

The Heiress Revived from the Ashes

The Heiress Revived Ch 301

, 4448 Views, Released

Chapter 301 No Way Out

Scalding hot water splashed across Lauren's body.

She screamed, collapsing to the ground, writhing in pain.

Her skin blistered instantly, angry red welts rising as steam curled off her burned flesh. Her body, already weakened by surgery, couldn't withstand the sudden trauma. The wounds tore open, blood pouring out.

Taylor stood nearby, laughing hysterically at the sight.

Lucas's face twisted with guilt. He let out a long, heavy sigh.

"Lauren, why do this to yourself? If you had just listened, you **wouldn't have** to suffer like this."

Lauren glared at the two of them with bloodshot eyes.

Taylor. Lucas

You never die a peaceful death.

Outside Hoverdale Tech University.

Two luxury cars were parked on the curb.

Kenny scoffed at Josh. "God, you're so annoying. Mia can't **stand** you, but you just keep showing up around her."

Josh ignored him and turned to Jeffrey. "So this is your little brother? **You're** sharp, but he looks like some angsty street punk. Hard to believe you two are related

Jeffrey hadn't expected this either—the girl his brother liked just happened to be the same girl Josh was chasing.

Kenny's face twisted. "You're the street punk. Your whole family's full of street punks!"

"Kenny, Jeffrey cut in.

Kenny was fuming. “Whose side are you on, Jeffrey? Mine or his? If I knew you were **gonna** defend him, I wouldn’t have brought you to meet Mia”

Just then, **Mia** walked out of the school.

Kenny waved quickly. “Mia! Over here!”

The moment she spotted both Kenny and Josh, Mia’s head throbbed.

Honestly, she didn’t want to see either of them.

She was

was just about to pretend she hadn’t heard **when Josh’s** phone rang

He glanced at the caller ID—Gael.

He picked up fast. “**Gael**, how are the boss and Ms. Lauren?”

Mia froze at the mention of Lauren, **quickly** striding over and listening closely.

Gael’s voice **was** strained. “We were caught in **a** landslide in the **mountains**. The boss—his legs were crushed.”

“What?” Josh’s face drained of color.

Mia stepped in, her voice shaking. “What about Lauren?”

C

Chapter 301 No Way Out

To be taken now—if she got an infection, or if anything happened to the surgical site—it could kill her.

Mia couldn’t stay still another second

She grabbed **Josh’s** arm in panic. “Take me to her. Now

Josh didn’t hesitate. He jumped **into** the car, Mia right behind him.

With a roar, the engine came alive. Josh slammed his foot on the gas, and the car shot down the road like a buller.

+8 Pearls

Kenny saw the look on Mia's face and knew something serious had happened. Without hesitation, he jumped into his own car. Jeffrey followed, and the two of them sped after Josh

The two cars tore through traffic, the scenery whipping by.

In the passenger seat, Mia clenched her fists until her knuckles went white. Her **eyes** were red, blazing with fury.

Lauren, hold on. I'm coming for **you**.

Whoever dared to take her—whatever laid a hand on her—would pay in blood.

At the same time, three more people had set out.

Sharon. George. Joe.

Willow's biological parents and younger brother.

With no more money flowing from the Bennett family, Joe had been forced to return to the country. It didn't take long before his parents told him the truth.

How Lauren had thrown Willow into the mountains to be humiliated by strange **men**

Joe had hated her ever since.

The three of **them** had been waiting for the right moment to strike back.

Now, their moment had arrived.

They had already received news of Willow's death.

And the source?

Taylor.

She'd called them directly—and given them the exact address.

After the call. Taylor was practically glowing.

Luras, on the other **hand**, looked alarmed. "Why did you bring them into this?"

"Why? Taylor's voice was icy. "To make Lauren pay."

"They'll kill her! Lucas snapped.

Taylor laughed coldly. “No. They won’t let her die that **easily**. They’ll break her, bit by bit , I want her to beg for death, but never find it. I’m going to film every second of it— every **scream**, every tear— and put it online for the whole country to see just how pathetic Lauren really is

, ? Views, Released

Chapter 302 Beast in Human Skin

“You’re insane! Aren’t you afraid of Felix coming after you?” Lucas shouted, voice hoarse with panic,

“Afraid?” Taylor sneered, completely unfazed. “I stopped caring about that the second I kidnapped Lauren?”

She stepped forward, voice thick with venom. “I was **going** to seduce that bastard and milk him for everything he **had**. But he humiliated me. Forced me to eat cake until I blew up like a balloon. Now I’ve got diabetes, no money, no future— what the hell do I have to be scared of?”

“No, It’s Felix who should be **afraid**. I can’t **wait** to see the look on his face when he finds out Lauren’s gone.”

Taylor **walked** over to where Lauren **lay**

—

She was unconscious, her body burning up with fever. Her skin **was** flushed, lips cracked and dry, her face twisted in pain.

Lucas winced at the sight. His chest ached.

“She’s sick.” he said, almost pleading. “**Can’t** you at least get her some medicine?”

Taylor turned around and slapped him across the face.

The sound echoed in the room.

“You pathetic excuse for a man. No wonder Lauren never wanted you. Hell, even I find you repulsive. She doesn’t give a **damn** about you—so why the hell do you care!”

She sneered.

“If I were you, I would’ve taken her the second she got out of prison. She’s a convict—who would believe anything she says! If you’d done what you

should've, she never would've ended up with Felix. She wouldn't have anyone to run to. This is all your fault—for being weak”

Lucas's cheek burned from the slap. Her words stung **more** than her hand ever could.

And the worst part?

She wasn't wrong

He had hesitated. He'd pitied her, thought he was doing the noble thing. But **that** weakness had only driven her further away.

If he'd just taken her then—she'd be his now.

Back when he was still a lawyer, he could've given her a home. A stable life. She could've cooked, cleaned, raised their kids- and belonged to **him**

But now?

His eyes darkened as they landed on Lauren's fevered face.

“This is all your **fault**,” he muttered. “You did this to yourself.”

Taylor patted him on the shoulder, her voice low and coaxing.

“That's more like it. She's just some tramp. You **love** her so **much**? Then take her now.”

She yanked open the iron cage and dragged Lauren out by her clothes, throwing her at Lucas's feet like **trash**.

“She might **not** live through the night. **This is** your last **chance**. You **two** grew up together. **You've** always loved her. Don't you

want to have her! You really okay just watching her slip away without ever touching her!”

Chapter 302 Beast in Human Skin

If Lauren was going to die, she should at least die as his

Even in hell, she'll have no one else—only him.

He drew in a deep breath and knelt down slowly, reaching out a hand toward her

His touch was almost gentle. But his eyes were cold

+ Pearls

Taylor's face lit up with glee. She fumbled to unlock her phone, opening the camera and pointing it straight at Lauren.

She couldn't wait to record this

To capture every second of Lauren's humiliation.

To

To watch Felix and Mia's hearts break when they s

She was shaking with anticipation.

And then—bam!:

A sharp knock exploded against the door.

The sound hit like a gunshot in the silence, freezing both of them in place.

They looked at each other, hearts **racing**.

Lucas's hand hovered above Lauren, now stiff with tension.

Taylor grabbed a knife, stepping cautiously toward the door.

"Who **is** it?" she **called** out.

A woman's voice answered from outside.

"It's me. You called us, remember? Said that bitch Lauren was here."

Taylor exhaled in relief.

She unlocked the **door** and opened it.

Sharon George. Joe

— Lauren's biological mother, father, and younger brother.

The three of them filed in.

Their eyes immediately landed on Lauren's motionless body on the floor.

Sharon's face twisted in hatred the second she saw her.

Without hesitation, she stormed over, eyes blazing, and slammed her foot into Lauren's back.

“You little whore! You finally got what you deserved. You killed my daughter—and this is **your** payoff!”

The kick landed squarely on Lauren's lower back.

Right where the surgical incision **was** still healing.

The force tore it open

Blood gushed **out, soaking through** her clothes and pooling **beneath** her like a spreading **shachow**

The Heiress Revived from the Ashes

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Chapter 303 Just in Time

The blinding pain tore Lauren out of unconsciousness.

Her whole body convulsed as sweat streamed down her forehead. Her **face was** ghostly pale.

Slowly, her vision cleared.

+8 Pearls

The first thing she saw was Sharon's face—twisted, feral, almost unrecognizable. George stood beside her, arms crossed, looking down with cold disdain. And then there was a younger guy she didn't recognize, eyes crawling over her like a predator.

He let out a slow, mocking whistle. “Didn't expect the real Bennett heiress to be this pretty. You look like a dog now, but that face—yeah, that's something.

He cracked his knuckles and stepped closer. “Would be a waste to let her die like this. Might as well let me have some fun

first.”

Sharon and George didn't stop him. On the contrary, they looked pleased.

Sharon sneered. “Just take it slow, son. If she dies too fast, she’s getting off easy. After what she did to your sister, we’re going to pay her back tenfold.”

Joe smirked. “Don’t worry. I’ve got plenty of experience breaking girls in.”

Taylor stood nearby, phone in hand, recording everything. “Let’s see how she likes this. Let’s make her famous for the right

reasons.”

Joe reached down to grab Lauren-

But Lucas stepped between them, panicked **and** breathless. “No. Lauren’s mine. You don’t touch her.”

Joe’s face darkened. Without hesitation, he slapped Lucas across the face.

The blow sent Lucas crashing to the floor.

Sharon laughed.

“Useless piece of trash. A big—
shot lawyer reduced to a cripple. **What a** joke. All that law **you** studied? What did it ever do for you?”

Everyone in the room burst into laughter.

“You” Lucas seethed, face flushed with rage—but powerless to stop anything.

Joe dragged Lauren by the arms into the bedroom and threw her on the bed, climbing on top of her.

Lauren’s body was burning. Her stitches had torn open **again**. But even through the pain, her **instinct to survive** kicked in

She thrashed, reaching blindly for anything she could **use**.

Her fingers brushed something—a lamp.

With **all** her strength, she smashed it **against** Joe’s head.

Joe screamed, grabbing at his **scalp** as blood poured **down** his face. His eyes gleamed red, his whole body **shaking** with fury.

“You bitch!” he roared, slapping her again **and again**..

Lauren's face swelled instantly. Blood oozed from the corner of her mouth.

Sharon and George **ran** into the room when they **heard** their son scream. The moment they saw Joe's blood-soaked face, their fury erupted

9.14 **AM**

Chapter 303 Just in Time

Sharon froze.

Who the hell is it

she barked.

+8 Pearls

No response—just faster, harder pounding on the door.

George's face darkened. "You think that's Felix's people?"

Taylor's hands started shaking. "No... no way. How would they find us this fast?"

The banging continued, relentless.

"Open the door!"

The voice was unmistakable.

Josh

Fear

Fear spread like wildfire in the room.

"They found us..."

"Don't panic! If we don't open it, they can't get in

"What if he called the cops?"

"Grab **something. Anything.** We fight if we have to

Sharon, George, and Taylor all grabbed **knives.**

Lucas, now back in his wheelchair, rolled into the kitchen and **picked** up a rolling pin.

They all turned toward **the** door.

Joe was still on top of Lauren, ripping at her clothes, panting. “Even if I die here, I’m taking this slut with me. Let’s see what Felix sees in you, huh?”

The door shuddered under the force of the kicks.

Then, with a deafening crash-

The lock gave way.

The **door** flew open

Gael Josh Jeffrey. Kenny. Mia.

They stormed in like a tidal wave.

Taylor, Sharon, and the rest froze in place, their **eyes** wide in horror.

, ? Views, Released

Chapter 304 Blood for Blood

They hadn’t expected so many people. The second the door slammed open and that group stormed in, Sharon and the others knew this wasn’t going to end peacefully.

They grabbed their knives and charged.

“Die, all of you!”

Mia ran a beeline for Lucas, her eyes blazing red. She seized him by the collar and yanked him off his wheelchair with a

roar.

“Where is Lauren

Lucas trembled under her grip, panic flashing in his eyes. But he clenched his jaw.

1. I don’t know?

His gaze darted to the side.

“You really think I’m in the mood for games?” Mia **hissed**, tightening her grip. “Lie to me **again**, and I’ll make sure you regret ever being born.”

Lucas choked face turning red, but still refused to speak.

With a furious snarl, Mia shoved him aside. Her eyes scanned the room-

Then locked on the closed bedroom door.

Like **a** beast unleashed. Mia stormed over and kicked it open.

The door slammed against the **wall**, revealing **a** nightmare.

Joe was on top of Lauren, who lay limp on bloodstained sheets. Her body was covered in blisters from scalding burns, her face swollen and bruised beyond recognition. The bedsheet beneath her was soaked **with** blood.

Mia's mind snapped.

You sick freak-"

Screaming, she lunged forward and drove her knife into Joe's lower back.

Joe howled, collapsing off Lauren, limbs flailing, face twisted in pain.

But Mia didn't stop.

She stabbed **him** again.

And again

Her **rage** was deafening. Her hands **moved** on their own, every blow sharper **than** the last.

By the time she stopped, Joe's body was shredded, unmoving, and soaked in blood. His lifeless **eyes** stared at the ceiling in disbelief.

Lauren, half-conscious, stared in horror.

"No... don't

Mia had killed someone.

That meant the death **penalty**.

Chapter 304 Blood for Blood

Mia dropped the knife and rushed to Lauren's side, pulling her **into** her **arms**.

“Don’t be scared. I’m here. I’m going to get you out.”

Outside, the sounds of fighting faded.

Gael, Josh, Jeffrey, and Kenny rushed in, following the noise.

+8 Pearls

The **moment** they **saw** the scene—

Lauren barely clothed, covered in burns and blood; for lying dead on the bed—
they froze.

Josh’s face went **pale**.

“Mia... you killed someone again?”

He

stepped forward, voice tight. “We could’ve called the cops. Let them handle it. You didn’t have to—”

“Cops?” Mia cut him off with **a** sharp laugh. Her eyes gleamed with fury.

You **think** a prison sentence is justice? You think a few **years** behind bars is enough for what they did to Lauren?”

She stood slowly, eyes sweeping the room like a storm.

“I want them dead. Every one of them. They don’t deserve to breathe, not alter what they did.

Her voice echoed through the blood-soaked room. No one spoke.

Lauren turned **to** Josh, her voice hoarse.

“You said Mia... again? What do you mean—again?”

Josh’s **face** went rigid.

He didn’t answer right away.

“Mia killed someone who bullied you in prison. You didn’t know because she kept it from you. And Lucas... she’s the one who shattered his legs.”

“Shut up!” Mia snarled. Her whole body was tense, eyes flashing “Josh, don’t you dare-

Gael stepped in and tugged Josh's arm. "Enough, Ms. Lauren is the boss's woman. Watch your mouth.

But Josh **was** shaking,

His voice cracked.

"The woman I love is going to die for this. You expect me to just stand here and stay quiet?"

Silence dropped like a stone.

He turned to Mia, eyes full of **pain**. He snatched the knife **from** her hands.

"What are you doing?" Mia asked, voice wary.

Jash clenched his jaw. "I won't let you die. You all need to get out of here—now. I'll clean up the mess. If the police come, I'll take the fall."

Lauren's heart clenched so tightly she couldn't breathe.

Her vision blurred.

Then, with a sharp gasp, she coughed up a mouthful of blood.

The world tilted sideways.

The Heiress Revived from the Ashes

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Chapter 305 Worth Dying For

Mia's **face** went pale, Lauren, hang in there! We're taking you to the hospital now!

Gael didn't hesitate. He scooped Lauren into his arms, heart pounding, and **they** all rushed out of the bedroom—only to realize that Sharon and George had already fled

Only Taylor and **Lucas** remained, trembling on the floor.

Mia's eyes high.

narrowed. **Rage** flared. She picked up a kitchen knife from the ground, walked straight toward them, and raised it

"No!" Lauren gasped weakly, her voice barely a whisper.

But it was too late.

The blade came down hard, severing Taylor's head in a clean arc.

Lauren's entire body jolted. Her eyes widened in horror, unable to process **what** she'd just seen.

"Mia why?" she rasped.

Covered in blood, **Mia** stood over the corpse, a twisted smile pulling **at** her lips.

"If I'm going to die anyway, might as well make it count. One life for all of theirs—it's worth it."

She turned and stepped toward **Lucas**.

He was sobbing now, shaking uncontrollably. A dark stain spread across his pants.

"No. please! I get it, I **was** wrong! Don't kill me! Lauren, please—stop her, please—ahhh!"

Mia's blade swung again.

One of Lucas's hands flew from his body, landing with a sickening thud,

He howled **in** agony, but **Mia** didn't **stop**

Strike after strike.

Until Lucas was nothing more **than** a mangled heap on the floor.

"Everyone in the room froze, their faces ghost-white..

Even Lauren couldn't bear it. She fainted on the

spot.

Mia turned to Josh, her expression stone cold.

"Give me the butterfly knife."

Josh stared at her for a long second. "You've lost your damn mind."

Mia gave a bitter **laugh**. "Yeah. I've seen the worst of **humanity**, **and** it broke me. But those monsters? They don't deserve to

live.

“Let the law punish them,” Josh gritted out.

“The law?” she scoffed. “The law’s never made people like that suffer **enough**. What happened to Lauren? No court sentence will ever match it. **Not** even **close**.”

“They’ll be locked up,” Josh insisted.

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Chapter 305 Worth Dying For

Josh shouted, “You’ll die for this

“I don’t care.” Her voice was quiet now. “Tim not afraid of death. Hell, I’ve already got it company waiting for me down there?”

“**You** only care about Lauren. What about your mom?” Josh shot back, his voice cracking. “You think she’d be proud? You think she’d want this?”

Mia’s face fell

For a moment, her bravado slipped.

“Lauren will take care of her,” she whispered. “She’ll do what I couldn’t. She’ll make sure my mom’s okay”

Lauren was rushed into surgery.

It lasted an entire day and night,

When she was finally wheeled out, her eyelids fluttered open.

The first thing she saw was the doctor’s face, lips moving slowly as he explained something

Tears welled in her eyes before she could fully understand the words.

Mia had done everything—killed for her, bled for her—and Lauren’s body still couldn’t hold on.

“The patient is extremely weak. While the transplant surgery was initially a success, the trauma she sustained has led to severe. i

nfection and multiple complications. Her system is shutting down. We've done all we can. From here on, it depends on her will to survive.

The doctor's voice was low, almost apologetic.

Lauren was running on fumes.

But she wasn't ready to go. Not yet

Not like this

Her life had been too short. Too messy. Too full of regret

If she had to die, she wanted to make it count.

Mia had killed four people for her.

Lauren could never repay that.

It **was** her fault. All of it.

She'd ruined Marilyn's career. Driven Mia to bloodshed. Gotten Felix caught in a landslide, his legs **crushed**.

None of it we've happened if she hadn't been in their lives.

They would have thrived—happy, successful, whole.

So if this was the end...

She wanted to do something that mattered.

When the doctor finished and left, Carl, Jeffrey, and Kenny hovered around her bedside.

She looked at them with a fragile smile.

, ? Views, Released

Chapter 306 Goodbye, Sunlight

Gael hesitated for a moment before nodding

Seeing his agreement. Lauren's lips curved into a soft smile. Then she turned to Jeffrey

"Jeffrey,

y, you're a doctor. Can you prescribe me some painkillers? I I'm scared of the pain."

Jeffrey froze

She rarely said she was in pain. Not once through everything had she complained. This was the first time.

That alone was enough to tell **him** just how much **she** was suffering.

His voice was a little hoarse. "**Okay**. I'll go write the prescription."

I'd like to rest for a bit."

Lauren nodded. Once he left, she looked to Gael and Kenny. I'm a little tired. I'd like

Her face was pale, lips bloodless. Even keeping her eyes open seemed like a battle..

Gael and Kenny urged her to rest, then followed Jeffrey out of the room.

Lauren was **finally** alone.

She turned her head toward the window.

It was a beautiful day. Sunshine streamed through the glass, spilling onto her bed like liquid gold.

She reached toward the light

It touched her skin, warm and gentle. But inside, she still felt **so** unbearably cold

The sunlight was soft. The world outside, beautiful. So many people still cared about her . So many things were worth holding

on to.

And yet... she wouldn't have much longer.

She didn't want to go.

She really didn't.

She didn't know how long she lay there like that, staring into the sun, before Jeffrey returned.

"Lauren, **take** this. It'll help with the **pain**."

She smiled weakly and took the pills, swallowing them without a word.

Jeffrey didn't linger. He told her to rest, then quietly stepped out.

Once **again**, she **was alone**.

And this time, when the medication dulled the pain in her limbs, Lauren used what little strength she had to climb out of bed.

Her movements were slow, shaky. Every step felt like it could be her **last**.

She walked through the hospital corridors, all the way to Felix's room.

Through the narrow glass window in the door, she saw him lying there—legs **in casts**, completely still.

Cone **was** the towering, unshakable Felix she once knew. What remained **was** a man broken in body, his pride dulled by pain.

Chapter 306 Goodbye. Sunlight

Felix never would've ended up like this if he hadn't met her.

She pressed her hand against the glass, willing herself to remember every inch of him.

Then, slowly, she turned and limped away.

Felix, I'm sorry, I can't even say goodbye.

Because I did, you'd never let me go.

So she had to disappear silently.

She left the hospital and found a small agricultural supply store.

"I'd like to buy a bottle of pesticide" she **said** softly.

+8 Pearls

The clerk eyed her from head to toe. She was wearing a hospital gown, limping, skin as thin as paper. Her eyes were dull, lifeless.

Alarms went off in the clerk's head.

This girl wasn't a farmer. She looked like she was dying. She was probably planning to kill herself.

The clerk shook his head. "Sorry, miss. We can't sell it to you."

"Why not?"

"We... just don't want to take any chances."

Lauren stood frozen **for** a moment

Of course. In her current **state**, who would sell her poison?

She left the store in **a** daze.

The reflection in the shop's window caught her attention.

The girl staring back at her barely looked human anymore.

Skin bruised **and** blistered. Eyes hollow. Limping **like** a ghost.

Lauren stared for a long time.

How had she ended up like this?

She took a deep breath and forced herself to look away.

Inside a **nearby boutique**, **she** bought a fresh set **of clothes and changed**. She **added a face mask and large sunglasses**, wrapping herself up until not even her reflection **could** recognize her.

When she returned **to** the agricultural shop, the clerk didn't recognize her.

This time, they sold her the pesticide without question.

She tucked it into her **coat** pocket, hailed a cab, and gave the **driver** a single destination.

The police station.

The car pulled to **a stop** outside.

The Heiress Revived 307 - Writers Society

Chapter 307 One Life for All

+8 Pearls

Lauren stood before the towering building, its **stark** white walls gleaming beneath the sun. The police crest atop the roof

dark white shimmered like a silent warning—a symbol of justice, of consequences.

Her heart twisted with conflicting emotions. **Fear**. Resolve.

This was the end of the road. But it **was** also the only road left—for Mia

She stepped into the station, every step heavy and deliberate.

The front **hall** was quiet. A single officer manned the desk.

“I want to **turn** myself in

The officer’s expression shifted instantly. He straightened in his seat.

Turn yourself in? For **what?**”

Lauren pulled off her mask and sunglasses..

“I killed someone.”

His pupils contracted.

He **hadn’t** expected a murder confession—not like this. Not from someone who looked so **frail**, so **ghost**-like.

Without a word, he stepped out from behind the desk, approached her with care, and snapped a pair of cold steel cuffs onto her wrists.

The moment the cuffs locked in place, Lauren trembled.

The sensation was far too familiar. For five years, it had been routine.

But five years **ago**, she’d worn them for someone else’s crime.

This time, she wore them willingly—for Mia.

As the officer led her into the interrogation room, Lauren closed her eyes.

How ridiculous, the thought. All my life, I’ve been a replacement—for blame, for pain, for justice.

Inside, the interrogation room was small and airless. Oppressive.

“Sit,” the officer instructed, setting a notebook on the desk, his pen poised.

Lauren **sat**. Her hands clutched the edge of the **chair**, knuckles white.

“Tell me everything. Who did **you** kill? When? Where? How? And why?”

His questions came sharp and fast.

Lauren inhaled deeply. Then she began.

“I killed Joe. Taylor. Lucas. And

Her voice **was** dry, ragged.

With each name, the officer’s eyes widened **further**. The mental image forming in his head grew darker, bloodier.

Could this fragile **woman** really be a cold-blooded killer?

Chapter 307 One Life for All

He wrote it down slowly, word by word. “And your motive?”

Lauren shut her eyes.

And then, like pulling poison from an old wound, she told the truth. Every last bit.

Joe’s attempted assault. Taylor’s deception. Lancaster’s betrayal. The beatings in prison.

She didn’t embellish. She didn’t dramatize,

She simply told the truth.

The truth was damning enough.

+8 Pearls

The officer’s hand began to tremble with the speed of his writing. He had never heard anything like this before. He’d never imagined anyone could endure so much and still sit here, breathing.

He repeated the questions over and over, digging into every corner of her story. Cross-examining. Confirming details.

But her answers never changed.

Eventually, he closed his notebook.

“That’s enough for now. We’ll be transferring you for holding while we investigate further.”

He stood.

And in that moment—

Lauren moved

Her hand darted to her coat pocket. She unscrewed the cap of the pesticide bottle and drank it in one gulp

The entire room went still.

The officer stared, frozen, unable to process what he’d just seen.

Then he shouted, lunging forward. “What are you doing!”

But the bottle **was** already empty.

Lauren dropped it to the ground. Her body convulsed violently. Pain erupted from her chest, her stomach, her limbs.

But in her mind, everything was still.

I know Mia would never let me take the fall She’d fight. She’d confess. She’d ruin her future for mine. So I had to do this. Now she won’t have the chance.

Mw, **you** be already done more than enough Live. Marilyn still needs you. And Feliz.. Graciela Anna... Please don’t mourn me. Even if I had survived this **day**, I wouldn’t have **lived** much longer anyway. At least now, I get to make it mean something.

Lauren’s vision blurred.

Send Gifts

Chapter 308 Let Me Be Worth It

+5 Pearls

Lauren’s stomach felt like it had been set on fire. The pesticide burned its way through her organs, relentless and cruel. The pain twisted inside her, tearing at everything it touched. The painkillers from earlier did nothing.

She clenched her teeth, but agony still escaped her lips in broken whimpers

A thick stream of black blood spilled from her mouth, splattering across the cold interrogation room floor.

But even then—she smiled.

That fragile, bitter smile carried a quiet peace. A resignation. A final kind of freedom

If she died, then it would all be over.

Mia wouldn't have to bear the weight of murder. She could live her life freely.

Felix could forget everything and **focus** on his future. Grandma and **Anna** wouldn't worry anymore.

Everyone would be **okay**.

That **was** all Lauren wanted.

Tears slid silently from her eyes as everything faded to **black**.

When she opened her eyes **again**, she was in a hospital bed.

And she **wasn't alone**.

The room was filled with people—but all she **saw** was Felix

He sat nearby in a wheelchair, pale as snow, red-rimmed eyes locked onto hers with such intensity it nearly broke her.

Lauren gave him a **weak** smile.

She raised her hand slowly, reaching for his face—but her strength gave out halfway

Felix caught her hand and pressed it to his cheek. His voice cracked.

“Why would you do something so stupid?”

She looked at the man who'd come apart because of her and felt her heart twist with guilt and love

“Felix. I've dragged you down. Please when I'm gone, move on. Forget me.”

His tears burst free, falling in heavy **drops**.

His whole body trembled.

“You promised to marry me,” he choked out. “You said **you** would. You can’t break that promise.”

Lauren gently brushed the tears from **his** cheek. Even that **small movement** hurt—but she forced her hand to move.

“Don’t cry,” she whispered.

Then-

Mia appeared beside the bed, her **face** swollen from crying.

She threw herself at Lauren’s side.

Chapter 308 Let Me Be Worth it

+8 Pearin

pesticide.”

Her eyes bore into Mia’s

Mia was smart. She understood instantly.

And when she did, her legs gave out. She collapsed to her knees beside the bed.

She clutched Lauren’s arm, as if holding her tightly enough would stop her from slipping away.

“Don’t die. Lauren,” she cried. “Please don’t leave me. I’ll die before I let you go.”

But Lauren was beyond saving.

Surviving pesticide poisoning was rare. It destroyed the lungs. It was irreversible.

Mia knew that. And **that** knowledge hollowed her out from the inside.

She wrapped her arms **around** Lauren, sobbing like her soul was being torn apart.

Lauren leaned closer, whispering in her ear with **what** little strength she had left

“Mia.. let this be enough. Please live. Let my death mean something. It’s all I can do for you.”

Mia froze.

Let this be enough?

ere still alive

But Sharon and George were

How could this be enough?

She bit her lip and nodded, tears pouring **freely**.

“Okay,” she lied, “I promise. If you stay alive, I’ll do anything you say.”

She gripped Lauren’s hand tighter, pleading with the universe.

“You’ll get better. The doctors will fix this. Just hold on.”

Every breath Lauren took was like swallowing knives.

The taste o

of blood rose in her throat, but she swallowed it back. She didn’t want them to **see**.

“Mia.. don’t cry,” she whispered again.

Mia tried to wipe her tears away, but it was useless. They kept coming, faster and heavier, until she couldn’t even see Lauren’s face anymore.

She just wanted to see her one more time. One last time.

Chapter 309 Let Me Say Goodbye.

+8 Pearls

Lauren’s thin, trembling hand reached up and gently wiped away Mia’s tears. “Don’t be sad,” she whispered.

But the more she tried to comfort them, the harder it was for anyone **in** the room to hold back their grief.

Mia curled up beside her on the bed, her sobs wracking her small frame. Her shoulders shook uncontrollably, and her breathing came in shon. frantic gasps—like she might collapse at any second from the weight of her sorrow,

Everyone around the bed had red-rimmed eyes. Some were crying silently. Others had already broken down.

Lauren didn't know **what** else to say.

She had thought, when she drank the pesticide, **that** it would be quick.

She'd chosen that method because she **knew** how **lethal** it was. She'd been sure—positive—that she wouldn't survive.

She had been ready to die.

But life, cruel as ever, **had** decided not to let her go that **easily**.

And now, instead of slipping away quietly, she was forced to witness the pain she had left behind.

She opened her mouth, trying to reassure them—only for a sudden torrent of thick black blood to explode from her throat.

It splattered across the white bedsheets, across her gown, soaking everything in dark, sticky crimson.

Then came more.

Blood oozed from her nose. From her ears. Even her eyes

Lauren was bleeding from every opening

A living corpse.

A ghost crawling out of hell.

“Lauren- Mia’s scream ripped through the room like shattered glass,

Her eyes widened in horror. The sight of Lauren bathed in her own blood, writhing in agony, burned into her mind forever.

Mia’s knees gave out. Her body crumpled beside the bed. And then everything went black.”

Felix **shook** violently. “Doctor—someone get the doctor!”

His voice cracked, filled with sheer terror.

Lauren's vision **blurred**. She saw Mia collapse. Felix **pale and** trembling. Others rushing around in a panic—then **darkness** swallowed her whole.

The ER doors slammed open.

Doctors and nurses rushed her to surgery, machines beeping **frantically**.

Outside the **operating** room, time **stood** still.

Felix sat frozen
in his wheelchair, like **a** man turned to stone. He didn't blink. Didn't breathe. He just stared at the glowing **red** sign above the door.

Surgery in Progress.

Chapter 309 Let Me Say Goodbye

The doctor stepped out, face haggard, clothes stained. He removed his mask.

The moment Felix saw his face, his stomach dropped.

"Doctor," he rasped. "How is she?"

The doctor paused for a long moment. Then quietly said the words Felix feared most.

"We did everything we could. I'm sorry. Please prepare yourself."

The world collapsed

Felix's hands gripped his chair until his knuckles turned white.

"No," he whispered. "No, that's not true. She's not—she's not dead! She can't be!"

He lurched forward, grabbing the doctor's coat

She promised me! She said she'd marry me! You go back in there and save her!"

The others stood frozen.

Josh. Gael. Kenny. Jeffrey.

Not one of them could move.

Not one of them could breathe.

Lauren was dead? How? Why? How could this be justice?

+8 Pearls

She had never done a single cruel thing in her life. She worked hard. She loved fiercely. She forgave again and again. She endured pain no human being **should** have to endure.

She was punished from the moment she was born

Abandoned by her father. Bullied by her adoptive family. Sent to prison for a crime she didn't commit. Beaten. Mistreated. Betrayed

Even when she got out, life just kept hurting her.

Where was her happy ending?

Where was the fairness? The peace?

There was no answer.

Felix lost it.

*She's

's not dead!" he roared. "She's mine—she belongs to me! I haven't even walked her down the aisle yet, I haven't even put a ring **on** her hand! Bring her back!"

Gael closed his eyes, **unable to** bear it.

"Sir.. she's gone."

Felix's entire body shuddered.

Then—he vomited **blood**.

A moment later, Mia ran in

She had just woken up. Just found out.

Chapter 309 Let Me Say Goodbye

Still, she walked forward.

on

Step by step.

Josh reached for her, tried to speak.

But Mia didn't stop. Didn't hear him.

She walked past them all.

Then, she walked into the operating room—into the stillness beyond the storm.

Chapter 310 Keep the Promise, Break the World

+8 Pearls

Lauren lay motionless on the cold steel table, her body wrapped in silence as stark and sterile as the white surgical lights above her

Her hospital gown was stained with blood, soaked and brittle at the seams. Her face, ghostly pale, had taken on a bluish tint, her lips cracked and darkened with dried blood.

Mia stood at her side, unmoving, like her soul had left her body.

The girl who once overflowed with fire and fury now stood hollowed out.

She stared at Lauren's face—at the long lashes that would never flutter again, at the mouth that had called her name with such gentleness. And though her expression was frozen, something inside her had broken.

Mia lifted a trembling hand and brushed her fingers along Lauren's cheek.

Soft. Cold. Lifeless.

"Lauren." Her voice cracked like splintered glass. "You really left me, didn't you?"

There was no reply. No rise and fall of breath. No warmth in the skin beneath her fingers

"I want to die too, she whispered, her body trembling, voice thinned out by grief. "I want to lie down beside you and never wake up again. But I can't

Her fingers curled **into** a fist on the metal table.

"I **made** you **a** promise, and I'm about to break it Her tone shifted—low, flat, and dangerous. "I won't let the people who hurt you keep breathing. Sharon. George. They don't deserve to live in your world."

Mia leaned down, pressed her forehead to Lauren's

"Wait for me, okay? Walk slo

slow on the road to the afterlife. Let me clean this up, and I'll catch up

up to you. I swear

Her voice faded into a whisper.

I love you more than I love the world. And the world doesn't deserve to go unpunished

She stepped back.

And she smiled

It wasn't a smile of sorrow, or sweetness, or sanity.

It was the kind of smile **you** see on statues of war **gods**—cold, immortal, and laced with vengeance.

A month passed.

The sun hung warm and gold over the afternoon sky, pouring light into Josh's apartment **like** honey. It bathed the wooden floor, the **soft** linen **couch**, and the woman sitting silently **at** the table.

Mia. She looked calm. Composed. Beautiful, even.

She wore a pale **sweater**, her hair down in soft waves, and her cheeks flushed with color. To a **stranger**, she would've looked like any other girl enjoying a lazy Sunday.

But Josh knew better.

"Mia," he called gently from the kitchen, "come eat."

Chapter 310 keep the Promise Break the World

And slowly day by day, the blood had returned to her cheeks

"Mia?" he asked again

She rose, walked to the **table**, and picked up her chopsticks.

They ate in silence for a few minutes before she finally said, "I'm going back to school."

Josh froze. You what?"

I'm better, I should graduate on time."

He set his chsticks down. "Mia, I can file for a leave on your behalf-

"No," she interrupted, calm but firm. "I want to finish what I started.

He hesitated. "You're not planning **anything**, are you?"

She looked him in the eyes. "I promised Lauren I **wouldn't** hurt anyone. And I keep my promises."

Josh studied her for a long second, then nodded slowly. "Then let me drive you every day."

"Okay"

He smiled.

+8 Pearls

She smiled back.

But neither of their smiles reached their eyes.

When Josh turned to pick up a napkin, Mia lowered her gaze.

And the rage—pure, burning, unyielding—flared in her again..

Sharon George. You thought a month of quiet meant I'd given up?

She hadn't rested. Not really. Not when every heartbeat reminded her of Lauren's last s mile. Not when every breath **still**

tasted like blood.

Every night, while Josh slept soundly beside the wall separating their rooms, Mia worked.

She hacked databases. She traced credit cards. She ran facial recognition on traffic cameras Slowly, carefully, methodically- she hunted them.

And she had found them.

Two ghosts hiding at the edge of a nameless border town, under fake names, surrounded by barbed fences and bribed

silence.

The only thing between them and **justice** now.. was time.

Just a little longer, Lauren, she thought, picking up her cutlery.

Just a little longer, and I'll keep my real promise.