

# The Heiress Revived from the Ashes

## The Heiress Revived 391

Chapter 391 The Unexpected Visitor

The moment Mr. Timely beard the news, he couldn't eh er

Nothing—absolutely nothing—was more important **than** his precious daughter.

He'd always known Lauren was the most thoughtful and caring Look at this—bringing him lunch! This was her first time ever delivering fond to him at the office

There was no way he'd keep her waiting

Mr. Timely shot up from his weat

Interviews are on hold

With that he walked out without even a glance back

Iveryone in behind was dumbfounded

"What just happened"

"No idea. From the looks of it, something major must've come up

"Seriously) It was finally my turn, and now **the** chairman and president both just walk out?"

In the Chairman's Office

Laurers had just set the food container on the table when Mr. Timely and Victor burst in.

"weetheart, **what** brings you be?

I was worried you **and** Victor hadn't eaten, so I brought you both Ranch."

**Hearing that** nearly imought Mr. **Timarily** to **tears**. **You** really are **my** thoughtful, **darlin** g girl. **Not** like **your** brother. I could be starving to death and he still **wouldn't** thank to b ring mu'r food"

Victor rolled **he** eyes Dad you've even bought or food story, so don't even start

"I'm your **fatim**. You're the son, had you **must** *nu* to bring you food? Deram on." Mr. Timely gave him a withering glare—  
then turned back to Lauren, Au for breaking une for happy weedles

"bus & Lauroy wear innngry fê trong tơn toad on a benetan. Tid the huge before she could gorm call."

the your set i sard tripienaly

Ms Timely shed and **standeed** the dumpling contactus sun of Victor's bunda

ny? for you? Vam jeansoned

\*

"gogott om yds. Fundly and work woodsystem heard she wenda fantan ery day. Ces wa  
t hoo Boll Thor's figis new wile Laus dengt

Valve cheesed "Tuin ten and Laura's Angle sur lunch, hie wat sorgues tenem

Bibi Bundy and Ang bar Annect the pans le up. The dumplings ry met room one necné s  
zakka w light Came way **they** may font

**Beam** busted as Laupen Und you **mata** Bane

Desai's quatur wire out the f you dongle dom. Gary safer printing"

7:27 PM

Chapter 391 The Unexpected Visitor

"Exactly. Anything from our Lauren is the best."

e

The father and son continued to shower her with compliments as they ate, making Lauren blush from head to toe.

Just then, there was a knock at the door.

Victor frowned. He *hated* when someone interrupted their little family moments.

"Who is it?"

The door opened slightly, and in stepped a round-faced woman in her mid-twenties holding a food container.

Lauren froze.

+8 Pearls

She didn't know the woman—  
but she remembered what her father had said earlier about her brother having a girlfriend who brought him lunch **every** day.

Could this be her?

Honestly, the woman wasn't unattractive, but she wasn't exactly stunning either. She was short, a little chubby, plainly dressed -just an ordinary girl at first glance.

Lauren wasn't trying to judge her. She just really didn't think her brother would go for someone like that.

She stared, confused and speechless.

The woman, meanwhile, had noticed Lauren too.

And when her eyes landed on Lauren's stunning face, her heart sank.

*Who is she?*

*Why is she here... in the president's office?*

And clearly, her relationship with the Mavis men was very close.

Could she be... another one of Mr. Victor's admirers?

That thought made her bite her lip in frustration. Still, she swallowed her discomfort and forced a smile.

"Mr. Victor, Ms. Jinnie made this special lunch just for you..."

Before she could finish, Victor cut her off, his voice impatient. "Take it back. I've already eaten."

The woman's gaze shifted to the container near Victor's hand, her eyes narrowing slightly.

Everyone at Mavis Group knew Jinnie was openly pursuing Victor. She was one of the hottest stars in the entertainment industry right now, and the pairing of Jinnie and Mr. Victor was practically a public fantasy.

Send Gifts

2.7K

## Chapter 392 The One Who Dared to Steal Him

She knew full well about their relationship, and yet that tramp inside had the nerve to seduce Mr. Victor. Shameless.

So what if she had a pretty face? She looked young too—trying to take the easy way out and latch onto a rich man?

She clearly had no idea who she was messing with.

After hesitating for a moment, the woman finally turned around and left, though clearly reluctant.

In the lounge.

Jinnie was touching up her makeup. When she saw her assistant return, she asked, confused, “Back already?”

Her eyes landed on the thermal lunch container in the assistant’s hand. “Victor finished eating?”

The assistant frowned, clearly upset.

“Jinnie, he didn’t eat.”

Jinnie looked even more confused. “Why not? Was he too busy with work and didn’t have time? If he’s busy, just leave the container in his office. He’ll eat when he has a moment. Why did you bring it back?”

The assistant looked miserable. “Jinnie, when I got there, Mr. Victor was already eating. There was a woman in his office. Really pretty.”

“What?” Jinnie shot up from her seat.

“What kind of woman? Someone from Mavis Group?”

“Doesn’t look like it. She wasn’t wearing a uniform, and she seemed really familiar with both Mr. Timely and Mr. Victor.”

She paused, then added, “Jinnie, do you think she might be Victor’s arranged marriage partner? I mean, rich families always marry each other off.”

Jinnie clenched her teeth.

Ever since she started intentionally shipping herself with Victor, her career had been on the rise.

She truly liked Victor. Not only was he wealthy, he was also incredibly handsome. But more importantly, even though he came from a powerful family, he had always kept himself clean. No scandals, no fooling around.

All four heirs of the Balewood elite families were great options.

At **first**, she had her sights **set** on the heir to Brooker Corporation. If she could marry into the Brooker family, not only would she become a high-society wife, she wouldn't even have to deal with in-law drama. It would've been perfect.

But the Brooker heir **was** cold, ruthless, and cruel.

Someone once tried to drug and seduce him. He resisted the effects long enough to **get** to the hospital, and once the drug wore off, that woman was reportedly dumped in Fenoria. No one had heard from her since.

1

As for the two heirs of the **Fawkes** and Qin families, rumor had it they were both smitten with the mysterious genius princess of the **Mavis** family.

Jinnie knew she was exceptional—she'd **already** won Best Actress at twenty-five.

But she **was** also **self-aware**. No matter how **successful** her career **was**, she was still **just a** celebrity.

Meanwhile, the **Mavis** princess **was** not only born into wealth but also **a** genius scientist. Of course the Fawkes and Qin heirs would fall for her. How could Jinnie **ever** compete?

After narrowing it all down, Victor was the only one left she had any chance with.

7:27 PM

Chapter 392 The One Who Dared to Steal Him

O

O

O

+8 Pearls

If she could marry Victor, she'd not only become a high-society wife, but also have a genius scientist sister-in-law. Maybe one day that connection could get her into even higher circles.

Right now was a crucial time in her transition to film. She was hoping to leverage Victor into landing a holographic headset endorsement deal—so how dare some little tramp show up out of nowhere and seduce him?

And Victor actually refused to eat the lunch she made him with love?

Jinnie clenched her fists. That damn tramp. Just you wait.

“Jinnie, what do we do?”

Jinnie sneered. “What do we do? We destroy that bitch. She wants to steal my man? She’s dead.”

Once the Mavis father and son finished eating, Lauren didn’t linger. She picked up the lunch container and left the office building.

But just as she was about to hop on her electric scooter, someone clamped a hand over her mouth and dragged her into a car.

Inside, a man held a knife to her neck.

“Don’t want to die? Then sit still and behave.”

Lauren didn’t even flinch. She just sat there calmly.

The kidnapper was a little thrown off by how composed she was. “You’re not scared?”

“Shouldn’t the ones scared be you?”

“Heh, we had the guts to kidnap you—what’s there to be scared of?”

“If I’m not mistaken, you guys were hired, weren’t you? Tsk tsk... whoever paid you to snatch me must really hate your guts.”

“What the hell is that supposed to mean?”

Lauren raised an eyebrow. “Judging by your reaction, you don’t even know who I am, do you?”

“What the hell do we care who you are? We get paid to do a job. You behave, and we won’t kill you. But you better know how to keep us entertained.”

## **Send Gifts**

2.7K

Chapter 393 Wrong Target

e

+8 Pearls

“You sure about that?” Lauren glanced at the kidnapper beside her. “I’m the heiress of Mavis Group. If you let me go now and tell me who ordered the kidnapping, I won’t press charges. Otherwise, you’re in deep trouble.”

The driver slammed on the brakes, staring at Lauren in disbelief.

“You’re the Mavis Group heiress? The genius scientist?”

Lauren nodded. “That’s me.”

The two men looked her up and down, eyes wide.

Kidnapping a regular person? They could maybe get away with that.

But a scientist? That was a whole different level of trouble.

Not long ago, this very scientist had been kidnapped in Hoverdale—and every one of her kidnappers ended up in prison.

Even though she hadn’t been harmed, the mastermind behind it all was sentenced to death.

The two men started trembling.

“Y–You’re lying. We don’t believe you.”

“If you don’t believe me, you can use my phone to call my parents or my brother and ask for a ransom. Try it.”

The kidnapper next to Lauren quickly pulled out her phone, unlocked it, and without hesitation, dialed Victor’s number.

It rang once and was instantly picked up.

Victor's voice came through.

"Lauren, already missing me? I told you to hang around the office a bit longer, but you just wouldn't listen. If you're missing me, come back. I'll keep you company."

The kidnappers grew more and more nervous as they listened, swallowing hard.

They took money to do a job—but they weren't stupid.

No matter how gutsy they were, kidnapping a scientist was a serious crime.

The man quickly covered the phone's receiver and whispered, "We'll let you go, but you can't call the cops on us."

Lauren nodded. "Okay."

He uncovered the receiver. Lauren chuckled lightly. "Get back to work. I accidentally called you just now. Hanging up now."

She ended the call.

The kidnappers finally breathed out in relief, seething with hatred toward Jinnie.

That damn woman—was she trying to get them killed?

They both looked at Lauren again, visibly hesitant.

"If we let you go, you really won't report us?"

Lauren remained perfectly calm. "Here's my advice: go turn yourselves in. And tell the police who ordered you to do it. Maybe that'll earn you some leniency."

The **two** men looked at each other, clearly reluctant.

Even if they turned themselves in, they'd still end up behind bars.

1/2

7:28 PM

Chapter 393 Wrong Target

Lauren could tell they were struggling. "I'm giving you a chance. Don't waste it, or you'll regret it."



“You?” one of them sneered. “You think you can make us regret it?”

“I’m just one weak little woman, sure. But who said I’m alone?”

Right as she said that, a sleek black Rolls–Royce screeched to a stop in front of their car.

The driver’s door opened, and out stepped a tall, strong, and imposing man.

Lauren knew him well–  
Felix’s personal driver, and a retired special forces soldier. His name was Gael.

Gael walked over and opened the passenger door. Felix got out.

Felix’s eyes were cold and sharp, his gaze on the kidnappers like he was already burying them.

“Where were you planning to take my fiancée?”

Of course the kidnappers recognized Felix.

They nearly pissed themselves.

Felix’s fiancée was the Mavis family’s little princess–the genius scientist.

Everyone in Corwynale knew that. So did they.

They’d doubted Lauren’s identity at first. But the moment they saw Felix, they realized they’d really screwed up.

Lauren said calmly, “Told you to turn yourselves in.”

The two men knew it was over. They didn’t resist and handed Lauren over.

As soon as she stepped out of the car, Felix pulled her tightly into his arms.

“Don’t be scared.”

Lauren hugged him back.

“With you here, I’m not.”

+8 Pearls

Ever since she was kidnapped in Hoverdale, Felix had arranged for a custom–made watch with a tracking system just for her.

That was how he'd managed to show up so quickly.

Felix narrowed his eyes at the kidnappers. "Who sent you to kidnap my fiancée?"

At that point, the men didn't bother hiding anything anymore. They confessed.

"Jinnie? Who's that?" Lauren was completely baffled.

## **Send Gifts**

2.7K

1

### Chapter 394 Out of Her League

Felix frowned. "Jinnie? Who's that?"

The two kidnappers stared at Felix and Lauren in disbelief.

Jinnie was a huge celebrity—  
one of the top stars in the industry with over eighty million followers.

And yet these two didn't know who she was?

If anyone else had said that, the kidnappers might've thought they were pretending.

But this was Felix, a powerful CEO, and Lauren, a genius scientist. If they said they didn't know Jinnie, they probably weren't lying.

"Jinnie's a top—  
tier celebrity," one of the men explained. "She's apparently dating the CEO of Mavis Gro up. She hired us to kidnap Ms. Lauren because she thought she was trying to steal her boyfriend. She wanted us to ruin her and take some indecent photos..."

Lauren took a deep breath. Just earlier today, she'd been happy to learn her brother had a girlfriend.

Not even an hour later, that same girlfriend—out of sheer jealousy—  
had her kidnapped like some rival.

Lauren gritted her teeth. Ever since her rebirth, she'd sworn never to be bullied again.

This Jinnie hadn't even bothered to get the facts straight before ordering people to destroy her. Even if it was a misunderstanding, Lauren wasn't about to let it slide.

She pulled out her phone and called Victor again.

Just like before, he picked up instantly.

“Lauren, I knew you couldn’t go a minute without me. Where are you now? I’ll send my assistant to pick you up.”

Lauren’s voice quivered with emotion. “Victor, I got kidnapped.”

“What?” Victor practically shouted. “Whoever you are, listen to me—don’t lay a finger on my sister. If she so much as loses a strand of hair, the Mavis family will make sure you pay.”

Lauren’s heart warmed at the sound of his protective fury.

“Victor, I’m okay now. Felix rescued me.”

That one sentence **was** enough to calm Victor down.

“Where are you, Lauren? I’m coming to get you right now.”

K

**Felix** stepped in. “No need. I’ll bring her to you myself. There’s something we need to talk about.”

Thirty minutes later, in the **Mavis** Group CEO’s office.

When Lauren and Felix arrived, Mr. Timely and Victor **were already there—so was** Jinnie.

Jinnie had been chosen **as** the **face** of the holographic **headset** campaign. They **were** just about to sign the contract when Lauren’s **call** about being kidnapped came in.

The signing **was** put on hold **immediately**.

Jinnie was secretly annoyed. Of **all** the times **Victor’s sister** could’ve gotten kidnapped, why now—right when the deal **was** about to be finalized?

She **was** dying **to** get that contract signed.

**7:28 PM**

Chapter 394 Out of Her League

But she didn't dare say anything. She knew how important Lauren was to the Mavis family.

+8 Pearls

Even though they knew Lauren was **safe**, Mr. Timely and Victor were still too worried to sit still. They kept pacing around the office.

About half an hour later, the door opened.

Felix walked in with Lauren by his side.

The moment she stepped into the room, Jinnie's assistant's eyes went wide in shock.

"It's her?!"

Jinnie frowned. "What's wrong?"

The assistant grit her teeth. "Jinnie, that's the woman who seduced Mr. Victor."

"Her?" Jinnie looked Lauren up and down. She had a better figure, and was prettier, which made Jinnie even more annoyed.

Before Mr. Timely or Victor could say anything, Jinnie couldn't hold back her sneer.

"This is the CEO's office, not a place for random nobodies. Women like you who only know how to use their bodies to seduce men don't belong here. Get out."

She said it like she owned the place—completely unaware of how Mr. Timely and Victor's expressions darkened with immediate disgust.

Lauren's face didn't change in the slightest. She walked toward Jinnie step by step until she stood right in front of her.

Without saying a word, she raised her hand and slapped Jinnie hard across the face.

The force of it nearly knocked Jinnie over.

Her assistant screamed and lunged forward.

"Who the hell do you think you are, hitting my Jinnie?! You're dead, you hear me?!"

**As** she **raised** her hand to strike **back**, Lauren was already ready to teach her a lesson.

But before she could even lift a finger, Victor—completely fed up—kicked the assistant to the ground.

## Chapter 395 The Fall of a Star

“And who the hell do you think you are, laying a hand on my sister?”

The entire office fell silent.

Jinnie and her assistant stared at Lauren in shock.

Jinnie could barely find her voice. “Victor... did you say she’s your sister? She’s Lauren?”

Victor’s face was cold. “What else?”

Jinnie stumbled backward, her legs unsteady.

“No... no way. How can this be?”

She suddenly turned and glared at her assistant. “Didn’t you tell me she was some tramp trying to seduce Victor?”

The assistant **was** completely speechless.

Ever since the Mavis family’s little princess graduated from college and entered the research institute, she hadn’t been seen in public.

Who would’ve thought that this mysterious woman showing up out of nowhere was actually Lauren?

The assistant was pale as a ghost. Her eyes were filled with fear as she looked at Lauren, bowing and apologizing over and

over.

“I’m so sorry. I didn’t know you were Ms. Lauren. I didn’t mean it. Please forgive me.”

Lauren snorted. “So what you’re saying is, if I weren’t who I am, it’d be okay for you to bully me?”

The assistant shook her head. “Ms. Lauren, let me explain-”

“Explain what? How the two of you bribed someone to kidnap me?”

Victor’s face darkened. “So you’re the one behind my **sister’s** kidnapping?”

He lunged forward and grabbed Jinnie by the throat. "You dared to lay a hand on my sister? You must have a death wish."

Jinnie choked, her **face** turning red as she struggled to breathe.

Lauren stepped in. "Victor, don't kill her."

Victor **released** his grip, but his voice **was** ice cold. "Talk. Why did you have my sister kidnapped?"

Jinnie **was** full of **regret**. "Victor, it was all a misunderstanding. I thought she was trying to seduce you, so I made **a** stupid mistake. If I had known she **was** your **sister**, not even with a hundred lives would I have dared to do something like that!"

Mr. Timely **scoffed**. "You didn't even get your **facts** straight before hiring thugs to kidnap someone? You are absolutely not qualified to represent my company."

He turned to **Victor**. "Son, **I** will never approve of someone like her becoming part of the Mavis family."

Victor **hadn't** been that interested in Jinnie to begin with.

With a **sister as** exceptional as Lauren, Victor didn't want to drag her—or the family—down. That's why he had always **focused** on his career and **barely dated**.

As for the rumors between him and Jinnie, they mostly **came** from Jinnie clinging to him.

She **always** acted **sweet** and **obedient** around him. Victor **had** been willing to give her **a chance**.

But they **hadn't even** officially started dating **before** she went and **had** his sister kidnapped.

1/2

7:28 PM

Chapter 395 The Fall of a Star

+8 Pearls

If Lauren hadn't been so smart, Victor didn't even want to imagine what might've happened to her at the hands of those men.

"Don't worry, Dad. A woman like her was never even in my

Jinnie burst into tears. "Victor, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to..."

Victor shoved her away.

She turned to beg Lauren instead.

17

Unfortunately, she'd chosen the wrong person to plead with.

consideration."

Lauren had been reborn. In her past life, she was bullied too many times. In this one, she would never let herself be treated that way again.

She had no intention of playing the saint.

They were all adults. If you make a mistake, you deal with the consequences.

Lauren said calmly, "Call the police."

"No—" Jinnie practically dropped to her knees.

But no one in the room had any sympathy for her.

In the end, Jinnie and her assistant were both taken away by the police.

The endorsement deal for the holographic headset was, of course, called off.

"Lauren, are you okay?" Mr. Timely and Victor both looked at her with concern.

Lauren smiled. "Dad, Victor, don't worry. I'm fine."

"Thank goodness. You scared us half to death."

"It's all thanks to Felix. If anything had happened to you, I don't know what I would've done," Mr. Timely said, his voice still trembling.

The more he looked at Felix, the more he liked him.

Felix might've had a cold personality and a ruthless way of dealing with outsiders.

But Mr. Timely had watched him grow up. He trusted Felix to protect his precious daughter.

Their little family sat together in the office, the atmosphere warm and happy. When the conversation turned to the holographic headset endorsement, Victor made a suggestion:

“Why not let Lauren be the face of the headset? There’s no one in the world more suitable.”

Mr. Timely nodded repeatedly. “Lauren, would you be willing?”

## **Send Gifts**

2.7K

Chapter 396 The World’s Youngest Scientist.

Lauren thought for a moment, then nodded. “Alright.”

And just like that, the endorsement deal was settled.

Ever since Lauren became the face of the holographic headset, and the product officially launched, she skyrocketed in popularity.

When people found out that she was also the inventor behind holographic technology, the people of Corwynale were bursting with pride.

Online, netizens began frantically digging into her background.

What they found left them stunned.

“Holy crap, she’s the genius girl who got into the National Defense University at five!”

“She graduated from college at nine and was immediately recruited into a national research institute. Her life sounds completely unreal.”

“She spent eight full years in the institute, and now she’s only seventeen. While other people are still in high school, she’s become the youngest scientist in the world and invented the world’s first holographic tech.”

“Yeah, this single innovation puts our nation at least a hundred years ahead of the rest of the world.”

“Forget a hundred—  
give other countries two hundred years and they still might not be able to catch up.”

Praise for Lauren flooded every corner of the internet.



Some people even uncovered what Jinnie had done— hiring people to have Lauren kidnapped.

“Is Jinnie out of her mind? She actually dared to kidnap a scientist?”

“Wasn’t she dating Victor? Why would she kidnap Victor’s sister?”

“Apparently she thought Lauren was a love rival and had her kidnapped. Turns out she misunderstood everything—Lauren was actually Victor’s sister.”

“This Jinnie is seriously messed up. How do you go straight to kidnapping without even confirming anything?”

“It was just a misunderstanding. As long as the Mavis family doesn’t press charges, Jinnie should be fine.”

“Lauren’s a scientist. It’s not up to the Mavis family whether there are consequences.”

And that was the truth. Even though Lauren wasn’t harmed, Jinnie, her assistant, and the kidnapers were all sentenced to ten years in prison—harsh, but justified.

Lauren paid no attention to any of it.

Her return from the institute was only a short break.

In a month, she’d have to go back.

During that month, she spent nearly every day surrounded by family, Felix, and close friends.

Rayne, her best friend, clung to her neck and whined, “Ugh, Lauren, you finally came home and you’re only staying for a month? That’s way too short.”

Lauren sighed. “There’s a lot of work waiting for me at the institute.”

“Ugh, fine. Work’s important. But...” She winked at Lauren. “Shouldn’t you use this month to settle things with Felix?”

Flynn chimed in, “Lauren, have you ever thought about me? We grew up together and you only like that icicle Felix?”

1/2

O

## Chapter 396 The World's Youngest Scientist

Jim added, "Lauren, I'm an option too, you know."

Felix didn't give them a chance. He pulled Lauren straight into his arms.

Even he didn't fully understand why, but despite not spending that much time with her, he had an overwhelming possessiveness toward Lauren.

"Lauren is mine," he said, locking eyes with her. "Let's get engaged."

Once they were engaged, no one would dare covet his woman.

Lauren's face turned bright red.

In her past life, she had liked Felix.

But back then, she was deaf, crippled, and felt completely unworthy of him.

Even though her grandmother tried matchmaking them more than once, she had never dared to get close.

+8 Pearls

This life was different. Her body was healthy, she had no toxic family to hold her back, and everyone around her loved her. She was no longer the deeply insecure girl from her previous life.

She was now the beloved little princess of the Mavis family—Lauren.

She was worthy of Felix.

Lauren looked him in the eye. "Felix, what if I told you.... I wanted to marry you in my previous life. Would you believe me?"

"Pfft!" Rayne burst out laughing.

"Lauren, you've had your eye on Felix's face for way too long. You're even pulling the 'past life' card now. I gotta admit, though you're good at flirting."

Lauren stayed quiet. She meant it. But no one believed her.

"I believe you," Felix said without hesitation.

Flynn and Jim both froze.

Felix really loved her. Even what sounded like a joke, he believed without question.

No wonder Lauren liked him so much.

The two of them were just meant to be.

“Even though Lauren didn’t pick us,” Flynn said with a shrug, “we still wish our brother Felix and Lauren a lifetime of happiness.”

## **Send Gifts**

2.7K

[li]

1

### **Chapter 397 A Toast to New Lives**

Everyone was chatting and laughing, the atmosphere light and joyful.

Lauren held a wine glass and took a sip of the red wine.

In her previous life, the only time she’d ever drunk alcohol was the night she nearly jumped off an overpass.

That night, she drank two bottles of Felix’s red wine—worth a million—down in one go.

Because she was missing a kidney, the alcohol almost killed her.

But now, her kidneys were perfectly healthy. She was in great shape, a lively and normal person.

She could finally raise a glass and drink happily with her family and friends.

Lauren lifted her wine glass and downed the red wine in one gulp.

Felix watched her, his gaze filled with affection.

He reached out and gently cupped Lauren’s soft, slightly chubby cheeks.

“Lauren, I don’t know why, but watching you drink feels familiar.”

“It’s like... like you’ve done it in front of me before.”

Lauren set down her glass and wrapped her arms around his neck.

They were so close that her breath brushed against his skin—warm, ticklish.

Her eyes were hazy, her lips just inches from his, and her flushed cheeks made her even more alluring.

“Mr. Felix, have you ever considered that maybe... your feeling is real?”

Felix didn’t quite catch what she said—his entire focus was locked on her face.

“Lauren, you’re drunk.”

Lauren giggled. “Mr. Felix, you’re so handsome.”

Then, without warning, she leaned in and kissed him.

Victor, Flynn, Jim, and Rayne were all stunned.

*What just happened?*

Weren’t they just talking normally a second ago? How did this turn into a kiss?

Lauren cupped Felix’s face, her soft body pressing against him. She was unusually assertive.

She kissed him hard, then licked her lips, murmuring drunkenly, “Mr. Felix, you taste sweet.”

The four watching could hardly believe their eyes.

Sweet, gentle Lauren now looked like a little hooligan seducing an innocent man.

And the way she pinned Felix beneath her—way too aggressive.

For Felix, the kiss caught him completely off guard.

He instinctively cupped the back of her head, physically wanting to deepen the kiss—but mentally, he held back.

He was five years older than Lauren—already twenty-two.

+8 Pearls

7:28 PM

Chapter 397 A Toast to New Lives

O

0

But Lauren was just seventeen. Even if she was mature beyond her years, she was still young.

Felix pulled her **into** his arms and gently coaxed her, "You're drunk. Be good."

Lauren curled up against him, obedient and quiet.

With a smile on her lips, she wrapped her arms around his waist and drifted off to sleep.

Everyone looked at her peaceful face and couldn't help but smile.

+8 Pearls

Rayne looked at Victor. "Victor, when you get home, you really should start talking to Felix's parents about Lauren and Felix getting engaged."

Victor gently brushed Lauren's hair.

"As long as it's what Lauren wants, the Mavis family will support her all the way." He looked at Felix. "We grew up together, Felix. I know your character. I trust you'll take care of her, right?"

Felix nodded seriously. "I will."

A month later, Lauren had to return to the institute and continue her research with the professors.

G

But before she left, the Mavis family and the Brooker family held an engagement ceremony for her and Felix. Not long after the engagement, she made a trip to the prison.

Since David, Willow, and the others had been arrested, she hadn't visited them once.

This time, she decided to be generous and pay them a visit.

Once she returned to the institute, she wouldn't know when she'd get another chance.

Maybe this would be the last time they ever met—after all, they had all been sentenced to death.

Before they died, she had to see them in their miserable state. Only then would her past life feel avenged.

At the prison.

Lauren first met with David.

She expected David to glare at her with seething hatred, like he wanted to rip her apart.

But through the thick glass, the man on the other side looked like he had aged more than ten years. The look he gave her was filled with guilt

There was even a trace of fatherly tenderness in his eyes.

Lauren narrowed her eyes, a certain possibility flashing through her mind.

**Send Gifts**

2.7K

Chapter 398 No Forgiveness in This Lifetime

Lauren picked up the receiver. On the other side of the glass, David lifted his own.

Before she could say anything, David's trembling voice came through.

"Lauren, I'm sorry. It's all my fault. I never should've hurt you for that bitch Sharon and that bastard Willow. I really know I was wrong. Can you forgive me?"

Lauren let out a cold laugh. "I see. If I'm not mistaken, David... you've remembered your past life, haven't you?"

David's eyes were full of guilt, his face etched with regret.

After getting thrown into prison, beaten day after day, he finally awakened memories from his previous life.

He could now understand the torment Lauren had suffered behind bars.

He hated himself—  
hated that he hadn't awakened sooner, that he hadn't remembered the truth from the moment Lauren was born.

But no, it had to happen only after he landed in prison. When it was too late.

C

Way too late. He had already been sentenced to death. There was no longer any way for him to make it up to Lauren in this life.

God, if you let me awaken... was it just to punish me?

Tears of remorse fell from David's eyes as he looked at Lauren through the glass.

"Lauren, I know my sins are unforgivable. I'm not asking for much. Just... please forgive me, okay?"

Lauren looked at him coldly. "Forgive you? You think you deserve that?"

"David, look how generous I've been. You're in prison, and I still came to visit. Unlike your Bennett family, who left me rotting in prison for five years without a single visit. Compared to all of you, I'm far too kind."

David flinched at her mocking words. Pain gripped his chest.

"Can't you... just give me one chance? I'm about to die..."

"You committed crimes. Isn't death exactly what you deserve?" Lauren's eyes sharpened, her voice full of disdain. "What, you want to guilt-trip me with morality now? You were the one who doomed my life in the last one. I want you to pay for it through countless lifetimes. This is only your second. Why would I forgive you so easily?"

"Let me be clear. I came here today just to see how miserable you've become. And judging by the look of you, seems like prison's been treating you just right. Good. After all, your Bennett family always said, 'It's just five years in jail. What's the big deal?' Right, five years wasn't a big deal for me, so you go ahead and get a taste for yourself. Most people never get the opportunity.

"And once you're done with that... you can go die. If you're ever reborn, I'll say it again from the bottom of my heart—may you never have peace for the rest of your lives."

David's pupils dilated. His entire body shook.

Lauren hated him.

He knew he had committed an unforgivable crime. But hadn't he already paid the price? In his past life, after his stroke left him paralyzed, he'd been dumped in the mountains and tormented until death.

Hadn't *that* repaid *the debt*?

Why couldn't she forgive him?

He was sentenced to death in this life too. Wasn't that enough?

1/2

Chapter 398 No Forgiveness in This Lifetime

Why did she still have to curse him through lifetime after lifetime?

David sobbed uncontrollably. "Lauren, I know I was wrong. Why can't you just forgive me?"

+8 Pearls

"I've paid for everything I did—last life, this life. Isn't that enough? If I get another chance, I'll be a good father. I swear. Please, believe me..."

But no matter how much he cried, Lauren remained cold as stone.

*Forgive?*

No. That *wasn't forgiveness*.

Forgiving the one who hurt you was cruelty to yourself.

Wounds didn't fade with time. They just became old scars—permanently carved into her soul.

So, no matter the lifetime, she would never forgive.

Lauren smiled at him. "David, you have zero credibility with me. You once said I was bullying Willow and that a dog could never change its ways. Well, today I'm giving those exact words back to you. People like you—filthy to the core—could live ten lives, a hundred lives, and you'd still be scum. You deserve to die painfully

"No—please don't say that, Lauren. Please... just give me a chance."



David practically begged.

But Lauren had already set down the receiver.

She stood, turned, and walked away without sparing him a second glance.

## **Send Gifts**

2.7K

1

### **Chapter 399 Too Late for Regret**

David slammed his fists against the glass in a frenzy, but Lauren still walked away.

He never saw her again—not even on the day of his execution.

As for Sharon, George, and Willow, the three of them received “special treatment” from the other inmates every single day.

Willow’s kidneys were already in poor condition, and she didn’t even live to see her execution date. She was beaten to death by the inmates.

When she died, both ears had been shattered, her eyes stabbed blind with needles, every one of her limbs and ribs broken, even her skull fractured with a massive dent caved in.

She lay in a pool of blood, her mind flashing over the memories of how she used to torment Lauren in their past life.

Every time Lauren was beaten, scolded, or humiliated by the Bennett family, Willow would be there—watching from above, smug and triumphant, as if she were the winner.

Those scenes filled Willow with unbearable resentment.

She didn’t want to die. She was supposed to be the victor. Everyone was supposed to love her, revolve around her.

How did it come to this?

No matter how much she resisted, her body couldn’t take it anymore. In the end, Willow died full of resentment and disbelief.

Sharon and George were in better physical shape, but they were beaten daily. Even the day before their executions, the abuse never stopped.

Lauren made sure to see everyone who had hurt her—everyone except Elliot.

Elliot was the most hypocritical of them all—pretending to protect her while secretly causing her pain.

A man like that... even one more glance at him was disgusting.

So she didn't bother.

As Lauren walked out of the prison and headed toward her car, a group of officers passed by, escorting a few criminals in handcuffs.

Leading the group was a guy with cheap yellow-dyed hair and a sleazy appearance, dressed in worn-out clothes and oozing the vibe of an aimless lowlife.

Lauren froze when she saw him.

She knew this man all too well.

In her past life, it was because of him that she refused to be adopted. And because she wasn't adopted, she ended up back with the Bennett family—where she was mercilessly abused.

It was also because of him that she had no way to defend herself in court, ultimately leading to her five-year prison sentence.

That man was none other than Lucas.

In her past life, she worked herself to the bone—skimped on food, juggled jobs, competed in academic tournaments—just to earn enough money to send him to college and support his law degree.

And he used her, stepped on her, and climbed his way to success.

The first step of becoming a man above others... was cutting off the woman who had sacrificed everything for him.

He threw her into prison.

1/2

O

## Chapter 399 Too Late for Regret

Lucas had enjoyed years of prestige in her past life.

+8 Pearls

He lived in a multi-million-dollar luxury apartment in downtown Hoverdale, drove a high-end sports car, and wore hand-tailored suits from head to toe.

His entire image as an elite had been built from the money and blood she gave him.

But now, with no Lauren behind him, he was nothing more than a useless street punk.

As the officers led Lucas toward the prison, they passed right by Lauren.

She looked at the officer and asked, "Officer, what crime did he commit?"

Normally, they wouldn't share that information. But Lauren was a nationally protected and cultivated talent, so the officer answered, "Organizing group lewd activity."

Lauren blinked in surprise.

Group lewd activity?

So, without her, Lucas was nothing but a pile of trash.

At this point, Lauren had no interest in anything about Lucas. He was just scum. He had no place in her life anymore.

She was just about to get into her car when Lucas suddenly called out.

"Wait—we've met before, haven't we?"

Lauren turned back and looked him dead in the eye.

Her expression was calm. "With your status, I doubt you'd ever have the qualifications."

The tables had turned.

Lucas was no longer the elite lawyer once known across Hoverdale—he was just a broke, powerless criminal.

And she, Lauren, was no longer the Bennett family's neglected, abused daughter. She was the cherished little princess of the Mavis family. Felix's fiancée. A genius girl. A world-renowned scientist.

In this life, she carried many titles. And not one of them allowed anyone to bully her ever again.

Without a word, Lauren stepped into her car.

As the vehicle drove away, Lucas felt a hollow ache in his chest—like something important had vanished from his life.

He stared after the car **as** it disappeared into the distance. He wanted to run after her.

But with handcuffs on his wrists and cops on both sides, there was no escape.

His best years would now be spent behind bars.

## **Send Gifts**

2.7K

a

### Chapter 400 Rain and Reunion

Time flew by. In the blink of an eye, ten years had passed.

This year, Lauren turned twenty—seven.

In her past life, she only lived to twenty—three. After being tormented beyond recognition by the Bennett family, she died drinking poison to take the fall for Mia.

This time around, she would never fade away so tragically again.

At twenty—seven, Lauren had shed her youthful softness. Her figure was tall and graceful, with elegant curves. She was alluring and poised.

For the past decade, she had been focused entirely on research and rarely returned home.

But now, with a major breakthrough in her work, she could finally take a long—awaited break.

And get married.

Lauren's wedding drew in top figures from both the business and political worlds across the country. It was a grand occasion.

Unfortunately, the weather didn't cooperate. It began to rain in Balewood that day.

Still, the wedding was held at the seven-star Cloud Palace Hotel, so the **rain didn't** impact things much.

Inside the hotel, guests filled the venue.

Almost everyone had arrived.

Marilyn paced nervously back and forth, unable to stop herself **from** calling Mia.

"Mia, the ceremony's about to begin. Why aren't you here yet?"

"Mom, I'll be there soon."

Mia stood at a bus stop, flustered.

For ten years, she'd held tightly to Lauren's words of encouragement. She **studied** hard and finally graduated with excellent grades.

Through relentless effort, she'd earned a spot in the research institute

Unfortunately, the institute was large, and her field was different from Lauren's. Seeing each other was rare.

And both were always busy, so meeting up never quite worked out.

Today, the institute suddenly had a very important research project.

It was that project that had delayed her.

She'd rushed out as soon as it was done—only for the rain to start pouring.

Taking shelter under the awning at the bus stop, Mia pulled out her phone to hail a ride.

About ten minutes later, a sleek black car pulled up.

Mia didn't even look at the license plate. She dashed over, opened the passenger door, and hopped in.

Sir, take me to Cloud Palace, please."

Inside the car. Josh had just bent down to pick up his phone. As he straightened up, he saw a strange woman sitting in his

passenger seat.

7:28 PM

## Chapter 400 Rain and Reunion

She was wearing a plain white t-shirt and blue jeans, her long black hair tied in a ponytail.

+8 Pearls

Because of the rain, her bangs and eyelashes were misted with droplets. The wet t-shirt clung to her, outlining her slim and graceful figure.

As Josh looked at her, a flash of memory crossed his mind.

It felt like he had seen a girl like this before... also on a rainy day... also sitting in his passenger seat.

He spaced out for a moment, staring at Mia.

Mia frowned when the car didn't move. She turned toward Josh.

The man was dressed in a black suit, handsome and refined.

"Sir, could you please drive? My friend is getting married at Cloud Palace today. If I don't get there soon, I'll miss it."

Josh snapped out of it.

The only wedding at Cloud Palace today was that of President Fu and the Mavis family's young miss.

So this woman.., must be a friend of Miss Shi?

Josh glanced at her again and noticed the lanyard around her neck.

She worked at the institute. A researcher—probably Lauren's colleague.

*Her name was Mia?*

That name sounded very familiar too.

So she mistook him for a rideshare driver?

Josh found the situation amusing. He raised an eyebrow and started the engine.

As the black Maybach pulled away, another black car pulled up to the bus stop.

Mia's phone rang. As soon as she picked up, the voice on the other end sounded irritated.

"You said you were at the bus stop. Where are you?"

Mia paused. "... I already got into a car."

"What? You left with someone else? Damn, you should've said something sooner. Cancel the ride yourself, then." The driver hung up, annoyed.

Mia turned to Josh. "Wait... you're not Uber?"

Josh smiled faintly. "Do I look like I am?"

Mia's gaze dropped to the logo on the steering wheel.

A Maybach?

Her expression shifted. She had gotten into the wrong car.

"I'm so sorry, sir. I got in by mistake," Mia said apologetically—but she didn't get out.

Josh raised an eyebrow.

If it weren't for the lanyard around her neck, he might've thought this woman climbed into the wrong car on purpose just to get his attention.