

The Heiress Revived from the Ashes Novel

The Heiress Revived Ch 81

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Lauren trembled slightly at Elaine's roar but quickly calmed down.

Elaine was awake. I could finally clear her name.

Now, it wasn't me who should be afraid.

It was Willow.

And **Elliot**, Lucas, Kenneth. All those who had hurt me.

I was curious. What kind of expression would they have when *the* truth came out?

Lauren straightened her back, feeling more confident than ever.

A faint, almost imperceptible smile played on her lips as she looked at him mockingly.

When Kenneth met her calm gaze, his heart skipped a beat.

At that moment, he realized that Lauren had changed.

Her entire demeanor had undergone a dramatic change.

In the past, Lauren would tremble like a mouse seeing a cat whenever she saw me.

Now, she **not** only dared to look into my eyes but also mocked me with her gaze, as *if I* were a complete failure.

She stood by the hospital bed, holding Elaine's hand with one hand.

The two of them, both emaciated and pale, even had almost identical marks on their necks.

For a moment, Kenneth felt as if Lauren and Elaine were **kindred** spirits.

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A thick fear spread in his heart. He didn't dare to think too deeply about why he was afraid or what exactly he was afraid of.

It seemed that if he found out, he would fall into an abyss of despair.

Tearing his gaze away from Lauren, Kenneth suppressed the emotions that threatened to surface and let the doctors **examine** Elaine.

The room fell into a deadly silence.

Almost everyone's eyes were on Elaine, except for Lauren, whose piercing gaze was on Willow.

Willow was visibly terrified, her body shaking uncontrollably like a frightened bird.

Why isn't Elaine dead? Why couldn't she just die!

Her fear was not just that she would push Elaine down the stairs. The even worse one is, every word I and *Dad* had said *back* then had been heard by Elaine. If Elaine revealed it, neither I nor *Dad* would escape unscathed.

Therefore, I had pushed Elaine down the **stairs**, determined to kill *her*.

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Chapter 81 The Truth Revealed!

Finished

While *everyone's* attention was *focused* on Elaine, I had to love, inform Dad, and then the three of them had to flee immediately

But as she took a step towards the door, Lauren's mocking voice sounded like a ghost. "Ms. Willow, where are you going? Don't you want to see your best friend safe and sound?"

Willow froze, her eyes wide with fear as she looked at Lauren.

Lauren's words drew everyone's attention to Willow,

Willow's face was pale, her eyes filled with panic and terror.

Lucas and Elliot also noticed that something was wrong and turned their questioning eyes to Willow.

Elliot asked worriedly. "Willow, what's wrong? You look terrible.

Willow twisted her hands together nervously, her eyes darting around. "... I suddenly don't feel well."

Lucas stepped forward and gently supported her. “If you don’t feel well, let me take you to a doctor.”

As he spoke, he started to lead Willow away.

“Stop!” Lauren’s roar startled both Willow and Lucas.

Lucas frowned and wanted to reprimand her, but Lauren coldly cut him off.

“There are doctors here. Taking them out means standing in line and registering. How annoying

Her words left Lucas speechless.

He didn’t like Lauren’s domineering attitude, but she wasn’t wrong.

At that moment, the doctor finished examining Elaine Congratulations, Mr. Kenneth. Your sister is lucky The strangulation triggered her strong will to survive. Originally, she had only regained consciousness, and it would have taken a long time for her to fully wake up. But the near-death experience stimulated her brain to constantly send signals to her body to fight back, which is why she woke up early. However, it’s also thanks to the timely rescue. Otherwise, Ms. Elaine would have died of suffocation.”

The doctor’s simple and clear explanation made everything understandable to everyone present.

In other words, Elaine’s **will** to survive during the strangulation had caused her to wake up prematurely.

However, after five years in an unconscious state, her body had deteriorated. Even though she had woken. **up**, she couldn’t fight back and could only let someone Strangle her to death.

Kenneth breathed a sigh of relief before turning his gaze back to Lauren, his anger barely contained.

Lauren, what do you have to say for yourself now?”

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The Heiress Revived from the Ashes

Chapter **82** The Silent Witness

#Finished

Lauren, however, smiled. "Mr. Kenneth, you shouldn't ask me that. You should ask Willow. By the way, I forgot to tell you that I was the one who saved Elaine. No one wants her to live more than me.

Marilyn also chimed in. "Mr. Kenneth, while you were looking for the doctor, it was Ms. Bennett who desperately tried to save your sister. If you don't believe me, you can ask Mr. Elliot and Mr. **Lucas**.

Kenneth looked at them. Both men looked uncomfortable.

"Hmph Lauren snorted. "Even now, you still **think** that I wanted to kill Elaine? If I wanted to kill her, why would I risk everything to save her? The one who hurt Elaine was always Willow. It's just you three fools who keep falling for her tricks."

Scared, Willow backed away and muttered, "It wasn't me; it really wasn't me. Don't listen to her lies."

Lauren sneered. "Are you still trying to deny it? Whether it's true or not, why don't we just ask Elaine?"

Ignoring the panicked Willow, Lauren calmly walked over to Elaine's side. She leaned down slightly and asked softly, "Elaine, I'm Lauren. Do you remember me?"

Elaine had been unconscious for the past five years. Lauren was afraid that she might have lost her memory, hence the question.

Her gaze was fixed on Elaine, not missing any subtle change in her expression.

However, when Elaine's eyes met Lauren's, a flood of tears poured down her face.

Her lips trembled as if she had a thousand things to say things she desperately wanted to tell Lauren. But her mouth opened and closed, unable to form a single clear word. Only painful sobs echoed in the room.

Lauren **was** stunned.

Elaine's reaction did **not** indicate that she did not recognize me

But *if* she recognized me, why was she crying?

"Elaine, stop crying. Speak clearly first," Lauren urged, growing worried.

I wasn't afraid of Elaine crying, but with Kenneth's temperament, he would surely misunderstand me again.

Sure enough, as soon **as** this thought crossed her mind. Kenneth roared at her, "Lauren, you scared Elaine to tears, and you still dare to deny it?"

With that, Kenneth grabbed her slender wrist and roughly pushed her aside.

"How long are you going to bully Elaine?"

Seeing her brother treat Lauren so harshly, Elaine cried even harder.

Kenneth, unaware of Elaine's distress, comforted her instead. "Elaine, don't be afraid. Say whatever **you** need to say. With me here, Lauren won't dare to hurt you."

Lauren, pushed aside by Kenneth, stumbled a few steps before regaining her balance.

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Chapter 82 The Silent Witness

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Seeing this. Elaine became frantic. Her hands gripped the blanket tightly. She wanted to tell her brother the truth, expose Willow's crimes, and defend Lauren.

But her throat felt blocked, as if something was stuck here. All the words she wanted to say turned into painful sobs, impossible to articulate.

Her gaze shifted between Lauren and Kenneth, and her heart felt like going to break.

Lauren had done nothing wrong, yet she had been framed and spent five years *in prison* while the real culprit went *free* and almost strangled her to death.

Lauren had suffered so much, yet Kenn still misunderstands her

Five years ago, Kenn loved Lauren so much. None, they were enemies.

She wanted to scream, to break through this barrier of silence, but her body wouldn't obey.

The more she panicked, the more she cried.

Her condition broke Kenneth's heart. He needed an outlet for his anger, and he took it all out on Lauren.

"Lauren, what have you done to Elaine? Why can't she speak?"

Lauren also wanted to know why.

Elaine had finally woken up. This was what I had been waiting for. I was so close to clearing my name, but Elaine just kept crying without saying a word,

"Elaine, speak! Tell them that it wasn't me who pushed you back then, and it wasn't me who strangled you today. It was all Willow. Say it! Just say something..."

"Enough!" Kenneth glared at Lauren. He wanted to hate her, but his heart couldn't stop loving her. Torn between hatred and love, his eyes were filled with pain Elaine is afraid of you. How long are you going to pretend?"

"Waaah..." Hearing this, Elaine cried even bitterly.

Kenn, *you* idiot. Stop yelling **at** Lauren. Stop hurting her. *You'll* regret it one day.

She had so much to say, but the words turned into sobs before they could leave her lips .

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Chapter 83 The Silent Testimony.

The scene in the hospital room was chaotic.

Lauren took a deep breath and forced herself to stay calm.

She asked the doctor for help. "Doctor, why can't Elaine speak?"

The doctor did a quick check on Elaine. **Aside** from the deterioration of her body functions, there was nothing wrong. He reassured her, "The patient has been in a vegetative state for five years. Her body functions, including her speech, have deteriorated. It's formal that she can't speak right away. With rehabilitation, she'll be able to speak again."

That was it.

Kenneth and the others finally relaxed.

But Lauren felt like she had been struck by lightning.

I can wait, but Willow wouldn't. She will definitely try to kill Elaine before she *fully* recovers.

If anything happened to Elaine during this time, I will once again become *the* prime suspect.

No matter what, I have to reveal the truth today.

Lauren glanced at Willow **and** saw that she had visibly relaxed, her eyes darting around as she schemed.

Lauren gritted his teeth.

Willow, today I'm going to make you pay *for* what you've done

Her mind raced, and in the next second, she had a **plan**.

Lauren walked towards Elaine, but before she could speak, Kenneth blocked her, his eyes filled with warning. "Lauren, what are you going to do now?"

Lauren looked at Kenneth with a calm gaze. "I have a way to make Elaine reveal who really caused her to become a vegetable."

Kenneth was stunned and did not know whether to believe her or not.

As he hesitated, Elliot suddenly stepped forward and grabbed Lauren's arm. "Laurie, stop causing trouble. Since Elaine is fine, just behave yourself, and we'll let the matter of you almost strangling her go."

Lucas also stepped forward and sighed. "Laurie, after everything that happened, you should have learned something. Apologize to Elaine and Willow, and we'll let this go."

Lauren looked at her brother and childhood friend coldly. Right now, I despised them the most.

A CEO and a lawyer, both highly educated elites, but whenever it came to Willow, they turned into mindless fools. It was infuriating

"You think you're doing what's best for me, but you're really just protecting Willow. What? Are you so afraid that I'll expose her true nature in front of everyone?"

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Chapter 83 The Silent Testimony

“Lauren! Elliot raised his voice and scolded her. “Don’t push your luck.”

But Lauren’s voice was even louder. “Elliot, shut your mouth off!”

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Displeased, Lucas was about to speak,
but Lauren turned to him with a fierce glare. “You shut up too.”

Then she said to them. “You all have no right to lecture me and stop me from doing what I have to do. Don’t push me, or I’ll slap you without a second thought

Elliot and Lucas’s faces turned grim, their pride wounded.

But they had seen Lauren’s insanity. If this continued, they would only be more embarrassed.

Lauren forcefully pushed Willow in front of Elaine.

When Elaine saw Willow, her already pale face turned ghostly white. Her entire body trembled uncontrollably, and the hatred and fear in her eyes were almost tangible..

Anyone with half a brain could see **that Elaine** was repulsed by Willow. There was none of the closeness one would expect between best friends.

Kenneth frowned, sensing that something was terribly wrong.

“Elaine, what’s wrong?” Kenneth asked worriedly.

“What’s wrong?” Lauren sneered. “It’s because she sees her enemy.

“Lauren, stop making baseless accusations.” Elliot couldn’t help but **scold** her again.

“Whether I’m making baseless accusations or not, you’ll soon find out, Lauren said with unshakable confidence.

She turned to Elaine, her voice soft but firm. “Elaine, I know you can’t talk right now, and I don’t need you **to**. All you **have** to do is blink to answer my questions. If I’m right, blink once. If I’m wrong, blink twice. If you understand, blink once to let me know.”

As soon as she finished speaking, Elaine blinked once with great effort.

Lauren's lips curled into a broad smile, a feeling of long-suppressed relief washing over her.

Willow, today is your downfall.

Willow's heart pounded like a drum.

She **began** to struggle. Laurie, I'm not feeling well. I need **to** see a doctor."

Lauren completely ignored her.

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Chapter 84 The Truth Unveiled

Marilyn, seeing Willow's struggle, also stepped in to help Lauren restrain her.

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Next, Lauren **asked Elaine** in a firm, clear voice, "Five years **ago**, during Willow's graduation banquet at the Bennett Residence, was it me who pushed you down the stairs?"

Elaine's look at Lauren was filled with guilt. Without hesitation, she blinked twice.

Kenneth, who was standing nearby, felt as if he had been struck by lightning.

No? It really wasn't Laurent

All this time, I had been convinced that Lauren had harmed Elaine. I had hated her to the core, even going **so** far as to use any means to ensure that she suffered in prison.

But now, Elaine's reaction was like **a** sledgehammer, shattering the beliefs he had held for the past five

years.

His hands unconsciously clenched into fists.

If Lauren really hadn't harmed Elaine, then what was *the* point of his five years of relentless revenge against **her**?

Elliot's eyes widened as he stared at Elaine, unable to believe what he was seeing.

As Lauren's biological brother, I had always favored Willow, turned a deaf ear to Lauren's complaints, and even kicked her when she was down.

Back then, I had been a key witness, confidently pointing *the* finger at Lauren in court.

Now, he felt like the world was spinning. His legs became weak, and he almost collapsed.

Lucas's face was a mixture of shock **and** panic. As a lawyer, he was supposed to seek the truth and uphold justice.

However, when it came to Willow, he had repeatedly lost his mind, blindly defended her, and even

tried to convince Lauren to take the blame.

Back then, he had refused to believe **that** the kind **and** innocent Willow could be the culprit.

Since the Bennett family insisted that Lauren had framed Willow, he had accepted their story.

Only now did he realize that what he had believed all along was wrong.

Beads of sweat formed on his forehead, his eyes darting around uncomfortably.

Lauren took in their expression.

She **had** thought that seeing them so shaken would bring her satisfaction, but it didn't.

Her heart only became more bitter.

Even if her name was cleared, the bloody five years she had endured could never be erased from her memory. The pain she had suffered would haunt her for the rest of her life.

I hated and despised them and loathed them!

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Chapter 84 The Truth Unveiled

//I had to suffer, they would suffer with me. No one would escape unscathed.

Finished

Lauren turned back to Elaine and asked, "Elaine, tell them. Was it Willow who pushed you down the

stairs?"

The question made Elliot, Lucas, and Kenneth hold their breath.

Suddenly, they didn't **want** to know the **answer**.

If the answer was confirmed, everything they believed would crumble.

The consequences they would face would be terrifying, something they couldn't bear,

Elliot suddenly interrupted, "Laurie, Elaine has just woken up. She's still very weak. Let her rest. I'll take you home.

As he spoke, he reached out to grab Lauren, but she dodged him.

Lucas tried to smooth things over with a forced smile, not even daring to meet Lauren's eyes. 'Laurie, your brother is right. There are too many of us here, and we're disturbing Mr. Kenneth's sister. Let's talk about this later, okay?"

Lauren's expression was icy. "Scared? **Are** you so afraid of the truth? Or are you afraid that the kind, innocent person you've been defending is actually a complete monster? Can't you accept that you've been played for fools?"

The two men gritted their teeth, no longer having the courage to lecture Lauren.

There was even a hint of pleading in their glances at her.

Huh!

Lauren sneered, then turned to Kenneth.

Her gaze was like an arrow, piercing and sharp. Even without words, Kenneth understood her meaning.

Kenneth, even you, her own brother, don't want to know the truth?

Kenneth's face turned pale, his eyes filled with struggle and pain.

On the one hand, he was **afraid** to hear the answer he didn't want to accept, afraid to face the unforgivable mistakes he had made over the past five years. On the other **hand**, **as** Elaine's brother, he desperately wanted to know the truth and seek justice for his sister.

These conflicting emotions clashed violently within him, leaving him torn.

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Chapter 85 The Interruption

Seeing Kenneth's hesitation, Lauren couldn't help but laugh bitterly.

He had always claimed that my five years *in prison* weren't enough to atone *for* my crimes against Elaine.

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had truly believed that he was a devoted brother who would do anything for his sister. But now that the truth was about to come out, he was backing down.

Was Kenneth really willing to sacrifice his own sister just to protect Willow?

Kenneth, you're nothing special after all.

Lauren took a step back and stood next to Elaine, forming a united front.

"Elaine!" she said firmly. "Tell them. Was it really Willow who pushed you down the stairs and turned you into a vegetative state?"

The moment of revenge had finally arrived.

Elaine closed her eyes tightly.

At this moment, Willow was shaking uncontrollably.

Elliot, Lucas, and Kenneth were filled with fear, unwilling to **face** the truth, only wanting to escape.

Seeing their anguish, Lauren finally felt a sense of satisfaction, her lips **curling** into a smile.

But just as Elaine was about to open her eyes, an **angry** woman's voice suddenly rang out.

"What are you all doing in the patient's room? Don't you know that the patient needs to rest?"

A woman in a white lab **coat** came in first, followed closely by Alice and David.

When Willow saw the woman, her eyes lit up as if she had found a savior. She wanted to throw herself into the woman's arms and pour out her sorrows, but she held herself back.

The woman's gaze softened when it landed on Willow, but she quickly covered it up and turned a stern gaze on Lauren and the others. "Do you even care about the patient's rest?"

The doctor that Kenneth **had** called earlier quickly greeted the woman. "Director, what brings you

here?"

"If I hadn't come, the roof of this **room** would have been torn off by all these unnecessary people. Out, out! Don't disturb the patient's rest."

The woman, the hospital director, crossed her arms, her tone unyielding.

Lauren stood her ground. She **had** been watching Elliot Lucas, and Kenneth closely and noticed that all three of them had visibly relaxed.

Elliot was the first to react, nodding quickly. "The director is right. We weren't thinking. We'll leave right

away.

As he spoke, he grabbed Willow's hand and prepared to leave the room,

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Chapter 85 The Interruption.

Lauren shouted, "No one leaves until the real culprit is revealed!"

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Elliot paused and turned back to look at Lauren with impatience. "Lauren, when are you going to stop? Can't we talk about this at home? Why do you have to make a scene in the hospital?"

"Hahahah." Lauren suddenly laughed, her tone dripping with **sarcasm**. "The truth is about to come out, but you don't want to see it. Telling me to go home is just your excuse. Today, no one leaves until the real culprit is exposed."

"You..." Elliot shook with anger. Willow, whom he was shielding, had already started to tear up, looking completely wronged.

"Laurie. I've always treated you as my own sister. Why are you always targeting me? If I've done something wrong, just tell me. I'll change, okay?" She began to sob.

"Shut up! You **have** no right to speak here," Lauren snapped and raised her hand to slap Willow.

But before the slap could land, the hospital director grabbed her wrist and forcefully pushed her hand

away.

"This is a hospital, not a court. If **you** have problems, take them elsewhere. Don't disturb the patient here."

The director's look at Lauren was filled with warning and a hint of disgust.

Behind her, Alice and David, though silent, were also glaring at Lauren, clearly ready to intervene if she caused any more trouble.

Lauren **took** a deep breath and tried to calm down.

She narrowed her eyes and studied the director.

They had been so close. Elaine was about to publicly expose Willow as the culprit, but at that critical moment, the director had appeared **out** of nowhere.

Her earlier rebuke seemed to be directed at everyone, but her gaze was clearly focused on me.

When I *had tried* to confront Willow, *the* director had stopped her, and her grip was so strong that it had almost crushed my wrist.

I don't believe in coincidences. **Too** many coincidences meant that something was intentional.

This director was definitely involved.

“Director, may I ask what your relationship is with Willow? Why did you come in and immediately defend her?” Lauren demanded.

The director’s expression flickered for a moment, but she quickly regained her composure.

“Little girl, don’t make groundless accusations. I’m just doing my job as the director to maintain order in the hospital

Lauren sneered, unimpressed.

“Maintaining order? It looks to me like you’re maintaining Willow! The patient doesn’t complain about the noise or being tired. She doesn’t need rest. You’re **so** eager to kick us out because you **have** something to

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Chapter 85 The interruption.

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Chapter 86 A Fight for Justice

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“How dare you speak like **that**?” Sharon’s voice rose sharply, her eyes blazing with anger.

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“I speak as I must. Although you are the director, you have no right to stop a patient from identifying the true culprit who harmed her. If you keep interfering. I have to suspect you’re deliberately protecting the real murderer. Lauren retorted, her tone unwavering

"Today, Elaine will need to identify the culprit. No one can stop it." Her resolute stance instantly enraged

Sharon.

Sharon's face darkened, veins pulsing faintly on her forehead. She wanted to tear Lauren's mouth apart but restrained herself with so many people watching.

"You're being unreasonable. Keep causing trouble, and I'll have security throw you out." Sharon said.

Lauren didn't flinch. She stepped forward, locking eyes with Sharon. "Go ahead. Let the whole hospital know the esteemed director is shielding a murderer. I'd love to see if you can keep your job as the director after that."

Sharon froze, her hand halting mid-reach for the call button.

David, seeing Sharon cornered, felt a stab of distress. He lunged forward, seizing Lauren's arm, his eyes wild with fury. "You ungrateful wretch! Haven't you shamed us enough? Get home now!"

Lauren yanked her arm free, her eyes bloodshot. "It's you two that always favored Willow, your precious adopted daughter, letting me, your own flesh and blood, suffer injustice for five years! You're not even ashamed, why should I be afraid? Today, I must get **back** justice."

"You" David's face turned livid, but he was powerless against her defiance.

Alice was near tears. "Laurie, stop this. Can't we sort this out at home?"

Lauren turned to her mother, her gaze full of disappointment. "Home? So you can cover up Willow's crimes?"

"You're such devoted parents to your darling daughter, errified the truth **will** punish Willow. But you never cared about the injustice I endured."

With each accusation, David's expression grew darker, while **Alice** sobbed, trembling uncontrollably.

"Laurie, it's not like that. You're the daughter I carried for ten months; how could I bear to see you suffer? Everything I did was for your own good," Alice pleaded

For my own good, by letting me take the blame again and again? Lauren thought bitterly.

"I've carried someone else's guilt for five years. Now, I want Elaine to name the real culprit. If you truly cared about me, Madam Alice, you wouldn't stop me. This isn't just unfair to me, it's unfair to Elaine too."

David and Alice fell

lent, **unable** to argue. They **knew** the truth better **than** anyone. David had seen Willow push Elaine down the stairs. Alice had watched the surveillance footage of Willow's crime. Back then, Lauren had no proof, and her cries of innocence went unheard. Now, with Elaine awake, she couldn't miss this chance to clear her name.

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Chapter 86 A Fight for Justice

finger at Lauren's nose. "If you keep this up, I'll call the police!"

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At the word "police," Lauren sneered. "Do it. I'd love to rip off someone's task of hypocrisy in front of them."

Sharon was bluffing. She didn't dare call the police. She just glared at Lauren, teeth clenched.

Lauren found Sharon's behavior increasingly suspicious, but her focus was on proving her innocence, not **Sharon's** motives. Maybe the Bennett family had bribed her.

Seeing Sharon hesitate, Lauren pressed, "Weren't **you** going to call the police? Go on."

Sharon was trapped.

Lauren

pulled out her phone. "Fine, I'll do it myself. After five years, it's time for the truth to come out." | She dialed 911.

Just as she was about to hit call, a large hand snatched her phone and smashed it on the floor, shattering it.

Lauren looked up as a heavy slap struck her face, knocking her onto Elaine's bed. Her cheek burned, her ears ringing.

“You ungrateful brat! Still making a scene here! Do you want to ruin the Bennett family completely?” David roared, his eyes blazing like an enraged lion’s. He raised his hand **again**, as if to beat her senseless.

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Chapter 87 A Desperate Struggle

Lauren ignored the stinging pain on her face, her focus entirely on Elaine.

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Elaine, newly awake from a vegetative state, was frail. When Lauren’s body crashed into her, she fainted instantly.

“**Elaine!** Elaine!” Lauren’s voice shook as she called out tears streaming down her face.

“Elaine, wake up, please. Just hold on a little longer.”

Lauren thought to herself, if Elaine couldn’t pin the crime on Willow today, getting a confession later would be nearly impossible.

David, Alice, Elliot, Willow, even Lucas and Sharon, all seemed relieved that Elaine was unconscious.

Kenneth rushed over, shoving Lauren aside **and** calling anxiously, “Elaine, what’s wrong? Don’t scare me!”

But no matter how he pleaded, Elaine didn’t stir.

His heart ached as he glared at Lauren. This is your fault. If you **hadn’t** kept causing trouble, Elaine wouldn’t have fainted. If anything happens to her, I won’t let it go.”

He scooped up Elaine and snapped at Sharon and doctor, “What are you standing there for? Save my

sister!”

A flicker of satisfaction crossed Sharon's eyes as she hurriedly ushered the doctor and Kenneth out.

Lauren tried to follow, but David blocked her. "You troublemaker, get home now!"

With Willow's exposure imminent, everyone was obstructing her. A wave of dizziness hit Lauren, despair overwhelming her.

She threw her head back and laughed, the sound echoing through the room, tinged with misery and madness. "You've all wronged me, every one of you."

David, startled by her outburst, flared with anger. He kicked her to the ground, raising his fist to strike.

Madam Kate, **Anna**, and Marilyn rushed forward to restrain him. Having witnessed everything, Madam Kate understood Lauren's suffering and was heartbroken, appalled by the Bennett family's cruelty.

"What kind of parents are **you**? Neglecting your own daughter to protect a wicked—adopted child, have you no heart?"

"Old hag, my family affairs are none of your business. Get lost!" David shoved the three women aside.

He aimed his fist at Lauren again. Throughout, Alice, Elliot, and Lucas watched, none intervening.

As the punch neared, suddenly, a pig—**like** squeal erupted from David.

Lauren had seized a fruit knife and plunged it into his arm, the bloodied tip piercing through.

All her fury from five years of injustice, misunderstandings, pain, betrayal, burst forth.

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Chapter 87 A Desperate Struggle

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She yanked out the knife, blood spraying across her face. Like a demon unleashed, she lunged again, aiming for his heart.

Her eyes burned with lethal intent. Fear gripped David memories of her previous attempt flashing back. T his time, her resolve was even fiercer, chilling him to the core.

Shock and terror dilated his pupils, his legs heavy as lead. As the knife neared his heart , Alice shoved him aside. The blade sank into his shoulder instead.

His agonized scream filled the room..

Lauren pulled the knife free without hesitation. Her eyes held no mercy, only hatred, **as** she targeted his

stomach.

Terrified as ever, with the pain on the shoulder, David begged, “Lauric, I was wrong this time. Please don’t kill me!”

But Lauren was deaf to his pleas, her knife plunging forward. Each of the three stabs carried years of resentment, her gaze unyielding, she’d vowed to take his life.

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Chapter 88 A Family’s Betrayal

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Incontinent with fear. David turned and fled the room Three stab wounds convinced him that stopping meant death. He abandoned **his** wife **and** children, desperate to escape t his nightmare.

Lauren’s murderous gaze shifted to Willow.

Blood coated her, dripping from her arms and clothes, pooling on the floor. Her disheveled hair, matted with blood, clung to her pale, crazed face. She was a vengeful specter, radiating dread.

Willow's eyes widened in terror as Lauren **approached**, her lips trembling, unable to beg. With each step, Willow shrank back, as if to evade the tangible killing intent.

"Willow, aren't you good at pretending?" Lauren's voice was hoarse and icy, each word ground out. "For five years, I rotted in prison while you lived freely, stealing and enjoying **what** was mine. Today, you will pay it all back."

"Sis... Sister, don't.. don't kill me. I... I was wrong..." Willow's voice quaked, her eyes fixed on the knife, her face ashen, sweat mixing with smeared makeup.

Lauren's gaze remained frigid. "Wrong? When you framed me five years ago, did you think you were wrong? It's too late now!"

She raised the knife again, thrusting it toward Willow with unstoppable force.

Elliot, horrified, shouted and reached **to** stop her. "Lauren, enough! Murder **is a** crime,

Before he finished, the knife pierced his outstretched hand, blood gushing between his fingers. He screamed, his handsome face twisting in pain.

Lauren yanked the knife back, her focus still on Willow. In a panic, Willow shoved Alice forward herself.

Alice's eyes widened in disbelief, she never imagined her beloved daughter would do this.

The knife sank into her abdomen.

She stared at Lauren, then turned to Willow's terrified face.

to

shield

"Mom, I didn't mean to... I really **didn't**..." Willow cried, fleeing without hesitation, leaving Alice to collapse in a pool of blood.

Tears streamed from Alice's eyes, whether from the wound or Willow's betrayal, who could say?

Lauren dropped the knife, laughing maniacally, the sound mournful and desolate, “What devoted father, mother and brother you have, Willow, Madam Alice, how does it feel to be pushed out by your darling daughter to take the knife? Hahaha.” Lauren said.

Tears mingled with blood on her face **as sh**

laughed, looking like a corpse risen from the grave.

She pointed at herself. “I, your blood kin, did everything to please you, humbled myself to the dirt for your approval. But what did you do? You never saw my efforts. To you, I was always wrong, my sacrifices expected.”

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Chapter 88 A Family’s Betrayal

she still abandoned you. Isn’t that laughable?”

Elliot slumped nearby, his face contorted in pain, blood pooling at his feet.

Alice looked at Lauren with guilt. “Lauric...

Finished

Her voice was tender, as if Lauren were her cherished daughter. Lauren’s laughter stopped abruptly, **as** if a raw wound had been touched. “Don’t call me that!” she roared.

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The Heiress Revived from the Ashes

Chapter 89 A Leap into Despair.

Tears flowed silently, her heart a barren wasteland.

Finished

Lauren thought to herself, I know my attempted murders are unforgivable sins. They’d send me back to prison, just like five years ago. I really don’t want to endure that darkness again. Since my release, I’d tried to escape, to fight back, to expose the truth. I’d even tried to kill David and Willow, but *all* my efforts failed. I’m not e

vil, yet / **was** abandoned and scarred. The true villain lived happily, envied by all. Myfe was a cruel joke. Despite my misery, I still couldn't bring myself to kill Elliot and Alice, they'd shown me fleeting warmth once. I hate my own weakness. With my *life* in ruins and no attachments left, why not I just kill myself. Death ends the pain, the injustice, the need for vindication.

Lauren backed toward the window, climbing onto it without hesitation, her feet dangling. The wind tousled her **hair**. She thought, one jump, and it would all od

Madam Kate, Anna, and Marilyn watched in horror. Madam Kate spoke first, her voice trembling. "Dear, come down, it's dangerous."

Anna echoed, "Kid, there's no obstacle you can't overcome. Don't do something foolish."

Marilyn sobbed, "Ms. Bennett, whatever happens, I'll be with you. Please just come back down."

Lauren's madness softened, a gentle smile breaking through her tear-streaked face. She looked at Marilyn - earnestly. "Marilyn, meeting you was the luckiest thing in my life. Without you, I'd have died my first year

back with the Bennett family. You gave me a second chance."

Lauren continued to say, "Every time they bullied me, it was you who protected me, cared for me. You were my only warmth in that house. I dreamed of repaying you when I succeeded, buying you a big house, treating Mia like a sister, funding her education, sending her abroad for further studies..."

Her voice choked. "But all my dreams are shattered. My own parents and brother framed me, sent me to prison, ruined my chance at Northcrest University, left me broken. I'm useless now. I can't repay you

anymore."

Marilyn wept, recalling Lauren's mistreatment. "Ms. Bennett, everything will get better."

"It won't," Lauren **said**, shaking her head, despair in her eyes. "The **Bennett** family won't let me go. I don't want to go back **into** prison, the inmates in there beat me, and it hurts so much every day,"

Marilyn kept crying, even Madam Kate and Anna teared up.

Madam Kate thought, such a good child, tormented like this

Madam Kate

spoke softly, "Dear, if they don't want you, I do. Come with me, I'll protect you."

Lauren shook her head. She thought, / couldn't drag this kind woman into my mess.

Anna urged, "Child, hardships are temporary. It'll get better."

won't. *My leg is crippled for the rest of my life, my lost kidney can never grow back. My chance at Northcrest University, lost. My life, ruined,* Lauren thought.

Lauren looked at Madam Kate. "Grandma, thank you."

Then at Anna. Lauren thought, remembering how Anna'd shielded me at the train station. I'd called *her* "Mom"

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Chapter 89 A Leap into Despair

a weed. Yet I had a mother and lived worse than a weed.

Staring at Anna, she **said** sincerely, "**Mom**, thank you."

Finished

Lauren thought to herself, "Mom, a word I rarely used, heavy with true feeling. Eight years ago, *I'd* called Alice "Mom" with tearful hope. I'd cherished that hand-won mother but it was wishful thinking, my mother didn't want me. Since my release, I'd only called her "Madam Alice."

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The Heiress Revived from the Ashes!

Chapter 90 A Mother's Regret

That "Mom" brought tears to Anna's eyes.

Finished

Alice shuddered, mistaking Lauren's longing tone for a call to her. She stared, but Lauren didn't glance her

way.

Alice thought to herself, Lauric, I'm your mother. You'd her call a stranger "Mom" than me? *Do you* hate me that much? Realizin g she was losing Lauren's love, Alice's heart shattered, the pain worse than her stab wo und.

Lauren's tears fell. "I'm so tired of living. I don't want to go on."

Madam Kate stepped closer, her voice urgent. "Dear, don't be rash! If you jump, my heart will break. You're still young, days are long ahead, and th ere's **so** much beauty ahead."

Anna, desperate, said, "Kid, don't grieve for those who don't deserve it. I'll be your moth er, you'll be my daughter, okay?"

"Ms. Bennett, I'm begging you, please come down," Marilyn begged.

Lauren's eyes held despair and relief. "I know you all are kind, but I'm exhausted. The w orld's unfair to me. I've tried so hard, yet I can't escape the fate of being hurt."

Madam Kate gritted her teeth. "Dear, I promise you, if you come down, I won't let **anyo ne** harm you again. I'll surely help you get justice. Let those who hurt **you** be punished."

Lauren smiled sadly. "Justice? Where's justice in this world? They've ruined me, **even** if they're punished, my life won't come back."

"I can't repay your kindness in this life. I'm sorry..." Lauren closed her eyes and leaned back, falling like a broken kite...

"No!" Madam Kate, **Anna**, and Marilyn cried out.

At the last second, Lucas dashed forward, grabbing her waist and pulling her back. Laur en fainted **as** they surrounded her protectively.

Madam Kate, Anna, and Marilyn quickly surrounded Lauren and protected her tightly in the middle.

Lucas' hands trembled. It was as if he was afraid that if he let go, the person in his arms would disappear.

It was also at the moment when he hugged her that he clearly felt that she had already become skin and bones. She was almost weightless in his arms, as if she would break if she was bent slightly.

Lucas' heart was in a knot. Tears fell onto her blood-and-tear-streaked face **as** her desperate words echoed in his mind.

Elliot stood dazed, Lauren's leap etched in his mind, leaving him hollow as if his soul had been taken away.

Alice crawled toward her, sobbing, "Laurie, my daughter..." Her voice carried regret and pain.

Marilyn blocked her, eyes widened, anger burning like fire, blocked in front of Lauren. "Madam Alice, spare us your crocodile tears. Ms. Bennett's suffering is your family's doing. You're not qualified to call her daughter, you don't deserve it. None of you deserve it. Get away! Don't touch Ms. Bennett **Marilyn** said **as**

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Chapter 90 A Mother's Regret

Alice collapsed, tears streaming.

Then, footsteps approached outside the room.

Finished

Willow and **Sharon** burst into the room with police. Willow **pointed** at Lauren. "Officers, that's her who tried to kill us. Quickly arrest her!"

Once Lauren's back in prison. I'll ensure Elaine dies before she can speak. No one will threaten me then, Willow thought, malice gleaming in her **eyes**.

Sharon glared at Lauren, wishing her dead.

Sharon thought to herself, this brat dared to stab Willow seems like the inmates last time in prison were too lenient, she won't leave alive this time.

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