#### TMBA 461

### Chapter 461 Mr. Huo Has His Memories Back

Kasie stared at Ivan, evidently confused by his words. "Why?"

Ivan wrapped his arm around her waist and whispered in her ear, "Mr. Huo has his memories back."

She froze, eyes popped out, her mouth agape. "Really? How do you know? When did this happen?"

"Tonight, at the party. But Carlos, that cunning fox, kept it to himself. He may be waiting for the right time." Ivan didn't know him very well, but from what he could see, Carlos deserved to be seen as a cunning fox, in business and in his private life.

Kasie was still wallowing in the exciting news. "Does Debbie know?" 'Thank God! Maybe she'll finally have something good happen in her life, ' she thought, genuinely happy.

"I think Debbie is still in the dark. Don't tell her. Let's just focus on you and me for right now." Ivan gallantly held the door open to his apartment and let Kasie walk in first.

She felt around the wall for a light switch and turned it on. Being able to see, she searched for a pair of slippers, just like when entering her own home.

Ivan smiled as he watched her behave casually. He wanted her to feel comfortable.

"Why can't I tell her? That's so unfair. She's been hanging on, waiting. I'll give her a call." After shedding her coat, Kasie pulled out her phone to call Debbie.

But Ivan swiftly snatched her phone away from her hand and held onto her with his other arm. Leading her into the living room, he hissed, "No, don't ruin the moment."

Kasie stopped walking and looked at him with a serious look. "Seriously, why are you okay with that?" She thought Ivan must feel something for Debbie. Otherwise, why did he marry her?

Tossing her phone onto the sofa, Ivan pulled her into a hug and kissed her lips.

Kasie couldn't resist his affectionate kiss.

Gradually, the air between them became warmer. He pushed her up against the wall, and his kiss became more passionate. She locked her arms around his neck, like it was the most natural thing in the world.

His lips suddenly left hers, and seductive words came from them. "Kasie, I love you."

The woman who was so smitten with his kiss suddenly snapped back to reality. Her half-closed eyes abruptly opened wide like saucers.

But before she could react, Ivan scooped her up a

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Eventually she stormed off after she learned that he had betrayed her again. But life brought her back to him a few years later, to his astonishment.

n closed his eyes tightly; he was burning with desire already. "Kasie, please. This is torture."

Seeing the beads of sweat forming on his forehead, she tried her best to stifle her laughter. A single word left her lips, "Okay."

Taking this as permission, Ivan hungrily kissed her.

Ten-odd minutes later

A song echoed through the room, interrupting the busy pair. It was Ivan's ringtone. Frustrated, Ivan caught a glimpse of the caller ID on the phone screen. 'Let me guess...Carlos got to her!'

Kasie was ready for him, so she was also a bit flustered. Still, the ringtone went off again. She tried to calm her breathing and managed to gasp, "The phone... Just answer it."

Ivan wasn't really in the mood to care about the call, but since Kasie had urged him, he had no choice but to pick it up. "Mom."

"You brat! What else did you do behind my back? Think I wouldn't find out?" Elsie barked on the other end. It was rare for the graceful lady to throw a tantrum like that. Even Kasie was blown away by this.

Each word of her rant could be heard clearly in the dead of night.

With his eyes glued to Kasie's blushing face, Ivan asked calmly, "Mom, what's going on?"

"You tell me. Ivan, you... you love... men? How do you think that looks? Your dad and I are a laughingstock. And now you hook up with Debbie's best friend! What were you thinking? You need to come back home. Now!" Elsie was so pissed by what her son had done that she pretty much shouted at him over the phone.

### Chapter 462 I Think You Know

Ivan took a look at the woman under him and said over the phone, "You sure you want me to go back home now? Come on, Mom. You want a grandchild, right— Ouch!" A pinch from Kasie made him end his sentence prematurely. He started massaging the area she cruelly manhandled.

Blushing a shade of bright red, she shot him an angry glare and then buried her face in the pillow, embarrassed.

"What? A grandchild? With whom?" Elsie softened her voice.

To save him from more drama, Ivan patiently explained, "Mom, the marriage was a sham. Debbie and I aren't married. Sorry for lying to you. And I don't love men. I love Debbie's best friend, and I wanna marry her. We're getting married here, so you and Dad will need to get tickets."

"W-what...is that so?" The sudden change of the story put Elsie in a daze. She needed time to process everything.

"That's it, Mom. I just married Debbie to get you and Dad off my back. But this is real. If you don't believe me, you can fly here and watch us get the marriage licenses with your own eyes."

Ivan wanted to hang up but Elsie quickly stopped. "Hold on. No wonder Debbie didn't want me to visit her uncle and aunt, and didn't want any gifts. Now I get it. So which family is that girl from?" 'Debbie's best friend...' Elsie tried to remember who that was, but came up short. She hadn't really gotten to know the girl.

She saw her once at Ivan's wedding, but she was too excited to notice anything.

"She's the daughter of the Zheng family here. Her father is Mason Zheng. I think Dad knows him." At this point, Ivan began to lose his patience.

If Elsie didn't end the call, the sun would be up soon. He wouldn't have enough time to enjoy his special moment with Kasie.

Elsie nudged her husband, who was lying next to her. "Do you know Mason Zheng? Ivan says you know him."

Without hesitation, Logan nodded, "Yeah. I knew him from university."

Elsie asked further with the line still on, "I never heard you mention him. You close to him?" She heard a beep, and the line went silent. "Hey, Ivan... I'm not done."

As Elsie tried to call again, Logan stopped her and said, "Look. He's with his girlfriend. Don't ruin the moment."

Elsie's hands froze. She carefully thought about hi

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and asked, "So you're marrying Kasie?"

"Yeah. You heard me right. You're not dreaming," Ivan confirmed helplessly.

She scratched her messy hair and heaved a sigh. "And Kasie said 'yes?"

"Yeah. We talked about it last night."

Debbie reminded him with a huge smile, "Treat her right, or I'll beat the tar out of you!"

Ivan assured her, "You have my word." Then he teased, "I don't fall in love every day. Why wouldn't I be nice to her?"

Debbie giggled. "Again, congratulations. You owe me a meal."

"Okay, I'll buy you a big one next time."

After a pause, Debbie thought of something. The smile on her face froze, and she said in a heavy tone, "You should probably visit Emmett's grave with Kasie. He might like to know how she's doing."

"Already thought of."

"Hmm. That's good."

After chatting a while longer with Ivan, Debbie dragged herself out of bed. She plodded towards the bathroom, legs trembling.

In Ivan's apartment, after ending the call with Debbie, he waited until Kasie woke up. They had lunch together in his apartment and shared some more intimate moments. In the afternoon, before his parents arrived, Ivan got in the car and asked Kasie to get in, too. He rebuffed all her questions about where they were going.

Kasie's face changed as she looked out the window, watching the scenery fly by. She turned to look at Ivan and asked hesitantly, "Where are we going?"

Ivan patted her hand to comfort her. "I think you know."

Kasie fell silent.

### Chapter 463 Emmett, Im Sorry

Kasie didn't utter another word on their way to the cemetery.

She was immersed in her own thoughts, wondering if Emmett would blame her for marrying another man. But she was happy, and she had to tell him.

On arriving at the parking lot, Ivan braked and slowly came to a stop. He came around to the passenger side, and helped Kasie out of the car. Together, they opened the trunk to grab the bouquet of chrysanthemum. He already had it arranged and tied.

The tranquil cemetery was located on a hillside in the suburbs. It was a beautiful place—stunning scenery, fresh air. And few people would come at this hour.

Kasie's heart pounded faster with each step they took. Each step brought them closer to Emmett's grave. Suddenly, she grabbed hold of Ivan's hand and stood still, reluctant to take one more step. In a sad voice, she asked, "What if he gets mad?"

Ivan put his hands on her shoulders, leaned in, and gently kissed her forehead. "I don't think so. He'll be so glad to see you happy."

She nodded lightly, took a deep breath and continued walking forward.

On the third gravesite of the third row

A tall man in a black suit jacket stood solemnly in front of Emmett's gravestone.

His eyes were red as memories of the past flooded his mind. "Emmett, old friend...I haven't been here in awhile. I'm sorry. I haven't been...myself. I'll come more often and we'll share a glass or three." He took the bottle he held and poured a glass. He stared at it for a bit, and finally downed it. "They told me things," he continued in a hoarse voice. "They told me about the accident, how the truck driver was exhausted, and it was one big fluke. We both know that's bullshit. Rest in peace, Emmett. I'll find the truth and take revenge for you!"

Carlos squatted down in front of the gravestone. He poured some of the limited edition liquor out at the graveside, as if pouring a glass for Emmett. "I didn't do right by Debbie, either, if that helps any. I promise I'll take better care of both of you. I hope that you have a better time in the other world than you had here..."

A gust of fresh wind blew just then, the fragrance of liquor mingled in the air. He stared at Emmett's black and white picture—he was still the same young, handsome and jolly guy.

Carlos had stayed there for an hour before he finally left.

Five minutes after he left, Ivan and Kasie reached Emmett's grave.

They both were surprised when they saw a bouquet of flowers on the grave. The faint smell of the liquor told them that someone had been h

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ally met Ivan's parents. But she felt quite sorry because her eyes were still red from weeping.

Reading her mind, Ivan shook his head and whispered in her ear, "It's okay. My parents won't mind. I'll explain to them later."

Elsie held Kasie's hands tightly, afraid that this would be another lie from her son. "I won't be happy if I can't see you two sign your names on the license. I can't believe we got fooled like that. Please understand—I don't want that to happen again." She turned to Kasie's mom and added, "Mrs. Zheng, please take out your household registry. Check it out, I've brought ours too. Our family has its origins in this city. When we go to the Civil Affairs Department, I'll go along with our household registry books."

Mason and Mia were really happy that their daughter had gotten over Emmett's death. She finally opened her heart to another man. Ivan seemed like a great guy too. So, without hesitation, Mia went upstairs to grab their household registry book.

Ivan and Kasie managed to get to the Civil Affairs Department before they closed. They registered their marriage and officially got their marriage licenses, under Elsie's watchful eyes.

Seeing their licenses, Elsie was even happier than the couple. She held Kasie's hand and said excitedly, "Ivan likes things quiet, but I won't listen to him this time. We're going to have an amazing ceremony, with all our relatives and friends there to bless you two!"

Embarrassed, Ivan touched his nose and explained in a low voice, "Mom, the wedding last time was just for show, so I kept it low-key. But this marriage is a real one, so of course I'll let the whole world know that Kasie and I tied the knot."

### Chapter 464 Mrs. Kasie Wen

Elsie punched her son in the shoulder. "Humph! You have some balls! Offending Mr. Huo! You need to go clear this up!"

"I already told Debbie about me and Kasie. I figure they can solve their own problems. I'll be there if Debbie needs me," Ivan said.

Elsie rolled her eyes at him and decided to drop it. She was in a good mood now after seeing them register their marriage. "Fine. Do what you want." She turned to Kasie and suggested, "Kasie, how about you come and live with us? Our country is lovely this time of year. Don't worry. You can fly back and see your parents anytime you want."

From the moment Kasie decided to marry Ivan, she figured that her life would change drastically, so she nodded, "Sure, no problem." She was the only child of the Zheng family.

Being a considerate man, Ivan cut in, "You're the only daughter of your family. I think you're well within your rights to ask Dad and Mom to come along with us. They can stay in the villa that...um...Debbie stayed in before the wedding...I mean, the fake wedding. If they don't like it there, we can get another house for them."

Elsie thought his words were reasonable. "Makes sense. Go ahead, convince your in-laws," she ordered her son authoritatively.

Ivan nodded helplessly, "Yes ma'am!"

Seeing how obedient Ivan was, Kasie laughed. "I didn't know you were such a mama's boy."

He shrugged and sighed, "I used to be a cold CEO like Carlos. But after I met Debbie, and later Carlos, I learned that it was better to be nice than nasty."

Kasie laughed heartily. "Come on, honey. Play the cold CEO again. I've never seen you like that."

"No way. How could I ever treat you that way? Was Carlos like that around Debbie?"

"Yeah he did. When he lost his memory."

The three of them chatted casually as they walked to the car and drove to a restaurant. The two families were celebrating the happy news by having dinner together.

During the dinner, Kasie sent a picture of their marriage licenses to Debbie via WeChat. The singer was in a singing class to improve her vocal abilities. She didn't check her phone until after class. At once, she texted back. "Congrats, Mrs. Kasie Wen."

Kasie replied, "Thanks, Mrs. Huo."

"Don't call me that

n order to take care of you? Don't you feel even the tiniest pang of guilt?" Clenching his fists, James managed to brace himself up to confront the cold man. His heart was still pounding fast, but he slowly adjusted his emotions and began to analyze the situation.

'Does he have his memory back? But he looks the same as usual. Maybe he just doesn't have a crush on Stephanie...'

"I'll make it up to her, somehow. But certainly not by making her my wife." Only one woman could be his wife—Debbie.

James plopped back down on the sofa, slumped and defeated. He let out a heavy sigh. "You've grown up. I can't tell you what to do anymore. Do whatever you want. I'm gone."

Carlos simply nodded without saying another word.

He didn't want to waste time talking with James.

After James walked out of the CEO's office, he bumped into a man walking in the opposite direction. They passed by each other. With a quick glance at the man's profile, James suddenly thought this guy was familiar. But he couldn't place the face.

James entered the elevator. The doors closed. The man walking towards the CEO's office turned around and set his gaze on the closed doors of the elevator.

A dash of contempt flashed in his eyes as he thought of James Huo. 'You've been living large for three years. But not anymore.'

Frankie's voice came from behind him. "Mr. Zheng, Mr. Huo is waiting for you in his office."

Tristan came back to his senses and smiled at Frankie. "Yeah, thank you."

# Chapter 465 Ivan And I Are A Couple

Frankie opened the door to Carlos' office for Tristan. Tristan entered the office after having been away for three years.

At the entrance of the company building

James got into a silver Mercedes-Benz, pulled out his phone and dialed a number. "How's it going?" he asked urgently.

"The kid lives in Carlos' manor. He personally takes her to school and picks her up every day. There are three or more bodyguards that protect her."

James' face twitched in anger, and he looked like a poisonous snake ready to strike. "You will bring the kid to me when Carlos is not around."

"Yes."

"Find an opportunity to get rid of Debbie Nian!" James said through gritted teeth. Debbie and Carlos had become a big thorn in his side.

He wouldn't dare act rashly and blindly when dealing with Carlos. However, if the opportunity presented itself, he would eliminate Debbie without mercy in the blink of an eye.

"Yes!"

Inside the manor

Debbie got changed and was about to leave when Carlos came back.

Although he had an expressionless face, when he gazed at her, there was tenderness in his eyes. "Where are you going?" he asked.

Debbie was chatting with Ruby on the phone, so she didn't notice the affection in his eyes. "To meet Ruby. I didn't go to work this morning, and a load of work is waiting for me," she answered absentmindedly.

The next moment, she found herself embraced in his warm arms. His scent was intoxicating, and his presence gave her a sense of security. She stopped texting on her phone and raised her head to look at him. Then she noticed that he was somewhat different than usual. "Carlos, what's up with you?"

Carlos smiled and raised an eyebrow. "I'm taking you to divorce Ivan."

Debbie rolled her eyes at him and thought to herself, 'I won't tell you that my marriage to Ivan is fake unless it's necessary.' She wriggled out of his arms and continued texting on her phone while saying, "Ivan and I have a happy life together. Why should I divorce him?"

Carlos pressed her against the wall and questioned, "Ivan

When Debbie got married to Ivan, he placed her hand on Ivan's with that hand. Now, he wanted to chop it off! Carlos felt like the biggest fool on the planet. He gave the woman that he loved and cared about the most to another man.

Carlos saw that he couldn't change Debbie's mind, so he decided to force Ivan to divorce her instead. Anxiously, he pulled out his cell phone and dialed Ivan's number. As soon as the call got connected, he said bluntly, "Call Debbie now and tell her to go to the Civil Affairs Department to get a divorce!"

Ivan was stunned for a moment. 'Our marriage isn't real, so there's no need for us to get a divorce. But since Carlos has called me, then that must mean that Debbie hasn't told him the truth yet and that he's unable to make her divorce me, ' he thought. Ivan smiled to himself and then replied, "Mr. Huo, don't you think that it's immoral to separate a couple?"

Carlos seethed at his reply and wished that he could skin him alive this very moment. Running out of patience, he warned Ivan in a threatening tone, "I will separate you two. She's my woman! Ivan Wen, divorce her now!"

Ivan sighed helplessly and said, "Okay, okay. She must be with you now, right? Mr. Huo, please tell her that if she decides to get a divorce, I'll do as she says at any time."

He left the ball in her court. Debbie would have the final say.

### Chapter 466 I Love Ivan

"She's already made up her mind. She's getting a divorce. Just go to the Civil Affairs Department now! We'll be there soon," Carlos said into his phone impatiently. With that, he walked up the stairs, loosening his tie.

'I have to get her there this afternoon, even if I have to force her to go, ' he thought.

"Well, no problem," Ivan answered. His assent made Carlos feel a little better. He picked up the pace and walked rapidly towards Debbie's bedroom.

As soon as Ivan hung up on Carlos, he called Debbie. "Hey. Carlos called me and asked me to go to the Civil Affairs Department. He seemed to be in a hurry," he said quickly.

Debbie locked her bedroom door and said in a whisper, "Don't go there. I won't."

"Aren't you afraid of him?" Ivan asked, worried. He was afraid that Carlos would go to drastic lengths to get Debbie back, now that he had his memory back.

"If things get out of hand, I'll just tell him that our marriage is fake and that you are going to marry Kasie," Debbie answered nonchalantly. She didn't want to tell Carlos the truth now. She wanted to teach him a lesson. She had suffered for three years, and it was time to let him suffer for a change.

Footsteps sounded from outside the door. Debbie got scared and immediately hung up on Ivan.

"Open the door!" said Carlos as he knocked heavily on the door. It rocked on its hinges. Though he was on the other side of the door, she could see each knock as it landed.

Debbie trembled at every impact, as if he were pounding on her heart. "I...I'm very tired. I need to sleep," she stammered.

"Don't make me break this door down!" he threatened.

But he didn't have to. Debbie opened the door abruptly and looked him in the eye.

Without any delay, he grabbed hold of her wrist and dragged her out.

"Ouch! You're hurting me, asshole!" Debbie cried out. "Carlos Huo! Who do you think you are? Why do I have to divorce Ivan just because you say so? I'm not divorcing him. I love him!"

Her words successfully froze Carlos in his tracks.

He fixed his eyes on her, his face livid. "I won't let my woman live with another guy. Keep living with him and I'll send you both to hell."

The icy tone and his vicious words made her shiver. 'Is he running out of patience?' she thought.

She tried to calm down, took a deep breath, and told him, "It was James Huo who made

yed her. Day by day, he tortured her, mentally and physically. He broke her down bit by bit. He even threw mud at her. And this is what's left.'

When Carlos didn't respond, Tabitha stood up and grabbed his hand. She had a hopeful expression on her face. "Lewis, I made your favorite meal. Let's go eat."

Tristan really felt sorry for Carlos. He was a tough and strong CEO, but when he was around Tabitha, he was just a son who wanted to be loved.

'Mr. Huo loves Tabitha and sees her as a mother, yet all she cares about is Lewis.

Before flying to New York, Mr. Huo asked Frankie to contact the best mental hospitals in Y City. He had the assistant exhaustively check out each facility until one met his exacting standards. He wants to take her back to the city and even intends to help her get revenge on James, 'Tristan thought.

Tabitha's reaction chilled his blood. She was really far gone.

Carlos, however, acted as if he didn't mind at all. He took her hand gently and said in a soft voice, "Mom, what did you cook?"

Tabitha led Carlos to her ward. The ward was very clean. It smelled of cleaning agent, and the acrid smell hit his nostrils. The staff were in there every day, cleaning. At least you couldn't complain the place was dirty.

When mother and son entered the ward, Tabitha regained her senses. She immediately released him and said, "Carlos, you came."

Carlos took out a handkerchief from his pocket and wiped his hand. He didn't like other people's germs, and was particularly fastidious. "Of course I'm here. I want to take you to Y City."

### **Chapter 467 Divorce Papers**

"Carlos, Lewis came to visit me. His life sucks. Will you please help him out?" Tabitha asked with a hopeful expression.

Carlos simply nodded, a dash of sarcasm flashing in his eyes.

"Thank you, Carlos. I really appreciate that."

"You're too polite." He then gestured to Tristan, who was standing close by. Tristan immediately opened his briefcase and pulled out a stack of papers.

Carlos grabbed them and passed them to Tabitha without sparing a single glance at them. "Divorce papers. Sign them."

Tabitha's face paled and she seemed to lose her composure and focus. She became visibly frail. The old woman shook her head violently and murmured, "No, not that. Lewis will get hurt."

'Lewis again... All she cares about is her own son, 'Tristan thought.

"Listen to me. He cheated on you. Not long after you gave birth to Lewis, Glenda gave birth to his daughter, Stephanie. He also lied about saving your life back then. All he wanted was your family's power and wealth," Carlos said in a calm voice, yet Tabitha went berserk when she heard what he said.

"NO! That's not true! James saved me. You're lying! Did Miranda put you up to this? Or was it Glenda?"

However, everything he said was true. Although these things had happened many years ago, Carlos' people still managed to dredge up the truth.

The reason why James married Tabitha was that her family was one of the power elite in the city back in the day. They were quite influential, and wealthy to boot. James had set his sights on all that, and wooed her until she agreed to marry him. Actually, James was not Valerie's son. He wanted even more power and resources to strengthen his position within the Huo family.

When she was younger, Tabitha liked to travel. At one point, her affinity for foreign countries proved to be her undoing. Emerging from a restaurant after sampling the local cuisine, she rounded a corner, straight into the arms of thugs who intended to rob her and worse. A man showed up, and through a combination of skill, speed, and brains, managed to save her from these hoodlums. They were savage, yet he was brainy. But she didn't know who her savior was. It was too dark to see his face.

She searched for him for several

me, Grandma. No more medicines." After a while, he added, "But I still need regular injections."

Valerie nodded and asked, "How are you and Stephanie?"

"I broke it off." He didn't explain the reasons behind it to his grandma.

Valerie sighed helplessly. "You and Debbie back together?" she asked.

Carlos' expression remained the same. "She's my ex. I plan to fix that," he said.

Valerie shook her head. "Whatever. I'm too old to get involved. So when am I gonna see some great-grandkids? Otherwise, I can't die in peace."

His face softened when he thought of the little girl. "Grandma, Debbie gave birth to my daughter three years ago. Her name is Evelyn." Her eyes glittered with joy. As she was about to ask something, he added, "She's an adorable girl. She looks like Debbie, but she acts like me."

"Why didn't you bring her along? I'd love to see her," Valerie complained, pouting her lips.

Carlos pulled out his phone from his pocket, found the album he made with Evelyn's photos and gave it to Valerie.

Valerie put on her presbyopic glasses and began to study the pictures carefully. When she saw the first one, she murmured, "Such a pretty girl! She does look like Debbie. But that expression is so you. Look at her eyes! She is rather cute in this one. This one, look! She looks exactly like your mom. Maybe she'll be like Miranda after she's grown. Cold, aloof... Well, maybe not. Debbie's upbeat and cheerful. Maybe she'll turn out more like that..."

Chapter 468 A Wedding Invitation

Carlos wore a broad smile as Valerie made comments on Evelyn. 'No matter who she resembles in character, I will love her forever, ' he thought.

After a while, Valerie gave his phone back and said, "Please bring her here to visit me if you have time. I don't know how much longer I will live."

"Grandma, don't say that! Debbie and I will have another baby and you will have to take care of it for us," Carlos said with a soft smile. He gazed at the photo on his phone for a while before locking it and putting it back into his pocket.

"She's pregnant again?" Valerie asked, eyes wide open.

Carlos shook his head. "Not yet, but it won't be long before she is."

Valerie was a little disappointed, but she still had Evelyn. "If you are too busy, just send her here. I'll take care of her myself."

Carlos stood up, poured a cup of tea for her and said with a sigh, "Grandma, I'm afraid I can't bring her over now."

"Why?" Valerie asked in confusion as she took the cup from his hands. "What happened?"

Carlos paused, wondering what he should address Miranda as. "Mom has been delegating her duties in New York. She will be flying to Y City next week to take care of Evelyn."

It took Valerie a few seconds to realize that Carlos was referring to Miranda, and not Tabitha. She comforted him, "Carlos, it was me who had forced Miranda to give you up to James and Tabitha. Please don't blame her for that. Be nice to her and your dad."

Carlos nodded his head as he stared out the window absent-mindedly.

Before he and Tristan left the Huo family's house, Carlos promised Valerie that he would stay overnight at her place.

He was incredibly busy. After visiting Valerie, he had to go and meet Stephanie's parents.

In Y City

It had been four days since Carlos had left for New York. Debbie stared dejectedly out the window. Not too far away, workers were working. That place used to be a villa which her music studio and yoga room were in, but then James had it demolished and planted a garden instead. Now Carlos hired these workers to build a new villa there.

Debbie turned away from the construction site. 'Ugh! This is so boring, '

she thought and pulled out her phone to c

a mall, and she heaved a sigh of relief when she saw the crowd around her. No one could attack her at a public place like that. "Don't you try to scare me! It's useless. Wait! The murderer hasn't been caught yet. Are you saying that you were the one who killed her?"

Debbie laughed at her response. "Mrs. Li, congratulations. You've successfully attracted my attention. Let's meet. When and where?"

"I'm at the Shining International Plaza now. You can come over right away," Glenda said.

Debbie, however, simply said, "Oh, I'm sorry, Mrs. Li. I'm quite busy at the moment. Maybe another time."

Glenda was so angry that her hands started quivering and her knuckles went pale.

Before Glenda could respond, Debbie hung up on her. Unconvinced, Glenda continued to call her, but Debbie didn't bother to answer.

She looked at the many missed calls on her phone screen. 'Who does she think she is?

Why should I waste my time on her?' Debbie thought to herself.

At ZL Group

The moment Carlos arrived in Y City, he went straight to his office.

Frankie stood before the desk, giving his report. After that, he put an envelope on the table and said, "Mr. Huo, the letter is from Mr. Wen. I didn't open it."

Carlos cast a sideways glance at it and said coldly, "Open it."

"Yes, Mr. Huo." Frankie opened the envelope swiftly.

He was stunned for a moment, and then looked up at Carlos. "Mr. Huo, it's a wedding invitation." He unfolded it slowly.

## Chapter 469 You Can Only Slander Me To Vent Your Frustration

'A wedding invitation?' Carlos, who was working on his laptop, was taken aback by Frankie's words. "Give it to me," he ordered.

Frankie already read the names on the invitation, and his eyes widened in surprise. "It's Mr. Wen and—" His voice trailed off. 'Never mind. Let Mr. Huo handle it, ' he thought.

Carlos frowned upon seeing the names. 'Ivan and Kasie are tying the knot at the end of next month? They're inviting Debbie and me to their wedding ceremony?'

Carlos held the invitation in his hand deep in thought.

He rubbed his brow when something suddenly occurred to him. "Check Debbie and Ivan's marriage certificate. Now!" he ordered.

Even though Debbie had shown Carlos her marriage certificate before, something didn't seem to add up. With his heart in his throat, Frankie immediately made the phone call.

Five minutes later when he got the information, he approached his boss and said in a shaky voice, "Mr. Huo, a member of staff from the Civil Affairs Department has informed me that there is no registration record of Miss Nian and Mr. Wen. I guess that means that they didn't get married."

The truth was that Debbie and Ivan had fooled Carlos.

However, he wasn't the only one that they had duped. Many people were led to believe that Debbie and Ivan were a married couple.

Carlos leaned back in his chair and closed his eyes.

After what seemed like an eternity, he finally opened them again and dialed Ivan's number. "Ivan Wen!" His voice was as cold as ice.

Upon hearing Carlos' icy tone, Ivan guessed that the fake marriage thing had been exposed. He said in a playful tone, "Hi, Mr. Huo. Surprise! Debbie and I didn't get married. Are you overjoyed?"

Carlos sneered, "Yes, I am. So in return, I plan to give you a wedding gift that you'll never forget. How about I buy the Wen Group?"

Ivan was rendered speechless. 'Carlos is a ruthless man! I have to do something.' He knew the only one who could deal with Carlos was Debbie. So he said, "Thanks, Mr. Huo. That's very generous of you. By the way, if I let Debbie know that you've regained your memory, how do you think she would feel about that? You've been ke

which stained the rug on the floor beside her.

Before Glenda could even put the cup down, Debbie raised her cup and poured the coffee onto Glenda's head. Glenda shrieked at the top of her lungs. Debbie glared at her in disdain and snorted, "Woman, are you crazy? If you think that I'm a pushover, you should have learned more about me before you came here. I'm not someone that you can mess with!"

Glenda pulled out a pack of wet tissues from her bag and began to wipe the coffee from herself. Taking a deep breath, she said, "Bah! Learn more about you? I already know enough about you. You're just a shameless bitch who cheated on Mr. Huo and eloped with another man!"

While playing on her phone, Debbie said nonchalantly, "What are you talking about? I didn't hear you."

"I said you cheated on Mr. Huo and eloped with another man. You even gave birth to a bastard child, and you told Mr. Huo that bastard was his daughter. I've never met someone as shameless as you. You deserve to rot in hell!"

Debbie chuckled and opened the WeChat app. She sent Carlos a message saying, "Mr. Handsome, someone just called Evelyn a 'bastard.' What should I do?"

Then she turned to Glenda and said, "Come on! Many women have said the same words before. You're just like them, unable to get close to Carlos. Oops! I said that wrong. It's your daughter who is unable to get close to him. So you can only slander me to vent your frustration."

### Chapter 470 Talk Of The Town

Glenda's face twitched when she heard what Debbie said. "You're just after his money, aren't you? Tell you what, I'll give you ten million. Take your bastard child and leave Mr. Huo."

"Ten million?" Debbie sneered. "At least you're not as stingy as your daughter. She offered me five."

Glenda cast her a disdainful look. "Like the idea? Then fine, take the money and get your ass out of the country. I won't even say a word about the coffee you poured on me."

Debbie didn't have the time for games. 'If I ever had any doubts, they're gone. James, Glenda and Stephanie are definitely family. All arrogant and shockingly open about their cruelty. But neither mother nor daughter is as cunning as James.' "Like mother, like daughter. You've cheated on your husband for so many years. Your daughter stole my husband while his memories were gone. And you both think money can buy everything. Five million? Ten million? Come on! You can do better than that."

Debbie stood up from her seat and added, "Lady—and I use the term loosely—I'll give you fifty million. Take your bitch of a daughter and get out of my sight."

Glenda couldn't keep her cool anymore. She stood up and raised her hand, about to slap Debbie.

Debbie, however, caught her wrist with her left hand and slapped her in the face with the right. Smack!

"Argh!" Glenda screamed at the top of her lungs.

There were not many guests at the cafe—only two young girls, likely students, were sitting at another table. Not wanting any part of this, they immediately picked up their backpacks and went to the cashier's desk to pay. They left in a hurry.

Debbie shook her hand and said impatiently, "Don't call me. Ever. I'm busy, and I don't have time for your drama."

Glenda's face was already red and swollen from the force of Debbie's slap. Her tears fell as she yelled, "You bitch! Guards!"

The bodyguards, who had been standing by the gate all this time, ran towards her. "Mrs. Li."

Glenda raised her hand and pointed at Deb

Drugged one night by her ex-boyfriend, a mysterious man took advantage of her in an ecstatic night filled with sex.

To take her revenge, she married the man, and used him.

"As long as I'm alive, I'm still his legal wife, while all of you are just his mistresses."

She remained adamant even when he was involved in scandals with other women.

Eventually she stormed off after she learned that he had betrayed her again. But life brought her back to him a few years later, to his astonishment.

okie. Even my bodyguards failed me. Stephanie, be careful if you deal with her," Glenda said through gritted teeth.

'Seriously? She hit my mom!' Angry could be seen in her beautiful eyes. "Mom, I have to go. Don't worry. She'll pay for what she did today."

Stephanie called her assistant over and told her, "Post these photos online!"

"Yes, Miss Li."

That evening, the pictures went viral, and Debbie's name was trending high on social media.

Almost everyone in the city saw the photo of her and Ivan's marriage certificate. The news said they had secretly been married for some time.

Of course, this made her look like a liar. She had said publicly, in her concert, that she and Ivan were just friends.

What was more, someone even snapped a photo of Debbie trying on a wedding dress. People speculated about whether they were holding a wedding ceremony soon.

The important part was that someone released photos of Debbie and Carlos hugging each other on the beach while on vacation. Rumor had it that Debbie had dated two men at the same time.

Carlos had gotten engaged to Stephanie. So many people cursed Debbie angrily online saying, "I feel bad for her husband and Stephanie. Debbie Nian is such a bitch!"

Debbie was not affected by the news at all. She even asked her PR team to make the news go viral.