

The Heiress Revived from the Ashes

The Heiress Revived 311

Chapter 311 Retribution

After a full month of relentless searching, she had finally tracked down those two monsters,

She'd let them live an extra month. It was time they paid for what they'd done.

The next morning, under bright sunlight, Josh personally drove Mia to the gates of Hovendale Tech University.

He watched her walk onto campus, waiting **until** her figure disappeared from view before driving away.

But not long after he left, Mia quietly turned around and walked back out.

Night fell. The city lights flickered on.

Josh rode to the university gates, silently waiting for **Mia** to come out,

He waited for a full thirty minutes, but there was no sign of her.

He took out his phone to call her, only to find he couldn't get through—no matter how many times he tried.

In that moment, dread twisted in Josh's chest.

Meanwhile, Mia was already in another city, standing outside an old apartment complex.

+8 Pearls

She **was** at the **door** of a worn—
down residential building. The stairwell lighting was dim, and the air reeked of mildew and

dust

Mia raised her hand and knocked, her fingers tapping rhythmically against the wooden door—knock knock knock.

Inside, Sharon and George were chatting casually. The knock caught them both off guard. They exchanged a glance.

George called out cautiously, "Who is it?"

Mia lowered her voice and disguised it deliberately. "Your **food** delivery"

They both relaxed **instantly**

"Oh, it's just our takeout. That was fast today," Sharon **said**.

"I'll get it," George offered, getting up.

He opened the door and saw a small, thin delivery worker standing outside.

She wore a mask, and the hallway was **too** dark to make out her face, but her frame made it obvious she was a woman.

George let his guard down completely. "Hand it over."

Mia looked up, her eyes icy cold. "I finally found you."

Before he could react, shhk—her **knife** plunged straight into **George's stomach**.

"**You**" George stared **at** her, eyes wide with disbelief.

"What, me?" **Mia** yanked off her mask, revealing a face twisted by fury.

In that moment, she looked like a demon straight out of hell.

She ripped the knife out and drove it into his stomach again. And again.

"You loved hurting Lauren so much. How's it feel to be on the other end? Feels **good**, doesn't it?"

With that, she kicked George hard, sending him stumbling back into the apartment. Then she slammed the door shut **and**

Chapter 31: Retribution

+8 Pearls

Sharon **shrieked** and **tried** to run **back** into the bedroom, but Mia moved like lightning. She lunged forward, grabbed Sharon by the hair, and yanked her hard to the floor.

You two monsters killed Lauren. Today, you die for it,” Mia said coldly, her voice brimming with hate, her bloody knife gleaming in her grip.

Sharon scrambled across the floor, hair tangled over her face, begging through tears. “Please... please don’t.. we were wrong.... we know we were wrong...

“Wrong!” Mia crouched down, pressing the blade to Sharon’s neck. “Too late.”

With that. Mia slashed the tendons in Sharon’s arms **and** legs.

Sharon screamed, the sound raw and soul-shattering, her body convulsing in agony.

Her eyes were filled with terror and despair.

She knew, without a doubt, that she wouldn’t be walking out of here alive.

Mia stared at George’s unconscious body and Sharon’s sobbing face, but not a trace of her hatred had faded.

“Don’t worry. I won’t kill you just yet. That’d be too easy, I want you to feel every second of what it means to be cut apart, piece by piece.”

Her voice was calm. Cold. As if she were describing the weather.

George began to stir. As his vision **cleared** and he saw Mia’s face, his pupils dilated. Horror washed over him.

“What are you going to do?”

Mia’s lips curled **into** a cruel smile. You were so heartless. I want to see your heart with my own eyes. See if it’s black or

“No—please—have mercy!” George pleaded desperately.

•red.”

Sharon was sobbing uncontrollably, her voice hoarse from screaming. “We were wrong—we really were—please, please don’t

But **Mia’s** expression didn’t waver. Her eyes held nothing but vengeance.

She slowly raised the knife. In the dim light, the blade glinted.

And then, she dragged it slowly across **George’s** stomach.

“Ah!” George howled in agony as he watched her slice him open, inch by inch.

Chapter 312 The Secret

In an instant, bright red blood gushed out, soaking the floor.

+8

B Pearls

George's body convulsed violently, his eyes bulging in sheer terror. It was as if thick **black** ink had poured into his pupils,

drowning them in fear.

"No—please—

I'm begging you, George sobbed uncontrollably. "I'll do anything, anything you want, just don't kill me..."

Ma stood off to the side, her gaze **cold as a** frozen lake in the dead of night.

She remembered Lauren lying pale and lifeless on that cold operating table.

"I'll spare you, who spared my Lauren?"

"My L

was born into a powerful family. She should've grown up in luxury, pampered and loved. But thanks to you two animals, her he was completely destroyed"

Her voice dropped lower, darker. Her knife never stopped moving.

George's screams tore through the apartment.

Lauren was such a good person, and she's gone. So why do you **two** pieces of trash still I get to live?"

"You should've died. Both of you. You should burn in hell."

The entire room reeked of blood.

For three full hours, Mia dissected George alive—cut by cut.

And through it all, George remained conscious.

He watched, fully aware, as his own body was carved open. He watched himself die

Sharon witnessed the entire thing, paralyzed by fear. Her whole body was rigid, her eyes dull and lifeless—like a puppet with its soul torn out.

Mia stared at **what** was left of George's mangled corpse, her face blank

Then she turned her head toward Sharon. "Your turn."

Just four words—but they hit Sharon like a thunderclap, snapping her **out** of her daze.

"No—no" she shook her head frantically, tears pouring down her face like floodwaters.

"Please, I'm begging you.

Mia looked down at her coldly **as** she wept.

"So the ones who cause pain are scared of death after all. When it comes to survival, you'll crawl like a dog and beg for your life:

She slid the cold **blade** across Sharon's face, and Sharon lost **control**, wetting herself in terror.

"Don't be scared. You'll be seeing your man real soon. He loved you so much—I'm sure he's already **missing** you down there.

Mia raised the knife.

Sharon's pupils dilated in panic. She didn't want to die.

"You—you

can't kill me!" Sharon suddenly screamed.

1.2

Chapter 312 The Secret

She moved the knife even closer.

Sharon shrieked, her voice cracking "If you don't kill me—I'll tell you a secret?

"A secret" Mia sneered "I don't care. I want you dead. Even if it costs me my life."

Her eyes were dead, wild and merciless. She wasn't about to let Sharon buy time with empty threats.

The blade was just about to sink into Sharon's eye-

"The secret is about Lauren Sharon shouted with her eyes shut tight.

+8 Pearls

A heavy, suffocating silence.

Sharon waited. And waited. **But** the pain never came,

She slowly opened her eyes.

The tip of the knife hovered less than an inch from her pupil.

The

Her eyes widened in terror, and she **quickly** shut them again.

Mia narrowed her eyes, a dangerous gleam flashing within them. "Speak. Clearly"

But Sharon **said** nothing. As long as Mia cared about Lauren, this secret could buy her time. Maybe even her life.

"Hah." Mia let out a chilling laugh. "Not talking? Fine. I'll kill you right now. **Lauren's** already gone. Whatever secret you've got - doesn't matter anymore.

The blade drove straight into Sharon's shoulder.

"Ah!" Sharon screamed, eyes snapping wide open in **pain**.

"Don't kill me! I'll **talk**—I'll tell you everything!"

Mia yanked the knife free and gave a cold smile. "Disgusting. You'd better say something worth hearing. If you're just stalling. I swear your death will be a hundred times worse than George's."

. A demon. That's what Mia was. A demon

Sharon was drowning in fear. If she'd known things would turn out like this, she never would've touched Lauren—not even for a call from Taylor.

Lauren had already let them go.

If they'd **just** stayed quiet, none of this would've happened.

Now it was too late.

Sharon stared at Mia in horror, her whole body trembling as she stammered out Lauren's secret.

Mia hadn't expected much. She only listened because it was about Lauren.

But once Sharon finished, Mia just stood there—completely frozen.

Chapter 313 Blood Debt

+8 Pearis

"You're saying Lauren has a two-year-old daughter? Lauren was still in prison two years ago. You expect me to believe she had a baby? Are you messing with me? Even at death's door, you have the nerve to insult her? I'll make you wish you were

never born!"

Mia completely lost it

Lauren was her one untouchable boundary—no one was allowed to throw dirt on her name.

Blood vessels burst red across Mia's eyes. She looked like a demon risen straight from hell.

Sharon trembled under her stare, her voice stuttering from sheer panic, "I'm not lying—it's true."

"You're still playing games? You deserve to die?" Mia raised her knife, aiming for Sharon's eye.

med "If you kis

Sharon-

me, you'll never find Lauren's child! I'm the only one who knows where she is! That girl is Lauren and blood—but she wasn't born by Lauren herself!"

Mia froze, forcing herself to choke down her fury.

"Explain. Now"

"I will—I'll tell you everything!" Sharon blurted, terrified.

She spilled **at** all—the truth behind the child.

As Mia listened, the world tilted. She staggered, then vomited a mouthful of blood. Her vision darkened at the edges.

You monsters... You're all monsters."

No wonder her mother once told her **that** Lauren hadn't had a single period since getting out of prison.

No wonder Lauren had been so weak.

Turns out the torture she endured **wasn't** just verbal and physical abuse. It wasn't just the loss of her kidney.

During that surgery—when they removed her kidney—they had also injected her with hormone stimulants. Then, while she **was** unconscious, harvested over a dozen of her eggs

And Lauren never knew.

She thought her body was ruined just from losing a kidney. She had no idea her ovaries had been drained to the point **of**

failure.

George, Sharon, Lin Zhiyuan, and Willow—those inhuman animals—did it all because they feared Sharon's and Willow's kidneys might fail again. So they stole Lauren's eggs and used them for surrogacy.

That child was born for one purpose: organ compatibility. When the time came, they could cut her open and harvest what they needed.

Lauren died never knowing she **had** a daughter.

Mia shook from head to toe.

How much more had Lauren suffered that no one knew about?

"Why.. why would you do that to her?"

Her eyes were blood red now, the **tears** streaming down her face tinged with crimson.

"What did she ever do to deserve something so vile, so inhuman!"

AM

Chapter 313 Blood Debt

“Ahhh! Please—don’t kill me—if you do, you’ll never find Lauren’s child!”

Mia stopped in her tracks.

Right. She couldn’t kill her. Not yet. Not until she found the child.

Tell me where Lauren’s daughter is.

Sharon suddenly burst into laughter—high—pitched, crazed, and trembling with madness.

She’d found **Mia’s** weakness.

+ Pearls

“I was right. You really care about that little brat. You want to know where she is? Then **you’re** gonna do what I say. Right now, **take** me to the hospital. I need treatment.”

She gritted her teeth through the pain, looking smug. As if she had Mia right where she wanted her.

But she forgot one thing—Mia wasn’t human anymore.

She was a storm of **hatred**. A monster born of revenge.

Mia smiled. But with the blood on her face and the tears still flowing, the smile was pure nightmare.

She stood, walked into the kitchen, and came back with a bag of salt.

The moment Sharon saw it, the color drained from her face. She was completely engulfed in terror.

“What are you doing? I’m warning you—if you hurt me again, that little brat—Ah!”

Before she could finish, Mia poured the salt directly into her wounds, expressionless.

“Talk”

Sharon howled, shrieking in pain as she thrashed across the floor. “I’ll talk—I’ll talk—just please stop!”

Mia tossed the salt aside. "Then talk."

"If I tell you now, *you*

kill me for sure. But if you want to see Lauren's kid—I can take you there. Myself."

Mia stared at her without blinking-

That pathetic little trick—she saw right through **it**.

Chapter 314 My Child

411 Pearls

"I'll **give** you two choices. One—tell me exactly where Lauren's daughter is, and I'll spare your life. Two—you stay silent, and I'll torture you just like I did George. You can die without talking, and that's fine by me. Because once I tell Felix, with his resources, he'll find her no matter what"

Sharon hesitated. Her eyes flickered with fear and conflict.

"You really mean it! You'll let me live? Are you afraid I'll go to the police?"

"Hah! I've killed so many people already. Even if you don't report me, the cops won't let me walk."

And Sharon couldn't argue with that logic.

When **a** chance to live is right in front of you, who wants to give it up? Even if it means crawling through the dirt—it's better than dying.

After weighing her options, Sharon finally caved and revealed the whereabouts of Lauren's child.

"I told you. Can you let me go now?"

The smile on **Mia's** face was enough to make someone's blood run cold. "You finally did something useful. Because of **that**.... I'll give you a quick **death**."

With that, she plunged her knife straight into Sharon's heart.

Sharon stared in horror. "You you lied..."

Mia blinked innocently. "I said I'd spare you. I never **said** I had to keep my word."

You'll die a horrible **death**... Sharon gasped, clinging to her last breath.

"Maybe. Maybe not. But you? You definitely will: Mia twisted the blade, shredding Sharon's heart to pieces.

Sharon died in agony, drowning in fear and regret.

Mia looked down at the two bodies and let out a cold snort before walking away.

The next day, someone discovered Sharon and George's corpses. Police were called immediately.

Mia sped down a country road, finally arriving **at** a rural village.

She followed the directions **Sharon** had given her and stopped outside a rundown house with no gate or courtyard wall.

She'd just stepped out of the car when she heard someone screaming inside.

"You nasty little brat! Stealing from your brother again? You think you deserve to eat that? You're nothing—you should be **eating** pig slop!"

Mia turned toward the voice and **saw** a small child hurled out of the house like a rag doll

The child hit the ground hard and burst into tears.

"I **didn't** steal it, Mommy! He dropped it and didn't want it—I picked it up because I was hungry..."

A second later, a middle-aged woman stormed out, wielding a feather duster.

Her face was wide and **mean**, her eyes full of loathing.

"You lying little slut. What kind of filthy parents **raised a** trash heap like **you**?"

Chapter 314 My Child

The little girl curled up on the ground, her cries growing louder and more desperate.

"I'm sorry, Mommy—I won't do it **again**! Please don't hit me, please—I'm sorry!"

No matter how much she begged, the woman didn't stop. In fact, she seemed even more enraged.

ž F

+8 Pearls

The feather duster whipped through the air with brutal force. Each strike brought fresh blood and more screaming. The child's thin clothes quickly turned red.

Mia watched in horror, her heart twisting in her chest.

That **face—it** was like seeing a miniature version of Lauren.

Mia's expression turned to ice.

She marched over and grabbed the feather duster mid-swing.

The woman turned around and **saw** a young woman in a white shirt, jeans, and a high ponytail.

She blinked in confusion, then scowled. "Who the hell are you? Mind your own business!"

Mia smiled—but her smile was laced with venom. "Hey, can I ask you something? Is this kid's name really 'Filthy Girl'?"

Sharon had told her. After the **woman** finally had her own son, she gave the girl that name—an insult meant to degrade her completely.

Sharon had kept in contact with this family, which was how she knew the name and the abuse.

The woman's expression tightened. She looked Mia up and down, eyes narrowing in suspicion. "How do you know that little bastard's name?"

Mia's smile grew, but her eyes were ice cold. "Then I've found the right place."

"What are you talking about?" the woman demanded.

Then—pain

She looked down in disbelief to find a knife buried in her stomach

Min twisted the blade, grinding it cruelly inside her gut.

"You hurt my child, Mia whispered. "Now your precious son's about to lose his mommy."

Chapter 315 Blood Ties

The pain twisted the woman's face into a mask of terror.

"You you **are** kill someone? she gasped, her voice trembling with agony.

+5 Pearls

Mia blinked her wide, innocent eyes. She looked so harmless—like a sweet little bunny, incapable of hurting anyone.

"Yep," she said cheerfully. "And just so you know, I've already killed six people. One more won't matter. You just had the bad luck of beating my child right in front of me. So... you get to die."

Her voice was light, breezy—like she was discussing the weather.

But the woman, it sounded **like** the devil whispering in her ear.

She bent over in pain, clutching her stomach, blood pouring from between her fingers.

Jina desperate, cracking voice, she begged, "Please... let me go. My son—he's only one year old. He's too young to lose his mother."

But Mia didn't stop. Her knife twisted deeper, mercilessly shredding tissue and muscle.

The woman let **out** a **howl like** a wounded animal, the sound raw and inhuman.

"My child's small too. What's your point?" **Mia said** coldly,

"I don't give a damn about your son. You hurt the one person I care about. **That's** a death sentence."

The woman collapsed to the ground, pleading through tears, barely coherent. "Please don't kill me—I was wrong—I'll make it right—I'll treat her like my own daughter from now on, I swear!"

You just called her Filthy Girl' again.

Those two words snapped something in Mia.

She exploded

With a
savage jerk, she yanked the knife free, raised it high, and slashed the **woman's** throat.

Her body hit the ground like a felled wall. She kicked and clawed, choking on her own blood.

A guttural, gurgling noise filled the air **as** blood gushed from her neck. Her eyes bulged with desperation, begging for life- In it was already slipping **away**.

Mu's blade dripped red under the sun.

She
wiped it clean on the woman's clothes, then turned to face the small child still trembling on the ground, her cheeks streaked with tears.

The moment Mia looked at the girl, all the viciousness drained from her. The rage, the hatred—it vanished in an instant.

What replaced it was warmth. And **sorrow**.

Her eyes softened. Her voice was gentle as a spring breeze.

"Sweetheart, don't be scared. No one will ever hurt you again."

The little girl was frozen, too terrified to speak. Her big, tear-filled eyes stared up at Mia, and her tiny frame trembled.

"Ma'am... who are **you**?"

Mia reached out **and** stroked the child's gaunt little face.

Chapter 315 Blood Ties

Tears spilled from Mia's eyes. The corners of her eyes were bright red.

+8 Pearls

"**I'm**... your birth mother's little **sister**. You can call me Madam."

"Birth mother?" The girl tilted her **head**, blinking wide-eyed as she pointed at the dead woman. "She's not my

Mia nodded. "She's not your mother. She was a human trafficker."

mom?”

A spark lit up in the girl’s eyes. The fear vanished. A small, hopeful smile appeared on her blood-splattered face.

“Madam, can you help me find my real mommy? I don’t wanna stay here. They all hate me. They never feed me. I’m so hungry...”

At those words. Mia’s tears poured like a flood.

She pulled the child into her arms and held her tight.

This child’s fate... was almost identical to Lauren’s.

If she hadn’t come in time, this little girl would’ve ended up just like Lauren.

The thought made Mia’s whole body tremble.

“Yes, sweetheart. I’m taking you with me. We’re leaving now. I’m getting you out of here.”

She picked the child up and turned to go.

But just then, a man stormed into the **yard**.

He froze at the sight of the dead woman, then shouted, “Did you **kill** my wife!”

His eyes locked onto the girl in Mia’s arms, Rage flared.

“Where do you think you’re taking that little brat? You think you can just kill someone and walk away? Not a chance! Somebody help! She’s a murderer!”

The moment the man stepped into view, the child in Mia’s arms began shaking uncontrollably.

Chapter 316 The Only Thing Left

A soft voice called out, “Daddy...”

The moment Mia heard it, her eyes darkened further with fury.

+8 Pearls

Clearly, this man had abused Lauren’s daughter too—there was no other **reason** the child would be this scared of him.

Mia started **walking** toward him step by step.

But before she could get close, a crowd of villagers rushed over, blocking the path.

“Where the hell is this outsider from? She came into our village and killed someone—we **can’t** let her get away!”

“Call the cops **quick!**”

Seeing the villagers rally to his side, the man straightened his back with false confidence. He marched toward Mia, reaching out to grab the girl from her arms.

But Mia held the child close with one arm. The knife in her other **hand** was already drawn.

Just as the tension hit its peak, sirens cut through the air.

Police cars arrived on the scene with blaring urgency.

Mia’s heart sank. There **was** no getting out of this.

She quickly set the child down, then grabbed the man **and** pressed her blade to his neck, taking him hostage.

“You’d better not move, she warned coldly. “This knife won’t show mercy.”

The man froze, shaking. “I won’t. Just don’t kill me.”

“Drop your weapon!” shouted the officers, spreading out and herding the villagers back. Guns were trained on her from every direction.

“You’re surrounded. There’s no escape. Surrender now!”

Mia knew she couldn’t run.

She’d accepted this day would come from the **moment** she killed the first one.

Now, every person who had hurt Lauren was dead.

Even if she died here today, she had no regrets.

The only thing she couldn’t let go of... **was** Lauren’s daughter.

Still holding the man hostage, she **glanced** down at the child.

The girl trembled in fear, instinctively wrapping her **arms** around Mia's leg.

Mia's expression softened. "It's **okay, baby**. From now on, no one's ever going to hurt you **again**."

The child's big te

's big **tears** fell one after another.

"Madam, are they all bad people here to take you away?" she **asked**, pointing to the armed officers.

Hearing her speak up in Mia's defense, Mia felt her chest tighten. Her **eyes** burned.

She blinked the tears away and shook her head. "No, sweetheart. They're police officers. They're the good guys. Let go of Madam and walk to them, okay?"

Chapter 316 The Only Thing Left

Mia's tears spilled over.

She hadn't expected Lauren's daughter to cling to her like this after just one meeting.

It broke her **and** warmed her at the same time.

"Be good..."

"No" the girl wailed, soaking Mia's clothes with tears. Her cries echoed through the tense silence like thunder.

"Twant Madam! They're all mean! They hit me, they yell at me... only **Madam** protects me!"

Her tiny chest rose and fell rapidly, her emotions spiraling.

Mia's heart ached as she watched her cry.

Of course she wanted to raise Lauren's daughter herself. But she knew... that was never going to happen.

She gently stroked the girl's hair, trying to soothe her—but the child suddenly clutched her wrist tight.

'Don't leave me, Madam. I'm **scared**.'

Her tear-streaked face looked up at Mia, helpless and terrified.

Mia opened her mouth, but no words came out.

She had nothing to promise.

Then, someone shouted from the crowd.

“Mia-

She stiffened and turned toward the voice.

+8 Pearis

Their eyes n

met.

Mia’s breath hitched—she never expected him to find her here.

Josh’s face was pale with worry. His voice trembled with urgency.

“Mia, stop! Don’t **kill** anyone else. Please—turn yourself in.”

Mia gave him a bitter smile. “Josh... I’ve already made peace with dying. The only thing I can’t let go of... is Lauren’s daughter.”

She ran her fingers gently through the little girl’s hair, her eyes full of love.

Josh’s eyes widened. “Lauren’s daughter?”

He glanced down at the child clinging to Mia’s leg. “You mean her?”

Mia nodded. “Yes. This is Lauren’s daughter. When they took her kidney, they also injected her with fertility drugs. Those monsters were **planning** ahead—when their kidneys started failing, they were going to take hers.”

“Lauren was **such** a good person. Her entire life was destroyed by scum. She died.... n ever even knowing she had a child.”

Mia’s voice cracked. The tears came again—thick and unstoppable.

Chapter 317 No Regrets

Those people broke the law,” one officer called out sternly. “They’ll be punished by the justice system. That’s not a reason for you to **take** their lives. Let the hostage go and turn yourself in. It’s not **too** late for leniency

Mia sneered. “**Easy** for you to say. It didn’t happen to you. You have no idea how much it hurts. I don’t care about leniency. All I wanted was to make the people who hurt Lauren—and her daughter—pay.”

“Don’t throw your life **away**,” the officer said firmly. “You’ve gone too far already?”

But Mia ignored him.

She turned to the child **and** said gently, “Sweetheart, do you see that man in the black suit? I want you to go to him.”

“No!” the girl sobbed, clinging to Mia’s leg even tighter. Her whole body shook with fear.

Mia’s heart twisted. But she had to push the child **away**. If things escalated, she didn’t want her anywhere near the danger.

So she hardened her expression and snapped, “Are you being disobedient? If you don’t do what I say, I won’t like you

anymore.”

“Madam...” the child looked up at her through tear-filled eyes.

But Mia didn’t budge.

Terrified by the change in her, the girl slowly let go, dragging her feet toward Josh, sniffing with every step.

Mia looked at Josh, her eyes filled with a silent plea. “Josh... **please**. For everything we once had—take care of her.”

Josh swallowed hard, his throat tight. “I promise, Mia. I’ll look after her. But you still have a **chance**. Turn yourself in.”

Mia gave him a bitter smile. “Some things... once done, there’s no way back.”

She took a deep breath. The wind tugged at her hair as she stood still in the middle of the chaos, her expression resolute. Life or death no longer mattered.

Then, without warning, she raised the **knife**. The blade glinted cold under the sun.

For a split second, time froze. Everyone held their breath.

Mia moved, aiming the knife straight for the man’s throat.

But a gunshot rang out—sharp, deafening.

Bang

A single bullet pierced the air—and struck Mia right between the eyes.

Blood burst from her forehead, painting her pale face a vivid red

“No-!” Josh screamed, his voice tearing through the silence.

He froze, eyes wide in shock, staring at Mia’s body as though the world had stopped spinning-

Time seemed to halt. The crowd went still.

Mia felt the heat of the bullet tearing through her skull. Her vision blurred, everything soaked in red. Shapes twisted, lights

flickered.

She was still

standing, barely, sheer willpower keeping her upright.

With her final ounce of strength, she plunged the knife into the man’s neck.

Chapter 317 No Regrets

That’s what real punishment looks like.

With that thought, Mia’s body collapsed like a puppet with its strings cut.

Above her, the sky **was** still blue—
but to her fading eyes, it looked as red as blood, darkening into black.

The sound of screaming and shouting faded into silence.

+8 Pearls

And just before her mind **went** dark forever, she thought she heard two voices echoing in the distance—one calling “Mia” **and** the other, “Madam”

“Today, local police successfully closed a high-profile serial murder case. After weeks of investigation **and** tireless pursuit, law enforcement identified the suspect and executed a well-coordinated arrest operation. During the final confrontation, the suspect resisted violentl

y. Officers acted decisively and opened fire. The suspect died at the scene. The investigation confirmed that the killings stemmed from a personal vendetta. Multiple victims were murdered in gruesome **fashion**, resulting in widespread public concern. The suspect's methods were extremely brutal and caused significant social unrest. The successful resolution of this case demonstrates the city's unwavering commitment to justice and public safety.

"Jeez, some people really just snap. She **was** out of her mind."

"Good riddance. Can you imagine the panic she would've caused if they hadn't stopped her?"

"What **kind** of parents raise someone like that? Straight-up psycho."

"Seriously—if you can't raise a kid right, don't have one. Now look what we've got. A monster."

Josh sat on the floor, his **face** unshaven, surrounded by empty liquor bottles.

The room stank of alcohol.

Phone in hand, he stared blankly at the news report on screen.

Tears fell silently down his face.

Chapter 318 A Name That Still Hurts

Mia.. for Lauren, you destroyed yourself. You turned your back on your mother... you didn't even want me anymore...

+ Pearls

The little girl sat curled up on the couch, her eyes filled with helpless confusion as she looked at him. Her voice was small, **shaky**, and edged with tears

"Sir, I want Mommy **and** Madam... will they come back?"

The embroidery room was dim and still. Thick curtains kept the sunlight locked outside, drowning the space in silence that felt more like a tomb than a home,

Felix slumped in a chair, thinner than before. The once crisp, elegant silk pajamas he wore now hung on him wrinkled and lifeless

His eyes were vacant—soulless, He looked less like a man and more like a hollow shell.

In his hands, he held the embroidered piece Queen of Blooms. His long fingers absent mindedly traced the delicate threads, over and over again, as though trying to feel Lauren's warmth still lingering in the stitches.

The door creaked softly open

[open]

Anna stood at the threshold. When she saw Felix in **that** lifeless state, her eyes turned red instantly.

She spoke softly, her voice trembling with concern. "Sir, please come downstairs and eat something"

But Felix didn't move. It was as if she hadn't spoken at all.

Anna's heart twisted. Her lips parted, ready to offer comfort—but nothing came. Her throat tightened, her words jammed somewhere between sorrow and helplessness. All she could **do** was sigh

She turned, shoulders heavy, only to run right into **Madam** Kate.

Kate's once—straight **posture** had slumped. Her eyes were dull and tired. In just over a **month**, she looked ten years older.

"Ma'am, please talk to Mr. Felix," Anna pleaded. "He's been like this every day—either drinking or sitting in that room with the embroidery. He doesn't eat, doesn't sleep ... if this keeps going, he's going to fall apart."

Just the mention of Lauren **was** enough to break her composure. Anna's tears spilled over as her voice cracked.

Lauren was such a good girl... how could she be **gone**? How could the world be so **cruel**?

Kate's eyes welled up.

Since hearing about Lauren's death, she had fainted more than once. Her chest had felt torn open. For more than a month, she hadn't been able to eat or sleep. Every night, **in** the dark, she'd think of Lauren's sweet smile, her gentle, thoughtful nature—and her heart would seize with pain.

It had taken her weeks to even begin calming down.

The dead couldn't return. The living still had to go **on**.

She stepped to the doorway of the embroidery room and looked in. Her voice trembled.

"Fellix...

Still, there was no sound. Not a breath of response from Felix.

"I **know** how much you miss Lauren. I miss her too. But she's gone. And she wouldn't want to see you like this. Fellix. You have to pull yourself together,"

No matter how she tried, Felix **gave no** sign that he even heard her.

Chapter 318 A Name That Sulf Hurts

+8 Pearls

Her eldest grandson had always been indifferent to women. Almost thirty, and never a single scandal She had even once. quietly wondered if he might not be into women at all,

Then finally, a **good** girl **had** walked into his life.

And now, she was gone so young, so senselessly.

With Felix's temperament, Kate feared he'd never let another woman near him again.

She had **never** been one to pressure him about **marriage**, but the Brooker family name couldn't end with him. The family had lasted generations—it needed an heir.

Kate sighed **heavily**. "Fellix, it's not that I'm trying to force you. But this family... it can't end with you. I'm not asking for marriage, Just a child. Any child. Boy or girl, I don't care . If you give me that, I swear I'll never ask you to marry. Is that fair?"

Her voice was low and heartfelt, worn from grief.

At last—Felix moved..

"The sperm I deposited at Balewood Hospital... use **that**," he said, his tone flat, eyes lifeless,

It had been Kate's idea years ago to **have** him freeze his sperm, just in case. She'd feared that as he got older and stayed single, the **quality** would decline—and wanted to preserve it while she could.

If he really **was** never going to start a family the traditional way, that frozen vial was their only hope.

Kate exhaled shakily. "Fine... but what about the child's mother? Do **you** have any requirements?"

Felix didn't even blink.

"Whoever. Doesn't matter."

Chapter 319 A Thread of Light

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Madam Kare looked at Fiore hellone, lifeless expression, and her the tightened once more.

Felix gave a response. He simply sat there, numb and l

Seeing this. Madam Kate said nothing else With Anna's support, she turned and walked away slowly.

+8 Pearls

Dart at the Broker estate, clutching a thick folder, his face drawn and serious

Then he said the moment he saw Felix, Tve uncovered something very important"

Felix looked up. His gaze was still distant, cold. "What is it?"

Garl took a deep breath to steady himself, then began. "Sir, your sperm stored at Balewood Hospital's sperm bank... it was tampered with more than two years ago

Felix didn't so much as flinch. "Oh"

fat, indifferent—at if Cael had just told him about the weather.

Garl stared at him, silently sighing. He doesn't care. Not yet

But what he was about to say next would change everything,

He pulled himself together, then began recounting everything he had discovered—every last disturbing, incredible detail.

As he spoke, cracks began to form in Felix's stony **mask**. The emptiness in his eyes began to stir, faint flickers of something human starting to return:

Telne's gaze locked onto him. His voice was rough, shaking, "Lauren and I have a daughter?"

"Yes, sir," Garl said, neglding hard.

Felix jolted like he'd been hit by lightning. His entire body trembled.

"The Queen of Blooms embroidery, which he'd been clutching in his hands, slipped from his fingers and fell to the floor.

It turned out, after Lauren had been mutilated—her kidney stolen and her body pumped full of ovulation drugs—Sharon and George hadn't dared perform IVF in Haicheng. Instead, they had fled to Balwood, terrified that their crimes might be

covered.

Once there, they selected over a dozen of Lauren's eggs and attempted to fertilize them using various donor samples from the hospital's sperm bank.

Almost every embryo failed.

"They spent a fortune, but nothing worked. Their hatred toward Lauren only grew,

Eventually, they were left with just one egg

Desperate for a successful fertilization, they paid top dollar **for a** high-quality donor—and by pure chance, selected Felix's

sperm.

But Felix's samples weren't available to just anyone. He was **a** Brooker. His genetic material was protected.

Grill Aharon board her ways. Thoush backloor channels and under—the—rable deals she mansued in art

Chapter 319 A Thread of Light

No matter what, they **saw** it as a win.

+8 Pearls

But fate had other plans. Before **any** of their schemes could play out, Mia killed Sharon—and found Lauren and Felix's daughter.

Gael had tracked it all down, every sordid detail.

And even for someone like him—a veteran of special operations—it was a story that made his blood boil,

Lauren had lived her entire life drowning in abuse and injustice. Felix had been the only light she ever knew.

Now she was gone

gone.

But their child—their child—might just be the only piece of her left that could bring
ix back to life.

Gael's **words** echoed in the embroidery room, each syllable striking Felix like a blow to the chest.

Slowly, his slouched posture straightened. His gaze sharpened. His eyes lit up.

His voice shook. "Where is she?"

Gael's heart clenched.

He knew how deeply Felix had loved Lauren. And now, this child was their only remaining bond.

He exhaled slowly. "Before she died, Mia gave the child to Josh. She should be with him now. I've tried calling—his phone's been off for days. Sir, I'll go get the young miss right away."

Felix shot to **his** feet.

But the motion was too fast. He hadn't eaten in days. His knees buckled, and he collapsed back into the chair, panting heavily.

"I—I'm coming with you. Right now, Let's go. Now,"

Chapter 320 Daddy

But just as the words left **his** mouth, Felix froze

+8 Pearls

He turned to Gael. "Do I look a mess right now? I'll scare her like this. I need to clean up first—then I'll go see her."

Emotion surged through him as he forced himself to his feet. Though still weak, his eyes now sparkled with something long

lost.

The knowledge that he **and** Lauren had a child—it was as if someone had breathed life back into him.

"Sir, your body's too weak. Maybe I should go pick her up on my own?"

"No." Felix's tone left no room for argument. "I have to go myself."

He staggered toward the bathroom.

Thirty minutes later, Felix emerged.

He had washed **away** the grief that had clung to **him** like a **second** skin. He wore a **crisp** shirt, his hair neatly combed, and the cold elegance of the Brooker heir had returned. But he was thinner than before, and something deeply sorrowful still clung to his **face like a shadow**.

In the car, Felix sat stiffly in the passenger seat, fingers gripping the armrest so tightly his **knuckles** turned white.

His gaze was

fixed dead ahead, as if his sheer focus could make **the** car move faster.

"Sir, don't worry," Gael said gently as he drove. The child will be fine. I'm sure of it.

Felix didn't respond. In his mind, Lauren's face **kept** appearing—along with the daughter he'd never met

He tried to picture what she looked like, What her voice would sound like when she called him "Daddy"

If only Lauren were still alive, he thought. We'd have a real family.

Finally, the car rolled to a stop.

Felix **and** Gael got out and **knocked** on the front door of Josh's house.

Gael rapped lightly, twice—then waited. No answer.

He frowned and knocked harder. “**Josh?** Are you home?”

Still nothing. The door remained firmly shut.

Gael turned to Felix. “Sir, I **think** he’s not in

Felix’s **expression** darkened.

Since Mia’s death, Josh hadn’t returned to work. No one knew what he’d been doing.

Felix took **a** deep breath, trying to remain calm—
but the growing anxiety in his chest **was** hard to ignore.

He pounded on the door. Josh. Open up!”

No response.

Chapter 320 Daddy

He kept his eyes locked on the door.

“Maybe we should wait in the car,” Gael **said** gently. Josh might come back soon.”

Felix hesitated, staring at the door like it might open on its own. He sighed, finally preparing to turn away,

Then—mat

The door opened a crack.

+8 Pearls

A tiny head peeked out from behind it, framed by tousled, dry hair. Big, round eyes blinked up at the two men. Her **voice** was soft and curious

“Sir are you looking for someone?”

The moment Felix heard that voice, he spun around.

And when he saw her—when he saw that little face **that** looked just like Lauren’s—his heart skipped a beat. His throat closed. Tears welled in his eyes and spilled over before he could stop them.

The child had Lauren's eyes, **her** lashes, her quiet presence. But she was thinner, more fragile. Her **hair** was dull, her cheeks sunken—too many **days** without proper food or care. And yet... she was beautiful.

Felix trembled. He reached out his hand. His voice cracked.

"I'm... I'm your daddy."

The little girl froze, confusion flickering **across** her **small** face. She held **tight** to the doorframe, hesitant.

Felix slowly crouched down until he was eye—level with her. He stretched his arms out gently but didn't move closer, afraid of startling her.

He smiled, **warm** and soft. "Sweetheart... I'm Daddy. I came to take you home."

The little girl tilted her head, studying him—this handsome man with **tears** on his **face** and eyes so full of love.

She blinked. "Daddy?"

"Yes. I'm your daddy."

She had never imagined her daddy would look like this—more handsome than anyone she'd seen on TV. And his voice... it made her feel safe. Wanted.

Her face lit up. "Daddy... you really came to take me **home**?"

Felix smiled back, his eyes brimming. "**Yes, baby.** Daddy came **to** take you home."

Her **voice** was full of wonder when she asked, "So **once** we get home... I'll see Mommy too, right?"

Her words were a blade straight to his heart.

Felix staggered inside, pain blooming in his chest like fire.

For a moment, he couldn't breathe.