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Chapter 531

Heartbroken, Johanna turned off the player and looked at Lila. She shook her head and said, "I never imagined that I would raise such a cruel, heartless human being."

What had happened previously came to Beal's mind. He said seriously, "I warned you once before, Lila. You knew full well that there was something wrong with the parachute but you purposely did not tell Janet about that. It is clear that you actually wanted to watch her fall to her untimely death. And now, this? You pushed her to a moving vehicle? This is just atrocious!"

Johanna really couldn't make head or tail of it. How could her daughter, who had been carefully and lovingly raised by her, become such a venomous person? "You cried so bitterly when our cat passed away, yet now, you are more than willing to kill your sister with your own hands?!"

Lila was still kneeling on the ground, crying piteously. She tried her best to defend herself. "I was just envious of her. You've never even looked at me since she came into this family. She had stolen all your love for me. I did it purely out of jealousy!"

Beal had already heard enough of Lila's excuses. He couldn't bear to hear another pathetic excuse ever again. He said in a stern tone, "Don't make any more excuses. Lila, I have warned you before."

Johanna didn't believe Lila's words for a second. She was wholly disappointed in her. She was crestfallen. "Had I known about your ways earlier, I would never have kept you as part of the White family. My original intention was to keep our family together, but it seems that such an attempt will just be futile and will never actually happen."

Johanna had underestimated the intensity of evil in human nature. She had thought that everything could go back to being the same way it had been before if she handled the situation well.

But things went completely contrary to her wishes. Ethan was right. Human beings were capable of insatiable greed. Some people would just never be satisfied.

She had been a mother to Lila for over two decades, but regardless of how deep her love was, she could never bare the fact that Lila had tried to kill her biological daughter on two occasions. She could not keep Lila any longer.

"No, Dad, Mom, please don't abandon me! This time, I really understand how wrong I was!" Lila was in a state of complete and utter panic. She didn't know why she had done such a dumb thing, especially after Beal had specifically warned her prior to that.

Beal shook his head, with no emotion in his eyes. "I said last time that I wouldn't allow such a thing to happen again, and yet you have repeated it again. This time, you even attempted to kill Janet with your own two hands. The White family can't keep you here any longer. You'd better go back to your biological parents."

"No, no, Dad, Mom, I don't want to go back. I don't want to be separated from you!" Hearing this, Lila almost broke down. She cried pathetically, "Dad, Mom, don't drive me away!"

Beal and Johanna both sighed with indifferent expressions on their faces.

Lila immediately crawled to Janet and began begging desperately. "I'm sorry, Janet. Please forgive me for the last time..."

She couldn't leave the White family. If she left, she would lose absolutely everything and be reduced to zilch.

Chapter 532

Janet felt absolutely nothing when she looked at Lila's bloodshot, tear-filled eyes.

She actually just felt like Lila was wildly ridiculous and like a clown putting on a show at the circus in that moment.

"You wanted to take my life from me. I will not exact the revenge I deserve against you, purely for the sake of my mother and father. It is impossible for me to forgive you. You'd better pack up your things and leave immediately." The look on Janet's face was icy cold.

When she had finished speaking, her eyes fell on Ethan's injured knee. She felt a lump in her throat come up again.

Ethan was injured because of her. How could she ever forgive Lila?

If it weren't for Beal and Johanna's presence, she really wanted to give Lila a hard slap on the face. She also wanted to drag Lila down the street and make her taste how it felt to almost be hit by a car.

Ignoring Lila's hypocritical plea, Ethan bypassed her and gently supported Janet. "Let me help you back to your room. You have sprained your ankle. You can't go to work today."

Then he turned to Beal and Johanna and said, "Mr. and Mrs. White, I will take Janet to her room now."

Seeing that Janet's ankle was red and swollen, Ethan carried her in his arms and went upstairs.

Beal and Johanna sat on the couch with morose looks on their faces. Lila was still crying on the floor.

Johanna had creases between her eyebrows. It seemed like the ordeal had aged her several years in an instant.

Lila's bawling became more and more pathetic. After a long time, Johanna looked up at Beal and said irritably, "Honey, give Lila her birth parents' personal information and current address. We have to deal with this."

Beal didn't object. He adjusted his glasses and looked at Lila with gravely. "Lila, I'll inform your parents in advance that you will be returning. You can pack up your things and go to them. Take away all your belongings now."

He paused for a few seconds and glanced at Johanna. Then he continued, "We will also give you some money so that you can live on with your life."

"No, Dad, Mom, I don't want..." Lila wiped her tears away. Her eyes had begun to sting. She collapsed on the carpet and refused to leave.

Leaving the family would mean that she would no longer be a White family member. All she had, the extravagant, rich life, the money, and the social status, would all fall away.

She couldn't accept it!

Lila refused to move and continued to cry her eyes out.

Beal sighed heavily. "I know it will be hard for you to take this. We will give you three days to pack up everything. But we don't want to see you around here after that."

Johanna was afraid that she would soften if she stayed at this piteous scene. She gathered her coat up and got to her feet. She instructed a nearby servant who was busy cleaning, "Go to Lila's room and pack up her things for her. If there is just too much jewelry and clothing to pack, call the moving company. There's no need to prepare lunch. We will be eating out."

Hearing what Johanna said, Lila became more distressed than ever. She stood up and rushed to Johanna. She held her leg and said, "Mom, I don't want to be separated from you. I have never left your side since the day I was born. You can't do this to me!"

Johanna pursed her lips. She squatted down and wiped the tears off Lila's face with her fingers. Her voice was as gentle and kind as it had been when Lila was a child, but there was only coldness in her eyes. "Lila, don't embarrass yourself anymore. You used to be the daughter of the White family. You should keep your dignity when you leave. There are consequences that you must bear for your decisions. You can't stay a child forever."

When Lila heard her words, she was utterly flummoxed for a while. She was so out of it that she didn't know when but Johanna and Beal had left. She watched their receding figures, covered her face and burst into a fresh onslaught of tears.

Chapter 533

Janet's sprained ankle had swollen up. Ethan got to his feet to get the pain relieving cream for her. He carefully applied it to her ankle and gently rubbed it for a while.

After that, he left to fetch some ice cubes for her.

Since Ethan carried her back to the room, she had kept her eyes down and hadn't uttered a word.

After all the panic and anxiety had dissipated, she suddenly remembered that she was supposed to be angry with Ethan.

She stared blankly at the bedsheet, at an utter loss.

She was mortified that she had allowed herself to cry in such an unrestrained way in his arms earlier.

Ethan hadn't said a word either. He had been busy attending to her and taking care of her from the moment that they had got to the room.

The atmosphere between the two was a little awkward.

In the end, it was Ethan who decided to break the silence. He simply treated the wounds on his knees and legs and sat beside Janet on the bed. With a gentle expression, he asked, "Is there any other injury on your body?"

Janet thought that if she spoke now, he would think that she had forgiven him. She raised her head, stared into his eyes and shook her head. She was as stubborn as a bull, and didn't say anything.

Looking at her expression, Ethan couldn't help but smile.

"It was my fault. I shouldn't have jumped to any conclusion before I found out the facts of the matter," he said slowly with a serious expression.

With a snort, Janet turned her head away.

"You can snap at me. I just don't want you to keep how you feel all to yourself," Ethan said and affectionately pinched her cheek.

Although she still didn't look happy, he knew her very well.

Based on his experience with her, if she had that look on her face, it was most probable that she wasn't actually angry anymore.

It was the cue that he had to say and do whatever more it took to gain her forgiveness.

"By the way, are you going to let go of Lila just like that?" He purposely changed the topic.

He had given it due thought and he felt that what Lila had done was wrong. He didn't want to let the person who had attempted to kill his wife go so easily and flout the consequences of their daring actions.

When she thought of this, Janet couldn't help but get furious. She said with a sigh, "I am furious beyond words! I have to let her off scot-free once again!"

Last time, Lila had deliberately concealed the fact that there was something wrong with the parachute, and Janet almost died because of it. She hadn't even had a chance to mete out revenge against Lila yet, and now, the woman had tried to kill her again.

"You know that sometimes you don't have to put your parents' feelings before yours, right?" Ethan squatted down on the ground and carefully grasped her ankle between his palms. He continued to rub it slowly and asked, "How do you want her to be punished?"

The implication underlying his words was that he could assist in punishing Lila.

Her ankle hurt so badly that Janet took a deep, steadying breath. "Oh, I was just kidding. I didn't want to upset Mom and Dad. Besides, Lila has been kicked out of the family. That was a lesson enough for her."

She was telling the truth. She had witnessed what Ethan was capable of back in Seacisco.

"I didn't intend on letting her go," Ethan said and sighed slightly. "But since you insist, fine."

He really wanted to teach Lila a lesson, but since Janet had decided to let her go, his hands were tied.

With a sweet smile, Janet lowered her head and pinched Ethan's cheek. "Good boy."

With a smile, Ethan slowed down his movement and asked, "Have you forgiven me now?"

Janet was surprised. She let go of his face and snorted. "No!"

Ethan stood up and bent over to kiss her on the cheek. "What about now?" he asked in a low voice.

He slowly moved down her body, kissing her on the lips and then her neck.

He nimbly unbuttoned her shirt and put his fingertips up her skirt.

Janet had a bad feeling. She wanted to resist, but Ethan had already pressed down on her. He held her legs between his and his hands slipped into her panties. It was already wet down there.

"Ethan... I haven't forgiven you yet..." Suddenly, Janet's face turned bright crimson. It was as if she had gotten an electric shock. She could feel herself wet down there.

Ethan slowly took off his suit and tie, his eyes glowing with desire.

Her cheeks turned even deeper red. She had to admit that, in this moment, Ethan was irresistibly attractive to her.

She blushed and pushed him away gently. "My ankle..."

Ethan had already undone his belt and pushed open her legs. "I'll be very careful. I won't touch that part of you at all."

Chapter 534

Ethan took hold of Janet's hand and led it downwards.

His penis was already hard as rock and pulsating with heat.

Although Janet had slept with Ethan many times, she couldn't help but marvel at his size every single time.

She firmly but gently gripped his throbbing, hot penis in her hand.

Ethan was busy sucking on her nipple and was caught off guard. He frowned slightly and his eyes were full of fiery lust. He let out a muffled groan as his Adam's apple rolled.

"Move your hand up and down," Ethan said as he held Janet's hand, guiding her.

His whole face was buried in her chest. As Janet's palms rubbed against his penis, he moaned even louder.

Ethan stretched out his fingers and slipped them under her dress. His fingertips rubbed against her labia through the thin material of her panties. It was only when her underwear became wet that he lifted her legs, slipped off her dress and cast it aside under the bed, together with her underwear.

Janet moaned. She was very sensitive today. She tilted her hips towards him lustfully as she moaned.

Ethan raised his hand before her so she could see the watery liquid on his fingertips. "You got wet pretty quickly, honey."

He held her chin and stick his tongue in her mouth in a passionate kiss.

Janet responded to his kiss shyly and clamped her legs.

Ethan nibbled her collarbone, chest, navel, and finally the secret garden between her legs. He could see clearly how wet she had become.

When her fingers reached into Ethan's hair, Janet looked up at the ceiling and panted. She could clearly feel the tip of Ethan's tongue sucking and stirring down there, and the constant hot air from his breath gently caressed her thighs, which made her tremble all over.

Ethan rubbed his hard penis against Janet's labia, before he thrust deep into her.

Janet bit her lower lip and moaned.

Ethan paused for two seconds, put her legs on his shoulders, and slowly pushed his entire length into her.

"Hmm... Honey..." Suddenly, Janet felt a swelling pain in her lower abdomen. She raised her head and gasped.

The pain was gradually replaced by the thrill.

Sweat dripped from Ethan's nose, and his muscles was clearly visible under the light. The fierce collision of their bodies aggravated the sweat to slide down his back.

After making love in this position for a while, Ethan picked Janet up and let her sit on his lap.

Janet's cheeks turned red. She kept groaning.

This new posture made them even closer. His penis seemed to be getting even bigger and harder inside her.

"Do you know how to do this?" Ethan sat up, wrapped his arms around her waist, bowed his back and sucked on her nipple.

Ethan growled in a hoarse voice as Janet started moving her hips on him.

It seemed that she was gifted. She was tight which made Ethan feel very comfortable. He moved his kiss up and bit Janet's collarbone and neck. "Baby..."

The sun rays fell on the windowsill as the two were making love. The sex didn't stop until the sun had set and the moon slowly rose...

Chapter 535

The servant packed up Lila's bags, who still refused to leave, and even went out of her way to force the servant to put her things back.

She couldn't possibly leave like this.

She had to fight for her right to be here. It was beneath her to live a poor life.

After mulling it in her head for a while, Lila decided to have a talk with both Johanna and Janet. As long as the two of them agreed to it, she still had one last chance to stay in the Whites' household. She really would do anything to stay here.

When the second day came around, Lila waited outside the door of Janet's room early in the morning.

It was actually Ethan who opened the door, helping Janet out of her room.

With Ethan around, Lila didn't dare to do anything rash. Her plan was to plead to Janet when she was alone. She didn't think at first that Ethan would be around her twenty-four hours a day.

However, after they left the house, they didn't come back. The Whites also hadn't returned since they went out yesterday. Lila had no idea where to find them.

Lila stayed in the Whites' house for three whole days, then, the newspaper reported that the White family had announced that they had severed all ties with her. She would from now on take her birth father's last name, which was Gillian. From this point on, she was no long a White.

Lila White was now Lila Gillian.

It was not until Lila finished reading the newspaper article that she recovered her senses. Both Beal and Johanna had seen through her thoughts from the very beginning. Now that this was indeed decided, there was nothing she could do to change it.

The announcement in the newspaper clearly reported that she was no longer the adopted daughter of the White family. She had no ties with the White family now.

Lila was very much heartbroken. She left the White family with her luggage and headed straight to the Torres family's house.

Now, the only person she could rely on was Eric.

When Eric opened the door and saw Lila show up at his doorstep, he glanced over at his wife and son inside the house and asked with a very unnatural expression on his face, "What are you doing here, Lila? Didn't I tell you to never come to my house?"

Lila burst into tears and said, "Did you hear? I was just kicked out of the White family. Eric, I have no idea where to go now. You said you would marry me. Let's speed things along, all right?"

This trick happened to work best before. Whenever she cried, Eric would never be able to deny her anything.

Lila thought that she was very young and beautiful. If Eric could divorce his wife and marry her now, it would be a good way for her to escape the life of struggling in poverty.

Right then, she saw that Eric had a sneer on his face.

He had already found out that the White family had broken off their relationship with Lila, so he didn't want to continue deceiving her anymore. "You should head back to your birth parents. Just so you know, I won't marry you, Lila. Do you actually think you deserve to be my wife now that you have no title or money?"

He went on to say lazily, "If you're still interested in being my mistress, we can keep it up. If not, I won't force you to do anything. Head back and think it over carefully. And don't come here again. If my

pregnant wife sees you, I won't let you get away with this."

It was not until then that Lila found out what kind of person Eric truly was. She was so angry that she snapped at him right on the spot, "Who wants to be your mistress? You're an absolute jerk, Eric!"

Eric ignored her words, slammed the door, and shut her out.

Lila was both angry and regretful at once. With tears in her eyes, she turned around and left.

It was obvious that she and Eric were no more.

But when she was halfway back, she began to regret it in her heart. She shouldn't have made such a huge scene and left herself no way to turn back.

Even if she kept on being Eric's mistress, it would be much better than going back to the Gillians with her tail between her legs.

She had never visited the Gillians before, but she had heard word that they weren't very rich.

Lila was in total despair right then.

She found herself in a dilemma.

The White family had made up their mind to cut ties with her. There was no way she could shamelessly turn to beg them again.

Lila really had nowhere to go. After walking around the streets for a long while, she took a cab to her birth parents' residence unwillingly according to the address Beal had given her.

Chapter 536

"Sir, take me right over here." Lila showed the taxi driver the address on her phone.

"Oh, that looks like a distant neighborhood." The driver spoke the Barnes dialect fluently, and when he saw the address, he was obviously grossed out.

Lila was accustomed to living in the rich area and had never left downtown. She knew nothing about this address and as she furrowed her brows, she asked, "Really?"

"That neighborhood happens to be both poor and messy. I know for a fact that the people living there are all poor families and hooligans. Why would you ever want to go there?" The driver glanced over at Lila. She was dressed from head to toe in elegant attire and didn't look like someone who would live in such a bad neighborhood at all.

With a dry smile on her face, Lila told him, "I don't think that's any of your business. Just take me there."

The Gillian family's house was far away from the downtown area. The driver drove the cab into a dilapidated neighborhood.

As soon as Lila got out of the car, she could make out a broken and small apartment building, which looked really like the haunted houses in those horror movies. The walls looked very shabby and yellow unknown liquid was all over the mottled walls. In the corridors were piles of garbage that looked like it had been there for a very long time.

With her hand covering her mouth, Lila's heart sank in her chest.

She wanted to burst into tears, but she couldn't right then. She could only hold back the feeling of nausea and find the apartment unit where her parents lived.

After that, she knocked on the rusty iron door.

"Who is it?" A man shouted irritably from inside the apartment and the door was opened with a loud squeak.

A man with stubble on his chin and a big mole on the corner of his mouth poked his head out. He stank like an alcoholic. "Who the hell are you?"

Lila was frightened by this man and she proceeded to take two steps back. She hesitated and said, "I... I'm looking for Glenn and Eva Gillian."

Beal had told Lila that these were the names of her biological parents.

Glenn looked at her up and down, and suddenly, it seemed like he had come to his senses. Then he shouted excitedly at the woman in the room, "Honey, our daughter is home!"

A middle-aged woman ran out of the kitchen right away. The floor was shaking slightly when she was running out.

Her voice was rough and with a strong local accent, she said, "Lila? Is that my Lila?"

At the sight of Lila, the middle-aged woman embraced her daughter excitedly, "It's so good to have you back."

Glenn and Eva had both learned from Beal that Lila was going to come back.

They had originally planned to let their daughter enjoy a lifetime of glory and wealth in the White family. Now that Lila had been kicked out of the Whites' house, they were both disappointed but at the same time happy that she was now coming home to them.

Lila looked at them disgustedly. When she smelled the pungent and strange smell on Eva, she wrinkled her nose and pushed the woman who was her mother away.

"What's that smell?"

She wasn't happy at all since she walked into the room. This house was both dirty and shabby. Also, the whole apartment wasn't even as big as her bedroom in the White family residence. Obviously, they were very poor folks.

She had heard from Beal that her biological father, Glenn, was an owner of a small business. At first, Lila thought that he would at least have some money. However, it turned out he was only an alcoholic and untidy man.

As for her biological mother, Eva, she was totally a country bumpkin. They were no match to the likes of her adoptive parents Beal and Johanna.

Lila was growing desperate. She could hardly believe that she had been born from such a woman.

Eva wiped the sweat off her forehead and neck awkwardly and bowed her head down in shame. "I just came out of the kitchen and haven't had the chance to take a shower yet. I shouldn't have grabbed you like that. I was too excited just now."

She looked at Lila carefully, with moist eyes. "You look exactly the same as me when I was younger."

After hearing this, Lila became angrier and cursed in her heart. Was this fat bitch trying to humiliate her?

Tears of joy began to well up in Eva's eyes. She nervously wiped her sweating palms on the apron and said, "Since Lila is home now, let's go ahead and have dinner now."

Glenn scolded her, "Our son has yet to return."

As soon as he finished saying that, the door was opened from the outside with a key.

A young man, who had his hair dyed red, walked inside from the door. He glanced over at Lila, shrugged his shoulders, and said in a rather frivolous manner with chewing gum still in his mouth, "Are you my sister?"

He turned to look at Lila's Hermes bag and asked her, "Is that bag real? It's not a fake, is it?"

Lila really wanted to roll her eyes.

The young man before her was just some punk. The Gillian family was so poor, but he was wearing all brand-name items. He must be very spoiled. And what was with that arrogant attitude of his?

Lila was about to go crazy. Everything in this house was an eyesore.

Chapter 537

"Your sister used to live with the White family. How could she own a fake bag? Anyway, you came home just in time for dinner. Come and sit down." Eva waved gestured her children to come in with a smile.

Irritation flashed in Lila's eyes and she walked to the dining table reluctantly.

The house was so small that the living area and kitchen were pretty much one room and there was barely enough space for the four of them. As if the cramped feeling wasn't enough, the place was filthy, too. A few flies hovered over the food.

Eva scooped some gunk into a bowl and put it in front of Lila. "Eat it while it's hot. I didn't know you'd be here for dinner, so I didn't buy any other ingredients beforehand."

Lila was used to a life of luxury. She only ever had food made with imported fresh ingredients. Her taste buds were accustomed to food from high-end restaurants and their home chefs. She had never seen "peasant" food such as the bowl of gunk in front of her.

But since she was already here, she had no choice but to eat it. However, the second she put the spoon in her mouth, she felt like vomiting.

The disgusting-looking dishes coupled with the overall stench of the home made her lose her appetite. She sulkily pushed the bowl away and pouted.

That evening, after tidying up the house, Eva approached Lila with an embarrassed smile. "We only have two bedrooms; one for me and your dad and the other is for your brother Jeff. You'll have to make do in the living room, is that okay?"

Lila looked at her in a daze, not knowing what to say.

Well, there was nothing she could say.

She couldn't stay in Glenn and Eva's room because they smelled terrible. On the other hand, Jeff's room was just filthy.

As for the living room... Lila glanced at the piles of garbage. This whole place was like a trash bin.

Eva wanted her to sleep in here? What was the difference between sleeping here and on the street?

The more Lila looked around, the more disgusted she felt with this family. She didn't want to live here at all. When she left the White family, Johanna had given her a generous amount of money. As long as she didn't squander it, it would be enough for her to live a carefree life for a couple of years.

Thinking of this, Lila put on a fake smile. "Don't worry. I'll stay in a hotel."

As she spoke, she quickly grabbed her luggage and headed for the door.

"That's really not necessary!" Eva hurriedly stopped her. "Our house might not be as nice as the Whites', but we can make do..."

Lila couldn't stand being inside this house a second longer, so without replying, she turned around and left with a sneer.

A few days later, Lila was lying peacefully in a luxurious bathtub in her hotel room with rose petals floating around her. She stretched her arms and yawned, picked up a glass of red wine on the side, and sipped it carefully.

These days, she had been staying in the hotel. She hadn't felt so relaxed in so long. This was the kind of life for her.

However, her moment of peace was interrupted by the shrill ringtone of the mobile phone.

"Hello?" she asked irritably. "Who's this?"

"When're you coming back, Lila?" Eva asked in an anxious voice. She had called Lila many times in the past few days. "Your brother told me that the hotel you're staying in is very expensive. Why don't you just come back and stay at home with your family?"

Eva seemed to have been born with a loud voice, so as she spoke into the receiver, Lila felt as though she was about to go deaf.

Before Lila could say anything, she heard Jeff shouting in the background, "She could've spent that money buying me new clothes! How could she just burn the money and stay in a five-star hotel alone for so long?"

Lila rolled her eyes impatiently.

The more she learned about the Gillian family, the more disgusted she was with them.

Glenn was an alcoholic who always skipped work while Eva was a dirty-mouthed shrew.

Jeff was the worst of them. Her younger brother was a jobless punk who still lived with his parents even though he was in his 20s. Worse yet, he always demanded money from his parents and would make a scene if he couldn't get any.

"I don't want to go back. The money is mine. I can do whatever I want with it. It's none of your business," Lila hissed into the receiver.

Judging from the many phone calls from Eva, she could tell that her parents didn't love her. They had always wanted a son, not a daughter. So obviously they only loved Jeff.

Chapter 538

"Why are you angry? Lila, I'm aware that our family isn't rich nor powerful. Is that why you look down upon us?" Eva asked loudly over the phone.

She spoke in a blunt and impolite manner.

"I just want you to leave me alone," Lila replied, holding back her anger.

In all honesty, she'd rather not admit that these people were her family, but they were all she had.

She had lived under the White family's protection for over two decades, so she didn't have much social experience. Sadly, her ties to the White family as their daughter were now gone. Though it pained her to admit this, she didn't have the courage to live all alone. At the very least, she hated the very idea of feeling alone. That was why she didn't cut ties with the Gillians even though she really hated them.

"Don't you know who gave you all these? If I hadn't replaced the White family's daughter with you back in the hospital, you wouldn't have lived such a wealthy life for decades!" Eva cursed. "If it weren't for me, none of that would've happened!"

Her words served to infuriate Lila. She immediately ended the phone call and exclaimed, "What a crazy bitch!"

The phone call completely ruined her good mood.

After getting out of the bath tub, Lila lay on the bed, uncertain of what to do next.

She couldn't live like this forever. The White family had indeed given her lots of money, but no matter how much money she had, she'd use them all up someday. It was clear to her that with her current lifestyle, she'd burn through all her money up sooner or later.

"I have to find a job." She got up from the bed, determined to go through with her decision.

Truthfully, she didn't like to work, but she couldn't just sit there and do nothing.

Without the White family's support, she had neither background nor resources. She thought about her situation carefully. She was already in her twenties, but she didn't have any savings to support herself and she didn't even have something she could call her strength.

Even when she was in the White Group before, she seldom did any real job. All she did was chat with the other employees or play video games inside her office. Because she was the daughter of the White family, nobody was bold enough to speak ill of her.

But now, she had lost her identity as the White family's daughter. Nobody would even want her for an interview. Aside from that, the Whites bought her diploma for her because she didn't study one day back when she was in college.

The more she thought about her situation, the more it annoyed her. Thereafter, she rolled on the bed and sighed.

"Forget it! I still have some money left. I'll just enjoy myself for a little while longer before I think of how to make some more money," she muttered to herself.

After the phone call, Jeff stood up from the sofa and asked, "What did she say? Is she coming home?"

"She said that the money was hers and told us to leave her alone," Eva replied impatiently. "She's staying at an expensive hotel. Doesn't she have any idea how we're doing here?"

Jeff scratched his sunken cheek and grunted, "Since she doesn't want to come home, I'll move there. Mom, call her and ask her to get me a room, too."

Hesitantly, Eva replied, "She's not easy to get along with. She doesn't even listen to me, for God's sake! Just drop it. As long as she can take care of herself."

Jeff pursed his lips, sat back down on the sofa, and rubbed his chin while contemplating.

His sister must be very rich. He had heard that the White family was very rich. Even though Lila didn't tell them how much money she had, he believed that the Whites had given her tons of money before kicking her out.

In addition to that, he had been following Lila around these past few days. She was staying at a five- star hotel, eating at high-end restaurants, and shopping like crazy in luxury brand stores.

Jeff felt envious. What a selfish bitch! She had so much money, and yet she didn't want to give them a single penny.

He rolled his eyes and shouted at Eva while the latter was cooking in the kitchen, "Mom, I'm going out to eat with my friend. Don't wait up."

Eva didn't stop him. She had only this one son and she had always spoiled him.

By the time Jeff got home, it was already midnight.

Upon hearing the noise coming from the front door, Evan got up and turned on the light to get a good look at him. "Why didn't you even call to let us know that you'd be coming home this late?" she complained.

The smells of cigarettes and alcohol were apparent on Jeff, and his eyes were bloodshot. He didn't act as arrogantly as before, and panic could be seen on his face. He grabbed his hair and desperately

stammered, "M-mom, what should I do?"

The look on his face frightened Eva. She embraced him and asked, "What happened, honey?"

Jeff looked up at her and spoke in a choked voice. "I... I owe a huge debt of one million, and I have to pay it right away. The creditors said that if I can't pay them back in three days, they'll kill me!"

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Eva was so shocked that she felt as if a bolt of lightning had flown out of the heavens and hit her squarely in the chest.

One million? They couldn't afford so much money!

"You bastard! Did you gamble at the casino again?" Glenn had also heard these words. He came out of the room with a pipe in his hand. His face turned scarlet with fury. He landed two hard blows to Jeff's head and said, "You bastard! How could I raise such a failure like you?"

Eva rushed to Jeff to protect him. "Why hit him so hard? We only have one son!"

Glenn clenched the pipe in his hand and said, "Well, now that he has landed himself in such serious debt, what are we going to do?"

Eva wiped her tears away and complained, "You like drinking and gambling yourself. You are no better than him!"

"The point is that we don't have so much money now. You two might as well take my life to pay them!" Glenn was exasperated and his face darkened.

One million was indeed a huge sum of money for them.

Holding Eva desperately, Jeff said, "Mom, we can go to Lila! She definitely has the money!"

Lila was busy playing games quite late that night, when she received a call from the hotel receptionist informing her that her parents and her brother were making a scene in the hotel lobby.

Initially, Lila didn't even want to give them any thought or consideration, but in the end, she decided to go downstairs. She didn't want to be embarrassed by them.

As soon as Eva saw Lila, she fell to her knees before her with Jeff.

"Lila, your brother gambled away a huge sum of money and now he owes the creditor one million. Can you give us some money to pay them? We will pay you back when your father's shop starts to make a profit!" Eva pleaded, cutting to the chase.

Lila's first reaction was to turn around and run away from this mortifying situation.

It was so humiliating. She wanted to dig a hole to bury herself in it.

She had no desire to give them even one penny. The money she received from the White family was for her to live her life.

Lila had never cared about this so-call brother of hers after all. His life or death had nothing to do with her.

"Lila, please! Jeff is your brother!" Glenn sighed and almost knelt down to beg her as well.

Fortunately, it was very late at night and there were very few guests in the reception area. Lila glanced around and found that all the hotel staff were staring at her expectantly, waiting to see what she would say.

Lila was so frustrated that she had no choice but to agree. "I will only help you this one time. And you have to pay me my money back!"

The White family had given her a total amount of three million dollars. After these days she had spent at the hotel, she had roughly two million dollars left. If she gave Jeff one million to pay the debts, she would still have one million for herself.

After weighing the pros and cons, Lila wrote a check and handed it to Jeff. She hoped the money could drive them away forever and she could be free of them.

Now that he had the money in his hand, Jeff stopped crying immediately and even burst into laughter. At last, he left happily with his parents.

Lila had thought it was over.

But a few days later, Jeff came to her again with Eva.

"Interest has accrued, the debt collector said we need to pay him more money than just the principal sum of one million." Jeff knelt down in front of Lila pitifully.

He didn't seem to find begging on his knees humiliating or degrading in the least bit.

In fact, he didn't owe any debts at all. He had taken one million and spent it on sleeping with hookers and on purchasing himself a few luxury items. In a matter of just a few days, he had spent all the money Lila had given him. He knew that Lila still had money, so he had even hired some friends to play debt collectors and come and threaten them at home.

As a result, Glenn and Eva were so scared that they didn't dare to go out at all. Under the persuasion of Jeff, they came to borrow money from Lila again.

"No way! You haven't paid me back the one million you have borrowed yet!" Lila was so livid that she wanted to curse.

She felt that she was really unlucky. Why did she have such a brother and parents? They were like a gum stuck on the bottom of her shoe that she couldn't get rid of at all.

Eva loved her son so much that she would even die for him. "Are you going to lend us money or not? Lila, if they kill Jeff, I won't be able to go on living. How pathetic is my state! My daughter doesn't care about me or her brother at all!"

As she rushed to the pillar of the hotel, Eva shouted, "I might as well die!"

Lila was startled by her. She had never met someone like Eva before, so she had to compromise. "Fine! I will give you the money! Stop making a scene here!"

She gritted her teeth and wrote him a check for another million.

Now she didn't have much money left. Plus, she had been staying in the presidential suite of the hotel for the entire month. The cost was very high, so she couldn't stay here anymore.

She had to go back to the Gillian family's shabby apartment.

It was a good news for Jeff, because he didn't have to go to the hotel to ask Lila for money anymore.

"You need more money? I have given you two million dollars! Isn't it enough to pay off your debts?" Lila was impatient. She really had no money left now.

"How would I know? The creditor said I owe him three million dollars in total. Lila, write me another check. I need to pay him as soon as possible!" Jeff said.

Chapter 540

"You're making it look like I owe you money! Now you're even asking me to lend you some more?" Lila was completely dumbfounded. "You've taken all my money. I have nothing left. Go to someone else!"

She was telling the truth. She didn't have a penny to her name.

"I don't believe you!" Jeff shot back.

He raised his head and shouted at Eva, who was in her room, "Mom, Lila claims to have no money! She just wants us to be killed by the debt collectors!"

Hearing this, Eva and Glenn rushed out of the room at once.

"You told her?" Eva hissed through gritted teeth. Then, she put on a flattering smile and turned to Lila. "Could you just lend Jeff some money? We're all family anyway, right? You can't possibly just watch your brother suffer." These people were driving Lila nuts. She shouted hysterically, "But I really have no money!"

Eva paused for a few seconds and then said, "Ask the Whites for some money then. We have to deal with the debt collectors."

"Why should I help him? He's the one in debt, not me!" Lila sneered. Eva was obviously partial to her son.

Eva frowned unhappily. She clicked her tongue and said, "What're you talking about? We're a family. We share everything, including our troubles."

They shared troubles? It was obvious that Lila alone had shouldered all the troubles.

"I can't go to the Whites. I've cut ties with them." Lila felt too ashamed to go to her former family.

"If Jeff can't pay off his debt, the debt collectors will never leave us alone! Our lives are in your hands now, Lila! You have to fix this!" Eva was done playing nice with Lila.

"You... You—!" Lila was speechless. These people were crazy!

In the end, Lila had no choice but to come crawling back to the White family.

After explaining her plight to Johanna and Beal, they gave her three million for the sake of their history.

Lila returned home and begrudgingly handed the check to Jeff. "This is the last time I'm helping you!"

Jeff took the check and thanked her with a smile.

But things didn't end there.

Not long after Jeff left with the money, he returned home without a penny left. He knelt down in front of Lila and burst into tears.

Worse yet, he had never paid off his so-called debt.

Every day, the creditors would come to threaten them, splashing red paint on their door and walls. Eva couldn't fight them, so she had no choice but to force Lila to ask the Whites for money again.

"Lila! Aren't you going to do something about this?" Holding the gas can, Eva pulled Jeff and Glenn close to her and said pitifully, "The three of us will die here today, lest you help us!"

They were threatening her with their lives.

"Stop it. I'll go to the Whites, okay?" Lila was already a little numb from all this lunacy.

She had been living with the Gillian family for less than two months and she was already on the verge of losing it.

"Lila, why have you keep coming back to us for money? Every single time, you would say it's the last. What do you take us for? Your personal ATM machine?" Livid, Johanna smashed a teacup at her feet and roared, "Get out! We won't give you a single penny!"

Lila bit her lip so hard that it bled. She had never seen Johanna so angry before. Clearly, she was sick and tired of her.

She ran out of the house crying.

Jeff had been waiting for her at the gate of the Whites' house.

When he saw her come out, he approached her excitedly. "Give me the money first!"

Lila glared at him and yelled, "What money? There is no money! The Whites refused to give me a penny. Figure something out yourself! If you dare to force me again, then let's just die together!"

Jeff had been living in luxury these days and refused to go back to his old poor life.

Seeing that Lila didn't get any money, he came up with a bold idea. "You have a sister named Janet, right?"

He thought since it was so easy to control Lila, it wouldn't be hard to control her sister.

"Let's find a way to get nude photos of her. We can blackmail her with the lewd photos until she gives us money. What do you think?"

Without Lila, there was no way Jeff could get in touch with Janet. Therefore, he had no choice but to include this stupid woman in his plans.

The anger in Lila's eyes dimmed somewhat. She looked around to see if there was anyone else listening and then said in a low voice, "What do you want me to do?"

Jeff was a little taken aback. He had thought that he would have to force her to do what he said. He didn't expect that she'd agree so readily.