

## Unfinished 601

### Chapter 601

After all, the manual reset of the arm would be a little painful. The doctor was worried that the stiff muscle would negatively affect the effect of the treatment, so he gave Nathan anesthetic.

Half an hour later, the doctor rose to his feet and grabbed Nathan's arm to begin searching for a suitable position.

Kate stared nervously at Nathan's face. She instinctively moved closer to him and grabbed his other hand, wanting to give him some comfort. "How long will it take, Doctor?"

The doctor responded, "Not long at all!"

As he said this, they clearly heard the sound of bones being cracked, which seemed like the trick was successful.

She grabbed his hand and tightened it subconsciously. "Doctor, is it done?"

"Yes," he responded. "I better take a scan to be sure, though."

Kate accompanied Nathan to take the X-ray again and an hour had already passed after a round of walking back and forth in the hospital.

However, when they saw the picture of his now relocated bones, she was a little relieved. It could be said that the external manipulation was rather successful.

The doctor wrapped another cast on him to immobilize him and informed him to stay in the hospital for observation for another one to two days.

Before leaving, he told both Kate and Nathan, "He shouldn't move too much and it's better for him to be on bed rest. It will be really troublesome if any problem arises again."

At that time, Nathan didn't really care about it, but Kate had started to worry. Bed rest? How could he do that? He lives alone and doesn't even have someone to take care of him. Wait, he is not expecting me to take care of him, right?

Although his injuries were sustained because of her, how could she take care of him now that their relationship was in such an awkward state?

He wouldn't think she had any other ideas about him, would he?

Nathan wasn't even thinking as much as Kate was. Right now, he was simply happy to watch her being all anxious and distressed for him.

The two returned to North's ward again. Olivia and Jewel had already returned and were talking to North.

Kate looked at the large bag of alternative medicine on the table and asked subconsciously, "Why do you have so much medicine?"

Olivia responded, "I prescribed it for Jewel."

"Oh!" Kate immediately understood. "Can Jewel's throat be cured?"

"We'll try something out," Olivia said. "By the way, how are you, Nathan? Everything alright?"

A helpless Kate answered on his behalf, "He has a bone fracture. He just underwent external manipulation and the doctor told him to go back and rest."

After listening to Kate, Olivia advised, "It takes a hundred days to heal your hurt muscles and bones, so you should take good care of them now."

Immediately, Kate looked resigned. A hundred days? I don't want to be with him for even a day.

She was in a dilemma since it was because of her that he was injured.

"Do you still have to be hospitalized?" Olivia asked again.

"Well, the doctor said to be admitted so that he can be observed for one to two days before heading home to rest. Right, we should get him admitted first. Jewel, you may have to wait for me for a while. I'll take you back when I'm done," Kate replied instead of Nathan once again.

Jewel nodded.

Then, Kate helped Nathan with the admission and found a care worker to take care of him here, which was why she had the time to send Jewel back.

When she returned to the hospital again, she bought some food and sent one portion to North's ward.

As for the other portion, she brought it back to Nathan's ward where she placed all the things that she bought on the small table that she had set up for him.

Kate had managed to take care of everything although she didn't say anything.

If it was said that Olivia was usually clumsy and clueless, Kate would then be the person who could take care of people exceptionally well.

Nathan's heart suddenly felt a little astringent—he had never noticed how good she was before.

Now that he was injured, she was forced to take care of him here. How uncomfortable is she? "Kate, you should go back to sleep tonight. The care worker is here anyway, so I'll be okay."

While putting food on the table, Kate said, "It's okay. I'll manage while you're in the hospital. After you leave the hospital, I'll get someone to take care of you. I-I can't get away from work..."

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Nathan smiled. Can't get away from work? She just doesn't know how to face me.

All of a sudden, he felt a little distressed and he said hoarsely, "Okay."

Kate glanced at him, and her heart that had been lifted up was quietly lowered. After all, she knew very well that Melanie had lived in his house before. It was just as likely that she had even slept on their bed as well, so Kate really didn't want to return there.

After placing the things on the table, she sat on his hospital bed, picked up a serving of pigs in a blanket with the utensils, and brought it to Nathan's lips. "These are pigs in a blanket from Paragon. You haven't eaten them for a long time, right?"

Everything she did was so natural that it felt like she was used to it, but the more that Kate did so, the more Nathan felt like a jerk.

He opened his mouth and ate the dish.

Maybe it was because he hadn't eaten it for a long time or he was being fed by Kate, but he suddenly felt that the pigs in a blanket were delicious.

He looked at her and said, "I haven't felt this way for a long time. I was once sick and hospitalized in a coma for three days. You took care of me just like this too. When I woke up, I almost didn't recognize you because you were even more haggard than me. Do you remember the first thing I said to you?"

She was stunned. Why wouldn't she remember? He said that she was a fool. You even asked whether you should start calling me 'dummy' from tomorrow onward. How could you not know how to sleep?

At that time, Kate thought that he cared about her and felt sorry for her.

However, later on, when she saw the way Nathan spoke to Melanie, it was only then that she knew that he was a smooth-talker!

His tone of concern and distress was not like this.

At that time, Nathan only looked down on her habitually and didn't want to talk to her nicely.

What was he trying to say by bringing this up?

Did he want to remind her of how stupid she was? Or, did he want to show how smart he was? That he could easily deceive her for so many years? To the point where she couldn't let it go—even until now?

There was a self-deprecating smile on the corner of Kate's lips, but her voice was unusually indifferent. "I don't remember."

When he heard her answer, Nathan was immediately speechless. He stared at her, and when he saw her expression, his face sank while he felt a little nervous. What did he just say? Did his words agitate her? "I'm sorry..."

His careful apology made her even more uncomfortable.

She knew that he probably didn't say it to show off and maybe he only wanted to retrieve their shared memories, but she really didn't want to recall anything that she did for him in the past like a fool and a joke!

Nathan didn't know what to say. He was worried that if he couldn't say something right, it would make her unhappy again while Kate simply didn't want to say anything.

So, the two remained silent and an awkward atmosphere persisted between them.

All of a sudden, a phone rang. She turned on the phone and glanced at it—it was Jasper.

She answered, "Hello?"

Jasper's voice came from the phone. "Katie, where are you? I'm at your door!"

Kate said, "I'm in the hospital."

"The hospital? What's wrong with you?"

When she listened to Jasper's nervous voice, she smiled and said, "I'm fine. I'm here for a friend."

"Oh, you scared me to death. So, when are you coming back?"

"Why are you looking for me at this time?"

"I was on a business trip some time ago, and just heard about what that b\*stard Howard did to you. So, I was naturally worried and wanted to see you. Which hospital are you at? I'll just come and look for you."

Kate glanced at Nathan subconsciously while listening to the man's concern and suggested, "Don't come here. I'm fine. I'll call you when I get back tomorrow."

Jasper reluctantly replied, "Okay. Then, make sure you call me when you come back."

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"Okay," Kate said before hanging up the phone and thereafter took her cutlery to feed Nathan another bite.

However, this time, Nathan felt that the taste of the dish had changed. After chewing on it dozens of times, he still couldn't bring himself to swallow it.

What was he supposed to do?

What should he do to win her back?

"If you have matters to attend to, you can return home. There are caregivers here."

She looked up and shot him a glance that was somewhat defensive. "Is someone coming to visit you later?"

He froze. "N-No!"

Kate suddenly felt irritated, and she slightly lost her temper. "Then, why do you keep kicking me out? I don't want to take care of you either, but I have no choice. You are injured because of me. I don't care whether you think I'm ungrateful, but if you think I'm not taking good care of you, tell me who you want. I can bring her over and make you happy!"

Nathan stared at her in astonishment, then hastily explained, "No, it's not that. I was afraid that you're busy and that I am... wasting your time."

She snapped fiercely, "What would I be busy with?" Does he think I'm him?

He was speechless.

After taking a deep breath, Kate set down the bowl in her hand before leaving the ward.

She squatted in the corridor of the aisle and buried her head deep between her legs to hide like an ostrich.

It was impossible for her to calm down at all. While it was one thing to think about it, it was another to really bring herself to do it.

She was aware of everything. She knew that she shouldn't have lost her temper with him right now, and she shouldn't be saying such things, but she just couldn't control herself!

When the sound of high heels clacking against the ground rang out from a distance, she didn't even want to bother about it.

It wasn't until the pair of high heels stopped beside her that she looked up with tears in her eyes. "Olivia..."

Kate got up and hugged the person who had just arrived. "Olivia... I think I really need to see a doctor."

Olivia reached out and hugged her back. "All right. Don't feel so bad. What's the matter?"

Kate cried for a long time before telling her about what happened earlier. "I didn't mean to say that. I just couldn't control myself."

"I know. I know," Olivia replied. "You're not sick. You just can't bring yourself to forgive him. You think negatively whenever he says something, but deep down, you know that he doesn't mean to hurt you. To put it bluntly, you're too disappointed and you feel wronged. You blame him for destroying the good in your heart, because you feel those seven years had been in vain. You blame him for always saying that he likes you, but now, he has suddenly shown how generous he can be. You can't treat him as a

normal friend anymore. You hate that you can't make it happen, but you can't let it go either, right? I completely understand!"

Leaning into Olivia's arms, Kate nodded vigorously.

"All right," Olivia comforted. "In fact, Nathan has asked you to return because you looked upset. He didn't mean anything else. Don't feel pressured. He has made a mistake, so you can treat him however you want. This is what he should pay for his mistakes. You don't have to worry about him. Slowly get through this. Don't force yourself to accept it as soon as possible. Just let nature take its course. If you enjoy taking care of him, then stay. If not, then just leave!"

While looking at Olivia in an aggrieved manner, Kate pursed her lips. "He was injured trying to save me. I can't just ignore him."

Olivia smiled and asked in return, "So what? Weren't you trying to save him?"

"It was also because of me last time—"

"At the end of day, that was because of him too. All of this only happened because he made you sad, so you don't have to be upset."

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Kate burst into laughter. "Do you have to be so biased?"

Olivia smiled. "Of course! You're my best friend!"

"Nathan will be so angry if he hears that," Kate said.

As soon as she spoke, a male voice sounded. "I'm not angry."

The two of them looked over and saw Nathan standing at the door with his arm hanging by his side. His eyes were also filled with distress. "Kate, I'm sorry. I was afraid that you'll be upset to see me here, so I asked you to go back. I'm the one who broke your heart. You can beat me up and scold me, as long as it makes you feel better."

She was shocked and didn't even listen to his words as her eyebrows furrowed tightly. "Why did you come out? Didn't you hear what the doctor said earlier?" With that, she hurriedly went over to help him.

Nathan obediently followed her back and walked while saying, "I'm fine. I didn't touch my arm at all."

When Olivia saw that the two of them were getting along just fine, a small smile appeared on her face as she figured that she didn't need to head into the ward to talk to him anymore.

The next day, after Lara had managed to douse Edward's temper, he went straight to the Nolan Residence.

However, Old Man Nolan wasn't home. The servant told Edward that Merlin had gone to the hospital early in the morning to visit Eugene.

He waited in the house for a while. The moment he thought of leaving, he received a call from Lara. "I heard that Old Man Nolan went to the hospital to visit Eugene?"

Edward answered as he walked, "Yeah. I didn't know that until I arrived here."

Lara said, "Then, you should go over and have a look."

Edward didn't want to go as he was a little afraid to see Eugene lying on the hospital bed. "What else is there to see? Haven't I already seen everything?"

"Since Old Man Nolan has already gone there, you, as a father, should head over and show some concern too."

He reluctantly agreed and drove to the hospital.

The hospital was still heavily guarded, and just like yesterday, he was stopped by bodyguards as soon as he arrived.

Edward was livid as he snapped, "You stopped me yesterday, yet you're stopping me again today. Do I have to get your approval to visit my son?"

The bodyguard lowered his head and replied, "Mr. Edward, we're just following orders. That's what President Nolan has ordered us to do."

"He's already bedridden, yet he still can give you orders?" Edward fumed, "Are you only going to let me in when he's about to die?"

The moment he spoke, the door of the ward was opened to reveal Merlin walking out.

His eyes were slightly moist, and he was livid as he pointed at Edward and yelled, "Is that what you should say as a father?"

Edward responded, "Dad, I'm also worried about Eugene's condition."

Merlin grunted. "Didn't Dr. Maxwell tell us to not disturb him? He needs to rest. Yet, you're out here yelling like this?"

Following behind was Olivia, who spoke to Merlin instead of greeting Edward. "Master Merlin, take care."

Merlin replied, "I will. You can go back and take good care of Rocky."

She nodded. "Okay."

Then, she retreated inside and the door of the ward was closed once again while he stumbled out.

Edward wasn't concerned about seeing Eugene anymore as he hurriedly caught up with the old man.

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It was when they were at the Nolan Residence that Edward finally showed some concern. "Dad, have you seen Eugene? How is he? Is he okay?"

Merlin replied indifferently, "He's okay!"

The corners of Edward's mouth twitched. "Did the doctor say when he'll make a full recovery?"

"What's the hurry?" Merlin snapped. "He'll slowly recover!"

"That's true. He should take his time. Didn't Dr. Maxwell say that he's allergic? Have they found the allergen?"

Merlin answered, "No."

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Edward sighed helplessly. "It seems like Eugene won't be getting better for a while. What about the company? Dad, you have to put someone in charge!"

Merlin shot Edward a fierce glance. "What do you mean?"

Edward felt guilty that his thoughts had been interpreted. "What I mean is that the company can't be without a leader. During the past two days that Eugene was hospitalized, the public was abuzz and the company was in a state of panic. Stocks have begun to fall, and many business partners seem to be waiting it out. We must look for someone to revive the Nolan Group!"

A resigned Merlin shook his head. What my grandson said earlier is indeed correct.

His eyes darkened a little before he looked up at his son, who was nearly half a century old. Merlin's voice was full of disappointment as he said, "Rocky is seriously ill, yet I don't see you being sad at all. All you can think of is how to acquire the Nolan Group. You're his father. Aren't you sad at all?"

Taken aback, Edward explained, "How am I not sad? When I came back from the hospital that day, I didn't sleep much all night. My son broke his bones and tendons, so how could I not be sad? That company is Eugene's blood, sweat, and tears. I don't want to see everything he has worked hard for go

to waste. Dad, if you have a suitable candidate in mind, I don't necessarily have to take up the position of president. I know you're distressed about Eugene, and I'm only thinking about his future. If he gets better, as his father, I will definitely return the position to him. However, if it were anyone else, there would be a barrier, so it would be hard to tell whether they'll return the position. I don't think you want to see such an outcome, right, Dad?"

Merlin took a deep breath and suddenly looked several years older as he muttered to himself, "Nothing has happened to Eugene yet, but you're already so impatient. You didn't even show any effort on the surface. Just how eager are you?"

The wrinkles between Edward's eyebrows deepened as his face sank. "Dad, I said that you can also introduce a suitable candidate to be in charge. I didn't say that it has to be me. I'm just worried that the company will end up suffering serious losses."

Annoyance was clearly written on Merlin's face. "That's enough. If you didn't have those intentions, you wouldn't have mentioned it at all. You're my son. How can I not know what you're thinking? Let's wait another three days. If Rocky is still unwell, you can do whatever you like!"

Edward explained, "I really don't desire this position that much. If I wanted it, I wouldn't have given it to Eugene back then. I'm just thinking for the company's good!"

Merlin raised his hand to motion for Edward to stop talking. Picking up the cane beside him, he got up and went back to his room.

There was no point in staying here, so Edward also rose to his feet and returned home.

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Standing in front of the window, Merlin watched as Edward left, his eyes filled with disappointment. Eugene's remarks from earlier that Edward would definitely take advantage of his illness to regain the position of president still rang in Merlin's ears.

However, Eugene had also said many good things as Edward's son since Edward was his father, after all. Although Eugene felt sorry about what happened to his mother back then, they still had a father-son relationship.

As a result, Merlin received a slap on the face. Edward had actually gone all the way to the hospital and thereafter followed him to the Nolan Residence, just to ask him for the position of president.

Not to mention, Merlin didn't expect Edward to be so inhumane that he had already started to lay hands on his great-grandson, which was truly an unforgivable sin.

This was good too!

So be it. They should pay for what they've done! He had been suppressing this matter, and he knew that Eugene was concerned about him, which was why he didn't confront him.

Chapter 606

His grandson had been wronged for so many years.

Now that he had a wife and children, it was only natural that he had to make plans for them. What other reasons could he use to suppress them?

After all, what went around would come around!

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When Edward returned home, he told Lara what happened in the Nolan Residence.

However, Lara's mind was a little occupied as she somehow had the feeling that things were going too smoothly.

Moreover, she just learned that Samantha was missing. Eugene didn't kidnap her, did he? Does he know that Anna is Samantha?

If he knew that Samantha was actually Anna, then he could easily guess that Lara was the mastermind.

She suddenly felt a chill down her spine, which gave her a creepy feeling.

Perhaps she would find out more!

When Edward saw that Lara was silent for a long time, he asked, "What's the matter?"

It was only at that moment when Lara returned to her senses. Edward couldn't know about this matter, so she responded vaguely, "It's nothing. I just don't understand what Old Man Nolan means. Why does

he want us to wait for another three days?"

He took no notice of it. "Perhaps he wants to wait for Eugene. After all, the old man is terribly fond of him."

Lara still had a feeling that something was wrong, so she clarified, "Did you see Eugene today?"

Edward answered, "Nope. Old Man Nolan came out before I went in."

"How was his mood?"

"It looks like he cried. His eyelashes were wet and Olivia was even taking care of him."

When she heard this, her heart thumped.

If Merlin cried, that meant that he was crying for Eugene, which meant that Eugene's situation wasn't too optimistic.

Lara just hoped that in these three days, she could hear some bad news about Eugene!

She reminded Edward, "For the past two days, I've sent someone to keep an eye on the hospital, but you have to be proactive too. You must make sure that the shareholders support you!"

Edward assured her, "Yes, don't worry."

Eugene and Olivia had reconciled and North's condition was improving day after day, so Eugene was in an indescribably good mood.

When his grandfather came to see him that day, Eugene had told him the truth and asked Merlin to buy him another three days for the sake of their safety.

This way, he would be able to retrieve almost all the evidence from his investigation, and after dealing with Lara, they could spend New Year's Day in peace.

He had to head out today, but in addition to his own bodyguards, Lara's spies were also at the door—something that he also needed to avoid.

So, he called Brian. When he arrived at the hospital, he exchanged clothes with Brian before leaving the hospital as the man himself.

He went out right under the noses of the people whom Lara had sent over.

Those people assumed that Eugene wasn't going to make it, so even though they were keeping watch, they weren't paying much attention. They just thought that Brian had gone out and didn't doubt it at all.

Anna has been locked up in the basement of Ruby Palace since she was caught. Not only had she not eaten for two to three days, she had also received a number of whips.

They had locked her earlier in a dark room with no light whatsoever; it was probably because they were tired from whipping her, but what was strange was that they had removed her shoes.

As she sat on the ground, she breathed a sigh of relief. At least she didn't have to be beaten anymore.

However, compared to Olivia being scorned by millions, she already felt like she did not suffer much after receiving only a few lashes.

Now, everyone probably knew that Olivia slept with a beggar and they even had a b\*stard together.

That scoundrel, Eugene, and all those who favored Olivia, must die.

Wasn't that a great thing?

Even if Olivia were to die, it was worth it to exchange one life for three of their lives!

## Chapter 607

Anna was still happily thinking about it when she suddenly felt a slender creature crawling over her body. She instinctively grabbed it. It was cold to the touch, and she even felt the thing squirming in her hand...

When she realized what it was, she felt her hair stand on end. A snake? Why are there snakes here?

She was so frightened that she shot to her feet as the blood in her body seemingly turned into ice, and even her mind and lips began to feel numb.

The thing she feared most were snakes.

Standing motionlessly in place, she felt the cold texture of the snakes coming into contact with her legs.

Anna tried to stand against the wall, but she couldn't move her body, not even a single step!

Her heart was beating like a drum as she could feel that there were many snakes on the ground. From time to time, the snakes would crawl over her feet.

It was certainly strange that no snake approached her when she first came in.

Now that the surroundings were quiet, she could clearly hear the rustling sounds made by the snakes crawling on the ground.

She was wondering whether she had to stand like this the whole time whenever she felt a snake crawling up her thigh. She was so frightened that she yelled and stomped frantically, but the snake stayed on her body and didn't fall off while even trying to climb up higher.

Anna instinctively grabbed the snake and threw it away. The snake even writhed fiercely in her hand, causing her hair to stand on end as she cried out in fright.

She kept stomping her feet, not daring to stop at all as she was worried that the snakes would climb up again.

However, because of this, many of the innocent snakes had been trampled on.

The soft and cold sensation under her feet caused her to tense up while goosebumps spread all over her body.

While continuously crying for help, Anna hoped that those people would give her a quick death!

All of a sudden, the lights in the small dark room brightened, which startled Anna. She hid near the wall at once, as if this would give her a sense of security.

If she had feared the unknown earlier, she was now able to see it all clearly. There were at least dozens of snakes in the room of less than ten square meters.

The snakes were of different lengths, thicknesses, and colors—it creeped her out even more.

She could clearly see that the snakes seemed to have been triggered, as they raised half of their bodies and stared at her.

It seemed like they would attack her anytime.

Her heart was thumping violently and she couldn't take it anymore. All of a sudden, the snakes seemed to have received an instruction as they attacked her all at once!

Anna's pupils dilated and she yelled in fright before she collapsed on the spot.

At this moment, Eugene had already arrived and he was seated in the surveillance room to monitor the room with the snakes. Isn't she supposed to be tough? Isn't she not afraid of death? Go on and try then. We'll see who's more patient.

When he saw that Anna had fallen to the ground, he ordered, "Bring her out!"

The bodyguard immediately responded and entered the room full of snakes to carry her out.

Anna was completely unconscious and she didn't even wake up when the bodyguard threw her onto the ground.

Without a trace of sympathy, Eugene stared at Anna, whose face was pale after seemingly having lost all its color.

His mind was filled with the scene of Olivia squatting on the ground after being frightened by the group of beggars, of how she had raised her head and looked at him with blank eyes after learning that her son was poisoned and in danger.

## Chapter 608

He never wanted to experience that heart-wrenching pain again. This punishment is nowhere near enough. As he leaned against the sofa, he ordered listlessly, "Wake her up!"

The bodyguard responded by going to the restroom to retrieve a basin of water, which he then splashed directly onto Anna.

Unfortunately, she had completely lost consciousness and the pressure of the cold water didn't work on her.

"Use the needles!" Eugene instructed.

The bodyguard responded once more. He had experience with this since he had just previously used it on Fatso, making it an extremely efficient method.

He retrieved the needles and pierced it under Anna's fingernails.

One needle, two needles...

It wasn't until her fifth finger was pierced that she woke up and the sharp tingling sensation made her instinctively cry out, "Ahhh!"

The bodyguard breathed a sigh of relief. "You're finally awake!"

Anna held her hands that were painful beyond description, not knowing what to do as her entire body trembled.

"President Nolan, she's awake!"

As the bodyguard spoke, he bowed slightly to Eugene.

Only then did Anna notice the man sitting on the couch. He was dressed nobly and exuded a listless aura. Wherever he sat, he looked like he belonged on the cover of a fashion magazine. He was simply pleasing to the eye, and it went without saying that this man was extremely handsome!

It was a pity that he had bad taste as he fell in love with the piece of trash that was Olivia.

"Why did you kidnap me?"

Eugene sneered. "Are you sure you don't know?"

Anna was drenched and water was dripping off her while her fingers were bleeding. She looked absolutely wretched, but her attitude was still as sharp as a knife. "I don't know. Why? Does Nolan Group not allow employees to leave without a word?"

He looked up in a leisurely manner and glanced at her before he scoffed. "Sure enough, you've told so many lies that you're starting to take it seriously. Do you think everything will be fine after you have changed your face?"

She was surprised. He really found out. In fact, when Eugene's attitude toward her had suddenly changed, she figured that he must have discovered something.

However, what she found strange was that even she was not fully able to recognize herself with her current looks. They were not even close pals, so how did he find out?

"How did you discover this?"

Eugene smiled. "You don't need to be concerned about that. Who allowed you into the Nolan Group? What were you going to do?"

"No one." Anna stood firm and added, "I just wanted to get close to you and seduce you."

He had a disgusted expression as he retorted coldly, "Do you think you're worthy of that?"

She laughed. "Am I not better than Olivia? You can even accept a woman who has slept with a beggar. Isn't someone like me many times better than her?"

When he heard her explanation, he felt that she was in need of a slap. His expression did not change much, but his statement made her shudder. "Seems like the lesson I just taught you in the snake room wasn't enough."

After that, he casually ordered the bodyguard, "Strip her naked and throw her back in!"

Needless to say, this was enough to truly frighten Anna. She panicked and was incredulous. "Eugene —"

Eugene wasted no time as he waved his hand and asked them to take her away.

He picked up a box of cigarettes, whereupon he pulled out a cigarette stick before lighting it and smoking without a care in the world.

The bodyguard had already started to take action by stepping forward to take off Anna's clothes.

Anna struggled desperately.

It wasn't because she was a chaste martyr, but she was afraid the snakes would actually touch her skin if she was thrown into the snake room after being stripped naked.

She couldn't even imagine such a scene. Before she could even enter, she had already started to break into cold sweat.

Eugene is simply too cruel!

A disgusted Eugene said, "Move her away. She's hurting my eyes!"

After the bodyguard nodded, he dragged Anna a little further away.

The frightened Anna yelled, "Eugene, I'll tell you the truth! Let me go!"

He remained silent as he listened to her horrified pleas. "President Nolan, let me go. I didn't mean to target you. Lara found me and discharged me out of the mental hospital. Going against you was her condition for bringing me out. I had to agree."

"President Nolan, please. My sister has always been kind. If she knew you were treating me like this, she wouldn't be happy. If you let me go, I can testify for you! Please let me go! Sob, sob..."

Eugene was not in a hurry to respond. After he finished smoking a cigarette, he ordered, "Bring her back!"

The two bodyguards then released Anna.

She wore the clothes that had been stripped off her amidst her tears before she followed the bodyguards back.

While looking at her, Eugene said lightly, "You're right. Olivia won't like this method, but you hurt them, so she won't have an opinion if you're beaten up."

With that, he gave the bodyguards another order. "Slap her! Beat her up!"

As soon as he finished speaking, Anna's eyes widened in fright. Why do I still have to suffer a beating after admitting the truth?

However, the two bodyguards didn't give her much time to think. Soon, the sound of slapping rang out in the room whereby her screams were endless.

After about 20 minutes, Eugene's mood eased a little and he ordered them to stop.

When Anna was dragged over, her face was bloodshot and swollen like it was a red bun.

However, an indifferent Eugene just asked, "Can you talk properly this time?"

She nodded vigorously as she had truly seen how horrifying he was. He's not human at all!

"What's going on with the cooperation project you talked to me about?"

Since she wasn't Samantha, how could she possibly have so much experience in negotiation and even managed to see through the other party's intentions?

Unless... It was fake!

Anna replied, "That negotiation was also specially arranged by Lara in order to successfully get me into Nolan Group."

Eugene narrowed his eyes and an inexplicable sense of anger surged. It was just as he had guessed.

In order to kill him, Lara actually did everything she could!

"Did you deliberately place those hourglasses and the candy in North's pocket? Did you know what was inside?"

Anna secretly assessed his face. When she hesitated to tell the truth, she heard him demanding in an emotionless voice, "Tell me the truth!"

She accepted her fate and replied, "Yes, but Lara said that it's chronic, and that it would take at least a month for its effects to kill. North's incident wasn't intended. Lara only gave me that candy later on, but he kept following you. I didn't get a chance to do it and he happened to come out that day. He went into the bathroom to avoid me, so I placed it in while he wasn't paying attention. Later, his reaction was severe and I was worried that you'd suspect me, so I left the company."

His expression was as grave as a judge when he probed, "Then, did you hire those beggars too?"

At that, she nodded. It had already reached this point, so she might as well tell him everything.

"I hired them. It's Olivia's fault for sending me to the mental hospital. Is that even a place for a person to live in? I was suffering, and I cried for help, but it was all to no avail. I'd love to send her there too, to let her have a taste of my life. I know that's impossible, but I finally escaped, so how could I just give up? Isn't she powerful enough to delete posts and sway public opinion? I will get those beggars to go to the place where she's filming and to create trouble at the Nolan Group. I want everyone to know that Olivia slept with a beggar and had an illegitimate child. When people start spreading word of it, I'll see if she has the dignity to continue living!"

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As she spoke, she grew increasingly excited and relieved, completely forgetting that it was Eugene sitting opposite her.

Eugene was rather angry at first, but he couldn't help laughing when he heard the ending. "The person who sent you to the mental hospital wasn't Olivia."

Anna stared blankly at him.

"It was Brian! It's because you targeted his future sister-in-law! The only reason why he didn't kill you was because he honored Olivia!"

She frowned and stared at Eugene in a seemingly dumbfounded manner. She was getting confused. Who's Brian's sister-in-law? Who else did I target besides Olivia?

His subsequent statements answered her unspoken questions. "Brian's sister-in-law is Olivia, and the person who was with Olivia seven years ago was me. North is our child!"

This revelation struck Anna like a bolt that appeared out of the blue. The person who was with Olivia seven years ago was actually Eugene? How is this possible?

"You're bullsh\*tting! In order to be with Olivia, you're even making up such a lie? You're willingly being the stepfather of a beggar's son? I personally arranged for the beggar to be there. I even went to the room the next day to find him. He did sleep with a woman. How could it be you?"

Eugene couldn't care less about her. "I think you really need to see a psychiatrist!" With that, he stood up and left.

As she was unable to accept this fact, Anna shouted at him, "Eugene, you're lying to me, right? How could Olivia be with you?"

He left without turning back.

Anna suddenly collapsed to the ground. Seven years ago, Olivia actually slept with Eugene? How is that possible? That's impossible! It's impossible! How is she so lucky that she managed to sleep with Eugene just like that? How?

Like a madman, she stayed in the room alone as she muttered those words over and over again.

Three days later, there wasn't any good news from the hospital, but there wasn't any bad news either.

The people whom Lara sent had been keeping watch at the hospital and were certain that nothing unexpected had happened.

She was satisfied with this. As long as Edward attained the position as president of Nolan Group, what was the difference between that and her being in power?

After all, Edward obeyed her completely!

Early in the morning, the two of them went to the Nolan Residence to pick up Merlin before heading to the office.

On the surface, they wanted Merlin to uphold justice, but in fact, they just wanted him to support them.

For the past few days, as Eugene expected, the couple were extremely attentive to Merlin and didn't dare to make him even a little angry.

When they arrived at Nolan Group, the major shareholders arrived one after another under Curtis' arrangement. The conference room that could accommodate hundreds of people was filled to the brim!

Edward helped Merlin to the main seat before sitting on his left while Lara sat next to Edward.

On the right was Merlin's second child, Amos, followed by his eldest child, Richard, and the third child, Josephine. The rest were their respective families, who were already major shareholders.

Curtis stood behind Merlin as Eugene had reminded Curtis to protect the old man.

After all, it wasn't Eugene's meeting. The entire conference room was full of discussions, so it was as noisy as hundreds of buzzing bees. It was the most unruly of the hundreds of meetings that Curtis had accompanied him to.

At this moment, Edward stood up and addressed the people chattering away, "Please be quiet. I'm sure everyone knows that Eugene is sick, so he may not be able to leave the hospital for a while. I had no choice but to bring everyone together. Now, the company is on edge, and even our business partners are waiting to see what happens. We must come up with a solution and re-elect someone to take charge."