

The Heiress Revived from the Ashes

The Heiress Revived 341

Chapter 341 Let Him Taste Injustice

“You’d better apologize to Lauren. **Now.**”

The director’s words stunned Lauren for a moment.

She’d heard this exact sentence too many times in her previous life.

Finished

But back then, it was always the Bennett family saying it—except it wasn’t to defend her, their own flesh and blood. It was to defend Willow.

David, Alice, Elliot. They would scream at her without asking questions, and then force her—the victim to apologize to Willow, the bully.

She had swallowed too many such injustices in that house.

And now, in this life... someone **was** actually standing up for her.

No wonder Willow was always so smug. Being protected like this—it really does feel good.

“Director, my nose is bleeding.” Lucas whined. “How can you be so biased toward Lauren?”

He lifted his shirt to reveal the purpling bruise on his stomach. “Look! She didn’t just hit me in the face with a ball, she kicked me too! Just because she’s good at studying doesn’t mean she gets to be your favorite!”

The director’s face darkened.

Her tone turned cold. “Lucas, you’re always stirring up trouble. If I had to guess, I’d say you were the one who started this.”

She turned to Lauren, and her expression softened immediately.

“Lauren, sweetheart, did Lucas pick on you first?”

Five-year-old Lauren looked up with her chubby, soft little face.

Her big round eyes shimmered like glass, innocent **and** unguarded..

Even without saying a word, just her sweet expression was enough to melt hearts.

The director's tone gentled even more as she met those clear, pure eyes.

"Don't be afraid, Lauren. If he bullied you, you can tell me. I'll take care of it."

Lauren nodded.

With that simple movement, the baby fat on her cheeks jiggled just a little—making her look even more adorable.

"It was him," she **said**. "He hit me in the head with his ball, then told me to fetch it like **a dog**. He said if I didn't, he'd beat me up. He also **said** I'm **just** a useless nerd who only knows how to study—and **that** studying doesn't matter."

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stop too **and** just play every day like the rest of them?"

Lauren had deliberately turned the tables.

Finished

In her past life, Lucas had been **an** ungrateful little snake. She worked herself half to death to send him to college. He took the money without question, bought designer clothes, lived it **up**—then helped Willow **frame** her and send hento prison.

So now! **She** was going to **give** him **a** taste of his **own** medicine.

Let him be the one falsely accused.

The director's face turned pale, then red with rage.

Lauren wasn't just some bright kid—she was a national asset.

She was only five and **had** already taken the SAT. A genius like that needed nurturing, not discouragement.

And now Lucas had bullied her—and tried to convince her studying wasn't worth it?

That wasn't just troublemaking. That was sabotage.

The director had to force her temper down in front of the guests.

But her voice **was** sharp and cold. "Lucas! Who gave you the right to tell Lauren not to study? You want to play all day and fight people, fine. But don't **drag** her down with you. You're only a child, yet you're

so twisted."

Lucas's eyes filled with tears.

"No, Director, I didn't! She's lying—she made it all up

"Still denying it?" the director snapped. "Trying to frame Lauren, even now?"

"She's lying! I didn't say anything like that!" Lucas's voice cracked.

already

"Enough!" the director barked. "Lauren has always been polite, gentle, and honest. She'd never pick a fight. She'd never lie."

Lucas, still just a kid, was overwhelmed.

He was angry, ashamed, and devastated all **at** once.

Tears spilled freely down his face.

"5—she's **lying**! I didn't say those things—I didn't! Please believe me, Director..."

But it didn't matter how **loudly** he cried.

No one believed him.

The director shook her head. "You're crying? After what you did? Look at Lauren. She got hit in the head. and she's not even crying. **And** you? You hurt someone then tried to play the victim."

Lucas bit his lip red-faced humiliated. His tears fell faster

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Chapter 341 Let Him Taste Injustice

That look of helpless frustration—being wronged, powerless **to** change it—was all too familiar.

And watching it unfold, Lauren felt a deep, vicious sense of satisfaction, all too familiar.

So? Hurts, doesn't it? This is what injustice feels like.

Chapter 342 The Family I Should Have Had

So, Lucas... it hurts when you're the one being wronged, doesn't it?

Finished

While Lucas stood red-faced and teary, the woman in the cheongsam finally stepped forward. She knelt slightly to meet Lauren's eyes, her voice soft and kind.

"Sweetheart, are you Lauren?"

Lauren looked up. She was close enough to smell the woman's elegant **perfume**.

The whole family—mother, father, and son—were dressed immaculately. Everything on them was clearly custom-made, tailored by hand. One glance and anyone could tell: old money, true pedigree.

Lauren blinked innocently. "Pretty lady, do you know me?"

The compliment made the woman smile even brighter. She gently patted Lauren's head. "You little genius. Not only do I know you—there probably isn't a soul in all of Corwynale who doesn't."

Lauren's eyes narrowed slightly.

She was still too young to browse the web or read the news freely, but it seemed her name had already spread.

If the Bennetts find out I'm their daughter... they might come for me early,

The woman's gaze was gentle. "Lauren, I'd like to adopt you. Would you be willing to come with us?"

In her past life, they **had** come at this same time, for the same purpose.

Back then, she **had** turned them down because she didn't want to leave Lucas.

Stupid. So, so stupid.

Not this time.

This time, she was going to seize the opportunity.

Lauren reached out her plump little hand and grasped the woman's fingers.

"Ma'am, I-"

But before she could finish, Lucas cut in loudly. "You can't adopt her! She's a liar!"

"Lucas!" The director's expression darkened in a **flash**.

This couple had promised a million-dollar donation to the orphanage. This was not a situation they could afford to mess up—especially not over this brat's tantrum.

"I'm not lying!" **Lucas shot** back. "She framed me! I never told her not to study. She's **only** five and already a liar. What happens when she grows up? She'll probably start stealing, maybe even kill someone—end up in prison like a criminal!"

"Enough!" the director thundered.

Chapter 342 The Family I Should Have Had

Finished

Off to the side, where no one could see, Lauren pinched herself hard. Her eyes filled with tears, and **fat** drops began to fall.

"Killing and stealing is wrong," she said, voice cracking. I'd never do that. I'm not a criminal. I'm not a

criminal."

That word—criminal—was a stain from her past life.

This time, she wasn't letting anyone throw it at her again.

She was five.

She was innocent.

That was her armor.

And everyone loves a good student—especially a genius.

Just as she predicted, the moment she cried, the director's heart practically shattered.

Ever since Lauren had shown signs of brilliance at age one, the director had treated her like her **own** child. And Lauren had never let her down—graduating high school before turning five. The entire orphanage basked in her glow.

orphanage

Now, seeing her cry like this, the director snapped.

With a loud slap, she struck Lucas across the face.

“You dare say such filth? At your age? What will you grow **into**? Someone take him out of here **and** teach him some manners!”

Immediately, a caregiver came forward and dragged Lucas away.

Lauren listened to his miserable sobbing as he was pulled off.

Finally, she thought. Finally / got to punish you, Lucas.

Let's see if you still manage to become a lawyer without me feeding you, protecting you.

The director turned to the couple, embarrassed. “Mr. Timely, **Madam** Shirley—I'm terribly sorry for the scene. But please believe me, Lauren is an extraordinary child. Bright, thoughtful, disciplined. She's the pride of our entire orphanage. I have no doubt that with proper guidance, she'll grow into a true asset to this country.”

Mr. Timely and **Madam** Shirley shared a smile. They were clearly delighted.

Madam Shirley crouched down again and looked Lauren in the eyes.

“Lauren, **she said** gently, “would you like to come with us?”

Lauren nodded hard. “I would.”

This is your new big brother, Victor.”

Lauren turned to the ten-**year**-old boy standing stiffly

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Chapter 342 The Family I Should Have Had

She blinked her big eyes and called out sweetly, “Hi, Victor.”

Finished

Victor’s face was blank and serious—like a little adult—but when she said his name, a faint blush crept up

his neck.

“**Lauren.**” he mumbled.

Lauren raised an eyebrow.

Aw. Shy.

She reached out and grabbed Victor’s hand. His ears turned bright red, though his face stayed stern and composed.

The contrast made Lauren like him instantly. Adorable

Once the adoption paperwork was completed. Lauren followed her new family to the waiting car.

and just like that. her new life began.

Chapter 343 A Home That Was Always Meant to Be

65%

Finished

Lauren sat quietly in the backseat the whole way—calm sweet, the very picture of a well-behaved child.

But when the car finally pulled out of Hoverdale, she looked up curiously and asked, “Daddy, Mommy, where are we going?”

Madam Shirley, sitting in the passenger seat, turned around with a loving smile, “Sweet heart, our home isn’t in Hoverdale. We live in Balewood. We’re headed there now.”

Balewood!

Lauren froze.

That's where Felir lives.

She never imagined she'd get a chance to go to his city. Maybe just maybe, she'd even get to see him, again.

The thought of Felix brought a bittersweet ache to her chest.

I wonder how he's doing now, after I died.

Her teeth gently pressed into her bottom lip as emotion swirled quietly inside her. She turned to look out the window, watching as Hoverdale's streets slipped into the distance—replaced by sprawling fields and endless highways.

Victor, seated beside her, noticed the subtle shift in her mood. He leaned in slightly **and** whispered. "Lauren, are you okay? Are you feeling sick?"

His voice was soft, childlike, and kind—completely at odds with his serious expression.

Lauren blinked, then turned to him **and** smiled. "I'm fine, **Victor**. I've just never been to Balewood before. It's my first time going to the Capital."

In both lives, it's my first time.

Victor hesitated, then reached out and gently patted her head like a little grown-up. "Balewood's fun. I'll show you **around**."

Something warm bloomed quietly in Lauren's chest.

A kind brother. A gentle family.

The things she'd never had before... maybe now, she finally would.

The drive from Hoverdale to Balewood took hours. And while Lauren's mind was sharp, her little body wasn't built for long trips.

After about an hour, her eyelids began to droop. Not long after, she fell asleep.

By the time the car pulled into Balewood, Lauren was fast asleep.

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Chapter 343 A Home That Was Always Meant to Be

She stirred as she felt herself being lifted.

Finished

Her eyes blinked open, blurry and dazed. The first **thing** she saw was Mr. Timely's handsome face,— looming close as he gently scooped her up.

"You're awake?" he asked softly, clearly disappointed. He'd been trying so hard not to wake her.

She's like a little mochi ball, he thought wistfully. So soft and warm... nothing like that stiff, grumpy son of mine. Just look at her—so'cuddly!

But the moment Lauren realized he was trying to carry her, she reached out and gently pushed him **away**.

"Daddy, I can walk by myself." she said earnestly.

Then she bounced down from the car, turned back, and beamed up at him with a huge smile—proud **and** bright.

See? I'm a big girl! Aren't you impressed?

Mr. Timely:"

There went his dream of hugging his squishy little daughter.

He gave a forced laugh. "Amazing. Our Lauren is the best."

He took her left hand in his, while Madam Shirley held her right.

The three of them walked toward the villa—
hand in hand, like a perfect picture of happiness.

Behind them trailed Victor, his small face expressionless, his footsteps quiet.

Just as he started to feel forgotten, Lauren turned **around** and called, "Victor, come on! Hurry up!"

Victor's eyes lit up.

The tight **line** of his lips relaxed into a soft, barely—there smile.

I knew she wouldn't forget me.

Mom and **Dad** hadn't lied—his little sister was cute. Sweet. And she was his.

He liked her already.

When they entered the house, Lauren was stunned.

The Mavis family was even wealthier than she'd imagined.

The entire villa was Western-style—low-key luxury, refined yet opulent.

Even the rosewood furniture in the living room was worth tens of millions.

And that was just the beginning.

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Chapter 343 A Home That Was Always Meant to Be

Finished

Every corner of the estate gleamed with rare hardwoods and fine craftsmanship. The renovations alone must've cost over nine figures.

What the hell did I miss out on in my last life?

Still a little dazed, Lauren let Madam Shirley lead her upstairs.

She opened a door, and a burst of soft pink light filled Lauren's eyes.

Sunlight spilled into the room, bouncing off plush curtains, delicate shelves, and a fairy tale canopy bed.

"Lauren, this is your room. We decorated it just for you. Do you like it?"

The princess-style bedroom was huge—easily thirty square meters—and it practically glowed in the

afternoon sun.

Lauren's heart clenched.

She couldn't help but think of the day she'd first arrived at the Bennett house.

They hadn't even prepared a room for her.

She'd picked the first empty room she saw—only for Elliot to sneer that it would become a study.

She picked another—he told her **that** one was for Willow’s **music** practice.

458

OK 64%

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Chapter 344 The Love I Deserved

She had chosen the attic

Elliot had called it embarrassing.

In the end, they stuck her in the storage room. No windows. Damp. Dark.

Finished

Lauren looked around the bright, cozy princess room lovingly decorated just for her—and couldn’t stop **the** tears from falling.

Madam Shirley panicked a little. “Lauren, sweetheart, **what’s** wrong? You don’t like the room? That’s okay. we can change it. I’ll keep redecorating until you love it

Lauren shook her head. “No, I love in I’ve... I’ve never had such a beautiful room before
.”

She suddenly threw her arms around Madam Shirley’s neck.

Thank you. Mommy.”

Her little body trembled as she clung tightly to her. Silent tears streamed down her cheeks, soaking Madam Shirley’s shoulder.

Madam Shirley’s eyes turned misty. She gently patted Lauren’s back, her voice thick with emotion. “Silly girl, you don’t **have** to thank me. This is your home now. Whatever you want, I’ll give you.”

Lauren turned her face and planted a kiss on her cheek

“You’re the best, **Mommy**.”

That one kiss melted Madam Shirley’s heart into mush

She knew, without a doubt, that adopting Lauren had been the best decision of her life.

Just look at her—

10 sweet, so affectionate. She kissed me! Oh what heaven it was to be kissed by a soft little bundle of cuteness like this.

Hmph! Not like Victor, that stiff block of ice who never smiles never hugs, never acts cute. Zero charm!

Overwhelmed with joy. **Madam** Shirley hugged Lauren tighter, peppered her with kisses, and buried her **nose** in Lauren's soft hair, inhaling her sweet baby scent like it was the most addictive thing in the **world**. Mr. Timely stood off to the side, watching the scene with a mix of pride and... envy.

He **gave a** dramatic little cough and crouched down in front of Lauren, his eyes shining with anticipation.

"Lauren," he said meaningfully. "I picked this room out for you. Personally supervised the whole

renovation"

It was a clear hint

Lauren blinked.

She wasn't sure if she was imagining it. After a childhood filled with cold shoulders and indifference, she'd

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Chapter 344 The Love I Deserved

Every time she tried to please them in her last life, all she got in return was rejection and ridicule.

But Mr. Timely's eyes held something gentle. Hopeful Eager.

She hesitated only a moment before deciding:

They're not like before. This time, my love won't be thrown away.

64%

Finished

Lauren reached out her chubby hands, cupped Mr. Timely's **handsome**, dignified face, and planted a kiss

on his cheek.

Mr. Timely lit up like a kid on Christmas morning. A big, bright smile stretched across his face—pure joy **and** disbelief all rolled into one.

So this is what people mean when they say daughters are daddy's little angels... this feeling is real!

He barely managed to contain his excitement, afraid of startling her.

But he couldn't help it. He scooped Lauren into his arms **and** spun around, beaming.

Madam Shirley laughed and teased, "Look at you! Try not to scare her with how happy you are."

But her smile was wide, her eyes tender and full of warmth.

Victor stood off to the side, quietly watching.

A tiny pang rose in his chest.

He wanted a hug too.

kiss hi

He wanted her to kiss him too.

Fidgeting, he tugged at the hem of his shirt and mumbled, "The stuffed animals in your room.... I picked them out."

His cheeks flushed red the moment the words left his mouth.

Lauren peeked out from Mr. Timely's arms and saw Victor's awkward expression. It made her want to laugh.

He's such a serious little guy. acting all grown up when he's clearly still a kid. That contrast is kind of cute.

She wriggled out of Mr. Timely's arms.

He let her **go** reluctantly, his arms suddenly feeling empty.

Lauren walked over to Victor, stood on tiptoe, and gave him a quick peck on the cheek.

Thank you, Victor. You're the best."

The perfect peacekeeper—fair to everyone, making **no** one feel left out.

Between the three of them—Mr. Timely, Madam Shirley, and Victor—every face was now glowing with delight.

vreu, API

Chapter 344 The Love I Deserved

Victor's turned so red, he looked like he **might** burst.

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Chapter 345 The One and Only Sister

"I—I—It's okay, Lauren," Victor stammered, **his** cheeks red. "I—I'll protect you."

Mr. Timely and Madam Shirley exchanged a smile, their eyes brimming with warmth. The entire room seemed to glow with peace and joy.

Just then, the butler approached and bowed politely. "Sir, Madam, dinner is ready."

Madam Shirley took Lauren's hand. "Come on, sweetheart. Let's go eat."

They made their way into the dining room, where the long table was covered in steaming, colorful dishes.

As soon **as** she saw the food, Lauren's throat tightened again.

Tears almost slipped down her cheeks.

God, how starved for love am I, she thought bitterly, *if* something as simple as being cared for keeps making me cry

like this?

In the Bennett house, no one had ever waited for her to eat.

She never once had a proper meal.

All she got were leftovers—cold, soggy, days—old scraps from everyone else's plates.

The Bennetts didn't waste food, not because they were frugal, but because all the scraps went into her

stomach.

She lived worse than the family dog.

At least the dog's meals were nutritionally balanced.

She couldn't even eat fresh rice.

Now, sitting in front of a table full of food made just for her, she couldn't help but **think** of the cruelty from her last life.

"**Lauren**, you must be hungry," Madam Shirley said gently. "Come sit next to me. Eat whatever you want **Just** like that, the four of them sat down to eat

Lauren was quiet at first, then slowly began to eat—her face full of emotion and satisfaction. Seeing her enjoy the **food** so much, the others relaxed and began eating too.

Laughter **and** light conversation filled the room.

After **dinner**, Madam Shirley helped Lauren take a bath. Once **she** was clean and changed into soft pajamas, she tucked her into bed, pulled the blanket up to her chin, and began reading a bedtime story.

Her voice was soft, almost musical, echoing gently through the room.

Lauren's eyelids grew heavy. Before long, she was fast asleep.

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Chapter 345 The One and Only Sister

Then she stood, walked quietly toward the door—but paused.

She looked back.

For a long moment, she hesitated.

64%

Finished

Then **she** turned around, tiptoed back to the **bed**, **and** carefully climbed in beside Lauren. Wrapping her arms around the soft little bundle, she finally closed her eyes with a smile.

Meanwhile, Mr. Timely was alone in the master bedroom, waiting... and waiting.

An hour passed.

Still no wife.

“Where is she?” he muttered, flipping onto his back.

He tossed. He turned.

Then he sat up with a groan, got out of bed, and padded down the hallway to Lauren’s room.

Moonlight poured through the curtains, soft and silver,

And there they were—his wife and daughter, curled up together like a painting.

Mr. Timely couldn’t help but smile.

Quietly, he climbed onto the bed, careful not to wake them.

He stretched out his arm, wrapped it around them both, and finally—content, heart full—closed his eyes.

Across the house, in his own bedroom, Victor **was** practically glowing.

His face full of pride, a stark contrast to his usual serious demeanor.

His fingers danced across his phone, typing quickly.

He posted Lauren’s photo to the group **chat**.

Flynn: “Whoa! Who’s the adorable little girl, Victor??”

Jim Heh. Must’ve pulled **that** from Pinterest or something.”

Victor: That’s my sister.”

Flynn: “Your sister? Yeah right. Since when do you have a sister?”

Jim: “For real. You don’t even have cousins. Where’d this cutie come from? Jealous of my little sister, huh?”

Flynn: “Man.... I wish I had a sister too. Victor, Felix, none of us do. Jim’s the lucky one,
”

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Chapter 345 The One and Only Sister

Jim: @Felix Yo, back me up here?"

Felix: "@Victor Is she really your sister?"

Victor's grin widened.

64%

Finished

Victor: "Of course she is. Isn't she the cutest? Soft, sweet and totally adorable. She even hugged me and kissed me **today**. She smells nice, she's squishy, and she's perfect."

Flynn: "Victor, if you keep bragging. I'm coming over tomorrow to steal her."

Jim: "Same! I need to compare—see if she's cuter than mine."

Felix T'm in

Victor: "Back off. She's mine."

After thoroughly showing off, Victor set his phone on the nightstand, heart bursting with joy,

But when he lay down... all he could think about was her chubby cheeks and warm little arms.

Sleep refused **to** come.

After a while, Victor sat up.

Chapter 346 The Jealous Brother

264%

Finished

Lauren's never stayed over before. If 'hat if she's scared of the dark? What if she wakes up and cries in the middle of the night? Someone should keep her company... I should keep her company.

Victor convinced himself thoroughly. It all sounded perfectly reasonable in his head.

He grabbed his pillow, tiptoed out of his room, and headed for Lauren's door.

The moonlight through the hallway windows cast a silver **glow across** the floor, stretching **his small** shadow along the marble.

He reached her door and gently pushed it **open**.

The **soft** creak of the hinges sounded like thunder in the quiet night.

He froze.

Waited.

Listened

No one stirred.

Relieved, he crept inside—and stopped short **when** he saw the scene before him.

Three figures lay peacefully on the bed. Madam Shirley had her arms wrapped tightly around Lauren, and Lauren's head rested against her chest, fast asleep. Mr. Timely was on the other side, one arm draped over both of them, smiling faintly in his sleep.

Victor blinked.

Then he frowned.

"They said they adopted her to keep me company," he muttered. "I haven't even gotten to sleep with her yet, and they've already stolen her"

He stood there for a long time, staring at the fully occupied bed, looking for an opening—just a tiny sliver of **space** to squeeze into.

Nothing.

Frustrated, he circled the bed, but it was packed from edge to edge.

With a quiet sigh, he backed away.

He paused at the doorway, whispered, "Good night, Lauren," and trudged back to his room, shoulders slumped in defeat.

The next morning, **Lauren** stirred. As her eyes fluttered open, the first thing she saw was Madam Shirley's beautiful face.

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Chapter 346 The Jealous Brother

Finished

“Hey, sweetheart, you’re up?” **Madam** Shirley beamed her, voice soft and full of love.

Lauren froze for a second, still waking up. “Why... why are you in my bed?”

“I thought you might get scared at night, so I slept here with you. Did you sleep well?” she asked, brushing a strand of hair from Lauren’s face.

Lauren nodded.

Too well, actually.

The bed had been soft, the room **warm**, the sheets fresh. Everything was **clean** and gentle and perfect. She hadn’t even dreamed. Just slept straight through, safe and sound.

She reached out and wrapped her chubby little arms around Madam Shirley’s neck.

“Thank you for being so good to me, Mommy.”

Madam Shirley hugged her tight. “Silly girl. I’m your mom. Of course I’m good to you.”

Yeah

That’s what moms are supposed to do.

But Alice never understood that, not once.

She always said she treated Lauren and Willow equally—
but every decision, every act of “fairness,” had been in Willow’s favor.

But that was her last life.

She didn’t need to drag that pain into this one.

“Come **on**,” **Madam** Shirley said cheerfully. “Time to get ready. Breakfast is waiting.”

Lauren nodded sweetly and slipped out of bed. Her tiny feet sank into the soft carpet as she walked over to put on her slippers.

Madam Shirley clapped with delight.

Lauren raised an eyebrow.

It's just slippers. What's the big **deal**?

They headed into the bathroom together, where Lauren discovered the toothpaste already squeezed and her cup filled with warm water.

She stared at it all, a little stunned.

A quiet warmth filled her chest.

She picked up her toothbrush and began brushing carefully.

Madam Shirley stood to the side, practically bouncing with joy.

Chapter 346 The Jealous Brother:

64%

#Finished

"Oh my goodness! Lauren brushes her teeth all by herself! My daughter is so amazing—such a smart little thing!"

Just look at how well she brushes—better than me! What a pro!"

"Oh my! She washes **her own** face too!! Genius! Absolute genius!"

Lauren nearly choked on her toothbrush.

Her whole face flushed red.

How many compliments can one person give?!

Between **this** life **and** the last, she had never, ever been praised like **this**.

When they were finished, Madam Shirley scooped her up into her arms.

"Time for breakfast!"

"I can walk, Mommy,"

"You just brushed your teeth, washed your face, put on lotion—you've done so much already! I got you.. Let me carry my little sweetheart."

Lauren groaned internally.

Seriously?

She rolled her eyes.

But **even as she did**, the corner of her lips twitched up.

458

Chapter 347 Not Sharing

9K 64%

Finished

But since her sweet mom insisted on carrying her, Lauren didn't argue. She settled into Madam Shirley's arms like a true mama's girl **and** even gave her a big kiss as a reward.

Madam Shirley practically melted. She looked like she was two seconds **away** from being turned into soup.

By the time they entered the dining room, Mr. Timely and Victor were already **seated** at the table, waiting quietly.

The family of four ate together in peace.

After breakfast, Mr. Timely headed off to work.

That's when voices came from outside the house— young boys shouting through the front gate.

"Victor! We're here to meet your little sister!"

As soon as Victor heard them, he bolted upright and grabbed Lauren's hand. "Come on, Lauren! We have to hide!"

Lauren blinked in confusion. "Huh? Why?"

He didn't explain. Just took off running, **dragging** her behind him.

Victor's baby—soft little sister was way too adorable—he couldn't let those three annoying guys steal her

away.

Lauren was completely lost, struggling to keep up with her short legs as he pulled her down the hallway.

They ran straight out into **the** backyard **garden**, where flowers bloomed in every direction and the **air** was rich with fragrance..

Victor ducked into a patch of **flowers**, tugging Lauren with him.

He turned to her, serious-faced. "Let's play hide-and-seek. You hide here, and I'll come find you later. But you can't come out until I find you, okay?"

Lauren gave him a strange look.

He dragged me all the way out here just to play hide-and-seek

She tilted her head, eyes wide and innocent. Her thick lashes curled over big, blinking eyes that shined like little moons.

Victor's heart nearly exploded.

She was way too cute.

If Flynn and Jim got a look at her, they'd definitely show up at his house every day trying to play with her -and that would mean less time for him.

Felix didn't worry him so much. Of all their friends, Felix was the coldest. He **never** showed interest in anyone. No expressions, no opinions. Just blank-faced all the **time**.

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Chapter 347 Not Sharing

There was no way Lauren would like a guy like that.

But the others? They **had** to be kept far, far away.

Victor cupped her soft cheeks between his hands. "Promise me you'll stay hidden, okay?"

Lauren raised an eyebrow.

He's definitely hiding me on purpose.

But she didn't argue.

She was an adult, after all, and Victor was just a ten-year-old kid. She'd play along for now.

She flashed a sweet smile, her eyes curving like crescent moons. "Okay. Whatever you say."

K64%

#Finished

Victor had zero defense against that smile. He leaned down and planted a quick kiss on her forehead.

"You're the best."

Then **he ran** off.

Lauren hunkered down deeper into the flower bed, the blossoms half-hiding her small body. The breeze stirred the petals and leaves, filling the air with soft rustling sounds.

She closed her eyes and listened.

In her past life, she'd been deaf for so long that her language center had started to degrade. By the time she died, she couldn't even speak properly anymore.

Now, having her hearing again, she treasured every sound.

The rustling leaves, the fluttering petals, the mingled fragrance of blooming flowers—everything felt like a

miracle.

This moment... this is happiness.

Meanwhile, back inside, Victor walked into the foyer just as Flynn **and** Jim burst through the front door like they owned the place. Felix trailed behind them, calm and quiet **as** always.

Flynn's messy hair bounced with every step, and his eyes sparkled with excitement. "Victor! Where's your sister? C'mon, bring her out already!"

Jim had his arms crossed, looking smug. "**Yeah**, I want to see if she's cuter than my sister."

Felix said nothing, just followed them inside without a word.

Victor's face immediately darkened. He spread his arm wide and blocked their path. "What are you doing here! I'm not showing you my **sister**!"

Flynn grinned and tried to peek past him. "Don't be stingy, **man**

"Yeah." Jim said, "If you didn't want us to see her, why'd you send us that picture last night?"

Victor went silent

19-21-54 Wed, Apr 16

- G

Chapter 347 Not Sharing

Finished

Okay, yeah that part might've been a mistake.

He had wanted to show off. That was all. His sister was just adorable—she was smart, polite, sweet.. the total package. He wanted the world to **know**,

But that didn't mean he wanted to share

"No means no," he said firmly.

Flynn and Jim exchanged glances—then dropped their bags and flopped down on the couch like they owned the place.

"Cool We're not leaving until we meet her," Flynn said.

"Yeah. We've got all day, Jim added.

Victor gritted his teeth and stood in front of the stairs like a bodyguard.

He kept both of them locked in **his** sights—completely ignoring Felix.

The quiet one didn't seem like a threat.

Felix watched the scene for a moment, expression unreadable.

Then he turned on his heel and walked out the front door without saying a word.

458

Chapter 347 Not Sharing

9K 64%

Finished

But since her sweet mom insisted on carrying her, Lauren didn't argue. She settled into Madam Shirley's arms like a true mama's girl **and** even gave her a big kiss as a reward.

Madam Shirley practically melted. She looked like she was two seconds **away** from being turned into soup.

By the time they entered the dining room, Mr. Timely and Victor were already **seated** at the table, waiting quietly.

The family of four ate together in peace.

After breakfast, Mr. Timely headed off to work.

That's when voices came from outside the house—
young boys shouting through the front gate.

"Victor! We're here to meet your little sister!"

As soon as Victor heard them, he bolted upright and grabbed Lauren's hand. "Come on, Lauren! We have to hide!"

Lauren blinked in confusion. "Huh? Why?"

He didn't explain. Just took off running, **dragging** her behind him.

Victor's baby-soft little sister was way too adorable—he couldn't let those three annoying guys steal her

away.

Lauren was completely lost, struggling to keep up with her short legs as he pulled her down the hallway.

They ran straight out into **the** backyard **garden**, where flowers bloomed in every direction and the **air** was rich with fragrance..

Victor ducked into a patch of **flowers**, tugging Lauren with him.

He turned to her, serious-faced. "Let's play hide-and-seek. You hide here, and I'll come find you later. But you can't come out until I find you, okay?"

Lauren gave him a strange look.

He dragged me all the way out here just to play hide-and-se-

She tilted her head, eyes wide and innocent. Her thick lashes curled over big, blinking eyes that shined like little moons.

Victor's heart nearly exploded.

She was way too cute.

If Flynn and Jim got a look at her, they'd definitely show up at his house every day trying to play with her -and that would mean less time for him.

Felix didn't worry him so much. Of all their friends, Felix was the coldest. He **never** showed interest in anyone. No expressions, no opinions. Just blank-faced all the **time**.

1/3

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Chapter 347 Not Sharing

There was no way Lauren would like a guy like that.

But the others? They **had** to be kept far, far away.

Victor cupped her soft cheeks between his hands. "Promise me you'll stay hidden, okay?"

Lauren raised an eyebrow.

He's definitely hiding me on purpose.

But she didn't argue.

She was an adult, after all, and Victor was just a ten-year-old kid. She'd play along for now.

She flashed a sweet smile, her eyes curving like crescent moons. “Okay. Whatever you say.”

K64%

#Finished

Victor had zero defense against that smile. He leaned down and planted a quick kiss on her forehead.

“You’re the best.”

Then **he ran** off.

Lauren hunkered down deeper into the flower bed, the blossoms half-hiding her small body. The breeze stirred the petals and leaves, filling the air with soft rustling sounds.

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19-21-54 Wed, Apr 16

- G

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Chapter 349 The Groom I Choose

It was the first time anyone had ever said they missed him.

Felix didn't know what to make of it. She clearly liked him a lot—but why was she crying so hard?

For once, the always-sharp Felix was completely lost.

He tried to wipe away Lauren's tears with his small hand, but they kept falling—endless and warm, as if they came from someplace much deeper than sadness.

"I'll never leave you again," she whispered between sobs "I won't let you get hurt anymore..."

Felix had no idea what she was talking about. He just wanted her to stop crying.

Since losing his mom, his heart had only grown colder with each passing year. But now, watching this tiny girl cry like her whole world was falling apart, something inside him softened—something he didn't know he still had.

Just as he was awkwardly trying to comfort her, a shout cut through the quiet.

"Felix! What are you doing?!"

Victor stormed up and shoved him away, yanking Lauren protectively into his arms.

"Why were you bothering my sister?!"

The second Lauren left his arms, Felix felt... empty. A strange, hollow feeling settled in his chest.

The gentleness he'd just shown vanished. He looked at Victor, face completely blank.

"I didn't do anything to her."

"Then why was she crying?!" Victor was fuming. "You made her cry, didn't you?!"

Felix said nothing. He didn't know why she'd cried either.

"Not talking? That proves it!"

Flynn and Jim had just arrived behind Victor, both of them looking at Felix like he'd sprouted two heads.

Lauren quickly wriggled out of Victor's grip and stepped between them.

“Victor, he didn’t do anything to me!”

Victor stared at her red, tear–
streaked face. “Don’t be scared. I’ll protect you. Just tell me the truth—did he hurt you?”

Lauren’s heart warmed. It felt nice to be defended like that.

But she couldn’t let them think Felix had done something wrong.

She shook her head hard. “He really didn’t.”

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Chapter 349 The Groom I Choose

3 63%

Finished

She couldn’t exactly tell them the truth—
about the other life, about everything that had happened before. So she thought for a second, then said, “Because... because I like him. I was just really happy to see him. That’s why I cried.”

Those three little words hit Victor like a slap to the face. His mouth dropped open in disbelief.

She likes him?

He hadn’t even known her for twenty–
four hours. She hadn’t even said she liked him yet—
not as her big brother, not at all. But the moment she met Felix, she just came out
and said it?

He stared at her, trying to catch even a flicker of hesitation—
but Lauren’s face was nothing but sincere.

“You... you like him? But you just met him...” Victor’s voice cracked with betrayal.

Lauren nodded seriously. “Yeah. I like him a lot.”

Victor could practically hear his heart shattering.

Felix, on the other hand, turned red.

He'd thought she looked cute in that photo Victor sent last night—so cute that he'd agreed to come see her in person.

But in real life, she was even softer, even cuter, and for some reason, when she smiled at him, his whole chest went warm.

Flynn and Jim were watching all this with wide eyes.

Wow, they thought. *Victor wasn't exaggerating—she really is adorable.*

Soft, round cheeks. Big, shiny eyes. The kind of girl you just wanted to pick up and cuddle.

Flynn, the bold one, immediately grabbed Lauren's hand. Her palm was warm and squishy, just like he imagined.

His eyes sparkled. "Lauren, let's play house! I'll be the groom, you be the bride!"

Jim wasn't going to be outdone. He grabbed her other hand. "No way, I wanna be the groom! You be the bride, Victor can be your dad, and Felix can be the mom! Haha!"

Victor's face went dark.

His precious little sister, barely his for a day, and these two were already trying to take her away?!

"No way! Lauren's not gonna play dumb games like that with you two. Right, Lauren?"

T

Lauren looked between Flynn and Jim, then smiled sweetly. "But I wanna play."

Flynn and Jim exploded with joy, bouncing up and down.

Victor looked like he might cry.

Flynn leaned forward eagerly. "Okay! Lauren, you gotta pick—who's your groom?"

21:58 Wed, Apr 16 OG

Chapter 349 The Groom I Choose

They were

sure she'd choose one of them.

63%

Finished

But Lauren turned, looked straight at Felix, and pointed.

“I pick him.”

Everyone froze.

Then, before anyone could stop her, Lauren broke free from Flynn and Jim, marched over to Felix, and dropped to one knee like a little gentleman.

She looked up at him, her eyes shining.

“Will you be my groom?”

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The Heiress Revived from the Ashes

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63%

Chapter 350 My One and Only

“Will you marry me?”

In her previous life, she had gone deaf, lost a kidney, and walked with a limp. Even so, Felix had never once looked at her with anything but kindness. His grandmother had never treated her differently either- she'd even tried to matchmake the two of them.

Lauren had felt it. That quiet, unspoken affection Felix held for her, buried deep under his reserved

exterior.

But now, everything was different. She had a second chance. She was healthy. Whole. And this time, she wasn't afraid. She could follow her heart without fear.

Even if this was just a game.

Felix was absolutely frozen. He hadn't expected Lauren to do something like this. His pale cheeks flushed a brilliant red. Even the tips of his ears burned bright.

He stared at her, completely stunned. His lips parted like he wanted to say something, but no words came

out.

Victor watched from the side, feeling like his heart had just been smashed into tiny, jagged pieces.

Lauren looked up at Felix from her kneeling position, face tilted to catch the sun, her eyes full of sparkling hope. That look—it was like a beam of sunlight had pierced straight into his chest and made itself at home.

Time seemed to stop.

Flynn and Jim, who had been arguing just moments ago about playing house, stood rooted to the spot, mouths open in disbelief.

Felix slowly came back to himself. He looked into Lauren's eyes—pure, honest, full of emotion—and something inside him shifted.

"I... I do," he whispered.

Lauren's entire face lit up.

The smile she gave him in that moment was brighter than anything he'd ever seen. It wasn't just happy. It was *freeing*. It was the kind of joy that came after lifetimes of pain. A smile that outshone the sun itself.

She extended her soft, chubby little hand toward him.

Felix, still blushing furiously, reached out and took her hand. He pulled her up to her feet.

At five years old, Lauren only came up to his chest.

She tilted her head back to look at him. From this angle, her Felix looked just as perfect as he did in her memories—handsome, sharp-featured, and just beginning to grow into the man he'd one day become. "Felix," she said sweetly, "from this day forward, I'm your fiancée."

Her voice was soft and gentle, sugary sweet like cotton candy in springtime. The kind of voice that

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Chapter 350 My One and Op

Felix's face turned even redder, if

Ever since his mother passed aw, Was possible. He felt like he might combust on the spot.

this... warm.

noo.

63%

Finished

had ever hell him like that. No one had ever made him feel

His own father said he was cold. Said he was twisted. A freak.

But this girl—this tiny, fragile girl—she was...

afraid of him. She liked him. Wanted to marry him.

And for some reason, he didn't hate the idea. Not at all. In fact, when she'd said the words, something inside him had... responded.

Maybe... maybe if he had her, he wouldn't be alone anymore?

Still dazed, Felix reached for the chain around his neck.

There was a tiny silver ring threaded onto a red string. It gleamed under the sun as he gently took it off.

His fingers hesitated over it. He touched the ring like it was the most precious thing in the world.

And then, without a word, he carefully placed it around Lauren's neck. The silver ring slid down to rest against her chest.

Lauren's eyes went wide.

That ring. She knew *that ring*.

In her past life, Felix had worn it on his pinky—
an unassuming tail ring that never left his hand.

Later, he had placed it on her finger.

His grandmother once told her that the ring had belonged to Felix's mother. That it was one of the few things he had left of her. He'd kept it with him always. Never let anyone touch it.

When he gave it to her in that life, it meant something. He'd chosen her. Declared her the only one he'd ever love.

Now, here it was again. But this time... it had come eighteen years earlier.

Emotion flooded her chest. A wave of warmth, gratitude, and something else—something so big and deep- it made her want to cry all over again.

She gently touched the ring, her fingers trembling slightly. "You're giving this to me?"

Felix nodded solemnly. "I've always kept it close," he said. "But now, it's yours."

His voice was soft, but firm. "When I grow up, I'll put it on your finger myself."

As soon as he finished saying it, his entire face
turned crimson. He looked like he might explode from embarrassment.

Victor, watching from the side, was

in full own mode.

His little sister—
his sweet, precious baby sister giving her heart away in front of his eyes. To Felix of

all people

21:58 Wed, Apr 16 **G**.

Chapter 350 My One and Only

This couldn't be happening. He had so many questions. So many emotions.

63%

Finished

Wasn't Flynn supposed *to be the* threat? Or Jim? They're both smooth talkers, popular guys. Felix was the quiet one. He

never said a word!

And yet—here he was. Holding the ring that now hung from Lauren's neck.

And Lauren... was looking at him like he hung the moon.

Victor's hands curled into fists at his sides.

This wasn't over. Not *by* a long *shot*.