroline completely. Caroline

was a nuisance and an awful threat!

At the cafe, Caroline and Mason rose from their seats and exited after signing the contract. As

soon as they stepped outside, a familiar voice exclaimed, "Hey, it's you!"

Caroline turned her head, recognizing the person when her eyes met the woman standing a meter

away—Neil's cousin, Yuliana.

Deciding not to engage in an argument on the street, Caroline pretended not to hear and began to

walk away.

“Where do you think you’re going?!” Yuliana’s shout reverberated through the air, brimming with

determination. She lunged forward unexpectedly, seizing Caroline’s arm.

“We’re far from finished with our grudge. Now that I’ve finally found you, there’s no escaping now!”

Caroline looked at Yuliana, a hint of amusement in her eyes. “What grudge are you referring to? Is

it about me supposedly stealing someone else’s man, or perhaps your lingering resentment

toward your cousin for helping me teach you a lesson?”

“Both! I won’t let you off the hook, no matter what!” Yuliana declared, her anger apparent.

Caroline chuckled softly. “So, what do you plan to do?”

Caught off guard by the question, Yuliana blinked rapidly. “Well, I. L...”

Caroline prodded further, “What exactly? You want to hit me in public and humiliate your family?”

Yuliana’s frustration grew, and she blurted out, “Caroline! Don’t think you can do whatever you

want just because Evan supports you!”

## **Chapter 60**

Chapter 60 Are You Free Tonight

+15 BONUS

Caroline withdrew her arm from Yuliana’s grip, her expression calm and composed. “Ms. Xander, you seem a bit behind on the news. I’m not the

woman currently with Evan. It's Daniella Love, the deputy head of the company's fashion design department."

"If you're looking to create trouble, you should approach Daniella, not me."

Yuliana's shock was evident. "Who?!"

Caroline repeated, trying to spare her any further confusion "Daniella Love."

Yuliana's face contorted, revealing her heartbreak. "How did that happen? Why did Evan seek

another woman?"

After muttering to herself, Yuliana suddenly raised her head and glared at Caroline. "Are you lying

to me, you bitch? Evan's not like that!"

Caroline was rendered speechless.

Did she just call me a bitch?

'Does she think my patience knows no limits?'

Caroline scoffed, unable to contain her disbelief. "Ms. Xander, if you truly like Evan, why don't you

have a conversation with Daniella and ask her to step aside? Oh, but be careful not to be bullied if

you decide to confront her. She's a terrible person."

Yuliana grew suspicious. "What if I find out you lied to me?!"

Caroline responded, "They're actually getting engaged soon. You can wait and see if I'm telling the

truth."

"They're getting engaged?!" Yuliana shrieked, her voice piercing. "Are you saying that awful woman is getting engaged to Evan?!"

Caroline smirked, sensing the growing anger within Yuliana.

As long as Yuliana redirected her hostility toward Daniella, Caroline could focus on her

investigation in peace.

Recognizing an opportune moment, she swiftly took her leave while Yuliana's attention was

elsewhere.

It was only when she stepped into a taxi that Caroline finally felt a sense of relief.

She took out her phone and texted Paige. "Have you moved?"

1/3

+15 BONUS

A response came within minutes. "Yes, I moved yesterday, but that person never showed up."

Caroline frowned. As expected, it was not an easy task.

As she was about to put her phone away, a text from an unfamiliar number caught her attention.

[I apologize, Caroline. My cousin has caused trouble for you once again.] (1)

She stared at the number in confusion for a moment before realizing it belonged to Neil, whom

she had given her number to a few days ago as a gesture of gratitude for his previous help.

She only did that so that she could buy him a meal one day since she owed him two favors.

She checked the time before replying.

[It's alright. Are you free tonight?]

[I am, if you're asking me out.]

[How about we meet at Sycamore Restaurant on Grand River Road?]

Sure, see you in half an hour.]

After setting her phone aside, Caroline instructed the driver to head toward Grand River Road.

Twenty minutes later, Caroline arrived at Sycamore Restaurant, known for its succulent steaks in Angelbay City. Despite the expensive price she would have to pay for it, she knew that someone like Neil, with his status, would appreciate fine dining.

Upon entering, she immediately requested a private room and promptly shared the room number with Neil. It didn't take long for him to join her.

Neil appeared casually dressed, exuding friendliness and gentleness.

Teasingly, Caroline remarked, "Just arrived, Mr. Xander?"

Smiling, he settled into his seat across from her. "I got your message as soon as I arrived."

She handed him the menu. "Thank you for driving me twice. This dinner's on me, to express my gratitude."

Neil seemed a bit helpless. "It sounds like you're trying to distance yourself from me."

Caroline's hand, which was reaching for her glass, paused. In truth, that was exactly what she had intended.

He belonged to the upper class, while she was a regular office worker, nothing out of the ordinary.

People with such status disparities couldn't be friends.

+15 BONUS She took a sip of water and replied, "You're perceptive, Mr. Xander. I don't think I need to spell it out for you."

He responded directly, I'm not so sure about that. I believe we can be friends."

Caroline was taken aback, her gaze fixed on him.

His eyes held warmth and kindness. “Don’t misunderstand. I mean genuine friendship, nothing more. Don’t assume that your status is inferior. To me, everyone is equal. Besides, you’re remarkable, Caroline. You should let go of any feelings of inferiority.”

His words of affirmation touched her deeply.

This was the third time they had conversed, and she couldn’t help but conclude that he was a down-to-earth, warm, and easy-going person.

It was rare to find someone from the upper class who possessed such qualities.

She smiled, choosing to remain silent.

After they finished their meal, as she reached for her wallet to pay, the waiter informed her that Neil had already taken care of the bill.

Embarrassed, she said, “This is embarrassing. I invited you to pay, after all.”

He waved off her concern. “Next time, I’ll make sure you have the chance to pay.”

She nodded, and they exited the private room together.

However, just as they stepped out, they encountered Evan and Daniella.

Caroline’s heart raced at the sight of Evan’s face.

“What a coincidence, Caroline. Are you here on a date?” Daniella asked, a smile on her face.