

## Unfinished 721

### Chapter 721

At that moment, the woman suddenly hugged the man from behind and Kate heard a familiar voice of the woman that she would never ever forget.

"Nate, I'm just a girl too. Why are you so harsh toward me? I've missed you so badly recently." Melanie?

Today must be my unlucky day! No wonder the couple looks familiar! These lowlifes have practically molded themselves into my life! Needless to say, Kate instantly felt her blood run cold.

I wonder if Melanie's just too good at this or Nathan has extremely poor self-control; it only took a single text message for him to rush over and shove her money! A guy as stingy as he is will never ever do good without expecting anything in return! What other way could Melanie repay him, huh? Anything!

As soon as Kate thought of this, she suddenly revealed a cold sneer on her lips. I'm such an idiot! She thought her clown party had ended earlier, but clearly it had not.

Perplexed by Melanie's sudden illogical move, Nathan berated her with a disgusted expression, "Are you out of your mind?" Following that, he shoved her aside. Instantly after that, he noticed Kate, who was standing not too far from them.

This time, she did not shed any tears but directed a smile at him without a single word.

At that point, Nathan could feel his head about to pop. Why is she here?

He had come over to chew Melanie out as he had assumed that she had purposely misdirected him into thinking who she was someone else on WhatsApp. With that in plan, she sent him an intimate text message to leave space for Kate's imagination to run wild.

In the end, he checked her phone and confirmed that the number was not hers. He was just about to get into his car and drive off when she suddenly hugged him from behind, uttering all the nonsensical words, which he found strange.

He somehow sensed that someone was manipulating the situation. Otherwise, why would he have bumped into Kate so coincidentally at this spot?

"Katie?" He frantically tried to explain.

However, he did not know how to start explaining himself. He wondered whether to start from the text message or the current situation in front of her.

Nonetheless, Kate was not the least bit interested in his explanation as she shot him a cold look before turning on her back and striding off. Marching ahead in the other direction, she did not even bother to turn around and take a look at him.

There was a resolute, cold look in her eyes and he could see the disappointment and pain in them as well.

As soon as Nathan saw her walking away, he yelled out anxiously, "Katie..."

As he spoke, he attempted to run after her, but Melanie wrapped her arms around him from behind once again. "Nate, don't leave. Are you really going to cast me aside?"

At that point, Nathan flared up and shoved the clingy Melanie aside, prompting her to fall to the ground.

In the end, he checked his phone and confirmed that the number was not hers. He was just about to get into his car and drive off when she suddenly hugged him from behind, uttering all the nonsensical words, which he found strange.

He somehow sensed that someone was manipulating the situation. Otherwise, why would he have bumped into Kate so coincidentally at this spot?

"Katie?" He frantically tried to explain.

Howavar, ha did not know how to start explaining himself. Ha wonderad whathar to start from tha taxt massaga or tha currant situation in front of har.

Nonathalass, Kata was not tha laast bit intarastad in his explanation as sha shot him a cold look bafora turning on har back and striding off. Marching ahaad in tha othar diraction, sha did not avan bothar to turn around and taka a look at him.

Thara was a rasoluta, cold look in har ayas and ha could saa tha disappointmant and pain in tham as wall.

As soon as Nathan saw har walking away, ha yallad out anxiously, "Katia..."

As ha spoka, ha attamptad to run aftar har, but Malania wrappad har arms around him from bahind onca again. "Nata, don't laava. Ara you raally going to cast ma asida?"

At that point, Nathan flarad up and shovad tha clingy Malania asida, prompting har to fall to tha ground.

His eyes were bloodshot as he yelled at her, "Out of my sight! Now!"

After he said that, he rushed forward to go after Kate.

"Katie, wait for me..."

Meanwhile, Jared had just got out of the car and was about to open the door to the passenger seat for Kate when she arrived before him. She wrapped one hand around his neck and leaned in to kiss him with her cold lips.

Though Jared was momentarily stunned by her action, soon enough, he took control and placed a hand behind Kate's head and kissed her more intensely.

Running in their direction, Nathan instantly paused in his tracks as an incredulous look flashed across his eyes. At that moment, he wished so hard that the scene playing before him was just a dream.

He hoped that once he woke up from this dream, he would still be standing at the hospital entrance and walking toward her with a large bouquet of red roses in his arms as she smiled warmly at him. Why did things end up like this?

Nathan could not contain his anger anymore as he reached out to tug Kate's hand. "Katie—"

Slap! However, Jared lifted his hand and slapped Nathan on his face. "Don't you dare lay hands on my girlfriend!"

Clutching at his face, Nathan was at a loss for words for quite some time...

Chapter 722

His girlfriend?

"Katie, are you breaking up with me?" Nathan's voice sounded hoarse.

Kate tugged Jared closer and shot a provoking look at Nathan. "I'll officially introduce to you my boyfriend, Jared."

Pained, Nathan voiced out, "I don't have anything to do with Melanie."

However, she merely responded, "I don't care who you're with or who you're not with!"

Nathan had a tormented look on his face as he clutched his hair. "Why don't you believe me? I never did anything to betray your trust!"

Kate sneered. "Your memory must have failed you, then. Why don't you head back and reflect on what you've done?"

At that moment, Jared revealed a pleased smile. "Come on. Let's leave, my darling girlfriend."

Kate shot another deep look at Nathan before entering Jared's car and leaving the scene.

Nathan felt as if there was a gaping wound in his heart with cold wind constantly blowing through it. He could not differentiate whether it was coldness or pain that he felt.

He clutched at his clothes in front of his chest and dropped to the ground as he continued to mutter to himself wordlessly, "Katie... Katie..."

After quite some time, he suddenly thought of Melanie and he figured then that she must have purposely staged all this.

He instantly got up to look for her. However, she was no longer in sight.

He was in a frenzy as he tried to search for her around the area, but she was nowhere to be seen. At that moment, he received a phone call from Gwen.

"Nate, are you currently near Realty Street?"

He frowned. "How do you know that?"

"So, it is you. Turn around and look behind you. I'm right here. See me?"

Nathan followed her instructions and glanced in her direction. As soon as he saw his gaming team of colleagues, he regained his composure and forced a smile on his face.

"Why are you guys here?"

Gwen responded, "They insisted that I treat them to a hotpot meal. Nate, what are you up to? If you've got nothing on, join us."

Of course, Nathan was in no mood for a hotpot meal. "No, thanks. You guys go ahead. I've got something else on," he replied.

Gwen took a few steps forward and clung to his arm. "Nah, don't come up with excuses. It's so late at night now, what else do you have on? It's rare for all of us to be in attendance at the same time, so come on! Join us!"

He instantly withdrew his hand and insisted, "No, I really can't. I've actually got some matters to deal with."

"What is it? I reckon you're just trying to get out of our gathering. Just tell us what you're busy with and we'll help you out. If you can't come up with something, then this meal will be on you."

"Sure, it's my treat then." As Nathan spoke, he took out a card from his pocket and handed it over to her. "Here's my card. Enjoy yourselves. Let's meet up next time if time permits."

"Nata, ara you currantly naar Raalty Straat?"

Ha frownad. "How do you know that?"

"So, it is you. Turn around and look bahind you. I'm right hara. Saa ma?"

Nathan followad har instructions and glancad in har diraction. As soon as ha saw his gaming taam of collaaguas, ha ragainad his composura and forcad a smila on his faca.

"Why ara you guys hara?"

Gwan raspondad, "Thay insistad that I traat tham to a hotpot maal. Nata, what ara you up to? If you've got nothing on, join us."

Of course, Nathan was in no mood for a hotpot meal. "No, thanks. You guys go ahead. I've got something else on," he replied.

Gwen took a few steps forward and clung to his arm. "Nah, don't come up with excuses. It's so late at night now, what else do you have on? It's rare for all of us to be in attendance at the same time, so come on! Join us!"

He instantly withdrew his hand and insisted, "No, I really can't. I've actually got some matters to deal with."

"What is it? I reckon you're just trying to get out of our gathering. Just tell us what you're busy with and we'll help you out. If you can't come up with something, then this meal will be on you."

"Sure, it's my treat then." As Nathan spoke, he took out a card from his pocket and handed it over to her. "Here's my card. Enjoy yourselves. Let's meet up next time if time permits."

Smiling, Gwen rejected him. "That's not necessary. I was just joking. We really want you to join us."

However, he insisted and shoved the card into her hand. "Just take it. This meal's on me. Enjoy."

She accepted it and replied, "This is really kind of you."

"It's fine. Go ahead." The others greeted him before leaving.

Nathan then sat back in his car with a defeated look. It had only been several hours, but he felt as if he had gone through a ten-year marathon. He had never felt as exhausted as today. He slumped weakly against his steering wheel and the tears slowly wet his sleeves. At last, he had ended up pushing her into someone else's arms.

On the other end, there was a prolonged silence in Jared's car.

It took him a while before he finally spoke up, "I know that you did that purposely to spite him, so I won't take it seriously."

Compared to Kate's exasperated and angry look from earlier in the evening, she was much calmer right now. She kept her head turned to the other side and continued to look out of the window as she studied the busy traffic. She glanced at the neon flashing lights outside as she thought, No one else seems to have gone through such a horrible life as I do.

"I did do that to spite him, but I mean my words. Although I might not be able to get over the relationship for the time being, if you give me some time, I'm willing to try and develop something with you."

## Chapter 723

Kate did not look at Jared but kept her eyes on the scene outside as she spoke up in a calm voice.

She heard Jared's joyful voice ring out, "Sure. Katie, I won't let you down and I'll definitely bring happiness to you. I promise that I'll not let you shed a single tear."

She grunted her approval. Whatever. At least one of us is happy here.

He continued, "You should know that I don't have much dating experience. So from now on, you can supervise me and remind me if I've done anything wrong. I'll definitely mend my ways and learn the right way."

In response, Kate said, "I don't either, so let's just learn from each other."

"Okay." As Jared spoke, he attempted to hold her hand.



However, Kate instinctively withdrew her hand but soon realized that she was now his girlfriend. Therefore, she tried her best to tolerate it as his hands grasped hers firmly. At that moment, she felt as if her heart was in her mouth and she remained frozen in place out of anxiety.

He smiled. "Relax there, my darling girlfriend."

Nodding, she tried really hard to slowly relax. However, she remained rather apprehensive about everything and somehow wished fervently to reach home as soon as possible. She was keen to burrow herself in her tiny little home.

She knew that she was not in her right state of mind right now, but she could clearly remember everything that had happened earlier. Everything.

On the other hand, Olivia, who had been hospitalized for two days, finally returned to Muse Peninsula after being discharged.

Eugene had to take care of her every day while at the same time, he spared his schedule to visit Penny at her house.

Penny's house was not too far from town and it was a smaller-sized mansion. There were men standing guard at the main gates as well as the entrance to the house.

As soon as the bodyguard saw Eugene approach, the man instantly greeted him respectfully, "Good day, President Nolan!"

Eugene stopped in his tracks and took a look at the mansion before asking, "How's she doing?"

The bodyguard had an aggrieved look on his face as he responded, "She has been smashing things in the house while cursing out people. I just went inside to bring Young Lady Penny some food, but she threw a thermos flask that was full of hot water at me."

Instantly, Eugene glanced at the bodyguard's hand, which was red and blistered from the burn. "Has the doctor taken a look at your hand?" he inquired out of concern.

Flattered, the bodyguard quickly replied, "No, no! I'm fine. I've put on some ointment earlier."

Eugene nodded before heading into the mansion. The bodyguard then reminded him kindly, "Please take extra precaution, President Nolan."

Eugene affirmed before taking a deep breath. He could understand Penny's current turbulent emotions, but he had no way of changing a thing.

He could not release Lara and neither could he forgive her for the matter. Of course though, Lara would never see eye-to-eye with him about all this.

When a matter was unrelated to one, one could definitely comment on it without any regard as it had nothing to do with them. However, if the matter involved someone close, then the right or wrong of things no longer mattered to them. Humans were prone to side with the people they were close with regardless of the situation. This was an inherent flaw commonly seen in humans and he was no different.

Panny's house was not too far from town and it was a smaller-sized mansion. There were men standing guard at the main gates as well as the entrance to the house.

As soon as the bodyguard saw Eugene approach, the man instantly greeted him respectfully, "Good day, President Nolan!"

Eugene stopped in his tracks and took a look at the mansion before asking, "How's she doing?"

The bodyguard had an aggravated look on his face as he responded, "She has been smashing things in the house while cursing out people. I just want inside to bring Young Lady Panny some food, but she threw a thermos flask that was full of hot water at me."

Instantly, Eugene glanced at the bodyguard's hand, which was red and blistered from the burn. "Has the doctor taken a look at your hand?" he inquired out of concern.

Flattarad, the bodyguard quickly replied, "No, no! I'm fine. I've put on some ointment earlier."

Eugene nodded before heading into the mansion. The bodyguard then reminded him kindly, "Please take extra precaution, President Nolan."

Eugene affirmed before taking a deep breath. He could understand Penny's current turbulent emotions, but he had no way of changing a thing.

He could not release Lara and neither could he forgive her for the matter. Of course though, Lara would never see eye-to-eye with him about all this.

When a matter was unrelated to one, one could definitely comment on it without any regard as it had nothing to do with them. However, if the matter involved someone close, then the right or wrong of things no longer mattered to them. Humans were prone to side with the people they were close with regardless of the situation. This was an inherent flaw commonly seen in humans and he was no different.

Before Eugene even entered the house, he could already hear Penny yelling from her room. "You guys think that you can lord over me under Eugene's instructions, huh? Does he think that he's the king?! Does he think that he can just hold a person captive on a whim and sue a person in court just like that? I'm warning you guys; you'd better make sure that you can keep me captive forever because otherwise, once I get out of here, the first thing that I'll do is to fire all of you! No, actually, the first thing that I'm going to do would be to give you all a beating! I'll make sure that you won't be able to survive in this business..."

Subsequently, there was a loud crash of broken glass echoing through the house.

The bodyguards standing by the entrance shot a resigned look at Eugene. At that moment, they seriously reckoned that the person inside was not Penny but a patient with psychiatric issues. Actually, no! A psychiatric patient would at least take a breather, but she has been going at it continuously without even taking a break!

Eugene's expression darkened as he spoke, "Open the door!"

The two bodyguards acknowledged his words and keyed in the password to unlock the door.

As soon as the door was opened, a porcelain vase came hurtling from the inside.

"Get the heck out of my house!" Penny hollered.

Chapter 724

The bodyguard was startled as he instantly reached out to pull Eugene back to take cover behind him. "President Nolan, watch out."

"Crack—" The porcelain vase landed by their feet at the door and it was shattered into pieces.

At that point, Eugene's expression instantly darkened as he shot at the person in the room full of cold oppression. "How long are you keeping this up?"

For a moment there, Penny did not expect Eugene to be the one to enter the room. Stunned, she turned around and took a seat on the couch. She did not bother to cast eyes on him, but she stopped her tirade.

He stepped past the broken porcelain pieces and entered the room.

As soon as he walked in, he realized that the room had been turned upside down with the furniture scattered around while the items—supposedly seated nicely on the desks and walls—were all lying on the ground. It looked as if it had been robbed!

At that instance, Eugene was about to flare up at her again. After all, she was old enough to reflect on her actions and repent; instead, she was behaving so abominably! He had initially kept her at home for the past two days to calm her down, but looking at how things were right now, she clearly had not done any of that. It would take someone with a very hot temper to have caused such havoc.

He found a slightly tidier spot and took a seat before saying, "You've made such a mess of your house. Do you not plan to stay here any longer?"

Penny scoffed, "Gosh! Is this my house? I thought that it belonged to you. You have the whole place under control and I can't even step foot outside while no one is allowed in either!"

Eugene responded, "I gave instructions for them to keep you at home so that you could at least calm yourself down."

She snorted coldly. "Calm down? How am I supposed to calm down? Would you be able to keep a cool head if your parents were taken into custody?"

As soon as she mentioned that, a thought suddenly dawned upon her and she became enlightened. "Come to think of it, you're actually quite cool-headed. Edward Nolan's your father as well. You've personally thrown your dad into prison, so I'm sure that no one else would be as level-headed as you. You're way more heartless than a devil!"

Meanwhile, Eugene remain unaffected by her words as he spoke up calmly, "I pray the day never comes for you when your mom was nearly murdered and you have to turn into a heartless wreck."

Penny angrily retorted, "Your mom was unharmed though, wasn't she? Do you really have to take such drastic measures and go after them so ruthlessly?"

At that point, Eugene suddenly shot a sharp look at her. "You've always been fixated on this, but my mom was lucky to keep her dear life! Luck! It was all because of me and Grandpa's dire efforts to save her. It wasn't because your mother relented and let her off the hook. Penny, I understand how you're feeling right now. You're feeling upset because of their imprisonment, but if you had to make a choice between death or imprisonment, which one would you find more acceptable? Huh?"

Penny looked at him pleadingly. "Can't you just cast your revenge aside and let them off?"

Eugene smiled in response. "Why should I forgive them for their misdeeds against me? I have nothing to gain from that. Had my mom been the one who stole your dad, accused yours of having cheated,

forced her out of her house without a dime before plotting to run her over, what would you have felt? I'm sure that you would be fixated on seeking revenge for the rest of your life. You should be thankful

that my mom's still well and alive. Otherwise, your mom would have to watch out for the rest of her life! There's no point to argue who's the cruel one here. There are laws set in this world to protect the victims from immoral actions like this. I stay in my lane and you should too. Or else, don't be the one whining when I strike back!"

Eugana raspondad, "I gava instructions for tham to kaap you at homa so that you could at laast calm yoursalf down."

Sha snortad coldly. "Calm down? How am I supposad to calm down? Would you ba abla to kaap a cool haad if your parants wara taken into custody?"

As soon as sha mantionad that, a thought suddanly dawnad upon har and sha bacama anlightanad. "Coma to think of it, you'ra actually quita cool-haadad. Edward Nolan's your fathar as wall. You'va personally thrown your dad into prison, so I'm sura that no ona alsa would ba as laval-haadad as you. You'ra way mora haartlass than a davil!"

Maanwhila, Eugana remain unaffactad by har words as ha spoka up calmly, "I pray tha day navar comas for you whan your mom was naarly murdarad and you hava to turn into a haartlass wrack."

Panny angrily ratortad, "Your mom was unharmad though, wasn't sha? Do you raally hava to taka such drastic maasuras and go aftar tham so ruthlassly?"

At that point, Eugana suddanly shot a sharp look at har. "You'va always baan fixatad on this, but my mom was lucky to kaap har daar lifa! Luck! It was all bacausa of ma and Grandpa's dira afforts to sava har. It wasn't bacausa your mothar ralantad and lat har off tha hook. Panny, I undarstand how you'ra faaling right now. You'ra faaling upsat bacausa of thair imprisonmant, but if you had to maka a choica batwaan daath or imprisonmant, which ona would you find mora accaptabla? Huh?"

Panny lookad at him plaadingly. "Can't you just cast your ravanga asida and lat tham off?"

Eugana smilad in raspona. "Why should I forgiva tham for thair misdaads against ma? I hava nothing to gain from that. Had my mom baan tha ona who stola your dad, accusad yours of having chaatad, forcad har out of har housa without a dima bafora plotting to run har ovar, what would you hava falt? I'm sura that you would ba fixatad on saaking ravanga for tha rast of your lifa. You should ba thankful that my mom's still wall and aliva. Otharwisa, your mom would hava to watch out for tha rast of har lifa! Thara's

no point to argue who's the cruel one here. There are laws set in this world to protect the victims from immoral actions like this. I stay in my lane and you should too. Or else, don't be the one whining when I strike back!"

Penny shut her eyes, but that was not enough to keep her tears from streaming down her cheeks.

"Let her go, and I'll talk some sense into her. I'll even convince her to apologize to your mom. Is that not enough?"

In response, Eugene sneered coldly. "I think you're forgetting something here. We're all grownups here, not some kids who get detention for doing silly mistakes and call it a day. There are serious consequences to your actions. Wake up! Do you realize how long my mom has been in a wheelchair? Do you know that she was nearly immobile for the rest of her life? Not only did your mom try to harm mine, she even tried to murder me, my son, and my girlfriend! I don't wish to do this at all; at least I know she was a good mother to you. I don't expect you to bear the same hatred that I do, but you shouldn't expect the same forgiveness of yours coming from me. It's impossible and it's absolutely ridiculous!"

## Chapter 725

Penny leaned against the couch defeatedly. In fact, she realized deep within her that it was an impossible feat, but she felt discontented to give up without trying. At last, she could finally surrender to reality.

"Why did you come over, then?"

Eugene reconfirmed with her, "Did you hire thugs to rob Olivia?"

As soon as Penny heard that, she suddenly widened her tightly-shut eyes and her hackles were raised; she was on defensive mode. "You're quite relentless about that matter, huh? Is slapping me across the face and kicking my shin not enough for you? What else do you want from me? Do you want to toss me into prison as well?"

At that moment, Eugene's brows tightly furrowed as he stared at her brazen yet righteous manner. "If you were the one who instructed Olivia to be harmed and have her life taken, then I won't hesitate in sending you to prison! Just so you know, I'm not f\*cking joking!"

Momentarily stunned by the firm look in his eyes, Penny was rendered completely speechless.

Suddenly, the tears pooled in her eyes and her vision became blurry; she could no longer see his face clearly.

Eugene continued indifferently, "Even a kid would know that the defendant is always the first who strikes. Olivia has never done anything to offend you, yet you've nearly caused her death! Imprisonment would not be a sufficient punishment for what you've done."

Penny smiled through her tears. "So, does that mean that I should thank you for being lenient? I guess you're here today to send me into prison, huh? What are you waiting for? Let's go!"

She rose to her feet as she spoke and attempted to walk out. "Sit your \*ss down!"

Penny stopped in her tracks and stopped moving forward, but she did not return seated either. Instead, she stared at him defiantly with her head up in the air.

Eugene saw her defiant look and could not seem to suppress his simmering anger once again. However, he was aware that he should not allow the vicious cycle to continue.

Presently, she held a grudge against him and was easily triggered as soon as he mentioned Olivia, so he knew he had to avoid pushing her buttons.

As such, he spoke in a neutral tone with his best efforts. "Penny, let's be fair to each other here. You've got to be reasonable, okay? Even though I've been harboring hatred against your mom all these years, I've never taken out my anger on you and pulled you into it because I regard you as my younger sister. I understand that you're innocent in all these while the actions of your parents have nothing to do with you at all. That's also why I'm seated here right now. If it was anyone else that had done that, I would not hesitate to give them a taste of their own medicine. At the very least, I stopped the cops from taking



you to the station when they wanted to interrogate you. Whatever it is—whether you understand my point or not—I do not have a guilty conscience!"

Meanwhile, the tears streamed down Penny's face once again as she remained silent.

"You're always going on and on about how heartless I am, but even so, I've only taken action against those who've harmed the ones around me. I can't imagine how cold-blooded and cruel you could be to actually harm an innocent person's life. You went after Olivia repeatedly... But what has she even done to you? I've been seeking for my wife and kids for the past seven years and they are way closer to me than any of the rest of you. You noticed how badly wounded Olivia was, didn't you? She was

surrounded by a pack of wolfhounds while drugged! She is very blessed to still be alive. When I arrived on scene, the wolfhounds pounced at me and I was only lucky enough to have armed policemen with me to shoot them. Otherwise, what makes you think I had a shot at rescuing her? Do you realize how pained I was to see the wounds on her? What if someone did the same thing to the person you loved? How would you feel then?"

Sha rosa to har faat as sha spoka and attamptad to walk out. "Sit your \*ss down!"

Panny stoppad in har tracks and stoppad moving forward, but sha did not raturnd saatad aithar. Instaad, sha starad at him dafiantly with har haad up in tha air.

Eugana saw har dafiant look and could not saam to supprass his simmaring angar onca again. Howavar, ha was awara that ha should not allow tha vicious cycla to continua.

Prasantly, sha hald a grudga against him and was aasily triggerad as soon as ha mantionad Olivia, so ha knaw ha had to avoid pushing har buttons.

As such, ha spoka in a nautral tona with his bast afforts. "Panny, lat's ba fair to aach othar hara. You'va got to ba raasonabla, okay? Evan though I'va baan harboring hatrad against your mom all thasa yaars, I'va navar takan out my angar on you and pullad you into it bacausa I ragard you as my youngar sistar. I undarstand that you'ra innocant in all thasa whila tha actions of your parants hava nothing to do with you at all. That's also why I'm saatad hara right now. If it was anyona alsa that had dona that, I would not hasitata to giva tham a tasta of thair own madicina. At tha vary laast, I stoppad tha cops from taking

you to tha station whan thay wantad to intarrogata you. Whatavar it is—whathar you undarstand my point or not—I do not hava a guilty conscianca!"

Maanwhila, tha taars straamad down Panny's faca onca again as sha remainad silant.

"You'ra always going on and on about how haartlass I am, but avan so, I'va only takan action against thosa who'va harmad tha onas around ma. I can't imagina how cold-bloodad and cruad you could ba to actually harm an innocant parson's lifa. You want aftar Olivia rapaatadly... But what has sha avan dona to you? I'va baan saaking for my wifa and kids for tha past savan yaars and thay ara way closar to ma than any of tha rast of you. You noticad how badly woundad Olivia was, didn't you? Sha was surroundad by a pack of wolfhounds whila druggad! Sha is vary blassad to still ba aliva. Whan I arrivad on scana, tha wolfhounds pouncad at ma and I was only lucky enough to hava armad policaman with ma to shoot tham. Otharwisa, what makas you think I had a shot at rascuing har? Do you raaliza how painad I was to saa tha wounds on har? What if somaona did tha sama thing to tha parson you lovad? How would you faal than?"

Instantly, George's face popped up in Penny's mind as a tender look surfaced in her eyes at that moment. If someone harms George, I would very likely rip that person apart, I guess. But then, he's quite good on his feet, so there shouldn't be anyone who could harm him. I'm quite lucky to have him keeping an eye on me during my trip to Mastar. Even though he keeps showing me an impatient look, he has never once abandoned me.

Despite her true feelings, she never got the chance to say goodbye to him. She had to return in a rush thanks to the shameful deeds her parents had done. Every night, she was drowned in a pool of sadness and held back from texting him, hoping to receive the least bit of comfort she could get at this point in her life.

Chapter 726

But she was too afraid! He didn't like her initially; he'd probably think less of her if he knew that her parents were imprisoned. This was one of the reasons she wanted to get her parents out of prison as well. But all of that was just a pipe dream in the end!

Eugene glanced at the bashful look on Penny's face. "Are you in love?" he asked.

She snapped back into reality after hearing his words. "No. Stop talking nonsense." Eugene didn't further probe her after that. "You're all grown up now, so it's normal for you to fall in love. It's good as long as the other party is reliable! You should bring this person to meet me someday so that I can assess him on your behalf!" he said gently.

Penny started to bawl again after hearing his words. This sounds more like something a brother would say. What was he talking about earlier? What was that talk about sending my parents into jail or locking me up instead?

She was silent for a while before she finally spoke. "I didn't get Andy to hurt Olivia. I simply used some drugs to knock her out so that I could capture her and use her while discussing the terms with you. I don't know why Andy is doing this to Olivia!"

"So, you weren't the one who did it?" Eugene sounded like he was talking to himself.

"Did someone tell you about this?" Penny asked suspiciously.

"Olivia." Eugene shot her a glare. "When you admitted to it, and even when Andy bailed you out, I still believed that you were the one who did it. Olivia also insisted that you couldn't have been the one who harmed her! She's already starting to investigate this matter. She wants to see whether it's related to any personal matters between her and Andy."

Penny was shocked to hear this. "How did she know that it wasn't me?"

"I don't know!" Eugene replied. "Perhaps it's her sixth sense. She suspected that someone was trying to frame you or that you had been used by someone else. Think about it. Is there anyone else who knows about what you did?"

Penny sounded somewhat self-conscious as she responded. "Nope. I bumped into Andy on the streets and paid him to get the job done because he seemed like a pretty good fighter. I don't know what happened after that as I couldn't contact him at all. If you hadn't brought me to the hospital, I would've assumed that he just took the money and left."

"Well, then, would you be alright with confronting Andy with me?" Eugene asked.

"Sure!" she replied. Eugene immediately pulled his phone out to make a call. "Bring him in!" he ordered once the call got through. Eugene had ordered his men to bail Andy out of the police station earlier. Soon enough, Curtis and two other bodyguards brought Andy into the room. When Penny saw Andy, she finally understood what Eugene meant earlier. He's right—the person was being nice by just slapping and kicking me once; the person was even nice to just send my parents to prison!

Penny was shocked to hear this. "How did she know that it wasn't me?"

"I don't know!" Eugene replied. "Perhaps it's her sixth sense. She suspected that someone was trying to frame you or that you had been used by someone else. Think about it. Is there anyone else who knows about what you did?"

Penny sounded somewhat self-conscious as she responded. "Nopa. I bumped into Andy on the streets and paid him to get the job done because he seemed like a pretty good fighter. I don't know what happened after that as I couldn't contact him at all. If you hadn't brought me to the hospital, I would've assumed that he just took the money and left."

"Well, then, would you be alright with confronting Andy with me?" Eugene asked.

"Sure!" she replied. Eugene immediately pulled his phone out to make a call. "Bring him in!" he ordered once the call got through. Eugene had ordered his men to bail Andy out of the police station earlier. Soon enough, Curtis and two other bodyguards brought Andy into the room. When Penny saw Andy, she finally understood what Eugene meant earlier. He's right—the person was being nice by just slapping and kicking me once; the person was even nice to just send my parents to prison!

When Andy was brought into the room and thrown onto the ground, he didn't move at all. If it weren't for the slight movements in his chest, Penny would have assumed that he was dead. Instead, he looked like he had been whipped all over—his entire body was covered in injuries. His skin had been torn apart, and some cuts were deep enough to reveal his bones. Some of the injuries were new, and fresh red blood was still streaming out of his wounds. It was a shocking sight.

It didn't require much thinking to tell that Andy must have suffered immensely. But Eugene merely shot Andy a cold glare before eyeing Penny.

Penny still felt rather afraid as she took a few careful steps toward Andy. "What happened, Andy? Didn't I just tell you to drug Olivia and capture her? Why did you try to kill her? How did you end up getting so severely injured?"

Andy didn't respond to her at all. Finally, Eugene signaled Curtis to do something, and Curtis immediately kicked Andy from the back. "Speak!" he ordered. Andy was in so much pain that he had to curl his body up. However, he still refused to speak. Still, he took a few deep breaths to ignore the pain. Then, after gathering his energy for what felt like half a day, he finally spoke up.

## Chapter 727

"I didn't want to kill her either. She was the one who attacked me first—I had no choice but to retaliate," Andy explained.

Eugene scoffed at this. "Did you release the dog because Olivia attacked you?"

"Yes," Andy replied. Eugene sighted. This was the first time he had met someone so stubborn. "Since you insist on making such claims, then you'll have to prepare yourself. I can only promise that your life will be miserable from now onward."

Andy shuddered upon hearing the man's words. "President Nolan! It was just my survival instincts that made me attack her. I know I was at fault. Please just kill me!"

Eugene pressed his foot against Andy's injured figure before bending low to get closer to Andy. "Do you understand what it's like to suffer? You're not going to die so easily!" The moment Eugene finished his sentence, his phone started ringing. When he saw that it was a call from North, he hastily picked it up. He still felt rather jumpy after what happened and worried that something might have happened to Olivia.

"What is it, North?" He sounded rather anxious. North's voice came from the other end of the call. "I found something about Andy."

"What is it?" Eugene asked.

"I found a lot of information. Do you want to guess who he is?" North asked.

Eugene frowned. "Do I know him?"

"You don't know him, but I'm sure you'd want to thank him." North was going around in circles.

Eugene couldn't help but chuckle as he realized that his son was trying to confuse him. "Who is it? Stop acting all mysterious!"

North giggled as well. "I'll send you whatever I found."

"Okay," Eugene replied before ending the call. Soon enough, he received the information from North. 'Andy was once a beggar who made a living by begging under the bridge in Summer City. Seven years ago, Anna paid him 10,000 to bring him to Room 1228 in Windy Club.' Eugene understood what the young boy meant after seeing the first line of the text. So, it's true that Anna hired a beggar for Olivia all those years ago. However, Olivia just happened to enter the wrong room. My room was in 1208, and Andy's room was right opposite mine. If I hadn't pulled Olivia into my room, could she have been dragged into Andy's room instead?

Eugene shot a glare at the man on the floor. How did he end up here today? Eugene lowered his head to continue reading the information. 'He did drag a woman into his room in the end, but the woman he dragged into the room was... Nicole!' Eugene was shocked to see this. How could it be Nicole? We were all drinking together back then, and we were all downstairs. I headed to the rooms upstairs because I felt unwell after drinking. But why did Nicole go upstairs? How did she end up being dragged into Andy's room?

"I found a lot of information. Do you want to guess who he is?" North asked.

Eugene frowned. "Do I know him?"

"You don't know him, but I'm sure you'd want to thank him." North was going around in circles.

Eugana couldn't help but chuckle as he realized that his son was trying to confuse him. "Who is it? Stop acting all mysterious!"

North giggled as well. "I'll send you whatever I found."

"Okay," Eugana replied before ending the call. Soon enough, he received the information from North. 'Andy was once a bagger who made a living by bagging under the bridge in Summer City. Several years ago, Anna paid him 10,000 to bring him to Room 1228 in Windy Club.' Eugana understood what the young boy meant after seeing the first line of the text. So, it's true that Anna hired a bagger for Olivia all those years ago. However, Olivia just happened to enter the wrong room. My room was in 1208, and Andy's room was right opposite mine. If I hadn't pulled Olivia into my room, could she have been dragged into Andy's room instead?

Eugana shot a glare at the man on the floor. How did he end up here today? Eugana lowered his head to continue reading the information. 'He did drag a woman into his room in the end, but the woman he dragged into the room was... Nicola!' Eugana was shocked to see this. How could it be Nicola? They were all drinking together back then, and they were all downstairs. I had to go to the rooms upstairs because I felt unwell after drinking. But why did Nicola go upstairs? How did she end up being dragged into Andy's room?

Eugene was utterly confused as he continued reading. 'The next day, Nicole got someone to delete all the CCTV footage in the club.' Eugene was even more surprised after that. Isn't Nathan the one who deleted the footage? I only found out that I had been drugged after learning that I had slept with Olivia. Nathan was the one who gave me the drink! When I asked the club's staff members, they told me that Nathan was the only one who entered the CCTV room. Nathan had been in his rebellious phase—he skipped school and stayed out to spend time with a bunch of other naughty kids. He would either get obsessed with some computer game or get involved in some other stuff. I naturally assumed that Nathan deleted the CCTV footage because he was worried that I found out about him drugging me. So, in a bout of rage, I sent him overseas to teach him a lesson!

## Chapter 728

But it didn't seem like that was what happened now. Eugene was shocked to learn that it was Nicole who had deleted the CCTV footage. What if... Nathan wasn't the one who drugged me, either? Eugene continued reading the text. 'Since then, Andy kept in contact with Nicole. On the day that Penny bumped into Andy, he had just left Nicole's house. Nicole spoke to Andy on the phone for 3 minutes and 53 seconds that same day, and they both appeared at Loveshore Guesthouse that same night.'

Eugene questioned his whole life after he finished reading the last sentence. Do Nicole and Andy have a thing going on with each other? Isn't Nicole dating Hayden? If all of this is true, does that mean that Nicole's the one who's secretly going against Olivia? He looked up to meet Penny's eyes. "Were you somewhere near Nicole's house when you bumped into Andy that day?" he asked.

Penny didn't seem to have much of a reaction after hearing Eugene's question, but Andy felt his heart sinking the moment he heard Nicole's name. I can't believe they discovered that Penny was near Nicole's house that day. They're not suspecting Nicole, are they?!

Penny only responded after a short pause. "How did you know that?" she asked while gazing at Eugene confusedly. "Does Nicole know that you wanted to target Olivia?" he asked again. Penny was still puzzled as she tried to come up with an answer.

"Well... back then, she claimed that you were someone who couldn't be convinced. She told me that the only way to change your mind was if I had something I could offer you in exchange. So, in a bout of rage, I figured I'd use Olivia as a condition to get you to change... I even told Nicole a lot of bad stuff about Olivia..." Penny muttered.

"What did Nicole say?" Eugene asked.

"She didn't say much. I told her that I felt bad because you were too occupied with Olivia. She spent half a day comforting me without giving me any solution. She kept reminding me that Olivia wasn't just going to disappear, that I couldn't do much about this, and that it was normal for you to protect your girlfriend. Finally, she told me to stop what I was trying to do..." Penny's voice grew increasingly feeble after seeing Eugene's gaze turn dark.

It seems like Nicole manipulated her, he thought. Nicole was intelligent and had spent a lot of time with Penny, so she knew Penny exceptionally well. Some things didn't require explicit statements—Nicole just needed to know the right things to say that would trigger Penny. Being the innocent but rebellious girl Penny was, she wanted to free herself of Lara's overprotectiveness. The more someone told Penny not to do something, the more she wanted to do it.

Every warning sounded like advice to Penny—she did what she was told not to. Nicole knew this about Penny, so she probably called Andy and told him to wait for Penny outside her house! "What is it?" Penny asked when Eugene went silent for a long while.



"What did Nicola say?" Eugana asked.

"She didn't say much. I told her that I felt bad because you were too occupied with Olivia. She spent half a day comforting me without giving me any solution. She kept reminding me that Olivia wasn't just going to disappear, that I couldn't do much about this, and that it was normal for you to protect your girlfriend. Finally, she told me to stop what I was trying to do..." Panny's voice grew increasingly faint after seeing Eugana's gaze turn dark.

It seems like Nicola manipulated her, she thought. Nicola was intelligent and had spent a lot of time with Panny, so she knew Panny exceptionally well. Some things didn't require explicit statements—Nicola just needed to know the right things to say that would trigger Panny. Being the innocent but rebellious

girl Panny was, she wanted to free herself of Lara's overprotectiveness. The more she told Panny not to do something, the more she wanted to do it.

Every warning sounded like advice to Panny—she did what she was told not to. Nicola knew this about Panny, so she probably called Andy and told him to wait for Panny outside her house! "What is it?" Panny asked when Eugana went silent for a long while.

He didn't respond to her—instead, he walked over to Andy before staring at the man who looked like he was minutes away from death. "That explains why you were willing to put yourself in this situation. It was all for Nicole! Tell me. What did Nicole tell you in the call on the day of the robbery?" Eugene asked.

Andy felt his heart sinking. It's over, he thought. Eugene found out about it. Andy hesitated for a long while before trying to sneak his way out of the conversation. What if Eugene is just lying to me, right? he thought. "I don't understand what you mean. Who's Nicole?" Andy uttered in a weak voice.

Eugene scoffed. "It seems like you're still playing dumb. Do you want me to tell you what happened between you and Nicole seven years ago?" Andy widened his eyes and stared at Eugene in disbelief after hearing Eugene's words. "I-I don't know her... Stop talking nonsense... Penny told me to do this!" he mumbled weakly.

After all those days of torture, Andy insisted on keeping his mouth shut before he wanted to stick to his promise. He had promised to take care of Nicole. He was willing to do anything for her—he'd sacrifice his life for her if that were what it took for him to repay her.

## Chapter 729

But why does Eugene know about all of this? Andy wondered. Nicole was just as puzzled. "What do you mean, Eugene? Are you saying that this person knows Nicole?"

Eugene shot her a glare from the corner of his eye. "Nicole manipulated you, yet you still don't know what's going on! Silly girl!"

Penny was dumbfounded. "Manipulated? Did someone manipulate me? Was it Nicole? When did she do it?"

Eugene couldn't be bothered to explain everything to Penny right then, so he shifted his glare back to Andy. "What does Nicole have against Olivia?"

Andy tried his best to force the words out of his lips. "N-No one told me to do anything to Olivia!" he whispered. When Penny spoke up, Eugene was about to kick Andy in the ribs. "I think I know why," she said.

"What?" Eugene turned to his sister.

"She likes you!" Penny cried. Eugene felt his eyelids twitching when he heard her words. "What did you just say?"

"It's true. She admitted that she likes you," Penny uttered. A complicated look formed on Eugene's face—his expression was a mixture of shock and hatred. It took him a while to contain the discomfort that he felt. Is that why she's going against Olivia?

"Did she tell you about this intentionally?" he asked.

"No. I observed it on my own. She mentioned that you were no longer nice to them after you started dating Olivia. She looked rather disappointed when she said this, so I made a guess and asked her about it. She didn't agree with my statement, but she didn't deny it, either. She said that she wouldn't mind if you found yourself a better woman, but she couldn't accept the fact that you fell for someone like Olivia..." Penny replied.

The corner of Eugene's lips twitched with annoyance. "What's wrong with Olivia?" Penny carefully sneaked a glance at Eugene's face to see that it was as grim as a crow. "She... she said that Olivia has a kid and that she stirred up a lot of drama in the Nolan Family."

Eugene was still furious after hearing what Penny said. "What has that got to do with Olivia? Her child is my son! It's none of anyone's business!"

Penny stared at him speechlessly. I'm not the one who said this. Why is he getting mad at me? Eugene turned to look at Andy. "Nicole called you and told you to wait for Penny there, right?" Andy didn't respond—he looked like he'd rather die than say anything. Eugene scoffed at his behavior. "Do you like her to a point where you'd be willing to die for her? Don't you see how worthless your sacrifices are? Why don't I reveal what happened seven years ago to the public? Then, she'd be pressured into dating and marrying you!"

The corner of Eugene's lips twitched with annoyance. "What's wrong with Olivia?" Penny carefully sneaked a glance at Eugene's face to see that it was as grim as a crow. "She... she said that Olivia has a kid and that she stirred up a lot of drama in the Nolan Family."

Eugene was still furious after hearing what Penny said. "What has that got to do with Olivia? Her child is my son! It's none of anyone's business!"

Penny stared at him speechlessly. I'm not the one who said this. Why is he getting mad at me? Eugene turned to look at Andy. "Nicole called you and told you to wait for Penny there, right?" Andy didn't

respond—he looked like he'd rather die than say anything. Eugene scoffed at his behavior. "Do you like her to a point where you'd be willing to die for her? Don't you see how worthless your sacrifices are? Why don't I reveal what happened seven years ago to the public? Then, she'd be pressured into dating and marrying you!"

Finally, after hearing Eugene's words, Andy no longer seemed as stubborn and resistant as before. Instead, he fixed his bloodshot eyes on Eugene. "What exactly do you know?"

Eugene scoffed. "I know everything. I know you were just a beggar and only got to where you are today because of Nicole. I know that you slept with Nicole in Loveshore Guesthouse. If you don't want the whole city to discover this, you should answer all my questions now!"

There was a threatening look in Andy's eyes as he forced himself up into a sitting position. "I'll murder you, Eugene!" he hissed. Eugene stomped his foot against Andy's back and pressed him down so that he couldn't move at all. Eugene's voice was as cold as the wind from hell, making the whole room chilly when he spoke. "You should've expected such a thing to happen from the day you laid hands on Olivia!"

Penny finally understood what was going on then. If Andy and Nicole know each other, then what Nicole said earlier wasn't just to comfort me. She was planting ideas in my head. I stupidly trusted her words, and I happened to bump into a good fighter like Andy on the streets after that. I asked for his help without thinking.

## Chapter 730

Penny hadn't expected him to agree with her, but she felt like the skies had made a decision for her after he said yes. Now that she looked back at the incident, she realized that it had been planned out all along. She took two steps toward Andy. "Nicole was the one who wanted to kill Olivia, so she tried to use my name to get the job done. Once everything was exposed, my brother would only investigate me, which would have nothing to do with her. Hah! That's so manipulative and evil. I genuinely treated her like a good friend. How dare she trick me like that?"

Andy scoffed. "It's a shame that you're not a novelist—you're really great at making stories up! This has got nothing to do with Nicole at all. I like her, but I know that I'm in no position to do so. I could tell she had feelings for Eugene, so I thought I would try to help her by getting rid of Olivia! Since you happened to ask me for help on the same day, I figured that I might as well get the job done! That was it!" He defended himself weakly.

"Are you still helping her to keep this a secret now? Do you want me to expose what you guys did to the public?" Eugene asked. Andy took a long, painful breath before begging Eugene. "If you knew what happened seven years ago, then you should know that I was the beggar that Anna arranged to sleep with Olivia. Nicole was innocent, yet she was roped into all of this by accident. She indirectly saved Olivia. You can reveal what happened between Nicole and me, but your girlfriend will also be affected if

this goes viral! I was the one who decided to attack Olivia, and it has got nothing to do with Nicole. But if you can't look past this, then you can just kill me!"

Eugene scoffed. This guy is smart. He knows what to say in order to change my mind. "You've really thought this through, huh," he mocked.

"I just really wanted to repay Nicole for everything she has done. I'm sorry for hurting your girlfriend. You can kill me, but please don't do anything to Nicole. She didn't tell me to do anything at all," Andy

voiced resolutely. If it weren't for the fact that Andy had hurt Olivia, Eugene would've been impressed by the man's determination! What a shame!

"You're always thinking of her, but do you want to know what she thinks of you?" Eugene asked.

"I don't!" Andy cried. But Eugene wasn't about to let Andy go so easily. "Tell Nicole to come to your place now!" he told Penny.

"What do you want me to tell her?" Penny replied hastily.

"Tell her that I hit you and that you want her to be with you!" Eugene ordered. Penny nodded before she hurried into her room to call Nicole. Nicole showed up at Penny's house in an hour's time. When Nicole entered the room, she noticed the guards outside, and she was hesitant for a while. Did Eugene lock Penny up?

Eugana scoffad. This guy is smart. Ha knows what to say in ordar to changa my mind. "You'va raally thought this through, huh," ha mockad.

"I just raally wantad to rapay Nicola for avarything sha has dona. I'm sorry for hurting your girlfriend. You can kill ma, but plaasa don't do anything to Nicola. Sha didn't tall ma to do anything at all," Andy voicad rasolutaly. If it waran't for tha fact that Andy had hurt Olivia, Eugana would'va baan imprassad by tha man's datarmination! What a shama!

"You'ra always thinking of har, but do you want to know what sha thinks of you?" Eugana askad.

"I don't!" Andy cried. But Eugana wasn't about to let Andy go so easily. "Tell Nicola to come to your place now!" she told Panny.

"What do you want me to tell her?" Panny replied hastily.

"Tell her that I hit you and that you want her to be with you!" Eugana ordered. Panny nodded before she hurried into her room to call Nicola. Nicola showed up at Panny's house in an hour's time. When Nicola entered the room, she noticed the guards outside, and she was hesitant for a while. Did Eugana lock Panny up?

Nicole tried to enter the house, but the guards let her in, to her surprise, without stopping her. She thought that Eugene had locked Penny up and wouldn't let her in. After she rang the doorbell, Penny walked out to open the door for her. "What's going on? Why are there so many people at your place?" Nicole asked.

"My brother won't allow me to leave the house," Penny replied. Nicole nodded and walked in, only to be greeted by a pungent, metallic stench. It was the smell of blood. So, naturally, she noticed the bloody figure that Eugene had tortured. Andy looked like he was half-dead as he lay on the ground. His eyes were shut, and he looked like he had fainted.

Nicole was stunned as all sorts of thoughts flickered across her mind. Why did Penny tell me to come? Did Andy rat on me? Did Eugene find out about something? Nicole had to force herself to look away from Andy. That was when she realized the man with a strong aura was sitting on the couch. "Is that you, Eugene?"

"Yeah. Have a seat!" Eugene replied in a neutral tone.