

The Return 51

Chapter 51

“What the hell is going on? Did you break up with Roxy?”

Bruce let out a sigh of relief and made no reply.

In an instant. Ingrid knew she had guessed correctly. She immediately started creating a scene, crying out, “How can you do such a horrible thing to Roxy? If anything happens to her, I’m going to hang myself at the doorstep of Everett Corporation! You’re so heartless. You’ve dated Roxy for six years and wasted six years of her youth! And now, you’re leaving her like this. You’re so merciless! I’m not going to live anymore!”

Hearing her, Shaun sighed deeply and, with a sad face, tried to persuade Ingrid, saying, “We’re at the hospital. Don’t make a scene. Let’s wait till Roxy’s operation is over first.”

“I don’t care! If anything happens to Roxy, I’m going to hang myself at the entrance of Everett Corporation! I’m going to let everyone see that their boss is an emotionless, heartless man! Gosh, my dear Roxy! Please stay alive! If something happens to you, how will we be able to take it?”

Ingrid thumped her chest and threw a fit, catching everyone’s attention.

Back then, she used a similar method and went all out to force Joanna’s mother to leave.

In the end, Shaun had no choice but to marry her as everyone was aware of what had happened.

Now, she was doing the same thing again.

Using this as an excuse, she was ready to make a big fuss.

This time, it was to get her daughter into the Everett family.

Her daughter was too shy to throw a tantrum.

However, Ingrid was different. She had a lot of experience.

With such a commotion, she was sure the Everett family would want to save its image.

in the hospital came over one after another to watch

like Mr. Everett’s fiancée tried to

them and post it on

persuade Ingrid. “Please be quiet. You’re not allowed to be noisy

heartless man. Everyone, please be the judge. Mr. Everett wasted six years of Roxy’s youth, and now he’s going to dump her! Are you going to bully us, ordinary people just because you’re wealthy and influential? You have to give us an explanation today! What did Roxy do for

talking!” Then,

that families like Bruce’s valued their reputation the

a tantrum in public like this, he would choose to avoid unnecessary trouble

chaos. She rushed over and said, "Mrs. Haynes, please calm down! If you have anything to say, you can tell me about

Margaret, she started

was so hurt that she tried to end her own life! You know that Roxy is a simple girl who tends to overthink. You can't treat us like this. This is all Mr. Everett's fault! You have

a deep breath and coaxed, "Don't be so worked up! If Bruce

princess! She's not an easy woman you can chase away after giving

that. We can sit down and talk

don't care! Mr. Everett, you must give Roxy an explanation today! Otherwise, I'm not going to let this go so easily! I'll make the press

couldn't

woman of her age, dignity and

have a big negative impact

after they save her. Don't worry. We'll give Roxy a proper explanation and make sure that she won't be gave her promise, Ingrid quit it and stopped acting out.

to weep. "Roxy, you've

beside the doorway of

didn't care that he was at the hospital as he

Now that he

fact, he was the one who made a mistake.

Chapter 52

She could overlook it when others did not believe her and reprimanded her.

However, even his own father did not believe her.

Growing up, she worked hard and tried to excel in every way to get her father's approval and compliments.

However, no matter how hard she tried, her father had always been cold and indifferent to her. He never praised her, nor did he ever give her fatherly love.

But now, she had finally accepted the fact.

She had decided that she no longer wanted to try to please anyone or expect anyone to nourish her

with love.

“Dad, I’m not hooking up with Bruce Everett! I had no idea they’d split up!”

Joanna was pissed too.

Bruce had made her life difficult for the past two days.

Now, she got a broken arm because of him.

Instead of criticizing him, everyone was putting the blame on Joanna.

Ingrid scoffed and lashed out, “Hmph! You didn’t know? Why would you be here if you didn’t know? If you didn’t seduce Mr. Everett, why would he go see you in the middle of the night? If it weren’t for you, why would he dump Roxy? Before you came back to Greyport, they were already at the stage of preparing for marriage. Since you came back, you kept hitting on Mr. Everett and caused conflicts between them. You’re so shameless! Are there no other men in the world? How could you rob your sister’s man?”

immoral anymore. You’ve already stolen the inheritance and become the chairman. of the board. The least you could do is not steal your

Bang!

precipitously as if someone had shot her in the

heart had broken into a million

rolled down her

for the last time, I

to have a daughter

use

she chided Joanna, pushing and shoving her menacingly. “You better get lost. You disgust

cuts on her body, was immensely weak at that point.

wobble, and she

back from shopping. Seeing what was happening, he rushed over and caught Joanna in his arms.

she

distressedly and felt more empathetic about what happened to

isn’t Mr. Grimm. You should control your girlfriend. Tell her not to go around hitting on another person’s boyfriend, lest you be cuckolded and kept

When your daughter wakes up, you should ask her what she’s

and delicate. A promiscuous woman shouldn’t be compared to

no idea what your daughter has done, do you?

had a note of supplication. “Jay,

had attempted to harm herself. If the matter of her cheating with a guy friend was brought to

was not a saint, but she did not want to see Roxanne

no need to be considerate to such unreasonable people!”

she started to cough and

wobbled.

down. We’ll go now. I won’t argue

Chapter 53

“Roxy! You must wake up! What am I supposed to do if you don’t wake up?” Ingrid said and cried out loudly.

Shaun raised his eyebrows and patted Bruce on the shoulder. “Bruce, you’ve been with Roxy for six years now! You have a complicated relationship with both of my daughters, so you should think about how to resolve it. You’ve hurt Roxy before, and she can’t take being hurt again.”

Bruce frowned when he heard that.

Ingrid whimpered, “Bruce, you must be responsible for Roxy! She’s a nice and innocent girl. She’s different from other women. She already has a relationship with you. You can’t hurt her like that!”

Bruce drew in a breath. He wanted to say that he hadn’t done it with Roxanne, but he swallowed it back.

It was pointless to talk about it anymore.

After all, they had been dating for six years.

Nobody else would believe him if he said he hadn’t had sexual intercourse with her.

In fact, he hadn’t even touched her.

When he was in need, he spent money on other women.

When they were done and he had paid, they would go their separate ways.

Through the computer screen, Bruce looked sadly at Roxanne.

He was frightened today.

Her life could have ended because of him.

He wasn’t the type of person who wouldn’t take responsibility. Even if something like this happened, he wouldn’t try to avoid taking responsibility.

He and Joanna were, after all, star-crossed lovers.

He had already hurt Joanna badly, and he couldn't hurt Roxanne again.

"Mrs. Haynes, Mr. Haynes, don't worry! I'll marry Roxy as soon as she wakes up!"

Ingrid was crying. After she heard that, she felt relieved.

"You must mean what you say. No more excuses to put this off."

"I understand. I'll propose to Roxy when she wakes up."

After hearing that, Ingrid and Shaun were relieved.

were still worried about their daughter.

that she would never wake

Jaydon carefully helped Joanna

soft-hearted. You'd rather be wrong than

all, Roxanne is my sister, and I can't watch her die!"

and said angrily, "It's all

was hoarse. "Jay, that's

want

you're so hurt! You have to stay at the hospital for a few

at home. I'm

looking after Lilia. When I get back, I'll check up on

between me at the hospital and at home, and I don't want to see Ingrid again!"

Joann..."

were talking, someone pushed open the

with a grim look on his face.

up. "What brings you

looked at Jaydon. "Don't worry. I just want to say a few words to Joanna."

to

please step outside for a moment? I'll only be here for a

even think of bothering Joann again!"

promise! I just want to apologize."

breath. "Jay,

"I'm warning you. Don't

stormed out of the

Bruce. "Bruce, what do you want to say?"

gloomy, and he pondered

and he said solemnly, "Joanna,

surprised

thought that Bruce would apologize

of the anger in her heart went

looked at Bruce with sadness in her eyes. "Have a good life with Roxanne. Keep me

"Joanna, I just want

child has nothing to do with you and will have no

he took a deep breath and slowly let it

of his pocket and

taken aback.

dollars as alimony and to make up for what

Chapter 54

"Have you completed the discharge procedure?"

Jaydon frowned and said in concern. "I haven't done it yet. You're hurt so badly. I still think you should stay in the hospital for a few more days."

Joanna persisted and got out of bed. "No, I can't stay in the hospital! Lilia will be scared if she doesn't see me!"

"All right, then. I'll fill out the paperwork for your discharge."

"Okay!"

After half an hour. Jaydon completed the discharge procedure.

Joanna had also changed her clothing.

It was just that having a splint on her hand was a little inconvenient.

Jaydon carried all the medicine and sundries.

Just as they opened the ward's door, Shaun suddenly appeared at the entrance.

Joanna was surprised when she saw Shaun. "Dad..."

"Joanna, what are you doing?"

He didn't know how badly Joanna was hurt until that moment.

He was so angry that he didn't notice that Joanna's arm was broken.

Maybe she didn't get enough fatherly love as a child.

simple greeting warmed her heart.

specially

all right. Don't

Shaun replied

"Well..."

what are you trying to say? Just tell me."

Everett has just appeared in front of us and promised to

lit up, and she

and said seriously, "Joann, I don't want you to have anything to do

when she heard that.

to check on

end, she was just too naive.

only thought about his two sons and

he possibly care about

there to care about

saw what happened to Roxy! Keep away from Mr. Everett, and don't hurt Roxy

too much! Bruce was the one who was always bothering Joann, not her.

innocent at

if you and Mr. Everett stay apart! Look at Mr. Grimm. He's also a very talented young man. You've found a wonderful man, so don't think about your

think too much. I never kept Bruce in my mind! By the way, I won't ever take the initiative. to go near him! You don't have to come

that, she rushed forward.

hold on for a minute. I still have something

when she

Roxy are all senior employees. Even if they aren't working for the company, you still

Joanna could not help but sneer. Her last hope that her father would love her around and smirked at Shaun.

can't get paid if they aren't working for the company. But, don't worry. Haynes Group will

Ry, and Roxy are your brothers and sisters. Why can't you

I don't think they really need this salary. Grandpa has enough assets to pay for all

Chapter 55

After returning home, Joanna realized that the house had already been tidied up.

It turned out that Jaydon had sent someone to do so.

"Joann, I think it's better that you move! I still have a mansion in Black Hollow Bay. It's vacant, so you can just move in!"

"No, thanks! I've troubled you enough already. I shouldn't disturb you anymore."

"How would that be troubling me? The house is empty anyway. It's perfect for you!"

"No, it's too far for me and my workplace!"

Jaydon sighed and stopped insisting. Eventually, he gave in and said, "Okay. Just let me know if you need anything!"

"Thank you, Jay!"

"There you go again. How many times do I have to tell you that you don't have to thank me?"

Joanna's expression and feelings became more conflicted when she heard his remark.

"Jaydon treats me too well. I just wish I knew how to repay him," she thought.

As she arrived home, Joanna keyed in the passcode and opened the door.

Talia's eyes were red as she hurried to the door. "Miss Haynes, you are back!"

"Where's Lilia?"

"Lilia has a fever. I was just about to call you!"

When Joanna heard this, she rushed to Lilia's room and did not even bother changing out of her clothes.

Lilia suffered from thalassemia and a heart condition, so it was vital that she maintained robust health. A cold could be deadly for her.

In the room, Lilia lay limp on the bed. Her cheeks flushed red due to the fever.

"Lilia, Mommy is back!"

Feeling heartbroken, Joanna reached out her hand and placed it on Lilia's forehead.

"It's burning hot! Her temperature must be at least 100 degrees Fahrenheit!" she thought.

Lilia opened her eyes. Like a butterfly's wings, her eyelashes slowly flapped open. Her voice was weak and tender as she called, "Mommy, you're back!"

"Yes, Mommy's back! Are you not feeling well, Lilia?"

"I'm tired, and I miss you, Mommy. I miss Davian and Irvin too. When are they coming back?"

Joanna gently stroked Lilia's hair as she answered, "Next week. I'll go and pick them up then. We'll all come back and see you, okay?"

"Yeah, okay!"

Jaydon's heart ached when he witnessed the scene. "Hurry up and take Lilia to the hospital!" he said.

Lilia trembled at the mere mention of going to the hospital.

Every time she was in a hospital, it was like a walk through hell to her.

The ice-cold scalpels and needles left her with a huge trauma.

"Mommy, I don't want to go to the hospital! I'm afraid of needles. I can take pills, no matter how bitter they are. Mommy, please don't send me to the hospital!" Lilia started to cry as she spoke.

After she heard this, Joanna's nose turned sour as tears flowed down her cheeks. "There, there. Let's not go to the hospital then. I won't take you to the hospital. Let's eat some medicine to control the fever."

"Okay. I'm not scared of taking medicine, Lilia said.

Joanna kept her head down so that Lilia would not see her cry.

"She needs to go to the hospital once every three months for a blood transfusion. She's only three years old, but she's already had seven major operations. So far, except for her face, Lilia is covered in post-op needle holes and scars. I'd give my life up just so that she could recover," Joanna thought.

In the hospital, the ICU door opened, and the nurse wheeled Roxanne out.

Ingrid and Shaun immediately approached the doctor and asked, "Doctor, how's Roxy?"

"The patient has woken up. Don't worry. Her life is out of danger! She can be transferred to the VIP ward now."

"Oh, Roxy! Thank goodness! You silly child, you scared Mom and Dad to death!"

Eventually, Roxanne was moved into the ward.

"Roxy, how could you be so stupid?"

"You silly girl, what would Mom and Dad do if something had happened to you?"

"Mom, Dad..." Roxanne muttered weakly.

Chapter 56

"We'll get married as soon as you've recovered," Bruce said softly as he gently stroked the hair on Roxanne's checks.

"Okay" Roxanne could not stop crying.

"I almost died, but it was worth it!" she thought.

"Dad and I will head out first. You guys go ahead and have a nice talk."

"Okay!"

As she exited the ward, Ingrid broke out into a smile that creased her face.

"Oh, thank goodness. Mr. Everett is finally marrying Roxy!"

"As soon as they get married, I'll make sure I rub it in Mrs. Paul, Mrs. Roger, and the other's faces!"

Shaun could not help but frown. "Look at you! Roxy almost died. How could you still be in the mood to show off?"

"Well, the process was frightening, but we got a happy ending. I did not expect her to have some of my old tricks up her sleeve. She sure pulled a cruel trick!"

Hearing this, Shaun sighed and shook his head.

After they found out about Roxanne, Derick and Ryan rushed to the hospital.

"Mom, Dad, how's Roxanne?"

The duo was prepared to push the door and enter the ward as they spoke.

Ingrid quickly stopped them and said, "Don't go in there. Roxanne is inside having a talk with Mr. Everett! Don't go in and disturb them!"

"Oh!"

"I have great news for you. Roxanne is finally getting married!"

Derick looked surprised. "Really?" he asked.

"Of course!"

Derick slapped his thigh in excitement and exclaimed, "That's great!"

"Mom and Dad, I want a sports car!"

Ingrid felt very angry when she heard this. "Didn't you just buy your Porsche last year? Why do you want to buy another car?"

"Then, what about the bags you bought last year? Didn't you buy more bags again this year?" "That's different! Do you know how much a bag costs? Now think about how much your car costs!" "Gosh, Roxanne is already getting married to Mr. Everett. It's only hundreds of thousands of dollars! All my classmates have changed their cars to sports cars. I have my eyes on a Ferarri, so please just buy it for me," Derick begged as he shook Ingrid's arm.

Ingrid pursed her lips and asked, "How much is it?"

"It was not expensive. It's just a little more than 750 thousand dollars."

"More than 750 thousand dollars? You're truly the black sheep of the family!"

"If you don't buy it for me, I'll go and ask Bruce for it! Since he has so many extravagant cars, I'll just ask him to give me one."

Ingrid grabbed Derick and scolded angrily, "Stop right there, you brat. Don't you dare embarrass us! Mr. Everett has just proposed to your sister, so please don't go to him and make demands. We're better than this. I'll buy it for you when Roxanne gets married."

"That's a deal"

"Sure!"

"Thanks, Mom. I'm off then!"

Ryan cheekily gave Ingrid a kiss on her cheek and turned to leave.

I'm leaving too, then!"

With that. Ryan left together with Derick.

After they both had left, Ingrid let out a sigh of relief. Suddenly, her expression darkened.

"Joanna, the little b itch. Did she deduct Rick and Ry's pay? No money has been sent for two months!"

Shaun said dejectedly. "Don't even mention her. She really is a pain. Not only did she cut off Rick and Ry's payroll, but she's also stopped paying me too!"

Ingrid was even more indignant when she heard this. "I told you to just hold a press conference and announce that you're going to sever ties with her. We'll see how she'll be able to stay confident."

"Wouldn't it be worse to sever ties with her now? She's running Haynes Group, so she can ask for quarterly dividends"

"This is so irritating. We can't just let her have her way. We must do something to stop her after Roxy marries Mr. Everett."

After Ingrid and Shaun exited the ward, Bruce suddenly felt self-conscious. He tried to make conversation, so he asked, "Roxy, does it hurt?"

"Well, a little!"

"Never do such a stupid thing again!"

"Okay"

"Just focus on your recovery. When you're all better, we'll just get married."

Chapter 57

"Oh, I'm a friend of Ms. Haynes. I came specially to visit her because I heard she had an accident."

"Ms. Haynes is in Ward S.

"All right. Thank you."

With that, Gavin went on a mad dash for Ward S.

When he got to Ward 8, he saw Ingrid and her husband there, so he dared not intrude. After he lingered around outside for more than an hour, Ingrid and Shaun finally left the ward. Ingrid had gone to the restroom while Shaun had gone to get food for Roxanne and Ingrid. Gavin took advantage of this moment and slid into the ward.

He had missed Roxanne to the core.

Some time ago, Roxanne told him that she was getting married and would like to end their relationship. That night, he was mad as hell to take Roxanne into his arms, objecting to her wishes. Gavin hadn't seen her for so many days. The second he heard that she had had an accident, he became a nervous wreck.

"Roxy! Roxy..." Gavin ran to the bedside.

The moment Roxanne caught sight of Gavin, she broke into a cold sweat. "Why are you here?" Gavin rushed to the bed and hugged her. "I heard something happened to you, so I came to see you." Roxanne's face took a drastic change as she heard that. She snapped in a hurry, "You have to go. Don't show up here. Go now before anyone sees you."

Seeing Roxanne all worked up, Gavin hastily explained, "I only wanted to see you, Roxy. I have no other intentions."

"I don't need you to see me. Just leave right now..."

Roxanne got so emotional that she leaped up in a huff and hurled a pillow at Gavin.

That would be logical, for Bruce had finally asked her to marry him.

If he were to find out about her relationship with Gavin, she would be so dead.

"Fine, fine. Calm down. I'll leave."

Gavin didn't dare to loiter around. With lightning speed, he left the ward.

Alas, immediately after stepping out, he bumped into Ingrid.

"Who are you? What are you doing in my daughter's ward?"

"Hello, Mrs. Haynes! I'm Roxy's classmate. I came to visit her."

Ingrid sized Gavin up from head to toe, only to see his ripped jeans and washed-out whitish T-shirt. In her opinion, he was obviously a poor loser.

She couldn't help but pout and say haughtily, "Do not disturb Roxy! If I catch you sneaking in to look for her again, I'll kick your ass!"

Gavin didn't dare to answer. With that, he quickly scurried off.

Ingrid then walked into the ward, frowning. "Roxy, who was that poor loser earlier?"

Panicked, Roxanne was a little flustered as she replied falteringly, "Oh! Uh... He's just a classmate from university."

Ingrid's face fell as she listened to her daughter's response.

Noticing her daughter's uncomfortable visage, she immediately thought of a potential crisis.

"Roxy, don't blame me for nagging, but now that you're getting married, don't keep in touch with these scumbags. What if Mr. Everett finds out?"

"Got it. Mom."

"That kind of poor loser is very hard to get rid of, so don't get entangled with them. Don't let these poor losers ruin your whole life. I've been there before..."

Halfway down the line, Ingrid abruptly stopped making a sound.

She, too, was frustrated these few days.

Two of her so-called cousins were retrenched and had been pestering her day by day.

Every now and then, they would ask her for money.

She was afraid of her scandals of making love with them would be exposed, so she could only swallow her anger and give them however much penny they asked.

In comparison to her daughter, her acts were much more atrocious.

Back then, Ingrid laid eyes on the two of them just because they were good-looking. With that, they often committed adultery together.

Every week, they would use the same excuse of playing poker just so they could get into bed with each other.

Before this, nothing bad had happened.

She had been drawing funds from Haynes Group to satiate those men while enjoying their scandalous services.

Yet, ever since Joanna cut their coffers, Ingrid had to pay them with her own money instead.

More importantly, those two were getting old, so they gradually lacked the stamina to please her in bed.

Therefore, she went to the beauty salon and met another younger, more handsome guy.

Not only that, but he had asked for a lower fee from Ingrid.

That was why she wished to ditch those two older men.

However, the older men made an outrageous demand of 1.5 million dollars each for their dismissal.

Only then did she realize that not only were the poor losers poor, but they were also tainted by greed on the inside.

And so, Ingrid was worried that her daughter might follow in her footsteps.

Meanwhile, Bruce exited the hospital. All of a sudden, he felt a stinging pang in his heart.

He drove straight to Joanna's house.

Even so, he didn't dare to go up, so he just stayed downstairs for a while.

He felt a prick in his heart as he recalled the moment Joanna pulled him out of the water.

He was supposed to be with Joanna. Yet, all these years, he had been trapped in a misunderstanding.

Now that Roxanne had gotten into this mess, all Bruce could do was bite the bullet and marry Roxanne instead.

In a flash, ten days passed.

Joanna had recuperated well, and her arm had gotten a lot better, too.

Under her leadership, the order was gradually restored in the company.

Without Bruce messing around, Haynes Group's shares stabilized once more.

Back in the conference room of Haynes Group, there was a meeting.

"Good news! David, the CEO of CI Technologies Chanaea Division, is coming to Greyport next month to discuss the collaboration. The company has decided to organize a banquet to welcome him."

The company's executives applauded at the news. "We can finally sign the contract with CI Technologies! H o oray!"

"Well, hopefully, it will be a success."

The rest chattered on.

As the executives applauded one after another, James and Luca were elated as well as they listened to

Back at the hospital, Roxanne had been resting in her ward for over ten days. The wound on her wrist was more or less healed up.

On that very day, it was ultimately time for her to be discharged.

Shaun, Ingrid, and Bruce all arrived to pick her up.

“Oh, Bruce, now that Roxy has been discharged from the hospital, what is the plan for your marriage?” Bruce could barely manage a smile on his handsome face. “We planned to go pick the wedding gown in a few days, but only after Roxy’s body has completely recovered. After that, we’ll pick an auspicious date to get engaged.”

Ingrid’s mouth twitched slightly as she listened to his speech.

“An engagement? What’s the point of getting engaged? Why can’t they skip all these and get their marriage certificate at once?” she wondered.

Of course, she didn’t have the temerity to tell them that.

After all, if she were to press the matter, she would make her daughter look bad and cheap.

“Okay, then. You two call the shots. As your elders, we’ll only offer our advice when needed. Let’s hop in.”

The driver opened the car door.

Ingrid got into the car first, followed by Roxanne and Shaun.

Bruce was the last to slide into the car.

As the car headed for the Haynes residence, Bruce’s heart became heavier and more entangled as he thought of his feelings toward Roxanne..

He suddenly discovered that he actually didn’t have a thing for Roxanne at all.

After all these years, he remembered never having a stir of rush whenever he faced her.

Even so, he could only muster his courage and go with the flow.

The first thing that came to Ingrid’s mind the second she reached home was to make a phone call.

“Hello, Mrs. Roger! My dear Roxy is getting engaged. Well, who else would it be? Of course, it’s Mr. Everett. He has even bought a pink diamond that’s at least 20 carats and proposed to Roxy.”

After a while, Ingrid dialed another number. “Hello, Mrs. Paul! Roxy’s getting engaged next month, so you have to come to witness the ceremony...”

Ingrid couldn’t hold back her overflowing joy as she rang up those housewives of the upper echelons to brag about it.

A few days later, the news of Bruce getting engaged with Roxanne from Haynes Group spread like wildfire.

All the Greyport socialites couldn’t stop scoffing, “Another engagement, huh? Didn’t they already have one six years ago? What good had come out of it?”

“Hmph! Did you see how smug Ingrid has been? How could the Everett family take her daughter in? Who does she think she is?”

“Mr. Everett is also really blind to have chosen Ingrid’s daughter, of all women.”

10 18

Chapter 58

“I heard that it was her daughter who had cut her wrist and threatened Bruce into submitting to this marriage. The Everett family had to accept her daughter for fear of causing a fatality.”

“Hah! It’s the same old tricks. It’s just like what Ingrid had done when she forced herself into her man’s family.”

“Like mother, like daughter. Ingrid’s daughter must be a person with ill intentions as well.”

Soon enough, Gavin also got wind of Roxanne’s engagement.

As soon as he heard the news, he fell into a state of total meltdown.

He began to call Roxanne’s number and sent her gazillions of text messages.

Roxanne was so irritated that she had to answer his call and try to sever all ties with him.

"Hello, Roxy. You finally picked up my call..."

"Gavin, don't you ever call me again!"

On the other end of the line came Gavin's bursting voice. "Roxy, I know. I just want to see your one last time. I promise. This will be the last time. After that, I'll leave you alone."

face

Roxanne gulped on that note. "No, Gavin, we do not see each other anymore. There's no way I would let Bruce know about us."

"But I miss you, Roxy! I really do!"

On the other end of the line, Gavin muttered the same sentence over and over again.

Alas, Roxanne relented and agreed to his pleas. "Fine. See you at our usual meeting place."

"Great! You've got to come, Roxy!"

In the blink of an eye, Roxanne arrived at the sushi bar.

Gavin was already waiting in the private room.

"I missed you like hell, Roxy!"

Chapter 59

"Gavin, I'm really getting married. Let's not contact each other ever again. Here, there are 40 thousand dollars on this card. Treat it as my compensation for you. Don't come bothering me again."

Gavin took a puff on his cigarette and blew it toward Roxanne's face.

"I don't want any money, Roxy. I only want you."

As Roxanne was getting dressed, she said peevishly, "You already know it, Gavin. I'm getting married. into the Everett family, and you simply can't give me the happiness I desire. If you really love me, don't stand in my way and take my happiness away from me."

Gavin leaped up and embraced her again. "I'll never stand in your way, Roxy. I won't even stop you from marrying into the Everett family. I only hope that we can continue our relationship. Even if you're married, you can always call me up..."

"No way! You'll only get me killed!"

Roxanne spurned his wishes outright.

"But, Roxy..."

Before anything else could happen, Roxanne had already finished tidying up herself and scurried out of the sushi bar.

Unlike the Haynes family, the Everett family traveled everywhere with bodyguards.

If she were to stay entangled with Gavin, Bruce would undoubtedly be informed one way or another.

"The happiness that I've traded with my life mustn't be made a blunder by Gavin!" she yelled in her heart.

Half a month later, David finally arrived at Greypoint, along with several senior members of CI Technologies.

The engagement banquet of Bruce and Roxanne would also take place early next month.

At Everett Corporation, Andy reported to Bruce about work as usual.

"What? Joanna is throwing a banquet just to receive the CEO of CI Technologies?"

"Yes. I heard that the CEO of CI Technologies Chanaea Division, David, will come to Greypoint for an on-site inspection. Miss Haynes is going to hold a cocktail party to welcome him and his entourage. At the same time, they've invited some elites in the industry as well. It looks like Miss Haynes is ready to give it her best shot and become a part of the Greypoint business community."

Upon hearing the story, Bruce put on a darkened visage.

“When’s the event taking place? Why am I not informed?”

“The message from Miss Haynes only came in yesterday. I’ve just received the message, too.”

“Was I not invited?”

When Andy heard that question, he looked at Bruce in astonishment.

That would make sense, for Bruce had always loathed that sort of crowded event. On top of that, he had never wanted to attend any of those gatherings.

Consequently, Joanna didn’t send him an invitation either.

“Well... I don’t think so.”

“No matter what, I’m still a shareholder of Haynes Group. How can they not invite me for that? Call Joanna and tell her I’m attending.”

*All right!”

Andy was about to make the phone call when Bruce opened his mouth once more and said, “No, wait... Forget it.”

In his mind, if he wanted to join the banquet, no one would have the nerve to stop him, be it with an invitation card or not.

Moreover, the vast majority of the public had been longing for Bruce to show up at their events.

Hence, he reckoned there was no need for him to request Joanna for an invitation because no one would be so foolish to shut the man of fortune out.

And so, the banquet went off as planned at a mansion by the beach that Joanna had rented.

In addition to welcoming David and his entourage, she had also invited celebrities from all walks of life, as well as the senior executives of Haynes Group.

Needless to say, several female artists under Jaydon’s wings also showed their support.

Initially, Jaydon himself was going to be there, too.

Sadly, his father suddenly fell ill and was admitted to the hospital.

The butler rang Jaydon up and ushered him to rush back home.

Having no choice, he made a beeline for Venturas.

At the banquet, everyone was decked in their tuxedos and nightgowns. They toasted each other and clinked their glasses as they exchanged pleasantries.

Those stunning models were dressed in an ever-so-sexy manner, only to attract the eyeballs of many.

Naturally, a bunch of men came up to hit on them.

Despite that, they were all willing to show up at such occasions, for not only would they broaden their network, but they also could earn a quick buck from this.

Most of the people who came to this kind of banquet were all wealthy elites.

From the models’ perspective, if they could hook up with a big shot, they could then escape the struggles of life and rise to the top very easily.

Soon after, David and his gang from his company reached the venue.

Immediately, both Cora and Luna welcomed them in.

David was born mixed-blood, and he was 6 feet tall.

His facial features were chiseled, and he was quite outspoken.

“Welcome!”

The Return of His Unrivaled Ex-Wife by Zara Gibbon

Chapter 60

“What’s there to fear about being engaged? It’s common for men to cheat!”

“Exactly. Engagement is not a big deal. Even if you’re married, you can still get a divorce!”

“There’s a saying that when there’s a will, there’s a way!”

“Let’s go and say hello to Mr. Everett!”

“I wouldn’t dare to. I’m not that confident!”

“I’ll go if you don’t!”

“I’ll go too!”

As such, a few beauties, each grabbing a glass in their hands, walked toward Bruce in groups.

When the other two saw that, they also hastened to carry glass and went over.

Indeed, for someone with Bruce’s status, plenty of women were willing to become his lover.

After Bruce entered the venue, he did not say anything.

He went straight to the corner and sat down.

A few bodyguards immediately stood on the sides, forming a half-moon shape.

“Mr. Everett, hello. I am...”

“Mr. Everett doesn’t drink. Thank you!”

Two bodyguards immediately stopped the beauty.

“I just wanted to say hello to Mr. Everett!”

The bodyguards kept silent and forcefully stopped the beauties from approaching.

Several beauties left in dismay after failing to get close to Bruce.

Bruce sat on the couch with a cold face and no words, looking like an honorable man.

The brilliant lights shone on his face, making him look like a Gregan sculpture, looking extremely handsome.

“Mr. Everett, would you like a drink?”

“No!”

“Okay!”

Bruce was indeed fussy.

He would not touch the wine and the food at this place, not even the fruits.

Usually, when he went out, he would only drink the pure water brought by his assistant, which cost over 150 dollars per bottle.

His falcon-like eyes started looking around in the crowd for Joanna.

Sadly, there was no sign of her after he searched for a round.

It was not yet time for the official start of the party.

Thus, Joanna was still upstairs.

Bruce hated this sort of occasion. Even though he was sitting in the corner, he could feel the glare coming from all sides.

It made him feel totally uneasy, and he wanted to go home.

However, thinking of Joanna, he was suddenly reluctant to leave.

As such, he patiently waited for another ten minutes.

The party officially started.

A room on the second floor swung open slowly.

Joanna came out of it.

The staircase in this mansion was Y-shaped, and both sides could go upstairs, forming a turning stair.

Halfway in the middle, there was a platform for people to stand on and host the event.

Joanna gracefully stepped down to the platform and waved to the crowd downstairs.

She spoke into the microphone. "Welcome to the party, everybody. Let's have fun tonight!"
Clap! Clap! Clap!

Applause sounded downstairs, and all eyes were on Joanna.

"Wow, Miss Haynes looks gorgeous today! She's the goddess of my dreams..."

Tonight, Joanna was wearing a dark velvet backless gown.

With her high skirt, her fine legs could be seen clearly.

The back of the gown was empty and displayed the dazzling fair skin on her back perfectly.

As her arms had not completely recovered, she was wearing a pair of black lace arm casts.

Her hair was tied in a bun, and an expensive diamond necklace adorned her neck.

Under the light, she looked extremely elegant and charming.

"Here comes Miss Haynes! Here comes Miss Haynes!"

"Joan, long time no see!"

David welcomed her passionately.

She also smiled and shook David's hand, followed by a polite kiss on the cheek.

"Long time no see!"

David's brown eyes kept gazing at Joanna closely. "Joan, you're gorgeous tonight!"

"Thank you!"

"Let me introduce you to my company..."

"Oh, can we not talk about work tonight?"

David raised an eyebrow and smiled at Joanna.

Joanna smiled apologetically. "Sorry."

"Let's welcome Miss Haynes and Mr. David to do the opening dance!"

The guests clapped again.

David took a gentleman bow and made a gesture of invitation.

Joanna smiled while reaching for David's hand.

David kissed the back of Joanna's hand gently, and they smiled at each other.

With the sound of a beautiful melody, the two of them started dancing.

They performed a waltz in the middle of the dance floor.

In the corner, Bruce watched the two of them dance amiably, and his face darkened instantly.

As a matter of fact, it was the first time he had seen Joanna in something so revealing and sexy, not to mention her heavy makeup.

Even though she was really beautiful, he did not want so many people to see her sexy side.

"Ahem!"

Bruce frowned and coughed dryly, then loosened his tie.

Immediately, he picked up a glass of wine on the wine table and emptied it.

In fact, he never drank like that at a dinner party.