

Vengeful Hearts Return Chapter 51

Audrey frowned deeply. As she listened to Dylan, her expression became increasingly concerned.

Dylan saw that Audrey was getting unsettled, and hurried to assure her. "Don't worry, Brian will be fine. No matter what won't let anything happen to him." he promised.

His heart ached for Audrey.

He could scarcely imagine how his beloved woman had endured the long hours of abuse and mistreatment in prison, protecting their children, and how she had managed to raise them little by little.

Thinking about the photos and videos that he had seen at the Roscente family home, Dylan could almost pass out from his anguish.

"Well, ten minutes is up." Audrey announced as she got up. Her face had returned to its usual expression, distant and cold.

At the moment that Audrey was about to leave, Dylan almost reflexively pulled on her hand and said, "Don't go yet. Let's just have a meal together, okay?"

His voice was low and raspy and almost trembling. Even his entire being seemed weaker and more humble.

Audrey eyed Dylan's sorry sight from the corner of her eye and then turned to look at him carefully. She sneered, "Are you feeling hurt now? But this pain of yours is just a tiny fraction of what I suffered before.

"You should feel glad that the Audrey who loved you before is now long gone."

Audrey's merciless words caused Dylan to turn pale as his heart twisted in agony and his hands started shaking.

With stinging eyes, he watched the woman in front of him break free from his hand and leave without a care.

It was at this moment that Dylan truly realized that the woman who had once loved him so deeply was no more.

The grief and pain from this revelation swept over him like a crashing wave, threatening to tear his heart to pieces.

Then, a knock sounded from the door.

“Come in.” Dylan answered hoarsely in a low voice. The door then opened and Richard walked in hurriedly.

He was slightly stunned when he saw Dylan alone in the room, with an ashen face and an air of despondency and loneliness.

It reminded Richard of that

alar month, seven years ago.

Agonizing and without hope.

“What is it?” Dylan asked.

“Sir, something’s happened. James got into it with The Silence and got injured. In all likelihood, the incident at the border was caused by them.” Richard reported.

Richard’s face took on a serious, stony look.

The Silence led 90% of the ground forces at the border. It wouldn’t be far-fetched to say that besides Island Empire’s share, the entire border was controlled by them.

Making a move in their territory would have inevitably put James at a disadvantage.

Dylan didn’t seem too flustered, and instructed in a calm voice, “Ask Evan to take over at the border, and get Matthew to keep an eye on the alliance.”

“Yes sir.” Richard replied respectfully.

On the way back, Audrey received a call from Phoebe.

Phoebe told her, “Auddie, if someone asks you for help later to save someone, you don’t have to do it for the sake of the Roscente family. Everything is the result of her own doing, so it has nothing to do with you.”

Audrey was puzzled. She thought that someone had found out she helped one of the Roscente family members and so wanted to force her into saving someone else on account of the Roscente family.

Later, it occurred to her that the person in need of saving was probably Emely.

She had heard the news before she left home in the morning that Emely had been found, but in bad shape.

When Audrey realized Phoebe’s intentions, her heart warmed.

Emely was a Rosciente after all, a descendant of the Roscente family and a blood relative of Phoebe's, but Phoebe had chosen to take Audrey's side instead.

"Okay Phoebe, I got it." Audrey replied.

"And when you have time, bring Brian along and come over for dinner, we'll prepare all your favourite dishes." Phoebe said to Audrey in a gentle voice.

Her voice evoked images of sty, falling rain in Audrey's mind. It was soothing and calming and reminded Audrey of her own mother's voice. It made Audrey feel at home.

"Sure thing. I'll bring Brian over as soon as I can." Audrey agreed.

Phoebe chatted with Audrey for a couple more minutes and then hung up when she found out Audrey was driving, out of safety concerns.

Audrey had just arrived outside the Holland residence when she noticed a person standing at the door.

That person ran over to Audrey as soon as he saw her. He had an anxious look on his face.

It was Jake Roscente. He knew that Audrey had god-like medical skills, and that she had saved the old man's life from the clutches of death. He pleaded with her, saying, "Ms. Hernandez, please save my daughter, please. I know Emely can only blame herself, but as her father, I'm begging you. For the sake of the Roscente family, please help her.

"As long as you're willing to save her life, I will send her out of the country at once and she will never return here ever again."

Although he knew that Emely had it coming, Jake couldn't bear to let his precious daughter die without doing all he could. And right now, he could only pin all his hopes on Audrey.

After all, Aaron was already at his wits' end, but as Aaron's mentor, surely Audrey would have a way to save Emely's life.

Audrey's eyebrows creased. She did know that Emely had been found, but she was not clear about the exact details of her circumstances.

"What happened to Emely?" Audrey asked.

"She... Emely, she..." Jake tried to explain but the thought of Emely's condition when she had been found made him choke and tear up.

“I can give it a shot, on account of Phoebe, but I can’t guarantee that she’ll be saved.”

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Audrey said.

The Roscente family was worth nothing in her eyes, but Phoebe was different. Phoebe was the first person who showed her genuine love and care since returning to Northville.

Audrey knew, in her heart, that even if she didn’t try to save Emely, Phoebe and the rest of the Roscente family would nothing against her.

In the VIP suite of Northville Hospital, Emely had just completed the latest round of treatments.

She was alive, but barely. There were a countless number of wounds on her body, big and small, and her life was hanging by a thread.

Not to mention, she was also missing a leg and an ear that were bitten off.

Her face had been torn to shreds, and even seasoned medical staff who had seen patients with all sorts of injuries, couldn’t help but feel frightened at Emely’s appearance.

Aaron had a grave expression on his face. He had done everything that he could do, and without his mentor’s intervention, he was certain that Emely would not survive the night.

So when Aaron caught sight of Audrey, he heaved a sigh of relief.

“Master!” he greeted her.

Audrey nodded at him and walked into the suite. When she saw Emely’s mangled face. and body, she was stunned.

She thought that Emely might be in a precarious state, but she didn’t imagine it would be this extreme.

Audrey quickly changed into her sterile scrubs and put on her surgical gloves to examine Emely, but it was far worse than she expected.

She could tell that Emely had her leg and ear chewed off by a beast, and most likely, the beast's sharp claws had sliced up her face.

"Bring her to the OR, now!" Audrey commanded with a serious face after finishing her examination.

Aaron immediately sprung into action to make the necessary arrangements. The rest of the doctors and nurses in the suite couldn't help but feel intrigued as to why Aaron was so courteous and respectful towards a young woman like Audrey.

"Ms. Hernandez, is Emely going to be okay?" Jake asked worriedly.

As he looked at his daughter, he wished that He could bear all the pain and suffering on her behalf.

"I can't promise anything else except that she won't die." Audrey replied Jake matter-of-factly.

She wasn't a saint or a miracle healer. Even putting aside how Emely had harmed her before, she had only come to help for the sake of Phoebe.

She didn't want to put Phoebe in a tough position in the Roscente family.

But even if Audrey managed to save Emely from death, Emely would inevitably become an invalid.

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Jake was visibly relieved to hear from Audrey that Emely would be able to preserve her life.

preserve her

To him, as long as his daughter could continue to live, it didn't matter that she had a missing leg or ear.

Besides, with such advanced m

procure any kind of prosthetic parts.

technology these days, it wasn't difficult to

Inside the operating theater, Audrey had only appointed Aaron as her assistant. remaining doctors and nurses had been forbidden to enter.

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Due to the severity of Emely's condition, the surgery took a total of three hours to perform.

After the surgery, Emely was wheeled out and transferred to the intensive care unit.

"Ms. Hernandez, how is my daughter?" Jake asked worriedly.

"Her life is no longer in danger." Audrey replied.

Audrey guessed that Emely's current state was most likely orchestrated by Dylan. She had to admit that it was cruel and heavy-handed, especially for a woman to have her appearance ruined like that.

Still, Audrey felt no pity for Emely.

Upon hearing that his daughter would live, Jake wept with joy and relief.

Just then, a voice could be heard from the VIP suite. The door to the suite was then pushed open.

It was none other than Sarah.

"Jake, how is Emely? I rushed over as soon as I heard." Sarah said worriedly with a soft voice. Her eyes were also tinged red.

The moment Sarah entered the ICU, her eyes landed on Emely on the hospital bed. She was wrapped tightly from head to toe in white gauze. It looked like there was no part of her left unscathed.

Especially with one leg missing, Sarah was shocked at the state Emely was in.

She didn't expect that the price to pay for offending Audrey was so terribly high. She bit

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her lip and started to feel anxious.

Jake knew that Sarah and Emely were close, and he took a breath before saying, "She's going to live."

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“That’s good, that’s really good... Who would have thought something like happen to Emely?” Sarah replied in a heartbroken manner while looking at Emely with red eyes.

Sarah’s gaze then turned to Aaron, and she said to him gently, “Aaron, Emely is in your care now, please take good care of her and make sure she recovers.”

She looked like she was on the verge of tears as she said that.

Aaron glanced at Sarah indifferently, but didn’t respond.

He was fully aware of all the heinous things the Hernandez family did to his mentor, so he thought the worst of Sarah and didn’t expect her to be any sort of a good person.

Sarah was embarrassed that Aaron had ignored her, and a shadow came over her eyes.

“I’m leaving.” Audrey said flatly. She wasn’t interested in watching Sarah put on a show.

The moment Sarah heard Audrey’s voice, she froze. She hadn’t realized that there was another person in the hospital room.

Audrey’s figure was blocked completely by Aaron so Sarah couldn’t see her, but she recognized Audrey’s voice and finally noticed that she was standing behind him.

Sarah’s face changed completely then artd she shouted angrily at Audrey, “What are you doing here? Are you plotting something against Emely? You can forget about hurting. her now that I’m here, I won’t let you have your way!”

After that, she looked over at Jake and said to him anxiously, “Jake, I didn’t expect that Audrey would be like this. She and Emely had some problems with each other, but I didn’t think she would actually hurt Emely so badly.”

Sarah said that with such severity and conviction that if no one else was the wiser, they would have truly believed it was Audrey who landed Emely in her current state.

Although, Jake knew in his heart that this was the punishment that Emely deserved, even if it was a tad brutal.

He also knew that the person behind this was actually the head of the Clifford family.

Audrey looked at Sarah with a wry smile. She had to admit that Sarah’s acting was

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compelling.

It was no wonder that there used to be so many brainwashed fans of hers in the entertainment industry.

“Sarah, since you claim that I was the one who did this to Emely, could you explain the reason why I did it?” Audrey a

“Audrey, it doesn’t matter whether you admit to it or not, I know Emely had offended you.” Sarah countered as she glanced at her.

It looked like she had more to say, but Sarah stopped herself.

It was part of her ploy to lead Jake into having suspicions that Audrey was the reason for Emely’s condition.

As long as people believed that was the truth, it would turn the Roscente family against Audrey. They’d grow annoyed and spiteful towards her and force her out of the family.

Once that happened, Audrey’s peaceful days in Northville would be numbered.

The fact that Audrey had saved one of the Roscente’s before wasn’t worth mentioning then.

Sarah thought she knew Audrey best and didn’t think much of her skills. She couldn’t do anything at all so how could she have saved anyone?

The more she thought, the more she desired to make Audrey’s life miserable. She looked at Jake and said sadly, “Actually, there are two reasons why I came over today. Besides being worried about Emely and coming to check on her, I also wanted to apologize to you.

“At the end of the day, Audrey is my sister, while Emely is my best friend. Emely has been reduced to this state because of my sister, and I’d like to express my sincere apologies on her behalf. I hope you won’t blame Audrey.”

Sarah’s eyes were red and teary. Her face displayed anguish and heartache even though the words she just said were provocative and intended to drive a wedge between Audrey and the Roscentes.

Beneath her forlorn face, from the bottom of her heart, she was actually egging for the Roscente family to drive Audrey out and for them to teach her a lesson.

Her best case scenario was for the Roscentes to vent all their anger on Audrey and make it impossible for her to continue staying in Northville.

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“This has nothing to do with Audrey. The blame lies solely with Emely. On the contrary, it’s us, the Roscentes who are grateful to her.” Jake clarified resolutely as he looked at Sarah with his brows slightly knitted.

He was put off by Sarah and t

her slightly offensive.

Sarah thought that Jake would fall for her act, hook, line and sinker, so she was surprised by his response. She gave Audrey a resentful look, the ferocity in her eyes mounting.

Audrey looked at Sarah’s face and sneered in a low voice, “Don’t you feel afraid looking at Emely in this state?”

Her face was cold, but there was a derisive smile on her face..

“Me? What do I have to be afraid of?” Sarah answered coldly but with rage in her eyes.

Audrey prompted her. “What would you do if you also lost a leg and an car?”

She was smiling as she asked, but it was a devilish smile that sent a shiver down Sarah’s back.

“Or... do you actually prefer going to a men’s prison?” Audrey asked further.

Hearing that, Sarah’s body stiffened and the color drained from her face.

‘Did Audrey find out something? That’s impossible!’ she thought in a panic.

Audrey saw the look on Sarah’s face and suddenly broke out in a wider smile. It caused Sarah to feel more alarmed than ever.

Sure enough, Sarah was the one manipulating the situation behind the scenes.

Audrey had just left Northville Hospital when her phone rang.

The moment she picked up, a voice cried out, “Skylark, something’s happened. Lucas is missing!”

Audrey's face changed in an instant.

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"When did Lucas go missing?" Audrey asked hurriedly.

"It was probably early this morning

but no one was there" the voice replied.

ent to his room to look for him in the morning

Audrey pursed her lips. She had an uneasy look on her face.

Although Lucas was miles ahead of his peers in terms of intelligence, he was after all only a six or seven year old boy. Even if he had good physical abilities, in the face of absolute strength, Lucas would simply be powerless to fight back.

Especially in a place like the border.

"Did you look for him?" Audrey asked.

The voice said, "I searched everywhere around here already but there was no trace of him. My only concern now is that Lucas might have been taken."

Green Viper sounded more and more worried as she explained the situation.

Although no one dared to openly mess with The Silence at the border, it was difficult to say how many people secretly wanted to get rid of them.

Audrey's eyebrows creased before she instructed coldly, "Wait for my update."

She hung up the phone at that and sped back to the Holland residence, making her way quickly to the study.

For their safety, Audrey had placed trackers on both Lucas and Brian.

Although, if there was a signal blocker nearby, then naturally the tracker would not work.

Sure enough, the tracker on Lucas was untraceable.

The Silence had many enemies, but the organization boasted one of the safest security systems in the world. There was practically no one who could infiltrate their system, let alone be able to snatch Lucas from right under their noses,

The only possibility was that Lucas had left The Silence of his own accord.

Audrey thought through the situation for a beat before getting up and leaving the study. She made her way to the kitchen in search of Wendy. "Where's Brian?" Audrey asked.

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"I just saw him playing in the backyard. Wendy replied. Then she looked at Audrey and added, "Great timing. I've just finished making your favorite grilled fish, and there's freshly squeezed orange juice too. Wash up and sit down to eat, you must be hungry."

Audrey only realized then that she hadn't had lunch

She was a little curious as to how

yet.

could have known that she hadn't eaten. After

all, it was already past two in the amnoon-

Audrey didn't think more of it and replied, "Okay, I'll go to the backyard first and come back later."

Wendy brought the dishes to the dining table and then returned to the kitchen to clean up. Then she remembered that she hadn't returned the messages she received earlier on her phone.

In the chat with Dylan, the message sent by him from two hours ago read, [Wendy, don't forgot to make some food for Audrey. She hasn't eaten her lunch. And make some orange juice for her too.]

Wendy sighed involuntarily and thought, "What a strange turn of events. Ms. Hernandez used to be head over heels for Mr. Clifford, but now..."

Still, it wasn't in her position to worry about their affairs. She could only do her best to take care of Ms. Hernandez and Brian.

In the backyard, Brian was crouching in corner with his phone, chatting with someone in a soft voice.

"Lucas, are you really going to deal with that man? He may have bullied Audrey, but he's still the reason why we're in this world!" Brian whispered into the receiver.

Brian couldn't help but recall that night when that man had let him bite down on his hand, enduring the pain stoically without a word of complaint.

And the strong yet warm and affectionate hug that confused him and made him utter the word 'Daddy' as a result.

It was then that he realized no matter how good other adults were to him, deep down in his heart, none of them could compare to his own father.

"Mommy didn't have anyone to protect her before, but now that she has us, it's only natural that we should teach him a lesson. Otherwise he'd think that there's no one to stand up for her!" Lucas replied firmly.

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On the phone screen, Brian could see that Lucas had a serious look on his handsome face.

"Well, then I'm in!" Brian nodded. In his heart, absolutely no one was more important than Audrey.

Brian then set his phone aside and had in his piggy bank.

head up his fingers, counting how much money he

"Lucas, I'll give you all the money in my piggy bank. I saw how expensive it was last time when The Prince hired someone!" Brian offered.

"No need, you can keep your money for yourself. I've got enough!" Lucas replied.

He raised an eyebrow and glanced at the silly little kid in the video call, holding his fingers up in an effort to count.

"Oh, okay!" Brian agreed happily. He was pleased that he wouldn't have to part with his savings.

As the two brothers were chatting, suddenly a stern voice boomed from behind Brian.

"Brian Hernandez, what are you doing?" the voice demanded to know.

The sudden interruption frightened Brian, who immediately jumped up and scurried to hide his phone behind his back.

He looked carefully at his mother and thought, 'When did she get here? She didn't hear anything, did she?'

'But she called me by my full name, she must be pissed!'

As Audrey walked closer and closer to Brian, her steely eyes never left him, who was still hiding his hands behind him. "Show me your hands!" she ordered.

"I'm not on the phone with anyone!" Brian flashed his big and innocent eyes at Audrey and protested aggrievedly.

Lucas was still on the line with Brian, and as he heard Brian's words, he let out a low snort.

"What a little dumbass. I told him to find a safe place to hide but he was still found out." Lucas thought.

Brian was still unaware that his mean older brother now thought of him with disdain, and continued trying to resist Audrey's demand. Soon though, he gave up under her

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unrelenting stare, and silently presented the phone in his hands to her.

In his heart, he exclaimed, 'Lucas, I let you down!'

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Audrey took the phone and looked at the screen to see that the call had disconnected.

She tried to call back but the

he seemed to be out of signal range already.

Audrey then looked at Brian and said coldly, "What did Lucas say to you?"

Brian wasn't used to seeing Audrey angry, so she was terrifying to him when she was, especially when she called him by his full name.

So at this point, he indignantly pressed his lips flat together and confessed with tears in his eyes. "Lucas said he was going to teach that bad guy a lesson, that he was gonna stand up for you."

“He also said, in the past, nobody was around to protect you, but you have us now, so we’re going to stop any bad guy from bullying you!”

Brian continued to look at Audrey as he told her everything, and when he saw that Audrey was still cold and unsmiling, enormous drops of tears started to roll down from his eyes.

Audrey felt her heart ache and her nose start to tingle. She swallowed all her anger, but her face remained stern.

“Mommy doesn’t need you guys to protect her. I can protect myself and I won’t let anyone bully me anymore, but that’s only if you and Lucas take good care of yourselves as well so that I don’t have to worry. You guys being safe and sound is the best protection for Mommy.” she explained patiently.

Brian sniffled and jumped into Audrey’s arms. “I’m sorry, Lucas and I will never make you worry again from now on!” he promised.

“Alright, so if next time Lucas calls you again, do you know what to say?” Audrey asked. in a gentle and soothing voice as she patted Brian’s head.

“Yes, I do!” Brian nodded obediently.

Meanwhile, after Lucas hung up on Brian in exasperation, he joined a group chat filled with a bunch of thugs.

They came from all sorts of professions, and some were even dangerous enough to be internationally notorious. He sent a message to the group.

MommysTheBest: [20 million dollar job. Any takers? PM if interested.]

With that. Lucas left the group

It didn’t take more than a few seconds for someone to add him.

It was someone with a plain black profile picture. His username was

WorldsMost Handsome.

After Lucas accepted his friend request, the other party immediately sent a message over.

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WorldsMost Handsome: [What are the job terms?]

MommyIsTheBest: [Teach a le upfront deposit, and the rema

to a particular man. There'll be a ten million dollar gten will be transferred when the job's finished.]

WorldsMost Handsome: [Which man is wortli 20 million dollars to do this? Are you sure it's just a lesson?]

MommyIsTheBest: [The man is none other than the Prince of Northville, Chritonia's Dylan Clifford. As long as he doesn't die, you can do as you please.]

WorldsMost Handsome: [...]

WorldsMost Handsome: [...]

WorldsMostHandsone: [Sorry, I was surprised, but I'll accept the job.]

MommyIsTheBest: [Send me your account number. The transfer will be done shortly.]

WorldsMost Handsome: [So how old is your mom? How beautiful is she? Are you missing a dad? Or does she need a son?]

MommyIsTheBest: [Nope, there's no need.]

WorldsMostHandsone: [Oh, that's a shame.]

The man with the black profile picture reasoned that if the son was so rich, the mother would be loaded too. Unfortunately for him, it was exceedingly challenging to find a sugar mommy these days.

On a cruise ship on the other side of the world, the man was enjoying his sunbathing, but then he clicked his tongue twice and chewed the gum in his mouth. In a carefree, nonchalant manner, he tossed his phone to the side.

Then with a single leap, the young man with an athletic figure disappeared into the sea.

Somewhere at the border, Lucas was staring wide-eyed at the two men across from him.

"It's an understatement to say he looks like the boss. The resemblance is uncanny. Say, Evan, do you think this brat is the boss' illegitimate son?" James asked.

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James had bandages wrapped around him, and his eyes were fixed on Lucas, unblinking.

The boy he suddenly picked up on the street was the spitting image of the boss when he was a child.

“Yeah...” Evan also stared at L.

with tightly knit brows.

“Hey kiddo, where’s your dad?” James asked Lucas.

“I don’t have a dad.” Lucas replied unhappily, wrinkling his nose.

His cool, handsome face was full of displeasure.

James’ heart thumped.

He wondered. Just as I thought, this brat really doesn’t have a father. Could he really be the boss stray child?’

“What about your mom?” James asked further.

Lucas looked up at James before lowering his face. He didn’t say a single word.

James’ felt his sympathy stirring.

‘Could it be this kid doesn’t even have a mom? That’s tragic, he thought.

Then, James excitedly grabbed Evan’s arm and said, “Evan, bring this kid along with you when you go back to Northville. Maybe he’s really the boss’ illegitimate son!”

Evan coldly shot a glance at James before pulling his arm away. He grunted flatly.

Evan scrutinised Lucas up and down with a skeptical face.

The sudden bizarre appearance of this brat who looks exactly like his boss when he was a child seemed more than just a coincidence.

Only a naive simpleton like James would fall for it so easily.

Lucas looked up again, his face was still cold and blank but he let Evan continue gawking at him.

He had expected the man named Evan to be suspicious of him, but he wasn't afraid of them taking a shot at him.

"Kiddo, since you don't have a mom or dad, you should follow this guy to Northville. Do you know where Northville is?" James asked Lucas with a smile.

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Even his tone had become more amiable.

Lucas nodded without revealing any emotion on his face.

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"Awesome!" James couldn't help but compliment Lucas. "What's your name?" he asked.

"Lucas Hernandez." Lucas didn't

state to state.

"Then we'll call you Lucas from now on." James said happily.

Lucas nodded. He glanced at the man before him who was grinning like a fool and pursed his lips..

After Audrey finished eating, she went to the study to make a call.

"Master, some new forces have been checking you out." Invincible's voice could be heard from the other end of the line.

"Who?" Audrey asked.

"I haven't found out exactly yet, but this group should be located in Northville." Invincible reported.

'Northville?' Audrey thought as she wrinkled her eyebrows. Quite a few people already knew about her in Northville. Besides Dylan, she couldn't think of anyone else who might want to investigate her.

"I found it. It's a company called Princely Enterprises. But it's an advertising company." Invincible said in a puzzled tone.

Audrey frowned: She thought the name was familiar, but she couldn't recall where she'd heard it before.

"Continue to keep tabs on their movements. Let's find out what they're up to. Audrey instructed.

After she hung up, Audrey made a call to Simon.

"I need one of your lawyers." Audrey said to him.

"What for?" Simon asked, surprised that Audrey had called him.

To collect a debt." Audrey replied bluntly.

Simon was stunned for a moment, then he smiled and said, "Okay, hang tight. I'll send

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one to you later."

"Great, thanks." Audrey didn't stand on ceremony.

"Is that all? The old man misses you, you know. When are you coming back to visit?" Simon chided her.

"When I'm free." Audrey replied without skipping a beat.

She didn't wait for a reply from Simon before she hung up.

It wasn't long before the doorbell rang, and Wendy soon walked in to the study.

"Ms. Hernandez, there's a lawyer named Mr. Reed who's here for you." Wendy informed Audrey.

"Okay, I'm going out. I won't be back for dinner so don't wait for me tonight." Audrey replied.

A little while after Audrey had left, Wendy suddenly remembered something and she hurriedly grabbed an umbrella before rushing outside.

“Why are you in such a hurry?” Callum asked.

He had just happened to be on his way back from the garden after pruning the flowers. when he ran into Wendy.

“The weather forecast said it’ll rain in the evening, and I’m worried that Ms. Hernandez doesn’t have an umbrella.” Wendy replied.

“I’ll bring it to her.” Callum said as he grabbed the umbrella from Wendy and rushed quickly to the front yard.

Soon though, Callum returned with the umbrella still in his hand.

“Ms. Hernandez has already left, her car isn’t in the driveway.” he told Wendy.

At Clifford Mansion, Richard was holding an information packet in his hands with a grave face.

He had always sported a calm, stoic expression, but this time, for the first time, there was hesitation on his face.

After standing at the door of the study for a while, Richard finally mustered up the courage to knock.

Dylan’s voice could be heard from inside, and Richard opened the door to enter.

“Sir, the information regarding Is. Hernandez in the men’s prison has been found, but...” Richard said but stoppe self as he looked at Dylan. He seemed to have more to should prepare yourself.” he warned.

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Dylan took the documents from Richard, his hand trembling slightly as he held them.

After a long pause, Dylan finally said in a low, cold voice, “Leave!”

“Yes, sir,” Richard responded res

Tully and left the room.

It was only after Richard had been gone for a while that Dylan finally opened the documents.

Just one glance at the photos and text made him slam them shut on the desk with a loud “bang.”

His usually dignified and handsome face was now full of pain, his eyes bloodshot, and tears continuously rolled down his cheeks. His hands trembled so much that he could barely hold the documents.

The sharp pain almost made it impossible for him to breathe.

Just one page made him feel breathless with pain, yet the woman he loved the most had.

endured three whole years of such hellish torment.

For the first time, Dylan

time could turn back, steeled the bitterness of helplessness and self-reproach. If only

time could turn back, he would never have sent her into that hell.

But what could Dylan do now? How could he find his beloved woman and make her love him again?

Dylan felt like he was suffocating from the pain, his entire body trembling.

His mind was filled with the image he had just seen, a photo of her lying in a pool of blood, covered in red patches, her face a bloody mess, her eyes filled with despair.

She was in such a sorry state.

Her eyes had completely lost the will to live. She only wanted to die quickly.

Dylan couldn't accept the image of her waiting for death.

With trembling hands, he threw the documents into a drawer and slammed it shut.

He couldn't bear to look at them. That woman was his most cherished one, had once wanted to marry and swore to protect.

And he had lost her.

the one he

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Chapter 55

Dylan punched the glass cabinet with all his might, his hand instantly covered with

blood.

But he seemed to feel nothing, punching again and again at the shattered glass.

Outside the study, Richard could hear the noise and Dylan's painful, anguished cries and suppressed sobs. He could stand quietly by the door.

After a while, Dylan suddenly flung open the study door and stormed out, looking more disheveled than Richard had ever seen him.

His eyes were filled with despair, and blood dripped from his hand onto the floor.

"Mr. Dylan, where are you going?" Richard asked as Dylan walked straight outside, and he immediately followed Dylan.

It was already raining heavily outside. Richard hurried to stop Dylan.

"Mr. Dylan, where are you going? Let me take you!" Richard shouted.

Dylan, in his desperate state, pushed Richard away with a violent shove, his voice hoarse and filled with sorrow as he glared at Richard with bloodshot eyes full of pain and despair.

"Don't follow me. Get lost!" Dylan snapped.

Dylan released Richard and rushed into the rain.

The torrential downpour instantly drenched him, making him look even more disheveled. The rain mixed with his blood, creating red puddles on the ground.

any of it.

But Dylan didn't care about.

A black car sped away, crashing through the rain, heading towards Greencloud Mountain.

"Ms. Hernandez, we've arrived," said the driver.

Audrey looked outside before getting out of the car.

This was a villa complex, though not as comfortable as the Holland family.

Since Audrey had driven the members of the Hernandez family out, they had moved

here.

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Chapter 55

Ramiro Glover, an associate at Simon's Starglow Law Firm, accompanied her.

Ramiro walked up to ring the doorbell.

When Mary opened the door, she saw the young man outside. Before she could ask who he was, she spotted Audrey behind him and turned pale with fear, remembering the last time Audrey's powerful me had terrified her.

"Mary, who is it?" Rebecca's voice came from behind.

Mary quickly regained her composure and answered shakily, "It's... Ms. Audrey."

Rebecca said, "What? Why is she here?"

Rebecca's expression changed as she hurried over.

"Audrey, what are you here for?" Rebecca asked.

Rebecca's anger flared as soon as she saw Audrey. Recently, wherever she went, she was met with ridicule from other wealthy women.

-Even those who had been friendly with her now avoided her, barely acknowledging her greetings. Rebecca was so furious she didn't even dare to
ro out anymore.

Audrey looked at Rebecca's displeased face, a cold, mocking smile on her lips.

"Mrs. Hernandez, you must have forgotten. I'm here to collect a debt. You haven't forgotten my 120 million dollars, have you? Today is the last day," Audrey said.

"What? What last day? I don't know what you're talking about!" Rebecca's face turned pale as she gritted her teeth at the mention of the money.

Audrey, expecting Rebecca to deny the debt, had Ramiro produce the IOU with William's signature and fingerprint.

"Mrs. Hernandez, it's written here, with William's signature and fingerprint. You can't deny it," Audrey said.

As soon as Rebecca saw the IOU, she tried to snatch it, but Ramiro avoided her.

She bit her lip and said fiercely, "What signature and fingerprint? We don't know if you forged it. I'm telling you, we won't pay that money!"

Audrey narrowed her eyes, a cold, sharp smile on her lips.

"Think carefully. If you don't pay, I can't guarantee what will happen to the Hernandez

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Chapter 55

family," Audrey said:

"Stop threatening me! Don't think that just because you've latched onto the Roscente.

family, you can do anything. We won't give you the money, and I want to see what you can do to the Hernandez fan Rebecca said.

Rebecca's usual gentle face now turned sharp and venomous.

She couldn't stand Audrey flaunting her power in front of her.

Sarah was a hundred times better than Audrey, but since Audrey's return, Sarah had been suppressed and humiliated.

Sarah wasn't the only one who couldn't swallow this bitter pill, Rebecca couldn't either.

"Really? Then don't come begging me later," Audrey said with a cold smile.

"Beg you? Who do you think you are? You're not even worthy of our glances!" Sarah came out, looking at Audrey with disdain.

Audrey gave Sarah a mocking, contemptuous look before pulling out her phone and making a call.

The phone was answered after just one ring.

"Boss," the voice on the other end was respectful and gentle.

"Spread the word. Cut off all cooperation with the Hernandez Group. Anyone who dares to work with them will face bankruptcy Audrey said.

Her voice was cold and arrogant, but there was no hint of a joke in her demeanor.

Vengeful Hearts Return Chapter 56

“Audrey, who do think you are? Do you think you have the final say in the entire Northville company?” Sarah mocked Audrey, finding her assertion laughable.

She believed Audrey was delu because Phoebe took her as h

al thinking she was something important just

woman with a criminal record.

daughter In Sarah’s eyes, Audrey was nothing but a

Sarah was convinced that the Roscente family would soon want her gone after seeing the photos and videos from that night..

“You’ll find out tomorrow,” Audrey said, getting into the car with Ramiro.

Though Rebecca didn’t want to believe Audrey had such influence, recent events since Audrey’s return made her worry.

“Sarah, do you think Audrey could really have that power?” Rebecca asked.

Sarah said, “Impossible, Mom. Audrey is just a lowly criminal. The Hernandez Group’s partners are prominent companies in Northville. How could they all follow Audrey’s command?”

Sarah was confident that Audrey was nothing but a worthless figure in her eyes.

It was the Roscente family that was foolish to take Audrey in as a goddaughter, a position Sarah believed should have been hers.

Rebecca tried to calm her nerves but recent events had shaken her confidence.

Sarah said, “Don’t worry, Mom. I’m negotiating a lead role in a major movie. The investors are very pleased with me. Once I secure this role, no one in the entertainment industry will dare to challenge me.”

Sarah was determined to rise above the recent ridicule and establish her dominance in the industry.

As Audrey left the Hernandez family, she instructed Ramiro to draft a stock transfer agreement.

“Ms. Hernandez, are you sure the Hernandez family will come to you for help?” Ramiro asked while drafting the agreement.

Although the Hernandez Group in Northville was not on par with some of the prominent families, it was still a force to be reckoned with. Despite experiencing a

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Chapter 6

decline in recent years, the Hernandez Group recently secured an investment worth 100 million dollars

“To prevent Hernandez Group from going bankrupt, William will come,” Audrey replied confidently.

She knew William too well. Hernandez Group was his last hope, and he wouldn't let it collapse, not wanting to return to the destitution of the past.

Ramiro, glancing at Audrey through the rearview mirror, couldn't help but admire her strategic brilliance.

She had meticulously orchestrated everything to force William into a desperate corner, cutting off all his escape routes.

Holding the stock transfer document, Ramiro felt a chill down his spine, realizing how dangerous it was to cross this formidable woman.

As they drove through the heavy rain, a black car was parked outside the Holland family.

Audrey glanced at it briefly before looking away.

Due to the rain and not having an umbrella, Audrey instructed Ramiro to drive into the yard.

As soon as the car drove in, Ramiro urgently hit the brakes.

Audrey frowned slightly, then followed Ramiro's gaze forward.

In the pouring rain, a black figure knelt in the courtyard, with a pool of water already forming at his feet. His black suit and trousers were soaked through by the rain, but his back remained straight.

He looked desolate and lonely, exuding a sense of melancholy.

Hearing the sound of the car behind him, the kneeling figure slowly turned his face.

It was Dylan. His handsome and noble face was wet, rain dripping down from the bangs on his forehead. His deep, dark eyes pierced through the rain and fell straight into the

car.

Even though the proud and aloof man was kneeling in the rain, looking disheveled and pitiful, he still exuded a strong and noble aura.

Those dark eyes were filled with deep emotions, meeting Audrey's gaze."

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Chapter 36

One knelt outside the car, with a gloomy and lonely face.

One sat inside the car, with a calm and indifferent face.

As their eyes met, Audrey pursed her lips, staring at Dylan. Her gaze grew colder, but she felt an inexplicably sharp and irritation.

The emotions were too intense for Audrey to suppress.

Dylan was the most esteemed young man of Northville, a ruthless and powerful figure, cold and strong, ruthless and noble. No one dared to provoke him.

Audrey provoked him and ended up in such a miserable state back then.

But she had never seen this strong and noble man kneeling humbly in the rain.

Ramiro, who was driving, was also shocked.

Ramiro had been startled by the person kneeling on the ground, which was why he urgently hit the brakes.

When that kneeling person turned his face, Ramiro was even more scared out of his wits.

As the top talent in Starglow Law Firm, Ramiro was naturally familiar with Dylan, the most esteemed man of Northville.

He had even heard many rumors about this big shot, but today's scene was something he had never dared to imagine.

Fortunately, he hit the brakes in time. Otherwise, if he had really run into this big shot, he wouldn't want to live anymore.

Thinking of it made Ramiro break out in a cold sweat..

"Ms. Hernandez, this..." Ramiro scratched his head, not knowing what to say.

"No need to drive over. I'll have someone bring an umbrella," Audrey said.

Audrey finished speaking and called Wendy. Soon, Wendy came over with an umbrella.

After handing the umbrella to Audrey, Wendy glanced at Dylan kneeling in the courtyard and said, "Not long after you left, Mr. Clifford came over and has been kneeling there ever since. He refuses to get up."

"I see, Wendy. You can go back now," Audrey said indifferently.

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Seeing Audrey's unpleasant expression, Wendy dared not say more.

"You can back. I'll make another appointment with you later, Audrey said to Ramiro,

A go

opened the umbrella and got out of the car.

Ramiro didn't dare stay here any onger. He didn't even dare to look at Dylan and hastily drove away.

Once Ramiro's car left, Audrey stood there with the umbrella, her cold gaze looking at Dylan for a few seconds before she walked step by step toward him.

The rain was so heavy that Dylan couldn't keep his eyes open.

But he didn't dare close them, his deep eyes filled with too many emotions as he watched Audrey step by step approaching him.

He was afraid that in the next second, Audrey would disappear, just like she did seven. years ago.

The distance between them shortened, and Audrey's cold gaze moved away from Dylan. In the next second, her slender and cool figure passed by him.

Vengeful Hearts Return Chapter 57

Dylan turned around, watching Audrey move past him and walk away, getting farther and farther. His hands at his sides clenched into tight fists..

"Baby!" he said in a hoarse an

w voice, his eyes bloodshot.

The sudden voice made Audrey's steps pause slightly.

Her legs felt as if they were weighed down, making it hard to move forward.

She didn't know why, but that voice felt like a curse, instantly imprisoning her heart and tearing apart her cold demeanor bit by bit.

She felt an ache of sourness and suffocating pain.

And she felt her whole body felt as if something had seized it.

She was not Audrey, and she had no feelings for this man. But every time she saw him. in such pain and sorrow, she felt as though her entire being was changing, the pain almost making her suffocate.

A sudden surge of inexplicable irritation rose within her. Audrey impatiently turned her head, coldly looking at Dylan, her gaze indifferent and aloof.

"Please leave my house, and if possible, never appear in front of me again. You are truly annoying!" Audrey said.

The indifferent voice and disdainful posture fell into Dylan's ears and eyes, and it felt as though he was being executed, the despair in his bloodshot eyes palpable.

His hands clenched tighter and tighter, his face wet with either tears or rain.

After speaking, Audrey no longer looked at his painful and desperate eyes, turning to leave.

Watching that decisive and indifferent back, Dylan felt for the first time what it meant to be in unbearable pain.

The pouring rain drenched him thoroughly.

As Audrey entered the house, she saw Callum, Wendy, and Brian standing at the door, looking at her.

Audrey handed her umbrella to Wendy, her gaze cold as she asked, "What's the matter?"

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Chapter 37

"Audrey, he's been in the rain for a long time. Won't he get sick?" Brian looked at Dylan, who was kneeling outside the house, feeling somewhat worried.

But seeing the coldness on Audrey's face, he didn't dare say much.

"I'll have someone come and

him away," Audrey said coldly before heading inside.

Back in her room, Audrey grabbed a dry towel and wiped her wet pants before walking to the window and looking out.

In the courtyard, Dylan still knelt motionless. His deep eyes seemed to sense something, looking straight towards Audrey's direction.

Audrey's fingers paused slightly on her phone, then that inexplicable irritation surged again. She pursed her lips and sent a message to Andrew. [Come to my house and take him away.]

She attached an address. After sending the message, Audrey no longer looked outside, turning away from the window.

As Dylan saw that slender figure walk away from the window, the last bit of hope faded.

Dylan lowered his head, his bloodshot eyes staring at the ground.

Elsewhere, Andrew and the others had been looking for Dylan since receiving Richard's call.

As soon as Audrey's message came in, Andrew immediately notified Shawn and Cade.

Several cars arrived at the Holland family one after another.

Getting out of the car, they hurried inside. Seeing the kneeling man in the courtyard, they were all shocked.

“What’s Dylan doing...” Cade was almost speechless with shock at the sight before him.

“Damn, this is crazy!” Shawn couldn’t believe it either. Dylan, always high and mighty, was now kneeling on the ground, looking so pathetic.

If he hadn’t seen it with his own eyes, Shawn wouldn’t have believed it.

Who could make Dylan kneel? He was the most distinguished man in all of Northville!

Only Andrew sighed softly as he looked at Dylan.

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Chapter 37

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He then stepped forward and came to Dylan’s side, saying, “Let’s go. She sent us to take you away.”

Dylan glanced at the room on the second floor. The floor-to-ceiling window was empty, and a trace of disappointment crossed his eyes.

He pursed his lips but remain. Anceling.

Cade couldn’t stand it, grumbling, “Audrey is too harsh. Dylan knelt for her, and she still won’t forgive him!”

“It’s just a woman. I have plenty of female stars in my company, any kind you want!”

Shawn said.

He also couldn’t understand why Dylan would lower himself so much for Audrey.

“Shut up!” Andrew glanced at them before saying to Dylan again, “She doesn’t want to see you now. Let’s go!”

Andrew’s words finally brought a change to Dylan’s expression.

The words “Doesn’t want to see you” felt like a knife stabbing into Dylan’s heart..

No one knew better than Dylan how much Audrey despised and hated him now.

Suddenly, a mouthful of blood gushed from his choked throat, startling Andrew and the others.

“Take him to the hospital!” Shawn said.

“I’ll call Grandpa!” Shawn was also shocked, hastily dialing Aaron’s number.

After spitting out the mouthful of blood, Dylan no longer resisted. With a final glance at the second-floor window, he struggled to stand up.

Once the figures left, Audrey, hidden behind the curtains, stepped out.

Staring at the rain outside, her gaze fell on the bloodstain on the ground, her flickering.

Unconsciously, she placed a hand over her chest, feeling a sharp pain.

“Audrey, what are you hurting for?” Audrey asked herself.

But no one answered her.

eyes

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Chapter 37

During dinner, Brian looked at Audrey several times, wanting to say something but hesitating.

Audrey, noticing his conflicted look, glanced at him indifferently and said, “Speak your mind.”

“Audrey, I saw him spit blood!” Brian cautiously looked at Audrey, sensing her low mood since she returned.

“Yeah, I see,” Audrey responded lightly.

Brian pouted, glanced at Audrey, then lowered his head to continue eating.

Brian thought, “That person made Audrey unhappy!”

Brian’s big eyes rolled as he wondered about Dylan’s condition.

If something happened to him, he and Lucas would be fatherless!

Audrey had no idea what Brian was thinking. After dinner, she had some work to do and went upstairs to her study.

Knowing that Dylan's situation had upset Audrey, Wendy didn't say much either.

Later that night, Audrey received a message from Andrew, mentioning that Dylan's condition wasn't good and asking if she wanted to visit.

Audrey skimmed the message and put her phone aside, not planning to respond.

Originally intending to do some work, Audrey found herself too distracted and irritably shut off her computer.

Vengeful Hearts Return Chapter 58

Dylan refused to go to the hospital, instructing Aaron to head directly to Clifford Mansion.

Shawn had no choice but to make a trip to the hospital to get the medicine.

As soon as he got out of the car, his phone rang. Glancing at the screen with a smile, he answered the phone.

"Shawn, are you busy? I need a favor from you," a gentle and pleasant voice said on the other end.

"I'm not busy. What do you need?" Shawn replied softly.

"It's hard to explain over the phone. Can you come over to my place? You know the address the voice continued, making Shawn's mood improve.

"Sure. I'll be there soon," Shawn agreed, then headed towards the entrance of Northville Hospital.

As Shawn reached the entrance, he saw a crowd of reporters with cameras waiting, watching the hospital intently.

Shawn frowned, wondering if these reporters had found out about his visit and were waiting for him.

The media had gone too far, finding out even about his hospital visit. Still, it wasn't worth such a huge fuss over him.

Shawn let out a light scoff, his eyes filled with a playful smile as he walked toward the hospital.

As the president of Winter Entertainment, dominating half of the entertainment industry, Shawn had frequent rumors with numerous famous actresses, making him a regular target for paparazzi.

However, he had only taken a few steps when the reporters, who had been waiting at the entrance, suddenly perked up and rushed forward in a flurry.

501.

Shawn pouted, wondering what was happening. He hadn't even approached yet, so who were they rushing to photograph?

Curious, Shawn followed the reporters' line of sight and saw two figures being escorted out, surrounded by several bodyguards who blocked the front and shielded them from

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the press, wary of the thronging reporters causing any harm.

From a distance, Shawn's playful smile disappeared, replaced by a look of anger.

His expression turned dark and menacing, especially when he saw the man standing beside Elizabeth..

The anger in his heart became more intense.

Elizabeth had found another n

soon after breaking up with Shawn. No wonder

she was so determined to cause trouble with Shawn.

Shawn couldn't see clearly who the man protecting Elizabeth was, but it didn't matter. the intimacy between them was obvious.

The way the man shielded Elizabeth made Shawn feel both enraged and annoyed.

Shawn suppressed his anger and strode toward Elizabeth, barely restraining himself from tearing apart the man standing next to her.

The reporters started to ask, "Morgan, what is your relationship with Elizabeth? Why are you with her at the hospital?"

"Ms. Elizabeth, we heard that you accepted the role of Charlotte in Mr. Peterson's movie, a role originally intended for the popular young actress Sarah. What are your thoughts on this?"

“Morgan, are you and Elizabeth really dating?”

“Elizabeth, how do you feel dating someone like Morgan? Are you worried about his fans attacking you?”

The reporters bombarded Morgan and Elizabeth with questions as they were quickly escorted to a nearby van by bodyguards and assistants.

The reporters could only take photos of their retreating figures.

Suddenly, a figure dashed out from the side, throwing a punch at the man next to Elizabeth.

Morgan had been protecting Elizabeth all along, as she was a close friend of his precious one. During their time in the same crew, Morgan and Elizabeth had developed a good friendship.

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However, that afternoon, Elizabeth’s harness malfunctioned, injuring her arm. Morgan immediately brought her to the hospital.

He hadn’t expected the reporters and media to catch wind of the incident and stake out the place.

Morgan could have dodged that punch, but Elizabeth was right beside him. If he

moved away, her injured arm would likely suffer more. So he had no choice but to take the punch head-

Shawn had put considerable force into that punch, hitting Morgan hard enough to make him wince and stagger back two steps with.

muffled grunt.

The sudden incident took everyone by surprise.

As Shawn prepared to throw another punch, Elizabeth stepped in front of Morgan, her face cold and her voice filled with anger as she shouted at Shawn, “Shawn, what the hell is wrong with you?”

Elizabeth’s cold anger made Shawn even more furious. His eyes were red with rage as he glared at her.

“Elizabeth, is this how you repay me? Who is this man?” Shawn asked.

“No matter who he is, it’s none of your business. Get lost!” Elizabeth replied icily, her demeanor equally imposing.

Shawn, seeing Elizabeth’s attitude, grew more enraged. “You think I’ll just leave because you tell me to? No way. You will leave with me!”

He reached to grab Elizabeth’s hand. Elizabeth could have avoided it, but her injured arm made her slow, and Shawn’s grip sent a piercing pain through her arm, making her face twist in agony.

Elizabeth’s agent and assistant turned pale with worry.

“Let go of her hand!” Morgan said.

Morgan’s gaze turned slightly cold as he looked at Shawn, exuding a powerful aura.

Shawn shouted, “And who the hell are yo

to tell me to let go? Back off!”

Shawn’s eyes blazed with anger. He was oblivious to his surroundings and uncaring about who was in front of him. He lost his reason because of anger.

“Shawn, be a man. Can’t you see her face is pale from the pain?” Morgan said coldly,

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Chapter 38

looking at Shawn.

Shawn hesitated and finally looked at Elizabeth. Sure enough, she was frowning tightly, her face ashen with pain, sweat beading on her forehead.

Glancing down, Shawn saw her

suspended in a sling.

wrapped in a white bandage, the whole arm

Despite the pain, Elizabeth hadn’t uttered a word of complaint.

Elizabeth's condition shocked Shawn. He instantly let go, his anger dissipating as he realized what he had done.

"What happened to you? What's wrong with your arm?" he asked..

She ignored Shawn and said to Morgan and the others, "Let's go. There are too many people here." Elizabeth endured the pain and glanced around at the crowd of reporters taking photos.

"No, you need to see the doctor again. If it's dislocated, your arm might never heal," Morgan said in a low voice, frowning.

Her agent nodded quickly in agreement and said, "Yes, you need to see the doctor again. If your arm is really broken, things

Vengeful Hearts Return Chapter 59

Elizabeth said, "Let's go somewhere else."

Elizabeth really didn't want to see Shawn, and she had forgotten that Northville Hospital belonged to the Longman family. She had been brought here earlier by Morgan and her agent.

Now that she had run into him, Elizabeth didn't want to stay any longer.

Hearing their conversation, Shawn felt his cars ringing.

Her an was broken. How could it be broken?

"What happened to your arm?" Shawn asked, unable to hide his concern as he looked at Elizabeth's an.

Elizabeth glanced coldly at Shawn without responding and turned to her agent, saying, "Let's go."

As Elizabeth started to leave, Shawn reached out to stop her but hesitated upon remembering her injured arm.

Within moments, Elizabeth was already in the van, shielded by her manager.

By the time Shawn caught up, Morgan was already standing in front of him. "Get out of the way!" Shawn glared fiercely at Morgan, his gaze filled with hostility.

Morgan's cold face suddenly twisted into a sneer as he said, "Someone like you isn't worthy of Elizabeth."

After saying that, Morgan turned around and followed Elizabeth into the car, leaving Shawn standing there with a flushed face, glaring fiercely at the departing car.

As Morgan and Elizabeth were escorted away by the bodyguards, the surrounding reporters immediately rushed towards Shawn.

The reporters asked, "Mr. Longman, what is your relationship with Elizabeth? There are rumors you were once dating. Is that true?"

"Mr. Longman, did you and Elizabeth break up because of Sarah's interference?"

"Mr. Longman, are you aware that Morgan and Elizabeth are dating?"

Voices echoed around, and Shawn's expression turned furious. Suddenly, he heard the

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Chapter 39

reporter mention that Morgan and Elizabeth were dating. He glared fiercely at the reporter.

reporter to turn pale.

Shawn's sinister gaze

fell on the reporter as if he could kill his eyes, causing the

with

nonsense again, I'll make sure none of you can

"Get lost! If I catch any of you rep.

stay in Northville anymore!" Shawn waned.

His menacing warning finally silenced the surroundings, and no one dared to approach anymore.

The scenes captured today were enough to shock the entire entertainment industry. The thought of a love triangle between Morgan, Elizabeth, and Shawn stirred up

excitement among the reporters, especially since Morgan, being a figure akin to a big shot in the entertainment world, was involved.

As they were about to leave, Shawn called the hospital security to surround the reporters.

Mr. Longman, what are you doing?" one of the reporters asked.

Shawn glared at them coldly and said, "Delete all the photos you took, and if any of you keep them and publish anything, don't blame me for being ruthless!"

Shawn's warning immediately changed their expressions. The realization that Shawn wielded considerable power in Northville left each of them feeling resentful and fearful.

After the security guards had deleted all the photos from their cameras and phones, Shawn finally allowed them to leave.

Shawn, with a sour face, picked up his medicine and returned to Clifford Mansion.

Andrew and the others hadn't left yet and asked upon seeing his expression, "What happened? You look furious."

"Nothing!" Shawn said.

Shawn was seething with anger. He dropped the medication onto the nearby table and slumped onto the sofa, closing his eyes to avoid talking to Andrew and Cade.

The next moment, he abruptly opened his eyes and dialed Elizabeth's number several times, but it was always busy

His face grew even darker.

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Chapter 39

Shawn thought, The damned woman has actually blocked my number!

Shawn was very angry, his face dark and sullen. He opened a web browser and started searching.

Soon enough, Shawn found out w

her harness malfunctioned on sci

Elizabeth had gone to the hospital. It was because

being

her to injure her arm.

When he thought of Elizabeth's injured hand hanging around her neck at the hospital entrance today, Shawn's eyes grew even darker with anger.

"An ungrateful woman. She deserves the pain Shawn muttered to himself.

After some consideration, Shawn immediately called his assistant.

"Find out what happened to Elizabeth on set today, especially why her harness malfunctioned!" he ordered, then hung up the phone.

Not long after, Shawn's phone rang. He answered without checking the caller ID. "Got news?"

The person on the other end of the line paused for a moment, then a soft voice came through. "Shawn, what news? Have you arrived? When will you be here? I've made coffee for you!"

Only then did Shawn remember his appointment with Yasmin Harvey. But now, he wasn't in the mood.

"Something came up. I'm not coming. Don't wait for me," Shawn said.

He hung up without waiting for a response, noticing Andrew and Cade staring at him.

"What for?" Shawn asked.

"It's rare to see you this angry. Did you run into Elizabeth?" Andrew asked, smiling at Shawn's scowling face.

At the mention of Elizabeth, Shawn's anger flared again. "That ungrateful woman, she's driving me crazy!"

"Shawn, didn't you break up with Elizabeth? What did she do to make you so mad?" Cade asked, puzzled.

"Don't mention her!" Shawn snapped. The word "breakup" only fueled Shawn's rage.

"Ever since you and Elizabeth broke up, your temper's gotten worse. What's the matter?"

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Have you fallen for her?" Andrew teased.

"Fallen for her? Don't be ridiculous. I'm just playing around. Do you think I lack women?" Shawn snapped.

He was used to being the one to
up with women, not the other way around.

"Sure. You'll regret it someday," Andrew said.

"Impossible. Even if Elizabeth begged to be with me, I wouldn't agree!" Shawn declared vehemently.

"By the way, I heard your first love is back?" Andrew asked.

"Wow, she is back, so the stand-in exits. Shawn, you're quite the scumbag!" Cade exclaimed.

"Get lost! When was I ever a scumbag? It's mutual consent in relationships!" Shawn retorted with a cold snort.

"Ignore him. He'll regret it soon enough," Andrew said with a glance at the furious.

Shawn.

"How's Dylan?" Shawn changed the subject, not wanting to argue further.

Dylan's kneeling had shocked them all, and news of it would surely stun all of Northville.

"What do you think? Audrey is truly heartless. Dylan's in that state and she won't even visit!" Cade lamented for Dylan.

Even though they all thought Audrey was ruthless, they had seen her in prison. At this moment, they couldn't blame Audrey for anything.

Vengeful Hearts Return Chapter 60

That night, Audrey had the recurring dream again.

In the dream, the tall, upright figure kept walking towards her. This time, Audrey saw

the face.

He was cold and noble, haughty and proud, exuding an air of indescribable prestige.

The man had a tall, slender build and was dressed in a black suit, his entire demeanor radiating an icy, aristocratic aura. His eyes looked down at her with a condescending gaze, as if she were a tiny ant.

His deep eyes showed no trace of emotion, and his thin lips curved slightly as he said the harsh words.

He cuffed Audrey's wrists with a pair of silver handcuffs and said coldly, "Audrey, a life for a life. You injured my mother, so three years in prison for you is fair."

The cold handcuffs snapped shut around her wrists, instantly jolting Audrey awake, from the dream.

Audrey glanced at the time. It was still early. She got out of bed, washed her face in the bathroom, and then went to the study.

The next morning, as soon as William got up, his assistant called.

"Mr. Hernandez, something's wrong. Neptune Investment is pulling out!"

William said, "What?"

William was shocked at the assistant's words.

He urgently asked, "How could they pull out? We had everything settled, and the funds were supposed to come through this month. What happened? Have you asked Neptune Investment about the situation?"

The Hernandez Group's cash flow was already in serious trouble, and the investment from Neptune Investment had been settled. How could there suddenly be a problem?

William was deeply worried.

Without this investment, the Hernandez Group could face bankruptcy due to a broken cash flow chain.

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“They didn’t give specifics, just said they were pulling out,” his assistant said.

William looked grim.

At this moment, Rebecca came over to call William down for breakfast. Seeing his grim expression, she gently asked, “Wh ang? Why do you look so upset?”

William said unfriendly, “An investment we secured is being withdrawn.”

“What? Why are they suddenly withdrawing?” Rebecca was startled, then remembered Audrey’s words from the previous day, her heart sinking.

Rebecca thought, ‘Could it really be that bitch Audrey causing trouble? But how could that be possible? How could Audrey have such power?’

Rebecca gritted her teeth, feeling unwilling.

Rebecca said, “Honey, it must be that bitch Audrey. I didn’t want to tell you, but I didn’t expect her to actually do something like this!”

William asked, “Audrey came by? What did she say?”

William became even more furious at the mention of Audrey.

Rebecca said, “What else could she say? She wants us to return the 100 million dollars to her. But we don’t have the money now. When I told her off, she threatened us, saying she would cut off all our business partnerships!”

William said, “Outrageous! She doesn’t even respect me!”

William was livid at Rebecca’s words.

Rebecca incited, “Exactly! After all, we’ve raised her. Now that she’s become Mrs. Roscente’s goddaughter, she doesn’t even think of helping you. Instead, she’s trying to oppose you. If it were Sarah, she definitely wouldn’t do this!”

As expected, William’s expression darkened further.

“I don’t know what the Roscente family sees in her. Sarah is a hundred times better!” William said. He suddenly had an idea. “Doesn’t Sarah have a good relationship with Emely? Have her visit the Roscente family more often. Maybe they’ll take Sarah as their goddaughter too!”

Rebecca’s eyes lit up but then she sighed, “I’m just worried Audrey might speak ill of Sarah to the Roscente family. They might end up disliking Sarah.”

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“She wouldn’t dare! William snorted, full of disdain for Audrey. “I’ll call her later and have her take Sarah to the Roscente family. We’ll make sure they also accept Sarah as their goddaughter!”

“I’m afraid Audrey won’t agree.” Reberca’s eyes shone, but she added cautiously.

“If she refuses, I’ll disown her!” Wi nothing could change that.

said. After all, he was Audrey’s father, and

William’s plan seemed perfect; but he hadn’t finished his breakfast when his assistant called again.

“Mr. Hernandez, several of the project partners we previously discussed are now seeking to terminate their contracts with us!”

William said. “What? I’ll be there immediately!”

William had no time for breakfast. He grabbed his coat and rushed out the door.

After breakfast, Brian hadn’t seen Audrey. His big eyes darted around

Brian asked, “Wendy, is there more oatmeal?”

“Yes, would you like another bowl, Brian?” Wendy offered.

“Not me. Can you pack a bowl for me?” Brian said.

“Are you taking it to Ms. Hernandez?” Wendy assumed he was.

“No, I want to take it to a patient,” Brian said.

Wendy looked at Brian with a tender smile and said, “Are you taking it to Mr. Clifford?”

“Shh!” Brian quickly put a finger to his lips and said in a low voice, “Wendy, keep your voice down. Don’t let Audrey hear.”

“Alright, I’ll pack it in a thermal container for you. Callum can take you later!” Wendy smiled dotingly.

“No need, Andrew will pick me up,” Brian said.

By the time Andrew arrived, Brian was waiting outside with a thermal container.

As soon as the car stopped, Brian jumped in.

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“Andrew, why are you so slow?” Brian complained.

“Do

you know how far it is from the Roscente family to here? Don’t complain. What’s in the container, breakfast for me?” Andrew asked.

Andrew glanced at the container

was holding.

“Not for you. If you want some, I’ll ask Wendy to make you some next time,” Brian said.

“Like I need it!” Andrew chuckled, “Does your Mom know you’re visiting your dad?”

“No. She’s still sleeping,” Brian said.

The car left Greencloud Mountain and headed towards Clifford Mansion.

Shawn and Cade were there and were surprised to see Andrew bringing Brian here.

“Brian, what are you doing here?”

“Bringing some love!” Andrew said, then looked at Brian. “I’ll take you upstairs to see your dad.”

Carrying the thermos, Brian followed Andrew upstairs.

Dylan had locked himself in his room since Aaron left yesterday.

Just like seven years ago, when they brought the dejected Dylan back from the prison gate, he locked himself in his roo