

Unfinished 951

Chapter 951 Holding Back

Despite feeling somewhat upset, Ellen only let out a dismissive laugh without saying anything. She sure is terrible at choosing the right words to say.

Still, she held back her anger and asked, "What would you like to drink?"

Stefanie sat on the couch and responded, "Tea is fine. I just came to have a chat with you."

Ellen proceeded to pour Stefanie a cup of tea and washed some fruit for her before sitting across from her. "What have you been up to lately? I haven't seen much of you."

Stefanie sighed helplessly at that. "What else can I do? I'm busy worrying about Alex. He has been making me really angry recently."

"Oh? What happened?"

Stefanie sat up straight and began to complain. "He fell for a woman eight years ago, and I disapproved of her at that time. I got in their way as much as I could and eventually caused them to fall out. I thought everything came to an end then. Who would have thought that the same woman would come back eight years later? And just like that, Alex went crazy, and he has gotten involved with her again now. I'm so mad!"

Ellen let out another unnatural smile and persuaded, "Isn't Alex too grown for you to care about that? It is not like he is a child. You should let the youngsters do what they want."

Feeling both dissatisfied and unwilling to concede, Stefanie stubbornly held her head high.

"No way! Anyone else is fine, just not her. Alex is also too willful for his own good. I have given him what he deserved in the past few years, and all the women I introduced to him are better than this

woman. But that child promised me one thing, and then he messed it up behind my back. It's like he has been bewitched into liking this one woman!"

Ellen peered at her with a resigned gaze. "Why do you think Alex shouldn't fall for this woman? Is it because of her looks? Or her character?"

"Everything about her is problematic." Stefanie pursed her lips. "Eight years ago, she slept with another man when she and Alex were still in a relationship. I sent her away with some money. She must have gotten used to my spoiling her, and that is why she has come to ask for money again. Ugh!"

Ellen seemed to have suddenly understood as she hummed. "But still, you have to consider what your child wants. As parents, we will have to make compromises if our child has found someone they like. Besides, it has been eight years since those things happened. What's done is done. Since Alex likes her, there must be some redeeming qualities about her."

Stefanie snorted again. "I don't see anything redeeming about her. She doesn't have an impressive family background, connections, or eloquence, and she is not particularly pretty. She doesn't even know how to show respect to her elders. I went through a lot of trouble meeting her yesterday, but guess what she said? She said she won't leave Alex unless he personally tells her to go. Can you imagine how infuriating it was to hear that? She clearly wants money!"

Ellen furrowed her eyebrows. She had been wondering all along, Isn't Jewel the one Alex is interested in? Whom is this woman talking about?

But the more she listened to Stefanie speak, the more she had a feeling that Stefanie was talking about Jewel.

However, Ellen held her temper in as she asked, "What's the name of the girl Alex likes?"

Reluctantly, Stefanie uttered, "Jewel Fenton! Her old name was Jean Louis. Who would have thought she would come back with her name changed? And she even became inarticulate."

Ellen's face immediately turned grim. "She is not as despicable as you make her out to be, is she? Her voice was damaged because someone set her up. They locked her in a warehouse and set fire to it, and

her voice was ruined by the smoke. Besides, isn't Alex the one pursuing her? Jewel has been rejecting him all along. How can you blame everything on her?"

Her reply shocked Stefanie, who then asked, "You know her?"

"She is my goddaughter!" Ellen warned.

Stefanie immediately blurted out, "You see this?! I'm sure she was the one who wanted to be your goddaughter. Be careful, though. Women like her don't have good intentions. She might end up deceiving you and taking away all your money."

Ellen grew increasingly displeased with what she heard. "Enough, Stefanie. Don't pass judgment on someone you don't know well. Jewel is the one who has been buying me things ever since she became my goddaughter. In what way has she deceived me? And don't speak ill of her anymore. She is my goddaughter."

However, Stefanie continued to advise her friend, sounding as though she was saying this for Ellen's own good. "Ellen, you probably don't know how sly people have gotten since you were away for many years. She won't mind showing some small favors to win your heart when she wants more. You will see what happens once you get closer to her and start letting your guard down!"

Chapter 952 I Like Them Both

"I do interact with people on the island. I can still distinguish right from wrong," Ellen replied.

Suddenly, she stood up and went back to her room to take the painting that Jewel gave her. She unfolded it and showed it to Stefanie.

"You call this a small favor?" Ellen asked. "Do you know who painted this?"

Stefanie glanced at the signature. "Amos White?"

Ellen looked at her. "Do you know how valuable Amos White's artwork is? Do you have any idea of the worth of his final masterpieces? This is what Jewel gave me. She could easily sell this painting for a few hundred thousand or millions!"

"A painting worth that amount means nothing compared to the Nolan Family. Besides, this painting may not even be genuine. As far as I know, Old Mr. White retired a long time ago."

"He did retire a long time ago, but Jewel had him personally paint this for me because she did him a favor a few years ago."

Stefanie wore a disdainful expression as she muttered, "The more you talk, the more unbelievable it gets. Just who is Jewel that she even made Old Mr. White owe her a favor?"

Ellen suddenly felt like she was talking to a brick wall.

As she packed up the painting, she warned, "Say whatever you want. You only see her flaws because you have grudges against her. But the Jewel I know is beautiful, gentle, kind, and sensible. She even saved my life. Please refrain from speaking ill of her in front of me."

Stefanie grew somewhat upset as she retorted, "Why don't you keep her for your son if she is so great?"

"If my son didn't already have Olivia, I would be more than happy for him to be with Jewel. Both my daughter-in-law and Jewel are good girls. I like them both."

"Fine. Keep lying to yourself. Do you even know what your daughter-in-law is up to outside?" A smirk appeared at the corners of Stefanie's mouth. Her main agenda for coming here this time was to expose Olivia.

Ellen's expression only grew darker. "I don't want to know. My daughter-in-law knows what she should and shouldn't do. You don't need to worry about her."

Stefanie sneered, "Does knowing what she shouldn't do include getting intimate with another man in the middle of the night? Last night, your daughter-in-law came as well when I called Jewel to the hotel."

She sure gave me a piece of her mind! I asked how she could be with Eugene while flirting with another man. She didn't say anything, but do you know what that man said? He said I can criticize him but not your daughter-in-law, and he even boasted about seducing her. Can you believe someone would say something like that? I came here with good intentions to warn you, but forget it if you don't believe me."

She lifted her teacup and took a sip before continuing, "Even if your daughter-in-law doesn't have such intentions, can you guarantee that nothing will happen when she keeps mingling with another man in the middle of the night? You know what? Forget it if you don't want to listen. I thought we had common topics. It is a waste of time to talk to someone who doesn't understand!"

After saying that, Stefanie got up and started to leave.

At that moment, the bedroom door suddenly swung open, and a messy-haired Brian emerged from inside.

Despite how harmless he looked, his next words packed a punch.

"Indeed, it is a waste of time to talk to someone who doesn't understand. I see you can only wish for someone else to live the same chaotic life as yours just because you can't have peace yourself. Both Olivia and Jewel are my family. I dare you to say another bad word about them!"

Stefanie immediately clicked her tongue. "Ha! How can your son say that? You didn't even see for yourself how that guy threatened to hit me just because I talked about Olivia! I came to warn you all out of the kindness of my heart. I hope you don't defend those women when your brother gets cheated on one day!"

"Don't start wishing the whole world to be the same just because you got cheated on. It has been so many years. Have you ever reflected on your actions? You are even going around spreading rumors. You don't fear retribution, do you?!"

Furious, Stefanie turned to look at Ellen and complained, "Ellen, are you going to let your son speak to me this way? He has absolutely no manners!"

Meanwhile, Ellen remained calm and composed. "Having good manners depends on who it is for. You stand in my house and criticize my daughter-in-law and my goddaughter. I think I'm being kind enough to not kick you out already."

Chapter 953 Let Your Eldest Son Handle It

"You... you don't know what is good for you. You will regret this one day!" Stefanie shouted.

"I feel sorry for Alex for having a mother like you," Brian retorted as he unhesitatingly opened the door. "Please leave. We don't welcome you here!"

Just like that, he drove Stefanie away.

Sitting on the couch, Ellen complained out of frustration. "When did she become such a bitter person? She condemned Jewel so harshly like Jewel doesn't have one thing that is good about her. I'm worried that Jewel will suffer if she really ends up with Alex. She's way too kind. I need to talk to her and tell her to keep her distance from Alex."

As she muttered to herself, she took out her phone to make a call.

Brian quickly snatched the phone out of her hand when he saw this.

"Why would you call Jewel? Alex is the one who is pursuing her, and she hasn't agreed to be with him yet. Why do you think she hasn't agreed yet? It's because she's aware of the situation in Alex's family. Instead of calling Jewel, you should be calling Alex. Tell him not to come after your daughter if he can't handle the problems well. That is the right way to protect our own."

Ellen suddenly thought it was reasonable when she heard that. However, she paused after taking her phone back and looked at Brian with uneasy eyes. "But I'll be snitching on Stefanie... I'll be sowing discord between a mother and son."

"Hmph! More like we are giving her a taste of her own medicine," he muttered. "She can come to our house and say whatever she wants, but we're not allowed to respond in the same way?"

"Do not do to others what you would not have them do to you. Won't we become just like her if we tell on her?"

Brian pondered for a moment before he smirked mischievously. "Let your eldest son handle it, then! After all, that woman scolded your daughter-in-law!"

...

In the Nolan Group.

Eugene was still trying to understand every word he heard after ending a call from Brian.

It seemed that Stefanie had a conversation with Jewel last night and was scolded by Olivia. And he said that Olivia was with another man in the middle of the night? But wasn't Olivia with me? Did they meet after we parted ways?

He thought for a moment before he decided to call Olivia to confirm the story.

The phone rang several times before it was answered.

"Are you resting?" Eugene asked.

"Uh-huh. I just started relaxing a while ago. Have you had your meal?"

"Not yet," Eugene replied. "I just received a call from Brian. He said that Alex's mother went to my mother and said a lot of bad things about Jewel and you. What exactly happened last night?"

Olivia was speechless upon hearing that. "She had the audacity to go to your mother? What was she thinking? I'm glad Alex didn't take after his mother's intelligence, or else Road Enterprises wouldn't have existed. She pissed me off so bad last night."

She didn't hide anything about what happened last night and recounted everything, including Christoff's assistance, to Eugene.

She was open and honest without leaving anything out.

Finally, she added angrily, "If it weren't for Jewel stopping me from calling Alex, I would have called him right away. What kind of mother is that woman? She thinks Jewel is an easy target, huh? She acts like there's no one backing Jewel!"

As Eugene listened to the furious voice on the other end of the line, he strangely felt a sense of calm in his heart. That intimate feeling between him and Olivia had returned.

With a smile, he echoed, "Exactly. How dare she touch one of the Nolans? Don't worry. I'll help you vent your anger."

"What are you going to do?" Olivia asked suspiciously, to which he vaguely responded, "Whoever started it will be the one to end it."

"Are you going to tell Alex? But Jewel said not to do that."

Eugene snorted. "Jewel doesn't want to confront Alex's mother because she is kind. However, I will not tolerate having one of my own bullied, especially when it's directed at my girlfriend. You can stop worrying about this."

Olivia didn't mind it much. After all, this matter had to be resolved if Jewel and Alex wanted to be together in the future.

"Okay, then. Do as you please. Just don't make things too sour between the people involved. You can remind Alex appropriately. It wouldn't be good if it leads to a rift between the mother and son."

"Got it."

Chapter 954 I'll Back Out

"How is North doing? He's not angry, is he?"

"He's fine." Eugene sighed. "I comforted him last night. He was mostly worried about you. I'm sorry for putting you and your mother through this, Olivia."

Olivia took a deep breath at those words. "Enough. You have said it a few times now. I don't want to argue with you. As long as the children aren't Azalea's, I won't make a fuss for those adorable little ones' sake. But if the children are Azalea's, I won't get involved with you anymore, Eugene."

The man hurriedly replied, "They won't be hers. The more I think about it, the more unlikely it seems. Don't worry. North is already looking into it. He was the one who hid the traces of their whereabouts. It will take some time to find them. Please be patient."

"Yeah. I understand."

Olivia ended the call after saying that.

Even though she didn't want to argue with Eugene, she couldn't help feeling irritable whenever she thought about Azalea.

She didn't know whether it was because Azalea's unabashed admiration for Eugene posed a threat to her, or if it was because she was indebted to Eugene for saving her life that she couldn't express her immature thoughts to him.

Olivia was forced to be magnanimous despite how petty she was deep down. She only wished for Eugene to belong to her alone.

It was already late in the evening when they finished shooting for the day.

As Olivia and Jewel stepped out of the filming set, they saw Alex standing at the entrance.

Unlike his usual cheerful self, he exuded an air of desolation. He quietly called out to Jewel, "Jewel..."

Olivia's expression darkened at the sight of him. When she glanced at Jewel, their eyes happened to meet.

"It's your call," Olivia said. "Ignore him if you want to, or you can talk to him."

Jewel looked back at Alex again. "You should go back."

After speaking, she took Olivia's hand and started to leave, only to have the man approach her and grab her by the hand instead.

"Please, Jewel. Talk to me."

Jewel instinctively pulled back. Her eyebrows were furrowed when she hissed, "Don't touch me."

His mother is going to think that I'm seducing him again if she sees us.

Alex compromised by withdrawing his hand. "Let's find a place to talk, then."

Jewel took a deep breath and glanced at Olivia. "I'll send you home."

Olivia sighed. "It's fine. I'm not a child you have to send home. You go ahead and have a good chat. After all, everything that happened has nothing to do with him."

Jewel nodded before getting into Alex's car with him.

They then came to the private room of a restaurant. After the food was served, Alex finally murmured, "I'm sorry about last night, Jewel. I didn't know my mother treated you like that."

Jewel sucked in a deep breath. "I don't have the right to judge your mother in front of you, and I don't want your relationship with your mother to go sour because of me. It's better if you don't come to see me again. I don't want your mother to misunderstand."

Alex grew somewhat impatient as he demanded, "Don't listen to her! She's going through menopause now, and she doesn't think before she speaks or acts. It was my decision to pursue you. I was the one who has been persistently pursuing you. Why listen to her?"

He then reached out and grabbed her hand, pleading, "Do you know how long I've been waiting for you? Do you know how long I've been waiting for you at the entrance of the set? I was afraid that you would back down, which is why I came to find you right away. Don't give up so easily, please! We have spent so much time together. Don't you have any lingering feelings for me? Don't you feel reluctant to let me go?"

Jewel only helplessly looked into his eyes. "What can I do when it is your mother who doesn't like me? I can't make you break ties with your mother. I have no choice but to back out on my own."

"No." Alex pulled her into his embrace. "Don't worry. Just give me some time. I will definitely resolve this."

"Your mother said she won't object to you dating anyone other than me. Don't you think this is no longer just a matter of not liking me? Perhaps she really minds what happened in the past, or maybe there are other reasons she hasn't told me. Do you think we can be together when she is so strongly opposing our relationship?"

Chapter 955 A Fussy Man

"I know that you have been hesitant to be with me mainly because of my mother. A stressful life like this is not what I want to give you either. I will find time to have a serious talk with my mother, so I hope you won't give up on me easily," Alex insisted.

Jewel felt helpless upon hearing that. Though she spoke slowly, she firmly uttered each word. "I don't want to make things difficult for you, but do you think our relationship can surpass the bond of a family? Neither of us will be happy if we continue like this. It's better to let go."

"I have already let my mother make you suffer once. This time, I won't listen to her anymore. It would be great if she could accept you. But even if she doesn't, I won't give up on you. We'll stay away from her. I just don't want you to back away at the first sign of difficulty!"

"I'm not. That day when your mother insisted on sending me away, I told her that I won't go unless you ask me to leave."

Overjoyed, Alex held Jewel's hand and cheered, "Really? Did you really say that?"

"Although some part of me said that to provoke her, I also meant what I said. It's up to me and the person I choose to be together. No one else has the right to interfere."

Alex bobbed his head quickly. "Yes, that's right! We are the ones who decide our relationship."

After saying that, he put food on Jewel's plate and gently coaxed her, "Let's eat!"

When they were engaged in their conversation, Olivia had just walked a short distance away from the set. That was when a motorcycle suddenly approached and abruptly stopped next to her. Christoff's familiar voice soon rang out from underneath the helmet.

"Why are you alone? Where is Jewel?"

The startled woman immediately glared at him. "It's the middle of the night! Are you trying to give me a heart attack?"

However, Christoff seemed rather indifferent about it as he mentioned, "Buy me a meal."

Olivia pursed her lips. "Didn't we just eat?"

"I'm still hungry."

Olivia rolled her eyes in exasperation.

Seeing her hesitate, Christoff urged, "Hurry up! Don't be all talk and no action."

Although Olivia was reluctant, she couldn't refuse him.

Even if his helping her in the past did not count for anything, he did indeed help her last night. And so, she sighed and relented. "Fine. Let's go. I have never met anyone who is as persistent at getting someone to treat them to a meal like their life depended on it as you."

Christoff laughed and handed her a helmet before pointing his lips to the backseat.

"Hop on. I'll take you somewhere nice."

Olivia stood in place with her eyebrows pulled together. "You even chose the restaurant?"

"What's wrong?" He raised an eyebrow. "I can't have my favorite food?"

"What a fussy man," Olivia muttered under her breath. Despite feeling reluctant, she put on the helmet and got on his bike.

Christoff chuckled at her words. "Who are you calling fussy? You are not being very sincere about this meal you are treating me, are you?"

"You have been forcing me to treat you to meals every day. At this point, I'm buying you meals just to get you to shut up. What sincerity are you talking about?"

As soon as she said that, the motorcycle accelerated abruptly.

Olivia instinctively lunged forward and collided with the man's solid back. Feeling her chest throb with pain, she fisted her hand in frustration and pounded his back.

Christoff only laughed. "Hold on to me. We are going now!"

The vehicle shot ahead immediately after he said that.

They sped along the road, passing cars as if they were brushing against them. The shadows of trees on both sides of the road seemed to tilt backward and occasionally, they heard the piercing sound of horns and brakes.

However, Olivia felt no fear.

Perhaps it was because she knew that Christoff was a skilled rider, or she herself was a motorcycle enthusiast; she rather enjoyed riding at such a speed.

The road gradually became more remote as they got far from the hustle and bustle of the city. It seemed like they had left the urban area and everything around them grew quiet.

This doesn't seem like the road to a restaurant! There isn't even a single soul in sight.

"Where are we going?" Olivia shouted from behind.

Christoff took a while to make out her words. He didn't slow down as he replied in an equally loud voice, "I'm taking you somewhere fun!"

Olivia disliked how he wouldn't elaborate beyond that, but it wasn't like she had a choice at this point. She could only let him take her further and further away with a frown on her face.

Chapter 956 An Excited Woman

After approximately ten more minutes of riding, Olivia could see lights in the distance. Many people—both men and women—had gathered there, but the majority of them were youngsters.

The occasional roar of motorcycles could be heard.

Olivia seemed to suddenly realize something. "Is this a motorcycle race?"

Christoff slowed down the bike and he managed to effortlessly make out Olivia's words this time. "Yup. I have a feeling you would also enjoy this kind of sport."

"How did you know?" She was astonished.

"I have eyes," he teased and glanced back at her. Even though he couldn't see her, it felt like he could. He then added with a smile, "You're the first woman who has an excited look on her face instead of a scared one when riding on my bike."

The two of them finally came to a stop.

Olivia lifted her visor and chuckled. "I thought you were taking me somewhere suspicious in the middle of the night."

"Scared I'll sell you off?" Christoff laughed.

"It's better to sell you than to sell me. Your life is worth more than mine."

That elicited a laugh out of the man. "When the day comes that we truly have to resort to selling our lives for money, sell me and make sure you run away as fast as you can."

Olivia pursed her lips. "Won't you just offer me as a tribute when that time comes?"

"I wouldn't have the heart to do that!"

Rendered speechless, Olivia muttered, "Alright, smooth talker. Do you come here often?" She looked around the place.

She had passed through this place before. It was a necessary route to reach Promise Island.

The terrain here was treacherous, with cliffs all around and dozens of sharp bends descending from above. Some of the bends were less than ninety degrees, and the outer lane only had a low guardrail to make it appear safe.

This was not a professional racing track. It was a mountain road for regular travel that had been temporarily transformed into a racing track by motorcycle enthusiasts.

The low guardrail would be of no use if something unexpected happened. Once there was a mishap in its handling, one would easily lose their life.

"I come here every week," Christoff replied, his gaze filled with keen interest as he stared into Olivia's curious eyes. "Do you like it?"

She nodded. "It's alright. It is really dangerous, though."

Christoff whistled into the distance with a look of recklessness and arrogance. "Which is what makes it thrilling."

Olivia immediately glared at him. "You're playing with your life!"

Hearing that, he lowered his gaze and glanced at her, suddenly smiling. "Can I interpret that as your words of concern?"

The corners of her mouth twitched. "You think too much."

Before Christoff could say anything else, Olivia saw a couple sticking to each other like they were conjoined twins walking toward them from a distance. She actually recognized the man, who turned out to be Ben.

She wouldn't have expected him to be a motorcycle enthusiast.

Naturally, Ben noticed Olivia too. After a hint of surprise flashed in his eyes, he immediately smirked teasingly.

But first, he greeted Christoff. "You are late today, Hurricane."

Olivia was also surprised as she glanced at Christoff. Christoff is Hurricane?

This name had always been closely associated with her in the world rankings. She hadn't expected Hurricane and Christoff to be the same person. What a small world this is!

Christoff glanced at Olivia and uttered, "Let's all be friends, hmm?"

Ben deliberately pretended not to recognize Olivia as he boldly scanned her from head to toe. "Whew! You are one hot girl!"

She immediately felt disgusted. Although he was dressed in a motorcycle suit, which was quite different from his usual appearance, he couldn't wipe off the nauseating feeling she got from him.

The woman beside him had fiery red lips and a seductive figure. Her hair was braided like a centipede and she was intimately pressed against him, not leaving any gap between their bodies.

She didn't seem bothered by Ben's words.

Christoff, however, turned grim. "What do you think you are looking at?"

Knowing that Christoff was angry, Ben smiled apologetically and offered, "Oh, you're so uptight. What's wrong with merely looking? If you want, I'll compensate you with my girl."

He then pushed the woman in Christoff's direction.

However, Christoff pushed the woman back without missing a beat. "Keep your woman to yourself," he warned.

Chapter 957 Because She Is Her

The woman aggressively wiggled her body against Ben, seemingly both coquettish and upset.

Meanwhile, he held onto the woman's head and proceeded to give her a passionate kiss that lasted for three minutes right in front of them.

Not wanting to see this, Olivia instinctively turned her head the other way.

Christoff also felt somewhat awkward. Of course, it wasn't because he wasn't comfortable with such a scene, but rather because he was concerned that Olivia would be disgusted by it. Although he didn't move, his eyes remained fixated on her.

Olivia soon sent a message to Jewel, informing her that she was outside and would be returning home later than expected.

Ben and the woman were done kissing after she sent the message. The woman, too, finally behaved herself.

Christoff lifted his gaze and looked at Olivia. "We are having a two-person race today. Dare to ride with me on my bike?"

However, Ben provocatively looked at Olivia and suggested, "Since it's a two-person race, let's cooperate. Each person rides half the distance, and we switch at the eleventh turn. Only then can the winner truly claim victory."

Christoff didn't even have to think before he refused. "No. She doesn't know how to."

"We can just take it slow," Ben commented while raising his chin toward Olivia. "Hey, you can at least ride a motorcycle, right? Why would you come here otherwise? Are you going to stand there and look

pretty? Is this what Eugene has reduced you to?"

As soon as he said that, he received a kick to his abdomen. He immediately lost his footing and fell to the ground. Before he could get up, Christoff growled in a chilling voice, "I don't need you to judge one of my own."

Ben's eyebrows pulled into a frown. "F*ck, Hurricane! Do you know who she is? Are you really resorting to violence for a woman?"

"Say one more word about her and see what happens!" Christoff sneered.

Ben couldn't afford to embarrass himself, especially when his woman was watching. "Damn it!" he muttered. "I'm just kindly reminding you. She is Eugene's woman. Even though I don't know if she has been dumped now, you better not get involved with her."

"I know her because she is her. F*ck if I care whose woman she is."

Olivia peered at Christoff upon noting how the man had changed his way of speaking.

He used to say that I am Eugene's woman, but now it is because I am me, huh? What a hypocrite!

But she didn't have time to argue with Christoff. Instead, she looked at Ben as a smirk hung at the corner of her mouth.

"You haven't learned your lesson at all, have you? You still haven't repented even after being beaten up so many times. Do you think this racetrack is your territory? It's just a motorcycle race. Let's race, then. I'll shut you up!"

"Are you sure about this?" Christoff looked at Olivia skeptically. "Don't force yourself."

"It's fine. Mr. Roberts here won't give up if I don't give him the chance to race against me," Olivia reassured him.

"You know each other?"

"Kind of. We haven't spoken much, but I somehow got in the way of his happy endings a few times now."

Christoff chuckled at that. "You sure have an interesting hobby."

Olivia innocently retorted. "I really didn't do it intentionally. The women he's interested in all have grudges against me, so when I dealt with them, it ended up affecting him too."

"Bullsh*t!" Ben cursed. "What grudge does Jessica have against you?"

"Well..." Olivia pondered for a moment. "She's my friend. I can't just sit back and watch her fall into your trap, can I?"

Ben could feel a ball of frustration lodged in his throat. He pointed at Olivia and barked, "Alright, Olivia Maxwell. Let's race! Just watch how I make you concede!"

"Sure," Olivia calmly replied.

As Ben spoke, he shouted at the crowd gathered there and explained the rules they had just discussed.

These people were always up for new ways to have fun. The idea of each person riding half of the race, which they hadn't tried before, naturally got everyone's enthusiastic responses.

And so, a crowd of people parked their bikes at the starting line.

Christoff looked at Olivia and reminded her, "I'll ride faster later, so you can take it slow. Don't rush. It is okay even if we lose."

"Are you worried about my riding skills?" Olivia crossed her arms over her chest.

Chapter 958 Are You Scared?

"Come to think of it, I have never seen you ride before. How good are you?"

Olivia proudly huffed. "You will find out soon enough."

She then lowered her visor and mounted the bike.

The roar of the motorcycle grew louder as the entire vehicle seemed to be shaking, ready to take off at any moment.

With a gunshot-like bang, all the bikes shot forward like released arrows. There was a distance between the once-crowded motorcycles in the blink of an eye.

Ben, who was familiar with this place, had a slightly quicker start than others, putting him and the woman on his bike in first place.

Christoff and Olivia were currently in third place.

However, Olivia wasn't worried at all. She knew that Christoff hadn't started accelerating yet.

The second-place rider, who was a woman riding while a man sat behind her, wasn't far from them.

Olivia was somewhat surprised by this pairing. It seemed that the woman was given the lead because of her impressive riding skills.

Everyone knew that the danger in off-road circuits like this was significantly heightened. A slight mistake could lead to fatal consequences.

After observing for a while, Olivia concluded that the woman's riding skills were far from exceptional. It seemed strange that she was given to lead with her decent-at-best skills.

However, she didn't dwell on it too much because Christoff had already started accelerating. His bike swiftly surpassed the second-place vehicle, closing in on Ben.

Ben was also giving it his all, but he was no competition for the renowned Hurricane.

In no time, Christoff had overtaken, and even far surpassed, Ben.

At unrivaled speed, Christoff and Olivia arrived at the designated spot for the rider exchange, undoubtedly getting first place.

There was a one-minute break at the spot for the rider exchange.

After getting off the bike, Olivia put on her helmet and was about to straddle the motorcycle when Christoff stopped her.

"Wait," he said while taking off his own motorcycle suit and draping it over Olivia's shoulder, smoothing it out. "It's windy up ahead. Put this on."

Olivia felt a little awkward, so she rejected him. "There's no need. I don't feel cold."

However, Christoff didn't leave room for negotiation as he insisted, "Listen to me!"

Paying her objections no heed, he zipped up the motorcycle suit and adjusted her helmet, smiling. "There we go."

Olivia's lips twitched. Why is he scarier now than when he was being fierce?

When the thought crossed her mind, she felt a shiver run down her spine as if she was actually frightened.

She dared not dwell on it as she hastily straddled the bike.

Christoff also got on.

Seeing that there was still time, Olivia asked, "Are you scared?"

"Of what?" He didn't understand her question.

She turned to look at him. "Aren't you afraid that I don't know how to ride at all and we'll end up dead?"

He chuckled. "You were brave enough to agree to the race, and I am brave enough to ride with you. So what if there is an accident and we die? I have you with me, don't I?"

"That's true," Olivia replied with a smile. "For the sake of my own life, I must ensure your safety and get you down the mountain!"

She glanced at the second-place contestant and Ben, all of whom had already swapped positions with their respective passengers.

This time, however, Ben's bike was being ridden by a woman, while the previous second-place contestant had a man in the front seat.

The time for the next leg of the race was already being counted down...

"Five, four, three, two, one!"

Olivia skillfully drove the bike forward almost as soon as the countdown hit one.

Whoosh!

The speed and stability of the start surprised Christoff. Such a smooth takeoff was not something an ordinary person could achieve.

It seemed that not only did Olivia know how to ride a bike, but she was also a skilled rider.

He looked at her, pleasantly surprised. She truly is a treasure. She can act, design clothes, and ride a bike! What else is there about her that I don't know?

His hand, which had been supporting her, suddenly turned into an embrace around her waist.

Olivia immediately struggled against his hold. "Let go!"

The man laughed and replied, "I couldn't wait to hug you. You are amazing!"

She reached out and slapped his hand. "You shameless man, let go of me."

Worried that he would distract her, Christoff eventually moved his hands away.

Chapter 959 A Dangerous Gamble

The speed of the motorcycle had been slowed down due to the arguments between Olivia and Christoff.

As a consequence, the man in the second position was catching up and slowly closing the gap.

Although Olivia was not Ben, she was a competitive woman who was determined to do her best.

To counter this, she turned the throttle with all her might, and the speed of the motorcycle immediately increased. Another motorcycle was closely following her.

As she approached a sharp turn in the road ahead, she had intended to navigate it with caution. Nonetheless, the rider following closely behind appeared resolute in either overtaking her or deliberately putting pressure on her, causing her to veer off the road.

To avoid taking any risks, Olivia reduced her speed slightly to let the person in second place pass before her.

However, little did she know that the person seemed to be deliberately challenging her, matching her speed whenever she accelerated and slowing down whenever she did. After several unsuccessful attempts, he continued to pressurize her relentlessly as if he was trying to force her off the cliff.

As if things couldn't get any worse, another motorcycle caught up from behind, seemingly intent on pursuing them in the same direction. The distance was so close that it appeared as if they could collide at any moment.

A feeling of dread overwhelmed Olivia as she wondered, Who are these people? Are they targeting me or Christoff?

No matter who they were, it was certain that those people were after their lives.

Before the race, all of them had signed a contract that stipulated their participation as a life-and-death gamble. This meant that if they perished during the race, their deaths would be regarded as mere accidents.

As Olivia realized the danger they were in, her body tensed up and she focused all her attention on maneuvering the motorcycle, deftly dodging their pursuers.

Sensing the danger, Christoff urgently shouted, "Ram into the bike ahead of us!"

Although Olivia could have rammed the motorcycle in front of them, doing so would result in a fatal accident. However, it seemed that they had no other choice. With another motorcycle closing in from behind, they were slowly being cornered into a deadly trap.

They had to find a way out, or they would be doomed to die in this race.

Olivia surveyed the terrain.

They were on a mountain pass, currently at a sharp turn with another one looming up ahead.

If she could make the jump down there...

After making a bold decision, Olivia acted in a split second and shouted, "Hold on tight to me!"

Although Christoff heard her, he didn't understand what she meant. Instinctively, he wrapped his arms around her.

He didn't know what she was about to do, but he felt the motorcycle come to a sudden halt before soaring into the air.

As Christoff watched the world plummet beneath them, he was too stunned to speak. Is she out of her mind?! We're actually steering off the cliff!

The motorcycle jolted a little as it landed on the lower lane.

Fortunately, it was built for this kind of racing, and they only felt a slight tremor.

As if his entire body had gone limp, he quickly glanced up to the spot they had just leaped off from. It appeared that an accident had occurred at that location, where the two motorcycles that were attempting to corner them had crashed into each other.

While the situation had been very dangerous just now, Olivia's action was even riskier as she had just ridden the motorcycle off the cliff and it was about five or six meters down.

Wow, she's got some serious guts. I'm not sure I'd even have the nerve to attempt something like that. What if we ended up crashing down there? What if she lost control of the bike? She could have been killed in an instant, Christoff thought to himself.

He couldn't bring himself to think any further, and his entire body was covered in a cold sweat.

Without realizing it, he had been too worried about Olivia that he completely forgot he was on the motorcycle too.

Olivia had already repositioned the motorcycle's direction and was now riding on the regular track.

The leap had saved them almost a kilometer of distance, which rightly earned them the first place.

Christoff's legs were still weak as their motorcycle came to a halt at the foot of the mountain. As he grabbed Olivia's shoulder in anger, he couldn't resist blurting out, "Are you trying to get yourself killed?"

After shrugging off his grip, she glared at him and said, "Aren't we both alive and well?"

He pulled her into his arms with lingering fear and muttered a curse through gritted teeth, "You reckless woman! You almost scared me to death!"

Olivia was unable to break free, so she attempted to calm him down by gently patting his back. "You can let go now. With such cowardice, you're not even fit to be the ruler of the Samuel Court. How embarrassing."

Chapter 960 A Debt of Gratitude

Christoff finally let go of her and looked into her eyes. His heart instantly sank as he spoke gently. There was even a tinge of grievance in his voice. "You can't take risks like this next time. It's too dangerous."

Olivia glanced up at the mountain and lifted her chin. "Wasn't it more dangerous just now? It would be better for me to get down on my own than to be knocked down by them."

Christoff understood the logic behind her words. Although her actions were undoubtedly risky, she had to have some confidence in herself. Otherwise, they would have ended up either dead or severely injured.

However, he couldn't rid himself of the fear that lingered in his mind. His mind was consumed with the thought of what could have happened if something went wrong and the possibility that she could have been killed.

As someone who had cheated death before, this was the first time he experienced such a terrifying feeling.

He was afraid for her and thought that he might have put her in danger.

It seemed that those people were after him.

Rage filled Christoff's eyes as he wondered who was trying to kill him.

"Thanks for saving me!"

Olivia looked at him and asked, "Do you know who they are?"

Looking up the mountain, he shook his head and answered, "I have no idea, but I'll find out soon enough. Damn it, they're asking for death!"

Olivia raised her eyebrows and said, "It might not be you. I have plenty of enemies myself too."

"No, it can't be you. I brought you here suddenly. How could they have known in advance? I come here almost every week at this time, so they must have plotted this for a while," he reasoned.

"Do you have any idea who it might be?" she inquired.

Looking at her, he coldly replied, "Eugene is the biggest suspect."

At that, she shrugged and asked, "Have you offended him?"

"Doesn't it make sense that he got jealous and came after me because I have been hanging with his girlfriend?"

Olivia shook her head in response. "If that's the only reason, then it can't be him."

"Do you trust him that much? What makes you think that he is a good person?"

"I'm not saying that he's a good person, but I know that he's a reasonable person. He's the type of person who won't mess with you if you don't mess with him. He might get jealous and seek revenge for these things, but he won't go so far as to try and kill you!"

Christoff chuckled and deliberately made things difficult for her as he asked again, "Are you trying to defend him now? I took you to the hotel yesterday, and now I'm facing this kind of situation. It's hard not to think of him."

"You helped me last night, so even if he was jealous, he would still take into consideration the favor you did for me. However, today's incident is a different story," she responded solemnly.

"What do you mean? Is it because I took you out without your consent?" he asked.

At that, Olivia looked at him and haughtily explained, "That is not the main issue. It's the fact that I nearly lost my life, and he won't let you go for this. You should go back to your den and lay low!"

Looking at her cute expression, he laughed and exclaimed, "Oh, I'm jealous!"

She raised her eyebrows in confusion. "Jealous of who?"

"Eugene," he replied.

After pondering for a moment, she inquired, "Is it that he is wealthier or more attractive than you that you're jealous of him?"

Suddenly, a dark expression overcame Christoff's face as he glared at her. Then, he menacingly moved closer as his hands gestured to strangle her. "Do you believe that I could kill you?" he seethed.

Olivia chuckled as she evaded his grasp. "Didn't you just say that I saved your life? Is this how you treat your savior?"

Refusing to back down, he demanded, "What does Eugene have that I don't? More money? Better looks?"

After scrutinizing him from head to toe, she teased, "Seems like he's better than you in every aspect, doesn't it?"

With that, she quickly dodged away, knowing that would only enrage him further.

As expected, Christoff exploded in anger and shouted, "Don't run if you dare!"

"Well, it's not smart to stick around." Olivia laughed.

A wave of inexplicable tenderness washed over Christoff as he chuckled. "Okay, stop it now. I won't hold it against you."

Olivia slowly moved closer and glared at him as she remarked, "You're ungrateful."

He smiled. "No, I'll be forever grateful to you."

Slightly embarrassed, she joked again, "It's okay, you don't have to be. Just remember how brave I was when I saved you every time you wanted to kill me."