

Unfinished 961

Chapter 961 Uncovering the Truth Behind the Accident

Christoff was amused and exasperated. "If I wanted to kill you, do you think you'd still be alive now?"

After thinking for a moment, Olivia asked, "Don't you think keeping me alive is the best decision you've ever made?"

At that, he nodded solemnly and said, "Yeah, you're right. It's indeed my best decision."

Not knowing how to respond, she just stared at him.

It's rather scary to see him suddenly become serious.

Fortunately, Christoff didn't dwell on the same topic and instead asked, "You're so good at racing. Are you a professional racer?"

"Sort of," Olivia replied.

"What do you mean?"

"I used to be quite active before, but not so much now."

With a frown on his face, he questioned, "What name do you go by in races?"

However, Olivia remained silent as she just looked at him with a meaningful smile.

Seeing her reaction, Christoff chuckled while giving her a skeptical look. "Are you feeling embarrassed to reveal your name to me? Let me guess, is it your own name?"

"You've definitely heard of it before."

"Well, what is it then?"

Olivia smiled and gently uttered a name, "AG."

At her words, Christoff stood frozen for a moment before incredulously asking, "You're AG?"

Olivia shrugged. "Didn't expect that, huh?"

Looking at her, he let out a helpless and dejected sigh. If it hadn't been for her impressive performance just now, he probably wouldn't have believed it.

However, he was left with no option but to believe at this point.

AG, being the racing legend, was an urban myth that had created an era.

Her true identity remained a mystery to all, and no one knew whether she was a man or a woman. However, she consistently emerged victorious every time she participated, regardless of the competition.

What was more frustrating was that every time she participated in the competition, he consistently ended up in second place without fail.

He was determined to look for her and compete with her in a fair and satisfying match, but unfortunately, he couldn't find any leads about her identity through various channels.

It was unexpected that her identity would be revealed to him in such a way today.

Even more unexpectedly, he, who had been determined to defeat her, suddenly didn't want to take it too seriously anymore.

Looking at her, he just smiled and asked, "Do you know how long I've been looking for you?"

"Looking for me? What for?"

"I'm not convinced about losing to you. I wanted to race against you and defeat you," he said.

"Sure, there'll be a chance to do that in the future," she replied with a smile.

"But I'm not eager to compete anymore."

"Why not?"

Without explaining, Christoff kept a smile on his face and suggested, "Let's head back now. Everyone must be busy rescuing people after the accident."

As soon as they arrived, a group of people caught their attention. Many of them were engaged in hushed conversations about the accident. "I don't think Martin can make it. He's badly injured."

"What happened? How did they crash into each other?"

"They were going too fast."

"Is it worth risking their lives for just a few hundred thousand?"

"Probably an accident, right? They're just here to have fun. How many of them are actually here for the prize money?"

"Am I the only one who thinks Hurricane is cool? He even flew down the cliff! Damn! He truly lives up to his name!"

"No, that's not him. It's his female partner."

"A woman? Oh my, she's savage!"

As the crowd continued to speculate, Christoff and Olivia walked over.

"Who is this person? Does anyone know him?" Christoff asked.

Ben responded, "He's Martin Doyle, a new bike racer who joined recently. I didn't expect he would end up like this."

"Give me a copy of his information later," Christoff demanded.

At that, Ben asked in surprise, "What do you need his information for, Chris?"

Christoff sneered. "Can't you tell that he was trying to kill me?"

As soon as his words fell, everyone was taken aback. Trying to kill Hurricane? Isn't the accident just a tragic coincidence?

Christoff glanced at the car approaching them and knew that his people had finally arrived.

He had made a call to them earlier while he was still at the foot of the mountain.

These people had to be brought back for a thorough investigation. Since he didn't recognize them, it was unlikely that they were after him.

There had to be someone else behind their actions.

Within moments, a man ran up to them and respectfully greeted Christoff with a bow.

Chapter 962 Investigating the Incident

"Chris."

Christoff gestured toward the woman who was standing despite having a bleeding head and then to a nearby couple who had planned to ambush them with Martin before giving an order. "Take them all away for me."

After that, he pointed to Martin who was lying motionless on the ground, and said, "Get two people to follow him to the hospital. I want him alive."

As he said this, his face was full of ferocity.

The woman replied, "It has nothing to do with me. I just met him at this motorcycle race."

Without any nonsense, Christoff replied, "Whether it has anything to do with you or not, we'll find out soon."

After he finished speaking, he looked at Olivia. His voice was no longer as cold and harsh as when he spoke to the others, but rather gentle.

"Let's go. I'll take you back."

"Okay." Olivia didn't want to get involved in his matters.

When they arrived at the hotel, she got off the motorcycle and said goodbye to Christoff before walking toward the hotel.

However, he suddenly stopped her. "Olivia..."

She stopped in her tracks and looked at him. "What's wrong?"

"I'll give you an explanation after investigating what happened tonight." After saying that, he rode his motorcycle and left.

With a suspicious look at the departing vehicle, Olivia frowned. What does he mean? Isn't he the one who said those people were after him?

Back in the room, Jewel greeted her, "My goodness, you're back. Where have you been?"

Olivia sat wearily on the couch. "Ugh. I almost lost my life today."

However, Jewel was completely clueless. "What do you mean? Where did you go?"

Without holding anything back, Olivia recounted tonight's events to Jewel. "I finally understand what Christoff was trying to say."

Jewel looked puzzled.

She continued, "He told me that he will give me an explanation. I think he is guilty of getting me caught up in this mess."

"As he should! Why did he bring you to a motorcycle race when he invited you for a meal?" Jewel said angrily.

As she spoke, she couldn't help feeling a wave of fear and reprimanded, "What were you thinking? You actually rode off from such a height! What if something had gone wrong?"

"If I hadn't done that, we would have both died."

Olivia pouted and continued, "You have no idea how badly they were injured. They almost got themselves killed even though they were on the same team. If I had hesitated for a second, you

wouldn't be seeing me now."

"Who could be targeting Christoff anyway?"

Shaking her head with an indifferent expression, Olivia replied, "I don't know. Let's go to sleep now. I'm exhausted."

Jewel's heart was pounding with fear, but when she looked at Olivia, she appeared as calm as ever.

"Were you not scared at all?"

"Of course I was, but I managed to conquer it. When I was off the cliff, I was so scared that my legs were like jelly, but I'm okay now."

Hearing that, Jewel was still trembling as she imagined her friend's thrilling encounter. "Just listening to what happened scares me. What if they come after you since you unintentionally interfered with their assassination?"

"What does it have to do with me? I can't risk my life for their mission, right?"

"It's all Christoff's fault. He doesn't even have a role in the drama now, but he keeps coming to the set. Who would believe that he doesn't have feelings for you?"

"I guess he'll stop coming now."

"How so?"

With a smug expression, Olivia looked at Jewel and explained, "Eugene must have been informed after such a big incident. He refrained from taking any action last night only because he was rescuing you. It would be strange if he doesn't deal with Christoff tonight."

As soon as she finished speaking, the doorbell rang in the room.

Jewel was puzzled. Who's here at this late hour?

With that, she went to open the door and found Eugene and North standing outside. Both of them looked dusty and haggard, and it seemed that they had been in a hurry.

After taking a few steps forward, Eugene assessed Olivia's condition before inquiring, "Olivia, are you alright?"

Olivia smiled and replied, "Yeah, I'm fine."

Chapter 963 Rekindling the Flame

North also stepped forward and anxiously asked, "Mommy, are you injured?"

Watching the anxious expressions on their faces, Olivia felt relieved. "No, don't worry. I'm perfectly fine, see?"

Jewel chuckled. "Olivia was right. Looks like you all know about the incident, right?"

Eugene immediately explained, "I'm not spying on you. I just had a feeling that many things seemed to be related to Christoff, so I had someone watch him. I never expected him to take you to the race."

"Those people weren't sent by you, were they?" Olivia asked.

At her question, his face turned gloomy. "Would I send people to harm you?"

"I knew it." Then, she continued with a smile, "Since Christoff helped me find Jewel last night, he insisted on me treating him to a meal. I felt like I owed him a favor, so I planned to treat him one and call it even. But then, he surprised me by taking me to a motorcycle race where we ran into Ben who started provoking us. So, I ended up getting implicated."

Eugene reached out and held her in his arms, his face still displaying traces of fear. "It's not that I don't trust you. What am I supposed to do if something happens to you?"

Observing the affectionate display of the couple, Jewel deftly took North's hand and guided him into the inner room, leaving only Eugene and Olivia outside.

Olivia lightly patted his back and comforted him, "Alright, I'm completely fine. Christoff and I could have lost our lives, yes, but I reacted quick enough."

Eugene glared at her with a trace of anger. "Look at you joking, and I almost passed out when I heard about it! They were saying you flew off the cliff to the lower track. Questions started popping into my head. Were they for real? What was going on exactly? How did you do that?"

Looking at his worried expression, she couldn't help but laugh. "Don't worry. I'm standing here safe and sound, aren't I?"

"You're such a daredevil! But wait, when did you learn to ride a motorcycle? I don't remember hearing about it before."

"I've been riding for six or seven years now."

With a distressed expression, Eugene looked at her and said, "I don't understand my girlfriend at all."

At that, Olivia gently laughed. "How long have we known each other?"

"Eight years," he replied.

She saw through his bluff and said, "It's only been eight months, okay?"

"Well, why don't you tell me more about what you know?"

"I feel like you already know everything about me."

"Is there anything that you don't know?"

"Yeah, I don't know how to cook or deal with relationship problems. And I also don't know..."

Olivia looked at him, who was listening earnestly with a silly expression, and inexplicably found him cute. Then, she clung to his neck with both hands and continued with a smile, "How to let go of you."

At those words, Eugene was stuck with happiness that left his mind blank as if colorful flowers had bloomed in his thought. As he confirmed the truth repeatedly, his eyes sparkled with joy, and he went from being cautious to overjoyed.

He feared that he might have misinterpreted her words as she rarely spoke affectionately to him.

Although strictly speaking, what she said just now was not a sweet nothing.

Nonetheless, at such a sensitive moment for both of them, he felt more content than ever.

Despite making up after their argument, he still felt uncertain. He was aware of the distance in her heart, so he didn't dare to be too aggressive or let his guard down. He always felt that they couldn't regain the closeness they once had.

Now, she had brought them back to their old selves with just one sentence.

He abruptly wrapped his arms around her tightly and exclaimed like an excited child, "Olivia, my dear wife, you're so amazing!"

With a frown, Olivia pushed him away and reprimanded, "Stop calling me your wife."

Looking at her gentle smile, he affectionately rubbed his forehead against hers and said, "Since you won't let go of me, you'll be my wife sooner or later."

She was rendered speechless. He's getting too carried away.

"Alright, you can let me go now. I just barely escaped death. If you keep hugging me like this, I might die from suffocation."

With that, he promptly released her and smiled foolishly at her impeccable face. "Don't worry. Christoff won't be around for long. I'll make sure he stays away from you."

"What did you do?" she asked puzzledly.

Chapter 964 Rebuilding Trust

Eugene furrowed his brows as he replied, "I talked to Hayes and had all of the business under Samuel Court shut down. I should have kicked him out earlier."

Olivia chuckled. "Do you know what I told Christoff after the incident?"

At the mention of Christoff whom Eugene held in contempt, his face turned gloomy. "What did you tell him?"

She smiled. "I told him that since he almost got me killed, you'll definitely hold him accountable for it."

As he chuckled, he reached out to pinch her nose with indulgence and doting in his eyes. "You know me pretty well. Although he's as annoying as a fly buzzing around you, I have faith in you. However, since his existence had already threatened your life now, he'd better not show up again."

Olivia found it somewhat unusual as she noticed his obedient demeanor.

She couldn't help but wonder when he had become so careful with his words, and why he always felt the urge to express his loyalty so fervently.

Looking at him, she confessed, "I'm new to this whole relationship thing, and I know I haven't been great at it. Sometimes when things happen, I can only react instinctively. Especially when it comes to matters of the heart, I tend to withdraw and become avoidant, often without even being aware of it. And I know I messed up when we had that misunderstanding last time. I take responsibility for not trusting you enough. And maybe Christoff did have an influence on me, which is why I impulsively came back from abroad and made you feel more guilty toward Azalea—"

Without waiting for her to finish, Eugene fiercely pulled her into his embrace. "It's not your fault. It's my fault for not being good enough. I shouldn't have kept it from you. Even though my intentions were only to prevent you from getting jealous, I know keeping secrets is still wrong. I apologize. From now on, I promise to be more open with you and communicate better. We have to talk about it if anything is on our minds, okay?"

Olivia remained silent as she only nodded in his embrace.

The misunderstanding had left both of them wounded. Although they had made up afterward, she still couldn't shake off the knot in her heart.

However, as she heard his heartfelt confession and witnessed him rushing over in a disheveled state upon learning of her accident, she couldn't help but feel a sense of comfort in her heart.

He was still the same person who would get anxious at the thought of her being hurt, and the same gentle soul who had always believed in her.

If tonight's events had involved Eugene and Azalea instead, she would definitely be overthinking things.

His unwavering faith in her made her realize that she wouldn't have handled it as well as he did when it came to situations like this.

"Olivia, you must let me know if there's anything that's bothering you, I'll explain everything to you, and I promise not to keep anything from you," he said.

She nodded. "I actually feel the same way as you do. While it's true that we are responsible for not handling our arguments well, it seems that someone had deliberately triggered the situation. Otherwise, how could the rope have broken for no reason? How did you end up going to Nambahd, and why did the cab driver who drove Azalea develop a crush on her? She's a princess after all! Why didn't Hayes

explain things clearly when he called you? Imagine if you had explained everything to me properly that day, I wouldn't have left in anger!"

"Don't be angry, Olivia. I have considered these things. I suspect that Christoff is instigating conflicts between us."

Olivia recalled the argument they had that night when she had firmly told Eugene that he had no grounds to suspect anything between her and Christoff.

She was clouded by anger that day.

Eugene had been flirting with other women, yet he brought up the topic of her and Christoff, which immediately struck a sensitive chord within her.

Looking back with a clear mind, she realized that perhaps what he probably wanted to convey was that since he had faith in her, why couldn't she reciprocate the same trust?

Olivia let out a sigh and explained, "I don't have any special relationship with Christoff, even though he helped me. It's normal to suspect him, and I've my own suspicions about him as well. That's why I've been avoiding him all along. However, what happened last night and tonight were both accidental and not intentional. But now, I'm curious whether Christoff has the power to influence other matters, including how Hayes handles things."

Eugene nodded. "Alright, I understand. I'll send someone to look into the matter."

Chapter 965 A Series of Unfortunate Events

For several consecutive days, there were no leads on Christoff's side. The only person who might know something, Martin, was still lying in the hospital with his life hanging in the balance.

To Christoff's surprise, another incident occurred at Samuel Court and he suspected that Eugene was clandestinely causing trouble behind.

However, he didn't say anything this time. It was indeed him who had caused trouble for Olivia as he insisted on taking her to the motorcycle race.

If Olivia had shown even the slightest hesitation at that critical moment, the outcome would have been different, and their lives could have been lost in the blink of an eye.

If it hadn't been for her proficient skills, they might have both perished.

Hence, he wanted to investigate thoroughly and give her an explanation.

However, he was forced to leave by Eugene now.

There was nothing he could do but take the three lightly injured riders back to Samuel Court first and arrange for some people to watch over Martin.

After learning that Christoff had left Summer City, Eugene felt a slight relief, and his anger dissipated a little.

Feeling in a good mood, he couldn't help but call his girlfriend.

"How many more days?"

There was a hint of coquettishness, a touch of complaint, and a little bit of helplessness in his voice.

Olivia couldn't help but smile. "About ten more."

"Ten more days? Didn't you say it was going to be done soon two days ago?"

She chuckled. "There were some last-minute changes to the script, so it'll take about ten more days."

Eugene's mood plummeted. "Can you stop filming after this one is over?"

"Okay." Olivia gently comforted him as she said, "Why don't you invite Alex to hang out with us? It's been a while since he last visited Jewel. Welp, I hope I'm not the cause of that."

He sighed and explained, "It's nothing to do with you. His mother was hospitalized."

After hearing Eugene's words, Olivia was startled and asked, "Hospitalized? What happened?"

"She attempted suicide by cutting her wrist," he replied.

At that, her heart skipped a beat. "What? Why would she do that? How is she doing now? It's not because of me, is it?"

He reassured her, "She's out of danger now. It's not your fault. Alex went home to see his mother after what happened. They had a heated argument, and in a fit of anger, his mother attempted suicide. The housekeeper found her and took her to the hospital. Alex feels guilty and has been taking care of her in the hospital for the past few days."

Olivia also felt guilty and said, "It's all because of me. I shouldn't have said those hurtful words. Where is she hospitalized? I want to visit her."

"Don't blame yourself. She used such despicable means to trap you guys, and you think just a few harsh words are enough to put her in her place? That's not even close to justice. If we have to find

someone to be responsible, it's me who told everything to Alex, and then he went to find his mother. You're all innocent victims. You can't be blamed for anything, Olivia," Eugene comforted her.

"Anyway, it all started because of me. Jewel doesn't know yet, but I've noticed she's been distracted these past few days. Although she hasn't said anything, she's probably wondering why Alex hasn't come to see her. How about this? I'll tell Jewel first, and we'll go to the hospital to visit Alex's mother tomorrow at noon. Since she's Alex's mother, it seems inappropriate for us not to show up. Do you want to come with us?"

"Okay. Just give me a call after you guys make the arrangements, and we'll go together," Eugene responded.

After ending the call with Eugene, Olivia fell into complete silence.

What a mess!

She didn't think her words that day were too harsh compared to what Alex's mother had done, but if his mother tried to commit suicide because of it...

How could she describe the feeling that churned in her stomach?

Olivia felt guilty and regretful for not acting differently!

It felt like the weight of the world on her shoulders.

Jewel had just returned from getting her meal. When she saw Olivia lost in thought, she couldn't help but ask, "What's wrong, Olivia?"

After a deep sigh, Olivia turned to Jewel and said, "Jewel, do you have any idea why Alex has been absent for such a long time?"

Chapter 966 A Burden Too Heavy to Bear

Having a bad feeling in her heart, Jewel anxiously looked at Olivia and asked, "Why?"

"Alex's mother is in the hospital. She attempted suicide. Wrist cutting. Eugene speculated that Alex might have been too resolute," Olivia explained.

Jewel's face turned pale in an instant as she murmured to herself, "Suicide? Why would she do that? How is she now? Ahh, I blame myself for this."

At that, Olivia glared at her and said, "What's there to blame you for? If there's anyone to blame, it's me. I scolded her, and you didn't say anything. Don't worry. She's fine now."

Jewel looked regretful. "If I hadn't suggested breaking up with him, he probably wouldn't have discussed this with his mother. I should have stopped him."

"Even if you hadn't said anything, he still would have discussed this with his mother. It has nothing to do with you, so don't take all the responsibility on your own," Olivia reminded gently.

However, Jewel suddenly became anxious as she asked, "What should we do now? Should we visit her?"

Olivia comforted her, "Yes, but tomorrow. It's a bit late now. We'll go tomorrow at noon."

Jewel fell into a long silence.

Why do I always hold onto hope? I have no legal status, and I'm a person who's already dead. Who am I to deserve a good life? I'm only living a life of compromise. What else can I expect from love? Clearly, we shouldn't even be together!

Believing that only the people involved have the right to decide and that others have no authority to interfere is foolish and naive! Is it really true that they have no right to interfere?

No matter how deep our feelings are, and no matter how many years we've missed, we shouldn't be together. It's too heavy, and on our shoulders is the weight of a life that could disappear at any moment. Who can bear that burden?

The next day.

As scheduled, Olivia and Jewel met up with Eugene at the hospital.

As they approached the ward, they could hear the lively voice of an elderly woman. "Can't you get something that I like?"

Alex responded in a good-natured tone, "What would you like to eat then?"

Stefanie replied, "Roasted chicken."

"Your body hasn't completely recovered yet, and the doctor advised that you have something light. I bought you some mushroom soup and steamed salmon. Just make do for a few days. You'll be discharged tomorrow," Alex explained patiently.

With that, he propped up the small table next to her bed and arranged all the things he had bought on top. Then, he picked up a bowl and coaxed in a gentle voice, "Mom, hurry and taste it. I just tried a sip, and it's really good."

With a haughty turn of her head, Stefanie retorted, "Let Diana do it. There's no need for you to keep coming here. I'm not going to die."

At that, Alex's brow furrowed. "Mom, why do you have to say things like that? I admit that I had a bad attitude that day, but haven't I already apologized to you? Why are you still holding a grudge against your son?"

Stefanie snorted. "If I was holding a grudge, I would have kicked you out by now."

Alex chuckled. "How could you bear to do that? I'm your only son."

"Why can't you listen to me since you are my only son? I told you that anyone is acceptable, except for Jewel! Why do you insist on being stubborn about this woman?"

Although Alex's face already turned gloomy, his tone remained gentle. "Alright, Mom. Let's not talk about this now. Didn't we agree to discuss this later?"

Stefanie was so angry that she couldn't contain it anymore. "There's no room for this discussion from now on. If you don't want to push me to death, stay away from that woman!"

Chapter 967 Visit Stefanie in the Hospital

The group standing outside the sick room was put in a dilemma as both staying or leaving wasn't an ideal option either.

As the group stubbornly sought answers from each other's faces, a nurse approached them with a pill bottle in hand. She shot them a confused look. "Are you looking for somebody?"

Her innocent question announced their existence to the people in the sick room and deprived them of the excuse to leave.

Olivia hastily responded in embarrassment to shake off the nurse's doubt, "Here's fine."

The nurse slightly nodded before walking into the sick room.

After hearing the nurse's voice, Alex involuntarily looked in the direction of the door.

Shame overwhelmed him within a second when he landed eyes on Jewel's face.

I promised her to talk to Mom, but I failed miserably. How could things go south with my mother ending up in the hospital?

At first, Alex planned to talk to his mother and let her see the situation from his angle. However, she was an assertive woman. She didn't even want to listen to him in the first place as she clung to a certain thought from the beginning. She stood firm and refused to hear him.

Triggered by her attitude, he spilled the words without caring how the harsh words hurt her. At last, he slammed the door and walked away in anger.

How can I even make Jewel believe that I can convince Mom and give her a happy future?

He didn't know what to think. His mother's condition alone was exhausting enough.

He couldn't quite put his regret into words. Just when he fumbled for words, Stefanie began, "Why are you here? Who permitted you to come? Alex, get them out of here. "

Alex scowled. "Mom, they're here to visit you. What's with your attitude?"

Stefanie snorted. "What's with my attitude? Are you serious? I'm hospitalized all thanks to them!"

Alex paid no mind to his mother. Instead, he took the fruit basket from Jewel. "Don't mind her, Jewel. Take a seat."

He also asked Eugene and Olivia to sit.

The pair exchanged a look. Serious expressions fell on their faces as both agreed that they shouldn't be there.

Walking over to the bed, Jewel fixed her gaze on Stefanie, who occupied the bed, before gently asking, "Are you feeling better, Mrs. Road?"

Stefanie glared at Jewel in return. Her gaze was full of venom like a pair of poisoned daggers. "Stop your act! All I want is for you to not drive a wedge between me and my son. That's all."

Jewel fidgeted at the harsh words. "Mrs. Road, I didn't do that."

Stefanie felt her blood boil. "You didn't? Then how come my son gets flared up and decides to cut ties with me, his mother? I told you to stay away from my son! Can't you understand?"

Alex's eyes widened in disbelief. How could Mom insult Jewel in front of us as if we don't exist?

He looked at his mother in disappointment. For a moment, he felt like the woman on the bed was a stranger to him.

He quickly interjected, "Stop it, Mom! Jewel didn't say anything to me. Instead, she has been insisting on breaking up with me, but I refuse. I'm the one to blame! Don't implicate the innocents."

"Innocent? You mean her?" Stefanie pointed at Jewel. "You'll respect me without her. Stop defending her, Alex. The firmer you defend her, the deeper I hate her."

After screwing the IV bottle shut, the nurse spoke up. "All right. Stop fighting. The patient needs to rest. You can fight all you want after she gets well."

After that, she leaned over to give Stefanie the injection.

Olivia quietly approached them and asked, "What's inside?"

The nurse paused for a moment before mumbling a vague answer, "It's to reduce inflammation."

Olivia slightly arched her brows. Reduce inflammation, she said. Why don't I believe her?

Stefanie followed Olivia's eyes and found her watching the infusion bottle. Afraid that she might catch something, Stefanie mocked, "Now what? Haven't you had enough that you want to continue in the hospital?"

After that, she turned to Eugene. "Eugene, do you have any idea how she talked to me? She accused me of abusing my authority in a poor and aggressive manner. She has no respect for me! You need to teach her a lesson."

Chapter 968 Had Enough of Stefanie's Insults

Eugene took a few steps toward Olivia and put an arm around her shoulder. Then, he smiled. "Mrs. Road, you need to know my girlfriend here is an arrogant girl. She isn't afraid of me, or anyone. I must've spoiled her, and I'm glad to continue so. You can mind your own business, Mrs. Road."

Olivia threw him a pointed look. He's good at making up excuses. Where does the accusation come from?

Stefanie stared at them with mouth agape. Even after taking a few moments to process his words, she was still unable to speak her thoughts.

I can't believe a woman got Eugene wrapped around her finger. What a useless loser he is!

Olivia turned to Stefanie. "Mrs. Road, we were told you were hospitalized. We're here to visit you. It's good to see you looking healthy and speaking vigorously. I'm glad you're still capable of quarreling and complaining."

Stefanie sneered. Even so, she was guilty. Thus, her voice came out softer than she intended.

"Thanks to my son, I'm looking healthier and speaking more vigorously. Is there a problem?"

Olivia smiled. "Of course not. I wish you a long healthy life."

Stefanie snorted as if she got the victory. "I'll never allow your friend and my son to date as long as I live. Aren't you supposed to have a different wish, so there's no obstacle between them?"

Olivia smiled widely. "I told you I agreed with you. I don't want them together despite their compatibility. However, marriage is different. It involves them and more than them. Trivial things could turn into serious matters one day. One can't live a happy life with that. Don't you agree with me, Mrs. Road?"

"They're not a good match for each other!" Stefanie glared at Jewel with a darkened expression. "A woman from such a background is no match for my son."

Alex furiously yelled at her, "Stop it, Mom!"

Stefanie fought fire with fire due to her being a patient. "I meant what I said! She's no good for you."

A shadow fell on Jewel's face. She had been enduring the insults for Alex's sake.

It seems like I shouldn't have indulged her. Does she take me as a weakling just because I have been keeping quiet?

"I've never thought about depending on your family to climb the social ladder. Besides, I've been proposing to break up with your son. You were never friendly since we first met. You're an elder, who has more life experience than me. What makes you so cynical? What have I done wrong to make you treat me like an enemy?"

Stefanie growled, "You shut up!"

After that, she turned to face her son. "Did you see that? She doesn't respect me!"

A frown was pulling at the corner of Alex's lips. "I don't see a problem. You're obviously in the wrong. She has the right to stand up for herself."

Jewel continued, "I only visited you for Alex's sake. I'm not here for your insults. You don't want me to have anything to do with him, I know that. But we don't owe you anything, you know?"

Then, she turned to Alex. "We're strangers from today on. I'll break your legs if I ever see you again."

Lastly, she looked at Olivia. "Let's go, Olivia."

Olivia gave her a smile. "Sure."

Alex instantly grabbed Jewel's arm and pleaded, "Don't do this to me, Jewel."

Jewel swatted his hand away with a serious expression. "Can't you see I only get the people around me into trouble? What makes you think we have a future? It's been many years since people threw insults at me. You! Alex! Just who you are that people could only look up at you? One word from your mother and I'll fight back. Don't blame me if I hurt any of you in the process."

At that, she linked arms with Olivia and guided Olivia to the door.

Olivia patted Jewel's arm to stop her. "Wait a minute."

At that, she looked between Eugene and Jewel. "You can go first. I need a word with Mrs. Road alone."

Chapter 969 Caught Stefanie in a Lie

Jewel looked worried. "Is something wrong?"

Olivia threw Jewel a look to ease her mind. "I'll explain later. Just go."

Eugene cast Olivia a meaningful glance before nodding and taking leave.

"Let's go."

Alex planned to get Jewel alone, so he did as told without a protest.

After the group left in unison, Diana's presence in the sick room became hard to miss.

Olivia turned to Diana and shot her a question. "You're the one who sent Mrs. Road to the hospital, aren't you?"

Diana nodded. "I-I'll be on my way."

However, Olivia has different thoughts. "No. You stay."

Stefanie felt her heart skip a beat at Olivia's order. She demanded in a shaky voice, "W-What do you want?"

Olivia's grinned. "It's not about me. It's about you, Mrs. Road."

Stefanie feigned ignorance and glared at Olivia. "I have no idea what you're talking about."

Crossing her arms, Olivia looked down at Stefanie. "You've always known that Jewel didn't seduce your son. It's quite the opposite, and Alex refuses to leave her. However, you faked ending your life to force

him to break up with her. That's a dirty trick. Don't you know your son will be worried about you? It'll make him regret it! It pains him!"

Stefanie was shaken by the words. It was shown in her quivering lips and her widening eyes. "I-I—"

Olivia's smile grew wider as she took a few steps toward Stefanie. Then, she bent down and whispered to Stefanie, "Aren't you curious to know how I found out?"

Diana finally came back to her senses as she joined them at the bed, whether out of an attempt to stop Olivia or to find someone to back her.

Regardless of her intention, she walked over to them.

Olivia glanced at Diana. "I bet she couldn't have done it without your help. Have you thought about the consequences if Alex finds out?"

Diana panicked. She fumbled for words but to no avail. At last, she turned to Stefanie for help.

I'm just following orders!

Stefanie growled, "Stop your groundless accusation! You can clearly see my wound. How am I lying?"

Olivia chuckled as she looked at Stefanie. "When you were throwing insults at Jewel a moment ago, you used your injured hand. You know what? A patient will usually avoid using their injured hand. However, you used it, and you seemed well."

"It proves nothing," Stefanie retorted. "I'm recovering. I can go back tomorrow."

Olivia kept her composure. "That's plausible, but what about the nurse? She said the medicine is to reduce inflammation, but I smelled dextrose solution in the bottle. There isn't any medicine inside."

At that, she looked at the IV bottle as she continued, "You must've convinced the doctors to help you."

Stefanie was shocked to hear such a statement. She asked in disbelief, "You can tell? Just by smelling it?"

Olivia's gaze landed on the older woman. "Mrs. Road, you might not know this, but I'm a doctor. You can trick no one except for Alex. He's guilty and cares about you, so he suspects nothing. However, there are many flaws in your disguise. For example, your rosy cheeks, your sonorous voice, and how smoothly you

moved your injured hand. Tell me, what does any of them have to do with a person who tried to end her own life?"

At that, Stefanie involuntarily hid her injured hand behind her. "Stop your nonsense! Get out of here!"

Chapter 970 Trying to Figure Out the Reason

Olivia leaned over and chuckled. "Let me check your wounds."

Stefanie hid further into the bed. "Why should I?"

"Then I supposed it's okay if I ask Alex to come inside and see the doctor tending your wounds?"

After that, Olivia pretended to go for the door.

"S-Stop it right there!"

She stopped in her tracks and turned to watch the woman who called out to her. "Finally coming clean?"

Stefanie didn't answer, but it was a tacit admission anyway.

Regret was written all over her face. I should've kept my composure. I wouldn't have given myself away if I could control my temper when I saw them.

Olivia returned to the bed and studied Stefanie's face. "I know you're trying to break Alex and Jewel apart by scaring him. But can't you tell Jewel has lost her memories? She might have feelings for him, but it can't be deeper than Alex's for her. The way you handle things only hurt him in the end. She's the woman who has been on his mind for over eight years, and you're his mother who raised him. How can he choose between the two of you? Do you think your son coming to the hospital to take care of you every day is a victory? Do you have any idea how much it hurt him?"

Tears rolled down Stefanie's cheeks. "I forbid them to be together! It's wrong!"

Olivia frowned. "That's all I want to say. I won't tell the others, but it's better to tell him yourself. You can't hide the fact that there's no wound on your wrist after you go home, and you can't depend on an artificial wound to cover your lies forever. Once he finds out you've been lying to him, he will stop believing every word you say in the future. Do you remember the story of the boy who cried wolf? It's not easy to regain someone's trust."

The turn of events shocked Stefanie. "You won't tell them?"

Olivia smiled and muttered, "I could've done it when the others were around."

She's not wrong, though.

At that, Stefanie continued, "What do you want? My approval in exchange? Keep dreaming."

Olivia shook her head with a sad smile. "It depends on you, and I won't interfere. I know that parents always want the best for their children, and you must have your reasons. It's just that you're his mother and you can talk things out. Remember, he's your son. He understands your difficulties best as long as you reason with him. It's better than forcing them to break up. Aren't you aware that the more you disapprove of them, the more Alex feels guilty for Jewel?"

Stefanie didn't speak anymore.

Since Olivia got her point across, she decided to leave Stefanie to rest, so she took leave.

Eugene was waiting for her in the corridor while Jewel and Alex were nowhere to be found.

Olivia approached Eugene with a smile. "Where did the two go?"

"Over there," he replied.

Then, he raised his chin, gesturing to the stairwell.

Olivia followed his gaze before shrugging. At last, she shook her head and sighed.

"Did you call her out?" he asked, his tone filled with amusement.

She arched her brows in surprise. "You can tell?"

A chuckle escaped him. "When she was pointing at Jewel."

"Observant, aren't you?"

Olivia was pleased by Eugene's quick wit and she let it show on her face. "You know what? There's dextrose in the infusion bottle. This woman is good at making a scene. She's a walking drama queen."

At that, Eugene said, "It might have to do with the fact they only had each other for a long time, and her world basically revolved around her son. Now that Alex's attention is on Jewel practically every day, Mrs. Road must be unhappy to see it."

Olivia tilted her head and pondered for a moment. "I feel like there's more to it."

"What makes you think so?"

"She's strong with her opinion," Olivia explained. "If it's what you said, she hates Jewel at best. However, she objects to the duo to the degree that she refuses to make it work. Besides, she told us more than once that it could be anyone but Jewel."

Eugene frowned as he gave Olivia's guess a thought. "When she was younger, Alex's father betrayed her. Thus, she did not see anyone even after all these years. Is it because she has been hurt in a relationship, so she can't let go of Jewel's betrayal back then?"