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bag.

As soon as they were out, Ariana asked, "What's wrong with your boss? He was fine just now. How did his mood plunge so suddenly? Did something happen in Eleymond? Otherwise, why would he be so eager to head back? He hasn't even fully recovered."

Horace really wanted to yell at her and tell her it was all because she had that divorce agreement in her

He wanted to shake Ariana sober and tell her that she couldn't divorce just because she wanted to.

Besides, judging from his boss's attitude, he would never let her go so easily.

However, Horace was in no position to do so. Instead, he sighed and said earnestly, "The attending doctor came in and reviewed the diagnosis on Mr. Anderson's legs. It appears that there was a misdiagnosis. Apparently, the crash had worsened his original injury, and it might be difficult for him to stand up again."

Ariana was shocked by the news and gasped, "What did you say?" ©

Ariana was worried about Theodore's condition worsening. She stormed off to the attending doctor and

demanded, "Why is there a new diagnosis? You told us yesterday that Theodore would be able to stand up again soon, but today you claim that he could never stand up again. Are you taking us as fools?"

The doctor felt helpless as he was just following Theodore's instructions. He felt aggrieved, but he dared not go against Theodore's orders. He felt that he was suffering because of this couple. Theodore had to change the diagnosis every day.

The doctor wished they would leave this hospital as soon as possible.

If he continued receiving such pressure from the couple, he was afraid that he would be admitted to the hospital from stress.

"We need a valid explanation. What's wrong with Theodore's injury?" Ariana asked seriously.

The doctor pushed up his glasses and said frantically, "Mrs. Anderson, I'm really sorry. We have limited equipment in the hospital, and most are old. It's easy to make a false diagnosis. I heard that there are specialists down at Eleymond that are more suitable to treat Mr. Anderson's injuries. We have already referred him to the hospital there."

Hearing this, Ariana had nothing to say but to give up. She returned to the ward, dejected.

In the ward, Theodore was staring out the window in a daze, seemingly in a bad mood.

Ariana felt both sorry and sad when she saw him like this. She slowly approached him and whispered,

"Don't sit by the window. It's cold."

Theodore glanced at her and said nothing.

Ariana knew he was having a hard time, so she tried to be more patient with him.

She took a blanket and carefully placed it over his legs as she consoled him, "Okay, you can sit there if

you like. Are you thirsty? Do you want some water?"

Theodore got more annoyed when Ariana was being patient and taking care of his needs. He recalled

the divorce agreement, and his temper rose. "Stop it. Leave me alone," he said impatiently.

Ariana felt hurt by Theodore's indifference. It seemed their relationship was back to square one. He

was just as guarded as before. It was as if there were thorns all over him, and every time Ariana got

close, he would hurt her.

"Pine, I'm going to pack my things."

Ariana felt depressed and started putting her things into her duffel absentmindedly.

Suddenly, she noticed that the bag she had lost in the car crash was sitting on a nearby cabinet.

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burnt in the explosion.

"Where did you find my bag?" Ariana asked in surprise and delight. She was certain the bag had been

Just then, Horace appeared and happened to hear Ariana's question. He answered briskly, "The police came and said the bag was flung outside the range of the explosion, so it was still intact. They were the ones who brought it to us."

Ariana quickly looked through her bag and felt guilty when she saw the paper envelope inside. She cleared her throat awkwardly and asked, trying her best to be casual. "Has anyone touched my bag?

The zipper seems to be broken."

"It was like that when it arrived. No one touched it. It must have been damaged during the crash,"

Horace replied naturally. He was experienced and could tell what Ariana was worried about. He

pretended to be ignorant and answered all her questions. He was really good at acting.

Ariana was relieved by his answers and smiled. "Oh, | see. I'll use this bag again after I get it fixed."

Horace smiled in agreement and remained silent. Meanwhile, Theodore's face was becoming grimmer.

Horace helped to book a private plane back to Eleymond for Ariana, Theodore, dozens of bodyguards, and himself. Ariana was finding a chance to talk to Theodore, but he didn't want to talk. Even if he did, he was plain sarcastic. Ariana felt discouraged by his behavior throughout the journey home. She racked her brains but couldn't think of a way to lift his mood. She knew that patients were typically sensitive about how others treated them. She had to comfort him, but not in an obvious manner. When they finally arrived at the Anderson family's residence, Judy was already waiting by the door. As soon as Ariana got out of the car, she rushed up and hugged Judy. "Judy, long time no see. I miss you so much," she exclaimed. Judy was also elated by their reunion. However, there was a trace of guilt in her eyes. Just as Ariana was wondering what was wrong, a girl in white ran over and pounced on Theodore,

Ariana recognized the girl in white as Helen. She had met her once in Mercy Hospital, and Helen was

shouting, "Theodore!"

the only one who would call Theodore in such a sweet tone.

She was curious about Helen's appearance in the Anderson family's house. Did Theodore ask her to

come?

At that moment, Ariana's mood turned sour. She felt as if reality had given her a slap across the face.

Although she knew she shouldn't be bothered about Helen's appearance, Ariana couldn't help asking,

"Why is she here?"

Theodore glanced indifferently at Ariana, who was frowning and sneered. It was late for her to be

anxious.

He said disdainfully, "This is my house. Why should I explain my actions to you?"

He then turned to Helen and asked gently, "Have you made yourself at home?"

Helen felt flattered and replied warmly, "Yes! I've accustomed myself here. Your house is so

comfortable. I feel my health has improved a lot."

"Great. You can call Judy if you need anything."

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"Yes, I will. Judy is such a good cook. I even gained a few pounds in just a few days."

Ariana stood by the side, being ignored by Theodore and Helen. She felt so angry that she subconsciously chuckled while listening to their conversation.

What a shameless man! He had been cold to her ever since they were in the hospital. However, when

he saw Helen, he treated her gently and even gave her a warm smile.

Ariana realized that she was nothing to him.

She initially believed that Theodore was upset because of the worsening condition of his legs. She

never expected it to be because he didn't want to see her.

It seemed that Helen's presence was the only thing that could improve Theodore's mood. He was even

almost able to stand up.

The more Ariana thought about it, the angrier she became. She rolled her eyes and stormed off quickly to her room.

"Ma'am, please wait!" Judy called after Ariana.

She had something to tell her, but Ariana hurriedly left in a huff before she had the chance. She became anxious and chased quickly after Ariana.

Helen hesitated before tuming to Theodore and said in a worried tone, "Is she unhappy to see me? I'll explain everything to her." With that, Helen followed after Ariana. Theodore frowned as he watched the three leaving one by one. "Boss, should we follow them?" Horace suggested. Theodore nodded. Meanwhile, Ariana opened the door to her room and was stunned when she entered. Why did her kingsized bed become a hard tatami? The ceiling was replaced with a starry pattern ceiling, and the books she had on the shelves were replaced with stuffed animals. ccupied Ariana assumed she had entered the wrong room, so she turned around to check if she was at the right door. Just then, Helen was standing behind, faking an innocent smile at her. Before Ariana could speak, Helen plopped down on the floor and cried, "How can you be so impolite to enter someone else's room without permission?" Ariana gazed blankly at the kitten pattern sign hanging on the door. She was sure she had got the

correct room. When did it become Helen's?

Ariana was growing increasingly annoyed by Helen's wails. "This used to be my room. When did it

become yours? Did you get my permission before occupying it?" she demanded impatiently.

Helen faked confusion and sobbed continuously, "I'm sorry. I didn't know. I didn't mean to occupy your

room..."

Ariana was so annoyed that she couldn't stand hearing another lie from Helen. She tumed to Judy and

asked for an explanation.

Judy looked at her apologetically.

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Just then, Theodore came over. He looked around at the changes in the room and frowned while

asking unhappily, "What was going on?"

Panic was written all over Judy's face as she explained hurriedly, "I'm sorry, Mr. Anderson. Miss Clarke

insisted on having this room. I gave in to her demands since you've told me to listen to her orders."

Ariana felt sad at Judy's explanation.

Theodore felt angry and scolded, "Helen, move out of this room."

"No need. I don't want things that were used by others. They are too dirty," Ariana scoffed.

Everyone reacted differently to Ariana's words. Helen was so angry she bit down hard on her lips. With a long face, Theodore said, "Helen, I'm not going to say it again. Pack up your things now." "T said there's no need," Ariana said. She couldn't help but interrupt. Then she tumed to Judy. "Where's my stuff?" Stammering, Judy answered, "Temporarily in the guest room on the second floor." "That's good. It suits my identity. I'm not a member of the Anderson family after all. I'm just a passer-by." With that, Ariana ran downstairs, her eyes red and ignoring Theodore's expression. He wanted to chase after Ariana, but his self-esteem was too strong. He clenched his fists irritably and felt his heart fill with pain. Damn it! It looked like she was crying. ©

"Theodore, what do we do? I didn't mean to..." Helen whispered, concerned.

Theodore closed his eyes and tried to calm himself down. When he opened them again and had regained composure, he turned to Helen. "Move out of the room, and give it back to her."

Helen didn't seem willing. She didn't like that room that much, but she didn't like seeing Theodore care

so much about that woman. She pouted her lips at him.

"Please, Theodore, I like this room. It's closest to yours. Besides, she said she didn't want it. You can

give it tome." ©

Theodore was at the end of his patience. He raised his eyes coldly. "Move your things out and don't

make me ask again."

Helen could see that Theodore really meant it. Intimidated, she nodded under his cold gaze.

She was still reluctant. All of a sudden, she clutched her chest and gasped, "Theodore, my heart!"

She started shaking and looked like she was about to fall.

He frowned but didn't help her. Instead, he softened his tone and asked Judy to call a doctor.

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In the guest room on the second floor, Ariana's eyes were red from sobbing. She did like Theodore a

little, but she had never entertained the hope that he would fall in love with her.

However, she had thought their relationship had at least eased when they were in the hospital.

She hadn't expected it was just her own imagination.

Theodore had someone else in his heart, so how could he still have her in his heart?

She had just been a joke to him from the beginning. A tool for Theodore to tak® revenge on Jasper. How could she let herself get complacent and forget she wasn't important to him? At the end of the day, it was only Helen in his heart. Ariana cried so hard she burped. She took out her phone and called Sarah. At the sound of Sarah's voice, she felt herself on the verge of breaking down. "Sarah, help me." "What's wrong, Ariana? Why are you crying so hard?" Sarah was scared. She thought something bad must have happened to Ariana, so she hurried out of bed and got her coat on. "Nothing. I just want your help in finding a house. I want to move out of the Anderson family's mansion," Ariana choked out. With a sigh of relief, Sarah went back to her room. "What happened? Why are you in such a hurry to move out?" Ariana's mind had gone blank from crying so hard. "I feel so humiliated. Please don't ask me why for now. I just want to stay away from Theodore, and the whole

Anderson family. I need to be far away from them. I never want to see them again."



"Okay, okay. I understand. I'll help you find a house, but please stop crying." Sarah's heart ached for

Ariana. Ariana was always calm and strong. She must be very sad and desperate if she was crying like

this.

Sarah sighed. It really wasn't that easy to be the wife of a rich man.

While the two were talking on the phone, there was a knock at the door. Ariana hung up and got out of

bed to answer it.

Theodore was in the doorway.

He looked his usual elegant and noble self, but his facial expression looked a little uneasy.

Ariana blinked back at him in shock. She immediately hid her surprise with a cold expression. "What's

up?"

After looking at her for a few seconds, he said gently, "Judy has prepared dinner. Go downstairs and

eat."

"I'm not hungry," Ariana said with an expressionless face.

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She looked a little frightening. He looked away, at a loss. "You should still eat something even if you're not hungry. It's not good for your stomach to not eat anything."

Ariana sneered, "Are you caring about me? I'm just a guest in this house. I don't need you to care about me and I won't be needing any more meals here in the future. I'll come back once I've eaten at work."

Her tone caused Theodore to frown without realizing. He looked up at her again.

"Are you jealous or angry?"

Was there a difference? Ariana almost left just then.

What kind of question was that to ask someone? Was it not normal to be angry at such a thing? She wasn't a saint who couldn't get angry. Besides, Helen didn't deserve to be the object of her jealousy.

Ariana sneered internally but pretended to be indifferent. "I don't understand what you're saying. I have nothing to be angry about."

"But you are angry." Theodore said this with certainty. Ariana didn't make a fuss, but he wasn't stupid, and could obviously feel her anger.

Ariana tumed her head away stubbornly and didn't say a word.

"I didn't arrange for Helen to live in your room. I've asked her to return it to you. Don't be mad at her." Theodore's tone softened, as he moved his wheelchair closer to her. Ariana was so angry that she laughed. "Mad at her? I said there was no need. Things used by others are too dirty!" Now tears were welling in her eyes. She was too angry to give Theodore a chance to speak. She pushed his wheelchair out of the way. "If you don't like what I say, I apologize. It's my fault. I'm the ignorant one. It's your mansion, and there's no space for me. You can fit me in where you like. I shouldn't be so ungrateful. Don't worry. I won't disturb you and Helen anymore." "I don't like hearing such words from you. Helen is just like a younger sister to me." Theodore thought Ariana was jealous and wanted to make Helen's role clear. But Ariana wasn't listening. She covered her ears with her hands. "you don't need to explain. It has nothing to do with me and | have no right to ask. That's what you told me before."

By this point in the argument, Ariana's emotions had become somewhat out of control. She burst into tears and her eyes became red and puffy. She gave Theodore a fierce glare, and then slammed the door.

Theodore remained in the corridor for quite some time, until the garden lights turned off. Then he slowly

moved his wheelchair into the elevator, and went to the room with the kitten pattern sign on the door.

He pushed the door and entered. The room was dimly it, and Helen was lying on the bed with her eyes

closed. She was frowning and seemed to be in a lot of pain.

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The doctor beside her greeted Theodore and told him about her condition. "It's not a big problem, and it

is likely caused by emotions. She just needs a good rest and she'll be fine."

"Okay, thank you." Theodore nodded before asking the doctor to leave.

Once they were alone, Theodore approached Helen and watched her moving eyelids.

"She doesn't want this room anymore. You can stay here if you want." Theodore's tone was the same

as usual, but his eyes seemed cold. "Helen, in the future you have to be good. Ariana is my wife, and

the hostess of this house. I don't want to see this kind of thing happen again."

After saying this, Theodore turned off the bedside lamp, turned around, and left. Once he was gone, Helen opened her eyes, and it was obvious she was furious. She pounded on the bed. "I can't believe that Theodore has fallen in love with that bitch. No, I won't allow this!" It seemed that Ariana and Theodore were now giving each other the silent treatment. She was packing her luggage in her room, cursing to herself. When her mind thought of Helen, she felt disgusted, and didn't want to do anything. Looking at all the things she hadn't packed yet, she was so frustrated. She gave up and lay on the bed. Just then, her phone vibrated. It was a message from Holden. They hadn't been in touch for many days. She clicked on the message and saw a cute cat emoji. Ariana couldn't help but laugh at how childish he was. He always liked to send cute emojis that didn't really fit his image. She replied with a confused emoji.

Holden's reply came immediately. "Are you free tomorrow night? How about we have dinner together?" Without hesitating, Ariana refused. She didn't want to have too much contact with him in private. She could have an occasional chat with him on the social media to comfort him. After a few minutes, Holden sent an emoji of a crying cat. "It's my birthday tomorrow. You really won't have dinner with me?" Ariana didn't know how to reply to this. Holden sent a few more messages. "I think of you as a friend, so I wanted to invite you to dinner." "Of course, if you really don't have time, I'm not going to force you." Picturing Holden celebrating his birthday alone, Ariana thought it was so pitiful. Chapter: 238 She couldn't help but think of what Jennifer had said before. Holden hadn't had friends since he was a

She couldn't help but think of what Jennifer had said before. Holden hadn't had friends since he was a child. Perhaps he had never celebrated his birthday.

Her heart softened at this thought and she gave him a short reply, "Okay, I'll go."

Now she had to prepare a gift for him. She couldn't afford to get him an expensive gift. It became a real

dilemma what she should get for him.

She spent the whole night browsing online for the perfect gift for him. Finally, she chose a black string

bracelet with a cartoon cat head made of pure gold.

She figured since he liked the cat emoji, he would like this. She hoped that when he was in a bad

mood, he could look at the cat and it would make him smile.

After paying, she gave the shop her phone number, and planned to pick it up the next morning.

The next day, she woke up very early and left the house, avoiding everyone.

She went to collect the gift, and then sat alone in the cafe for the rest of the day.

Theodore called her once, but she hung up his call.

She wasn't in the mood to hear his annoying voice.

When it was time to meet Holden, she fixed her makeup, and headed to the restaurant.

The place he had chosen was also very dim. He was still wearing a mask, and was dressed in a high-

end suit. He looked elegant.

Ariana greeted him with a smile, while feeling more natural than the last time they met. She pulled out a

chair and sat down, ignoring the mask and treating him as an ordinary person.

Aside from the unhappiness in the projection room, Holden was actually a gentleman with good manners. He was easy and comfortable to chat with.

During dinner, Ariana began to sincerely treat him as her friend. They talked more and more, including about their private lives.

But when Holden asked about her relationship with her husband, she felt like she was still on alert.

"Why do you ask about that?"

Holden smiled. "Oh, I didn't mean anything by it. I just read the news a few days ago so I was wondering."

Ariana immediately understood he was talking about the gossip about Theodore and Helen. The thought of the two of them made her unhappy.

Having suppressed her emotions for the whole day, she couldn't help but ask Holden now, "If it were you, what would you think about it? Apart from being his lover, how else would you explain their relationship?"

Holden swallowed his food and wiped his mouth. "Maybe it's a misunderstanding?" he suggested

patiently. "Did they actually cross a boundary?" Ariana thought for a while before going silent. She realized Theodore's attitude toward Helen did seem to be similar to the indulgence of a brother, and they hadn't done anything to cross a boundary. "Excuse me, I need to go to the restroom." She wanted to leave and calm herself down. Chapter: 239 Holden nodded and watched her go. She left the private room, and was about to close the door, when she ran into Jasper and Brielle, who she hadn't seen for a long time. Jasper hadn't expected to see Ariana here. He stood up straight and walked toward her. "Ariana, why are you here?" © "It's none of your business." With that, Ariana tumed and was about to leave. Noticing the room behind Ariana was VIP only and seeing a man inside, he assumed it was Theodore. "Why didn't you take other family members with you since you're having dinner with my brother?" he

Ariana rolled her eyes at him. Jasper was so shameless.

shouted.

"Let me go in and say hello to my brother." Jasper stepped toward the door, but Ariana stopped him. "There's no need. He doesn't want to see you." Ariana didn't explain any further. If Jasper found out the man inside wasn't Theodore, he would cause a fuss. Jasper smiled and withdrew his hand. "Today is my brother's birthday. As his brother, I should at least be able to say happy birthday to him." Ariana was stunned by this. It was also Theodore's birthday today? Jasper squinted at her suspiciously. "You didn't know? Didn't you come here to celebrate his birthday?" Ariana composed herself and said, "Your brother is so proud; why would he tell me? Thank you for telling me. Otherwise, I would be an undutiful wife." Jasper sneered and his face darkened. "Do you really think of yourself as his wife?" Hearing this, Brielle, who was standing behind him, said, "Jasper, it's getting late. Let's go." Jasper didn't say anything. He just stared at Ariana, as if waiting for something. Ariana said coldly, "Please leave. I'm going to go and celebrate my husband's birthday."

Jasper wanted to argue, but was worried Theodore would come rushing out of the room. He was still a

little afraid of Theodore, so he left with Brielle, reluctantly.

Watching the two leaving together, Ariana breathed a sigh of relief. Then a strange feeling came over

her.

It was a weird coincidence that Theodore and Holden had the same birthday. ©

In the underground parking lot, Jasper walked on with a straight face, not bothering to make sure

Brielle could catch up with him. The two of them had planned to go shopping in the nearby mall but

after that episode just now, he wasn't in the mood.

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Brielle ran to catch up with him, her heels clicking along the floor. She felt aggrieved.

Women's intuition was always right. Jasper clearly still had feelings for Ariana.

Men were always like this. After they lost something, they wanted it back. They never truly cherished

what they had.

Although she thought this, she didn't dare to say anything.

Since last time, her reputation and popularity were not as good as before. Her career had been in

trouble. Betty's family had sued her and got the evidence as well. She was now entangled in the

lawsuit and exhausted, and the only person she could really rely on was Jasper. © She had to put up with Jasper's attitude for now. He had his own parking space here. When they walked past area A, Brielle felt something was amiss and quickly grabbed his arm. "Wait." "What's up?" Jasper asked impatiently. "The private room that Ariana was in just now was Room A, right?" Brielle asked. He nodded. "Yes, so what?" he said coldly, his hands in his pockets. "Didn't you say the parking space corresponds to the room number? Our room is Room C, and the parking area is area C. But look, Theodore's car isn't in area A." This drew Jasper's attention. "How do you know what car Theodore drives?" His voice was dripping with sarcasm. "You're the one who told me!" She couldn't hold back her anger. "You always like to say things when you're drunk. You have told me about Theodore's cars over ten times." "Okay. I know, I know. Why are you so angry? It gives me a headache." Jasper felt her temper was

getting worse and worse. She almost quarreled with him after he just said a few words.

| He wasn't in the mood to argue with her. He looked around and saw a few cars but none of them |
|---|
| looked familiar. |
| "Are you sure the man in that room was Theodore?" Brielle asked. |
| Hearing Brielle's words, Jasper began to ponder. |
| He thought of Ariana's uncomfortable reaction to seeing him, and her resisting him from entering the |
| room. |
| It was just an excuse that Theodore didn't want to see him. |
| Maybe she was having an affair! |
| "Let's go back and look!" Jasper put on his coat excitedly and put his arm around Brielle's shoulder. © |
| In the private room, Ariana was a little absent-minded. She didn't come to her senses until she |
| accidentally spilled some water. |
| |
| |