

## Unfinished 1351

### Chapter 1351 The Threat of Evidence

After speaking, Eugene forcefully pushed him away.

Ace was pushed far away. As Finley and the others closed in, a surge of panic overwhelmed him, and he desperately clung to Jade. "Jade... Jade, please save me!"

However, Jade remained unmoved by his pleas and coldly responded, "You brought this upon yourself. The consequences you face today are the result of your actions." After saying that, she tried to break free from his grasp.

However, Ace stubbornly held onto her and refused to let go. "Jade, we were once bound as husband and wife. You can't simply leave me like this!"

With a fit of unusual anger burning in his eyes, Eugene walked over and delivered a swift kick to Ace. "Since your son is present today, I'll spare you some dignity. But mark my words, Ace Baker—if you ever try to harm them again, I will make sure you're done for!"

Left lying motionless on the ground after the forceful kick, Ace felt a profound sense of despair. "Nathan, are you not going to help me too?" he pleaded.

Standing not far away, Nathan remained silent and looked at his father expressionlessly.

Glancing at Nathan and noting his unwavering stance, Eugene then shifted his gaze to Jade and questioned, "To whom did you give this house when you divorced?"

Jade's response was filled with disdain as she looked at Ace. "To him," she replied.

Fully aware of Ace's persistent nature, Jade had willingly granted him control of every property he was aware of to avoid his interference.

As for herself, she had converted the company into stocks and cash, unconcerned about the possibility of him benefiting slightly from it. Her primary objective was to sever all ties completely, ensuring he wouldn't find any valuable assets to exploit.

Since ten years ago, Eugene had always wanted them to divorce, and now he could only feel a sense of relief for his sister. He nodded in agreement and added, "Pay attention to the news tomorrow before 10.00AM. If there's no public apology from the Snow Family and Ace, I'll hand over the evidence to the police."

His words were clearly directed at Ace and the Snow Family.

Jade quietly acknowledged his instruction in a soft voice.

After they departed, the room erupted with a tumultuous series of banging and crashing sounds.

"Ace Baker, you son of a b\*tch! Do you think you can toy with me like a monkey?! If I don't end you today, then it will be the end of me!"

Ace's agonizing screams filled the room. "Argh! Finley, let me explain—don't hit me! Don't hit me! How much money did you lose? I promise to cover all the losses, alright?" he pleaded, desperate to save himself from further harm.

Meanwhile, Eugene, Jade, and Nathan walked out without looking back, especially Eugene, whose footsteps quickened as if he were in a hurry.

Jade observed Nathan closely as he followed Eugene. Throughout the ordeal, he never once turned to look at her. While he seemed more biased toward her than Ace, she couldn't shake the feeling that deep down, he might still hold her responsible.

In just a few swift steps, Eugene reached the car and said, "Nathan, take your mother home. I'll go first."

Nathan nodded in response and opened the car door for Eugene. "Uncle, thank you for today."

Nathan recognized that if it hadn't been for Eugene's intervention, Finley would never have backed down so easily tonight, let alone demand an apology from them.

However, Eugene had them firmly under his control, with the threat of imprisonment if they refused to apologize.

It was truly impressive.

However, Eugene remained unaware of Nathan's thoughts, and his mind was preoccupied with the thought of leaving his wife alone at home.

He missed her dearly.

After mumbling an acknowledgment, he got into the car.

As Eugene's car drove away, Nathan hailed a cab by the side of the road. Having returned the car keys earlier, he had no other option but to take a cab.

Without talking to Jade, he opened the back door of the cab and gestured for her to get in.

Despite having her car, Jade complied and entered the cab.

Inside the cab, Jade felt the urge to speak several times before finally finding her voice. "I'm sorry, Nathan. Don't blame me. My intentions were genuinely for your own good," she mumbled, trying to explain herself.

Nathan remained silent, his gaze focused on the world outside the window.

Jade continued her explanation. "I really didn't know about the issues between your father and the Snow Family. If I had known, I wouldn't have turned a blind eye."

Releasing a deep sigh, Nathan replied, "It's fine. There's no need to explain. I already know, and I support your decision to divorce Ace. Since you've given him the property, let's stay at Muse Peninsula tonight."

Jade's eyes brightened at his words. Muse Peninsula was the residence chosen by Nathan. Is this a sign of his forgiveness?

She replied happily, "Okay."

However, when they returned to Muse Peninsula, Nathan emerged from his room with a packed suitcase in hand, startling her at once. She never expected him to still hold a grudge; compared to Ace, he resented her slightly less, but he didn't forgive her. Her voice trembling, she asked, "Nathan, where are you going?"

Nathan paused without looking back at her. "Dad was right about one thing. As long as I'm living with you and spending your money, I have no right to have a say. That's why you two don't care about what I think. This house is yours, so I won't be staying here anymore. Starting from today, I won't spend a single penny of yours."

Freaking out, Jade caught up to him in a few steps and held onto his suitcase. "Nathan, don't scare me, okay? I do care about you. I know that we didn't handle this well, but your dad and I are divorced now. His theories don't affect you anymore. From now on, what's mine is yours. No one will say anything about you."

Nathan looked at her, his eyes blazing with intensity as he questioned, "Aren't you part of his theories as well? If you didn't rely on your sense of superiority, you wouldn't have gone to Halma and said so many cruel things to her! Even if we're just friends for eight years, you shouldn't have treated her like

that, not to mention that she is my girlfriend! She loved me when I was at my lowest. She didn't despise me for not being knowledgeable or having no skills whatsoever, nor did she frown on me for staying in her rented house, sitting around doing nothing. I barely had enough to eat back then, being chased by loan sharks everywhere. I even contemplated ending it all! I was unconscious for three full days, during which she took care of me 24/7. Without her, I wouldn't be who I am today! She loves me with all her heart and did not ask for anything from our family, so how could you point fingers at her?"

This was the first time Jade had heard Nathan talk about these things, and she was deeply shocked. "When did all this happen? Why don't I know about it?"

Nathan knew what he was going to say next. His heart ached with pain, and his eyes reddened instantly. "Of course, you don't know about it! Every day, you were either busy working at your office or stalking Ace Baker like catching a thief. I lived each day like a street child, drinking, gambling, fooling around with girls, and doing drugs all day with friends who were only a little older than me. Without Uncle Eugene's forced discipline, I'd most likely end up in prison! Only you think your son is precious. What's wrong with my girlfriend? She's beautiful, confident, works hard, and managed to study abroad based on her own merits. She started her own magazine without relying on anyone, and her excellence surpasses many others. And now, you've stripped away every ounce of her confidence! Isn't it just because she isn't as loaded as you are? What else is it about her that makes her not good enough for your son?"

Jade looked at him, feeling a lump in her throat. After remaining speechless for a long time, she said, "I'm sorry, I didn't know these truths, and you didn't tell me either. I-I'll apologize to her tomorrow, okay? Please don't move out."

At that, Nathan replied expressionlessly, "You should apologize indeed, but I don't want you to bother her these days. It'd seem insincere and it'll be as if I forced you to do it."

As such, Jade gave in. "Alright, then. I'll apologize to her after some time, okay? As long as you don't move out, that is."

Nathan asserted, "I'm definitely moving out of here. I don't want to live in the shadow of your influence, and I certainly don't want to be unable to stand up for myself when you meddle in my affairs!" With that, he dragged his suitcase, ready to leave.

Jade stopped him once again in a pleading voice. "Where are you going at such a late hour? I just divorced your dad. Can't you spend some time with me?"

Nathan's expression remained indifferent and even had a hint of coldness to it. "You were living alone even before the divorce. Now that you've divorced a sc\*mbag like that, you should be celebrating by throwing a party. It's really nothing to be heartbroken about. I'm going to find my girl. She has been upset for so many days and needs someone by her side as well!"

This time, he broke free of her grasp and walked out of the door right away.

Jade stood there blankly, watching the door open and close. Then, she slowly crouched down, covering her face with her hands as tears trickled through her fingers. What a failure my life is! I failed to keep my husband's love for a lifetime, and now, I've even lost my son.

...

Ring!

The doorbell rang unexpectedly, causing Halma to jerk up in bed, wondering if she had misheard it. In reality, she wasn't asleep; she was just lying in bed while letting her imagination run wild. This time, she perked up her ears and listened carefully, and sure enough, the doorbell rang again.

She got out of bed while wondering who would come at such a late hour. It can't be Olivia returning, can it? However, when she saw Nathan through the peephole, she was stunned. What is he doing here so late at night?

After hesitating for a moment, she opened the door, considering his efforts today with the video and the delivery. Perhaps I should listen to Olivia's advice and give him a chance to explain.

Still, Halma was surprised to see him dragging a suitcase in his right hand and holding a laptop in his left, with a canvas bag slung over his arm. Is he planning to move? She pursed her lips, her heart pounding out of control. Some ideas seemed to be trying to burst into her mind, only to be instinctively suppressed at being hurt time after time.

On the other hand, Nathan drew in a sharp breath of distress the moment he saw her. She had always looked refined and presentable on camera, but now, her hair was disheveled, and her eyes were dull and glazed. She was only wearing a white nightgown, which accentuated her pale complexion, making her look so fragile it was as if she had just recovered from a serious illness. Her eyes, in particular, were red and swollen—a clear indication that she had been crying a lot. It's only been a few days since we last saw each other. How did she become so haggard? He dropped the things in his hands and quickly went up to her. He pulled her into his embrace, thereafter apologizing in a low, hoarse voice. "I'm sorry, Halma. I'm sorry that I didn't handle things well."

Tears blurred Halma's eyes before her body could react. She didn't say a word, but the slight trembling of her shoulders proved how aggrieved she was.

Nathan felt his heart ache so much that he could hardly breathe. Cupping the back of her head with his large hand, he kissed her fiercely, which seemed to be the only way to further prove his heartache and remorse at this very moment.

Halma resisted at first, but the man's kiss was somewhat domineering. No matter how hard she struggled, she couldn't break free. She stepped back repeatedly, but he pursued her relentlessly until he pressed her against the open door. Whether it was because she couldn't break free of his hold or because her pent-up emotions finally found an outlet, she suddenly felt overwhelmingly aggrieved, and she burst into loud sobs.

Startled and flustered, Nathan raised his hand to wipe her tears. "Don't cry, Halma. It pains me to see you cry. It's all my fault. How about you take it out on me?" he said, grabbing her hand to let her hit him in the face.

Halma didn't budge. Instead, she just buried her head deeper into his chest. After a while, her sobs finally fell away, but the tears still flowed, streaming down her cheeks quietly.

Nathan's kisses landed on her eyes. Her tears were so hot that they made his heart clench. I've made her cry again. Not knowing how to express his apology, he could only turn them into tender kisses, planting them on her eyes and brows and apologizing after each kiss.

At last, Halma gave up resisting and yielded to her heart's desire. Slowly wrapping her arms around the man's waist, she leaned against his chest in exhaustion.

Nathan didn't move either. He held her in the doorway, his large hand gently stroking and combing through her hair. His tender kisses landed on the top of her head. At this moment, his heart, which had been anxious and unsettled all day, finally found a place to rest.

Only after a long while did Halma look up. Looking at the things he brought with him, she asked, "What are you doing?" Her voice was slightly hoarse, perhaps from having cried for so long.

Nathan smiled and tucked her disheveled hair behind her ear. "I have nowhere else to go, my dear girlfriend. Can you please take me in?"

#### Chapter 1352 Falling Into Your Hands Willingly

Halma rolled her eyes at him, grumbling, "If you said you couldn't get used to living in your family's luxury mansion, I might actually believe you."

"I really have nowhere else to go." Nathan grabbed her shoulders and said with utmost seriousness, "I had a big fight with my parents today. I think my dad was right. Everything I have now is given by them. But I don't want to live like this anymore. I don't want to be unable to speak up for my girl when she's being mistreated. Starting today, I'm going to work hard to make your life better. I'm no longer Ace Baker's son, nor am I Eugene Nolan's nephew—I'm just Nathan Baker. Are you still willing to love this version of me?"

Halma appeared to be unmoved by his words, but in her heart, she was deeply astounded. He had a big fight with his parents and even ran away from home in anger, huh? She pushed him, saying with feigned disgust, "Who would like you now that you have nothing left? You'd best go back!"

Nathan laughed upon hearing that. I was in a much more miserable state back then than now, but she didn't push me away even then. How could she really tell me to go back? She doesn't mean it. He tightened his arms around her as he murmured, "No, I can't go back anymore. I've vowed to not live with them anymore. If you don't take me in, I'll have to live on the streets."

Halma frowned before asking with concern, "Do they know that you came out at such a late hour?"

Nathan reassured her by saying, "Don't worry. They know I'm coming to you."

She curled her lips before taunting, "Your parents already have a problem with me, and now you're running away from home because of me. Can't you stop attracting more animosity toward me?"



"I'm just returning the favor in kind." Nathan lifted her chin with his hand. "This is me seeking revenge for you, little girl!"

The light in Halma's eyes dimmed for a moment. Despite her annoyance, she said under her breath, "You don't have to. They're your parents, after all. Actually, I can understand why they did those things. It's all for your own good."

Nathan, however, let out a snort. "They never knew what I wanted. Anyway, let's not talk about them anymore. Just give me a straightforward answer. Will you take me in or not?"

Halma raised her chin haughtily and snorted. "What if I say no?"

Nathan thought about it for a moment before stating, "Then I'll ask again later."

She could hardly hold back her laughter at that. "Look at you! You're hopeless."

"From now on, I'll have to rely on you to take care of me," he announced.

Listening to his words, Halma felt like crying, but she blinked back the tears about to well up in her eyes. Then, deliberately making things difficult for the man, she demanded, "In that case, you have to pay rent."

Nathan agreed immediately upon hearing that. "Okay! How much is it?"

She pondered for a moment before saying, "You'll be responsible for making three meals a day!"

Startled, the man asked again for confirmation. "Three meals a day?"

Only then did Halma realize that something was off. Annoyed and embarrassed, she stepped on his foot right away. "What are you thinking about? I'm only telling you to be in charge of making meals. I've been cooking for you all these years, so it's about time you take over." She carried his suitcase into her house in a coquettishly proud manner.

Nathan held his foot while howling in pain for a while. Seeing that she was ignoring him, he grinned and picked up the things on the floor before following her into the room. Walking a few steps up to her, he asked with a smile, "So, are you finally turning the tables on me now?"

Halma let out a snort. "Of course! Every dog has its day, you know!" She held his chin between her fingers playfully like a rascal. "Who would've thought that you would end up falling into my hands, little brat?"

Nathan laughed with great satisfaction. Leaning closer to her ear, he replied affectionately, "Yeah, I fell into your hands willingly!"

Chapter 1353 Please Take Care of Me From Now On

Halma's ears reddened visibly. Feeling butterflies in her stomach, she took a step back as if she had been startled. "Y-You haven't eaten yet, have you? Let me whip something up for you," she mumbled before quickly fleeing into the kitchen.

Nathan watched with smiling eyes as the woman ran away. Luckily, she's still willing to trust me. After briefly putting his belongings in order, he went to the kitchen and embraced her from behind. "My girlfriend is not only capable at work but also an expert at housework," he commented.

Halma darted a look at him. "Do you feel like you're getting a real bargain?"

"I do," Nathan replied, to which she asked, "Check out this kitchen. Is this big enough for you?"

He looked around. "That depends on what we're going to do here."

She didn't quite understand what he meant, so she looked at him in annoyance, asking, "What else do you think the kitchen can be used for?"

Instead of answering her question, Nathan looked at her with a cryptic smile.

Only then did Halma seem to realize what he meant. Just when she was about to lose her temper, she heard the man say with a straight face, "It's a bit small, but it's just the two of us, which is a good thing. If we have several kids at once like my uncle, we might have to get a bigger house."

Halma was lost for words. Is that all? Have I been overthinking it?

Nathan found her puzzled expression inexplicably cute. He ruffled her hair with a smile before murmuring, "That's okay, though. I'll work hard to get us a bigger house next year."

Frowning, Halma pursed her lips and muttered, "You haven't even moved in yet, and now you're feeling bitter already?"

"Of course not!" Nathan hurriedly replied. "You have no idea how much I want to live here with you. We can go to work together during the day and cook together when we come back in the evening. At night, we can watch movies and have dates together. What a wonderful life it'll be."

Halma glared at him. "Who's going to cook with you? You're going to pay rent, remember?"

"I haven't learned how to cook yet, have I? I'll learn it from you first. After I've learned how to cook, I'll start cooking for you," he offered.

All of a sudden, Halma remembered that back when this man dated Melanie, Melanie had said she didn't know how to cook, to which he had replied, "I'll learn how to do it. I won't let you go hungry, anyway."

Even though a scene like that wasn't so much as to bother her, it felt like a thorn in her flesh that could never be removed. As a result, her spirits dropped instantly. He has said those pickup lines to countless other women before. I can't even tell whether he really means them or not.

Seeing how Halma's mood suddenly went from happy to gloomy, Nathan grabbed her shoulders. "What's wrong? If you don't mind my bad cooking, I can make something for you right now," he suggested, trying to take the spatula from her.

She dodged him. "That's enough. Are you trying to blow up my kitchen?"

Nathan teased with a grin, "Of course not. I'm not that clumsy, you know. I might not be a pro home cook yet, but I still know my way around the kitchen after seeing you cook for so many years."

Halma finally chuckled upon hearing that. It's not necessary to hold onto the past. Since I've chosen to forgive his past, I should also forget about those unworthy people and stuff.

Nathan stayed by her side while she was busying herself in the kitchen. Just as he had said, he wasn't completely clueless when it came to cooking. In fact, he even helped her with some tasks.

Halma thought that this way of life seemed pretty good.

Twenty minutes later, a simple spread was served on the dining table. The couple sat facing each other with a plate of pasta placed before each of them.

Nathan smiled. Raising his plate toward Halma, he announced, "Please take care of me from now on, my dear girlfriend!"

Halma let out a snort at that. "Behave yourself, or you'll get nothing to eat!"

"Aye!" he replied.

Chapter 1354 They're Absolutely a Family

After dinner, Nathan played for Halma the video that Eugene had played for the Snow Family today. He knew that Halma already believed him now, or she wouldn't have let him in and allowed him to stay. However, there was no way she could be unperturbed by this incident, so he wanted to give her some peace of mind.

Halma never expected him to have actually spoken to Lexie. Watching the video, she asked, "Who recorded this?"

"My uncle," Nathan replied, feeling somewhat proud of himself. However, he couldn't help but sigh before explaining, "Just as expected from him. It didn't even cross my mind to record a video to prove my innocence to you, but he already figured out what I wanted to do. You didn't know about this, but when you ignored me, I was at a complete loss for what to do. I was running around like a headless chicken, with my only thought being to find evidence to make you believe me. So, I went to Lexie Snow. Although I didn't really want to see her, I wanted her to testify for me. But who would've thought that this woman really had no sense of shame? Just listen to what she is saying. Not only did she refuse to help, but she even spouted her twisted logic in such an unapologetic way. Just who does she think she is? She even tried to brainwash me. At the time, I thought that if she wouldn't help, then we would go to hell together. That's why I fell out with her right then and there."

After watching the video, Halma felt all warm and fuzzy and reassured in her heart, though she still had concerns. And so, she asked, "Wouldn't your doing so affect the collaboration between your family and hers?"

Nathan had disdain written all over his face. He despised his father's unscrupulous way of doing things.

He replied with a snort, "If a company like that refuses to collaborate with us, then we won't collaborate with them!"

Halma replied, "You can't say things like that. Collaboration is about making money, and no one would have a problem with making money. If you offended the Snow Family like this, it would affect your immediate interests. Knowing their character, you could've just chosen to not collaborate with them next time. This time, however, you guys were the ones who took the initiative to say there'd be no collaboration. Shouldn't it be considered a breach of contract on your part?"

Nathan took her hand while looking at her tenderly. "Look at you, worrying like an old lady. It's okay. My uncle has solved it for me."

Halma was quite relieved when she heard that Eugene was involved. With his involvement, of course, there wouldn't be any problem. I've never seen how he dealt with problems before, but how should I put it? I can't help but admire this man. Not only do I admire him, but I admire Olivia, too. They're absolutely a family! Both of them are high in IQ, EQ, and AQ. A faint smile played on her lips and she felt as though her anxious heart was finally put to rest. In the end, she replied softly, "Good to hear that."

Nathan stared at her expression, seemingly dissatisfied with her response. "So, what do you think of how I did today?" he asked.

Halma turned her head to look at him, and her lips brushed against his cheek as a result. For a moment, she was startled. She never expected him to get so close to her. She had wanted to poke fun at him, but when she saw his face begging for a compliment, she murmured, "I think you're pretty cool!" As she spoke, she pecked him on the lips, her eyes locked onto his as if she could see right through his heart.

Nathan clearly saw his own reflection in her tender eyes, and the feeling of being seen and cherished made him feel happy, sweet, and a little lightheaded. How can such a light kiss soothe my lovesickness for her? As if under her spell, he felt an unbearable itch deep down inside. Stretching out his long arms, he pulled her into his arms, kissing her on the lips once again.

#### Chapter 1355 Sleepover

Nathan did not describe the incident in detail to Halma, since he felt it wasn't necessary to let her know about troubling issues. Besides, he was also too embarrassed to let her know about it. She just had to believe that he hadn't done anything traitorous behind her back.

Meanwhile, Halma also thought the incident had been dealt with, so she reconciled with Nathan. Olivia and Eugene helped a lot in the process, and Nathan hadn't been there when they had registered to get married. Aside from giving their thanks and blessings, they wanted to treat Olivia and Eugene to a meal. However, both Olivia and Eugene missed Mastar too much and couldn't stay long in the country, so they turned down the invitation.

Halma still felt embarrassed because their schedules had been delayed another day for no reason because of her and Nathan, so she headed directly to Olivia's studio to visit her after she finished her work in the morning.

Meanwhile, Olivia saw Halma enter the studio as soon as she finished up some tasks. Halma looked completely different than before, with her beautifully made-up face, smiling lips, and glowing eyes. It was completely different from how she had looked yesterday.

Raising an eyebrow, Olivia teased, "The power of love is amazing."

Halma looked somewhat embarrassed by her teasing and replied snottily, "I'm far too kind and pretty not to give him a chance."

Olivia's lip curled slightly. "Ha! Who was the one affected by a mere comment yesterday?"

Pouting, Halma glared at her. "Why do you have to mention something I don't want to talk about?"

Olivia considered for a moment before commenting, "Fine, then. Considering that you are now happy after going through so much, I'm not going to trouble you. Tell me how Nathan managed to convince you."

Halma sat opposite Olivia and smiled. "He didn't. I was the one kind enough to keep him."

Olivia's eyes brightened as she repeated, "Keep?"

Halma laughed happily, yet it held a hint of resignation. "He moved over to my place yesterday."

Olivia's eyes lit up again. "Moved to your place? Are you two—"

Halma quickly put a stop to Olivia's wayward thoughts. "Stop, stop! He's just staying there. That's what happened last night. Is he still even human if he tried to take advantage of me?"

Olivia let out a laugh upon hearing that. "So, you two were chatting under the covers, eh?"

Halma retorted, "Haven't you and Eugene done that before?"

Olivia sighed. "We're doing that now. It's far too difficult to look at something without being able to get a taste."

Halma snorted. "If you're this covetous, how can Eugene stand it?"

Olivia instinctively wanted to say something but forced it down before it came out.

Halma stared at her appraisingly. "What's that look? Does he not crave you? Or do you have other ways to satisfy him?"

Olivia realized that they were getting way off track and quickly dragged the conversation back on course. "We're talking about you and Nathan. Why are you mentioning me? Go on quickly."

Halma laughed. "I'm guessing it's impossible for Eugene not to crave you. It must be the second option, then. You're satisfying him in other ways."

Olivia thought that Halma was extremely accurate in her assumptions. Eugene was her nemesis since she had never stopped after getting pregnant. She wondered how he had lived in the past when he was now so insatiable with her.

"Alright, alright. You're the smartest and I'm in awe of you. Why is he sleeping over at your place? What about his mother?"

At that, Halma replied, "He said he has fought with his parents and that they gave him everything he had, so they controlled many parts of his life. He has decided to be self-sufficient from now on and not stay in Muse Peninsula anymore. If I don't let him stay over at my place, he will have to sleep on the streets. Don't you think I'm kind and pretty?"

Olivia pondered over this for a moment before asking suspiciously, "Aren't his parents divorced? Did he leave his mother alone at home?"

Halma was taken aback when she heard that. "What did you say? His parents are divorced?!"