Warning 411

Chapter 411 Trapped In An Elevator

Scarlett's POV:

To prepare for the project on the east bank, Elena and I worked overtime in the company.

While I was reading about the project's information, she began to tease me.

"Caroline, I didn't expect you to be such a strong businesswoman now!"

I looked her in the eye and sighed. "People change, you know."

Time fleeted by while I was busy. Within the blink of an eye, it was already late at night. After yawning several times, Elena broke her silence.

"Caroline, I'm hungry. I'll go downstairs to the canteen for a little midnight snack. I'll bring you something to eat when I get back."

I stared at the mountain of documents on my desk and replied, "Okay."

Then, I lowered my head again and went back to work.

Moments later, my stomach began to grow. I glanced at the clock and found that an hour had passed since Elena left.

'Why isn't she back yet?' I wondered.

Frowning, I took out my phone to call Elena.

"Sorry, the number you have dialed is out of coverage area. Please leave a message after the beep."

'I can't get through to her. Did something happen?'

I dropped the call and decided to go downstairs to look for Elena.

Because I had sat for too long, I felt a head rush when I stood up.

I perked myself up, went to the elevator, and pressed the button. Soon, the elevator door opened. It just dawned on me that I had left my phone in the office, so I intended to go back to get it.

The following second, I felt an overwhelming force coming from behind me. Someone caught me offguard and shoved me into the elevator. "Go to hell!" the assailant shouted.

I fell to the ground heavily. Despite the pain coming from my knees and ankles, I looked up to find out who had attacked me.

At this time, the elevator door was closed and the light inside it was extinguished. I was panicking, so I couldn't see the assailant's face clearly. The only thing I was certain of was that he was a man.

Enduring the pain, I struggled to get up and hurriedly pressed the alarm button of the elevator. But no matter how hard I tried, the elevator emergency call was unresponsive.

I slammed on the door of the elevator and shouted, "Is there anybody out there? Help! Somebody! Help me. Please!"

I must've screamed at the top of my lungs already, but there was still no response. It was so dark that I couldn't even see my hands in front of me. Darkness and fear gradually eroded my sanity.

I was so scared that I squatted on the ground, buried my face in my knees, and hugged myself, feeling powerless.

The situation was so frightening.

I wondered if anyone would save me from this plight.

Elena's POV:

After having a hearty midnight snack, I went back to the company.

By the time I reached the door of Caroline's office, I sensed that something was amiss. The light inside the office was turned off.

'Did Caroline also go downstairs to grab some food?'

I opened the door and found that there was nobody inside the office. I approached the desk and saw that Caroline had left her phone on it.

'Fuck! Something bad happened. Caroline would never go out without bringing her phone with her!'

I quickly took out my phone and attempted to call someone for help, but I soon found that there was no signal.

An ominous premonition arose in my heart. 'Something must've happened to Caroline.

Someone must've planned this.' I picked up Caroline's phone and ran out of the company.

The second I got out of the building, Caroline's phone rang.

Charles' name flickered on the screen.

After a moment of hesitation, I picked up. "Mr. Moore?"

The man on the other end of the line was stunned. "Who are you? Where is Caroline?"

"I'm Elena, Caroline's bodyguard. She... she's not here."

"Wait a second. What do you mean by she's not there? Explain!" Charles exclaimed.

I was wondering if I should tell him the truth, and I could tell that Charles was getting anxious.

"Tell me the truth right this instant. If anything happens to Caroline, you'll suffer the consequences!" he commanded.

'Charles is right. I do need help right now.'

"Caroline and I were working overtime in the company today. I just went downstairs to grab a bite earlier, and when I came back to the office, I found that she has disappeared and she left her phone on her desk. I think something might've happened to her," I explained.

"Damn it!"

Charles dropped the call at once.

After a moment of pondering, I decided to call someone else.

"Mr. Felix, I need your help."

Charles' POV:

Right after I heard that Caroline was missing, I lost my composure. The only thing I could think of was to find her the soonest that I could.

"Richard, we have to go. Something happened to Caroline!"

I rushed to the garage, and opened the door, followed by Richard. We raced across the road, running numerous red lights. Finally, we arrived at the Wilson Group.

Without much thought, I ran towards the company building. The security guard at the entrance halted me. "Sir, please stop. You can't go in without an ID."

I glared at him and growled, "Get the fuck out of my way!"

Richard stepped forward to stop the man.

Within the blink of an eye, I arrived at the elevator.

There were two rows of elevators in total, and there were five elevators in each row. Strangely enough, the innermost elevator on the left side was not lit.

I pressed my ear against the elevator door, and I heard someone shouting for help.

'Is that Caroline?

It must be!'

"Sir, if you refuse to leave at once, I will be forced to call the police!" The security guard approached me again.

"What the hell is the matter with you? Are you blind? Haven't you noticed that something's wrong with this elevator? Your CEO is trapped inside that elevator right now! If you don't want to get fired, go find someone that can help me. Why are you still standing there? Hurry the fuck up!" I shouted at the security guard.

I opened the door ond found thot there wos nobody inside the office. I opprooched the desk ond sow thot Coroline hod left her phone on it.

'Fuck! Something bod hoppened. Coroline would never go out without bringing her phone with her!'

I quickly took out my phone ond ottempted to coll someone for help, but I soon found thot there wos no signol.

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The man was stunned for a second before hurrying back to his station to call for help.

I took out my phone and called 911.

Once I had briefed the operator about the situation, he replied, "Worry not, sir. We'll be there as soon as possible."

'He's telling me not to worry? How am I supposed to stop worrying?

The woman I love is trapped inside the elevator! She's afraid of the dark. How could I not worry?' I remarked inwardly.

"Richard, do something!" I lost control of my emotions and ended up shouting at Richard.

I was feeling so agitated because there was little I could do at the situation. Feeling powerless, I leaned against the elevator door, shouting through the little gap, "Caroline, are you alright in there? Don't be afraid! I'm right here! I'll save you."

"What's going on?"

Simon asked, appearing out of the blue.

I shot him a cold glance.

Twenty minutes later, the rescuers arrived. About half an hour later, they finally managed to open the elevator door.

Inside the elevator, Scarlett was curled up, squatting on the ground. Trembling in fear, she slowly raised her head. Her face was ghastly pale, and her eyes were blank.

My heart ached so much that I couldn't breathe.

Simon rushed to her side and hugged her. "Caroline, are you alright? Are you hurt?"

As I watched him take care of Scarlett, I drew my hand back in silence.

The rescuers quickly assisted Scarlett to the ambulance for inspection. Meanwhile, I stood aside and watched her from a distance.

"Mr. Moore." Richard handed me a bottle of water.

I shook my head and said, "I don't need one. Just give it to Caroline."

Richard seemed as though he wanted to say something, but he bit his words back. Finally, he nodded in response and approached the ambulance.

I just watched as Scarlett took the water from Richard and hugged Simon right after.

Within an instant, I lost my mind. By the time I came back to my senses, I had already approached Scarlett.

She gathered her composure, staring at me with a distant expression. "Why are you here? Are you here to do something violent again?"

"Miss Wilson, Mr. Moore actually..." Richard was eager to explain for me.

"Richard," I growled, interrupting him.

Scarlett's words hurt me deeply.

The first thing she said the moment she saw me was to defend another man.

Because of my pride, I gave up on explaining myself.

"Let's go."

After taking one more look at Scarlett, I left with a heavy heart.

Once I was out of her sight, I could no longer suppress my jealousy and how hurt I was.

I hit the tree on the roadside with my fist, causing the wound on it to pop open again.

Blood flowed down through my fingers, bleeding just like my heart.

Chapter 412 | Have Taken Care Of I

Scarlett's POV:

I fell into a trance as I watched Charles' back.

While I was locked up in the elevator, fear and despair had engulfed by heart like a hungry monster, making it impossible for me to breathe normally.

I only gradually calmed down after hearing a man's cold deep voice.

Thinking that it was Charles who saved me, I was having mixed feelings.

'Why is he here?

And how did he find out that I was trapped in the elevator?'

"Are you alright, Caroline? I did not know that you were in trouble till Elena called me." Simon's concerned voice pulled me back from the trance.

I looked at him with a smile to reassure him.

"I'm okay. I want to check the surveillance video and find out who did it."

Upon hearing that, Elena quickly helped me to the monitoring room.

To my surprise, I saw that someone had destroyed the surveillance footage, leaving no clues.

I felt my heart sink deeper and deeper.

It was obvious that it was not just an accident. Someone had carefully planned this.

"What should we do now?" Elena asked me, frowning.

"Does he really think that I won't be able to prove it as long as he destroyed the surveillance footage?" I sneered before I turned around and walked out of the room.

"Do you have a guess of who might have done it?" Elena asked me with a surprised look in her eyes.

"Who fought with me recently? And who do you think has the intent to trouble me? It's sad that I don't have the evidence, though," I said in a low voice, analyzing the situation.

Elena nodded and said with a snort, "How dare he do such a thing inside the company?"

"Why wouldn't he? I have gotten in his way, and it is only natural for him to warn me." I narrowed my

eyes, a murderous intent bubbling in my heart.

"Should I mention about this to Mr. Edward?" Elena asked.

"Don't say anything now. Let's wait till the matter is settled, okay?" I said with a helpless sigh.

"You don't look so good. Let me take you home so you can rest." Elena's soft voice and her kindness offered me a great deal of comfort.

I nodded in reply, and left the company with her.

Even after I got in the car, I felt that my legs were still quite weak.

Although I appeared much calmer now, no one could imagine how scared I was when I stared at death's eyes.

After dropping me off at my house, Simon drove away.

But before he left, he turned to me and said, "Don't hesitate to call if you need anything, or just someone to talk to. I will always be on call."

"Thank you, Simon," I said with a smile, feeling warm at heart.

After escorting me to my room, Elena tucked me into the bed, and said with concern, "Caroline, you rest well, okay? I will go and check for the surveillance footage in the company once again."

"Elena." I hesitated for a moment before I ordered, "Send a message to that person on my behalf and express my gratitude."

"Who are you talking about?" Elena blinked her eyes with a confused expression.

"The man who saved me," I replied, pretending to be angry as I stared at her.

Looking at me with a smile, she nodded in reply.

Once she left the room, I recalled the scene where Charles was comforting me outside the elevator.

His deep, magnetic voice had indeed made me feel safe at that moment.

As the last trace of fear in my heart disappeared, I gradually drifted off to sleep.

I slept like a baby that night.

And when I woke up the next morning, I felt refreshed.

Elena walked into my room and handed my phone to me with a smile.

"I just received a video."

Curious, I took the phone from her and saw a man kneeling on the ground and apologizing repeatedly in the video.

There were wounds all over his body, and he looked horrified.

At that moment, a message notification popped up on my phone.

It was a text from Charles.

"I've taken care of it."

Staring at the message on the screen, all kinds of emotions clouded my heart.

"That man's name is Cousins, and he works for Adam. I checked the surveillance cameras near the company, and found out that he did come to the Wilson Group last night," Elena explained in a low voice.

"It's time to teach Adam a lesson," I sneered.

Adam's POV:

That morning, I got a call from my subordinate as soon as I arrived at the race course.

"Mr. Wilson, Cousins is missing!"

"How did that happen? Weren't you keeping an eye on him?" Feeling irritable, I kicked the chair aside, my face livid with rage.

My position at the company had been under threat ever since Caroline had started working there.

She had even embarrassed me in front of my subordinates numerous times.

I just wanted Cousins to shake her up a little.

After hesitating for a moment, my subordinate continued, "He was disposed of by Charles Moore' man."

"Thonk you, Simon," I soid with o smile, feeling worm ot heort.

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After hesitoting for o moment, my subordinote continued, "He wos disposed of by Chorles Moore' mon."

"Charles Moore? How did he get involved?"

I could not help but become restless, considering how powerful the Moore family was.

I hung up the phone and began to smoke one cigarette after the other.

At that moment, a henchman opened the door and said in a low voice, "Mr. Wilson, the woman we're keeping detained here wants to see you."

"Which woman are you talking about?"

"Susan. The one that lost the bet and didn't pay the money. We locked her up, but no one has come to get her."

"Tell her that I am not available," I said indifferently, taking a deep puff of smoke.

He hesitated for a moment before he turned around and left.

I was lost in thought.

Why was Charles helping Caroline?

Caroline was not a threat to me at the moment, but if she had Charles Moore as her backer, then I would definitely not be a match for them.

While I was thinking about it, the henchman ran to me again.

"Mr. Wilson, Susan says that she has something on Caroline."

Upon hearing that, I was a little surprised.

"Interesting... Take me to her."

Hearing my order, he led me to Susan.

"Mr. Wilson, looks like you're finally willing to see me!" Susan's eyes lit up as she walked up to me.

"Did you say that you have something on Caroline?" I asked with a curious expression.

"Of course, I do! I would never lie to you," Susan said with a promising smile.

"And why should I believe you?" I asked in a disdainful tone, smiling with contempt.

"You can try and find out for yourself if I can be trusted or not..." Susan said coquettishly, winking at me.

Only then did I look at her carefully.

She had great skin, and beautiful curves on her body.

She looked like a ravishing woman with a mature charm.

I gave a nod, and ordered the henchman, "Get her cleaned up and send her to my room."

Susan's eyes lit up at once and she said in an excited tone, "Mr. Wilson, I promise to satisfy you!"

I gazed at her slender waist for a moment and said nothing.

After a while, Susan came to my room.

She was wearing a sexy dress that outlined her curvaceous figure, making her skin look like glittering gem.

When my eyes fell on her voluptuous breasts, I was immediately turned on.

I pulled her into my arms with a mischievous smile. "Show me what you've got first."

Chapter 413 Mom Is Back

Susan's POV:

With a wave of his hand, Adam signaled his henchmen to leave the room.

Once we were alone in the room, he kept looking at me greedily as he fondled my body.

I sat down on his lap, and wrapped my arms around his neck, letting him do whatever he wanted.

Although I felt uncomfortable, I knew that I would have to endure it.

After all, I had no right to show resistance now.

I had to survive, and my life was worth the sacrifice.

Kissing my neck, Adam buried his face between by breasts, fondling them and sucking on them.

Clearly, he was an inexperienced man in bed, who could do nothing more than arousing a woman's lust.

Soon, I began to breathe rapidly, gasping.

Kissing him back, I asked tentatively, "Adam, can you waive off all the money I owe to the race course?"

Upon hearing my question, the lust in Adam's eyes suddenly faded away.

And that made me feel nervous.

He held my chin, forced me to look into his eyes, and asked, "Susan, what can you do to convince me to waive off your debts?"

Noticing the coldness in his eyes, I suddenly felt a chill down my spine.

Pretending to be calm, I said, "I know a lot of Caroline's secrets and I can easily help you deal with her."

"And how are you going to prove that to me?" Adam sneered and loosened his grip on my chin, with a disdainful look in his eyes.

"You may not know this, but Caroline and Charles used to be married, and they have three kids together..."

When Adam heard that, he was flabbergasted.

Seeing that, I breathed a sigh of relief.

I seemed to have won the bet.

It was evident that he did not know that Caroline was Scarlett.

"Although they're divorced now, Caroline still keeps seducing Charles."

Adam snorted, and continued to massage and play with my breasts as he said in a low hoarse voice, "Go on."

"Caroline lived with a man called William for a year when she gave birth to twins. At that time, she was still married to Charles," I said with a meaningful expression.

"And Charles didn't know about it?" Adam seemed to be surprised.

"The point is not whether Charles knew about it or not. What matters is that as long as the secret is leaked, Caroline's reputation will be ruined, and she will lose the trust of the group's shareholders. Do you think that she will continue to have a place in the company once that happens?" I asked with a sneer.

"But what if Charles takes the initiative to clarify it?"

"My daughter is soon going to be engaged to him, and when that happens, he will stop giving a damn about his ex."

"Your daughter?"

"Yes, her name is Raina. She was stolen from me when she was a child, and later the Hill family raised her. If she marries Charles, then won't you also benefit from it?" I questioned with a sly smile.

"Are you even going to remember me when you have a strong backer?" Adam sneered.

"How can I ever forget you?" Wrapping my arms around his neck, I winked at him seductively.

Without saying another word, Adam smiled, tore off my dress, and pressed me under his body.

Scarlett's POV:

After we left home that morning, I turned to Elena and said, "Elena, let's go to the hospital first."

Since Christine was about to get discharged from the hospital, I knew that the kids would probably be there.

"Okay."

I could not help but feel nervous while we drove to the hospital.

Ever since I returned, I had not seen the twins.

I was worried that they might have forgotten me. After all, they were still babies when I had left.

Elena parked the car in front of the hospital and asked in a low voice, "Are we going inside?"

"No. We'll just wait in the car."

I just wanted to see my kids, and I did not want to have anything to do with the Moore family.

Hence, I did not want them to find me at the hospital.

A while later, I saw Charles and Alice helping Christine come out of the hospital.

At the same time, I saw Tracy pushing the baby stroller, following them closely.

Almost everyone in the Moore family were present there.

I leaned out of the window and stared at my kids without even blinking.

Guilt clouded my heart when I noticed the gauze wrapped around Charles' hand.

I suddenly recalled the time I was trapped in the elevator. Charles had looked very sad and dejected when he had left.

Had he gotten hurt while trying to save me that day?

Realizing that my heart was softening, I was disgusted with myself, and shook my head. I then turned to the baby stroller again.

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The twins were lying in the baby stroller, but I couldn't see their faces clearly.

Frowning irritably, I felt the urge to rush out of the car at once.

It was not easy to find an opportunity to see them. Was I really going to miss my chance?

I clearly could not accept my situation, but I knew that I had no choice now.

Just when I was drowning in disappointment, I heard someone knocking on the car window.

I looked up and saw James standing outside.

His eyes were filled with expectation and surprise as he looked at me.

My heart skipped a beat and I instantly opened the door.

"Mom! It's really you! Did you come to see us?" James climbed into the car and threw himself into my arms.

"James, how did you know that I was here?" I asked in surprise.

I was under the impression that I was hiding myself well, so I did not expect to be found so easily.

With pride in his eyes, James replied, "Mom, I can recognize your car! I remember it from when you left last time!"

I did not know whether to cry or laugh when I heard that.

"James, hurry up and go back now. I have something else to do. I'll come see you another day, okay?" I coaxed him in a low voice.

"No! I miss you, Mom!"

James hugged me tightly and was unwilling to let go.

I looked up nervously and found that the rest of the Moore family were all looking at me.

Feeling guilty and flustered, I wanted to break away from James' embrace, so I said, "You've mistaken me for someone else. I'm not your mother."

"You are my mother! I know you are!" James retorted loudly.

My heart ached when I met his red eyes.

"Mom, I miss you so much, and so do my brothers! Let me take you to see Jerry and Jason!" Determined, James wiped his tears away and resolutely dragged me out of the car.

I couldn't resist him at all, so I got off the car reluctantly.

"Jason, Jerry, our mom is back! She's here to see us!" James shouted excitedly at the twins.

With red eyes, Tracy pushed the stroller towards me.

"Mom?" The twins raised their heads and looked at me curiously.

I picked up one of them and burst into tears.

Chapter 414 The Spokesperson

Scarlett's POV:

The moment finally came.

I was able to see my kids and hold them after being separated from them for a painfully long time.

I lovingly kissed Jerry and Jason's adorable faces.

"I don't care if you are Scarlett or Caroline. Since you don't want to leave the kids, why don't you come back with us? Charles misses you a lot, and he understands that he's wronged you. Please give him a second chance." Looking at Charles, who was standing next to her, Christine tried to persuade me.

Although I was determined to never go back to their family, I also did not want to hurt Christine, so I chose to stay silent at the moment.

Alice also stepped forward, looked at me with sad eyes, and asked, "What else are you dissatisfied about? Didn't our family treat you well in the past?"

"I heard that you took my brother's land away and made a new boyfriend. How dare you show up here?" Clearly, Chloe still hated me.

Not caring about their sarcasm, I put the twins back in the stroller and walked to Christine.

"Christine, are you better now?"

"Don't worry. I've fully recovered from the surgery," Christine answered with a smile.

"That's good. I guess I should leave, then. I'll come and see you again next time."

Although it shattered my heart to leave my kids so soon, I knew that I had to do it, so I cast a final glance at them before I got ready to leave.

All of a sudden, I felt a small hand grabbing my sleeve. "Mommy, don't go. Are you going to leave me alone again? Don't you want to be with Jerry and Jason?"

I lowered my head and saw James pitifully grabbing my sleeve. When he saw that I did not answer him, he pouted and burst into tears like an abandoned kitten.

Although his grasp was not strong at all, I still could not move. It felt as though there were chains shackling my legs.

I really felt the rushing urge to hug my son and tell him how much I loved him. I wished that I could give the best the world offered to my sons.

However, I knew that now was not the right time.

Holding back the pain and sadness in my heart, I squatted down, caressed James' hair, and comforted him, "James, I will never leave you and your brothers behind. Please give me some time, and once I sort everything out, we can be together." Unable to control myself, I burst into tears.

But seeing me in such a miserable state, James stopped crying and looked at me with his big eyes.

"James, please trust me, okay?"

Tears were still streaming down my face when he loosened his grip on my arm.

"Okay, Mommy."

'What a sensible child!'

The more sensible the kids were, the more I felt like I owed them a lot.

I could not bear to look at him anymore, so I stood up.

I met Charles' gaze as soon as I stood up, the deep sadness in his eyes making me want to almost drown in them.

I awkwardly lowered my head to avoid looking into his eyes.

"Are you going to run away from me again?" he asked me in a hoarse and painful voice.

And I did not know how to answer his question.

"Miss Wilson, it's time for you to go to the company. We have a lot of things to deal with."

Elena came forward, fortunately rescuing me in time.

"Mr. Moore, I have something important to deal with at the company, so I should go."

Saying that, I turned around and ran away, without looking back.

I was worried that if I stayed there for another moment, I would never be able to leave. My kids' innocent faces were enough to trap me there forever.

I quickly got in the car and watched my kids disappear into the distance.

"Caroline, just cry your heart out if you want to," Elena comforted me.

My heart was already cracked, and I could not pretend to be okay anymore, so I burst into tears.

All the sadness that was weighing on my heart seemed to slowly dissipate after a long time, and I felt better after crying.

When I came back to my senses, I felt my eyes burning, and figured that they must be red and swollen.

I took out my compact mirror to fix my makeup, because I wanted to be the beautiful representative of the Wilson Group after I got off the car.

When I arrived at the company, my assistant informed me that Sofia was there to see me.

Sitting down on my chair, I said, "Ask her to come in."

Soon, the door was pushed open, and a young woman in a white lace dress walked in. The dress clung to her figure, enhancing her curves. She was gorgeous with distinct features and her eyes were as bright as the sky. She also had an innocent temperament that would make anyone who saw her want to protect her.

"Hi, Miss Byrne. Please have a seat."

"Hello, Miss Wilson. What can I do for you?"

Looking at her with a smile, I said, "Okay, I'll get straight to the point. Would you like to shoot a publicity video for our new project?"

Surprised, Sofia looked at me in a daze and asked, "I am sure that you will have numerous outstanding choices, so why me?"

"Miss Byrne, you are the most popular star in Hollywood now. And I know that you sacrificed a lot for you baby's sake. To put it simply, I really appreciate your personality. Our project is for a large amusement park, and you are a beautiful mom, so I believe that you would be perfect for the shoot." I

asked Sofia to consider my proposal earnestly.

Sofia lowered her eyes and thought for a while before she said, "Miss Wilson, I can feel your sincerity, and I promise to think about it carefully."

"Okay, then. I'll wait for your reply. I hope I won't have to wait too long."

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"Okoy, then. I'll woit for your reply. I hope I won't hove to woit too long."

After I saw her out, I ran into Simon in the company lobby.

"Simon, what are you doing here?" I was a little surprised.

Simon raised his eyebrows at me and said in a meaningful tone, "Caroline, didn't I tell you that we would meet soon?"

Olivia's POV:

An insider from the company told me that Caroline had just bought a piece of land along the east coast, and was looking for a brand ambassador for her new project.

Since we were practically family, I was certain that I must be the one to get the position.

I rushed to Edward's villa, and found him reading the newspaper in the living room.

"Honey, I heard that your daughter has been looking for a brand ambassador for the Wilson Group's new project. What do you think about me as the new brand ambassador?"

I leaned against Edward's body, blew gently at his ear, and touched his earlobe. My hand moved up and

down on the back of his neck. I could see from his collar his board chest and bronzed skin.

I knew that men would do anything as long as a woman pleased them.

Just when I was about to slide my hand into his shirt, he grabbed my hand with great strength, making me scream.

"Olivia, this is not going to work. The brand ambassador of the Wilson Group has to be someone of Caroline's choosing."

With clarity in his eyes, he shook my hand away.

I rubbed my aching arm awkwardly and complained, "I'm beautiful and capable, and I'm your woman, which makes me Caroline's elder, so why should I ask for her opinion?"

I was just trying to complain, but Edward shocked me when he grabbed my neck.

"Olivia, don't be silly. Why do you think I have kept you by my side this whole time?"

Edward's expression was fierce, and there was darkness in his eyes that I could not understand.

Under his tight grasp, I almost choked. I instinctively held his hand tightly and shook my head hard.

Just when I was about to suffocate, he let go of me, and I fell to the ground weakly. The moment I felt the air filling my lungs again, I couldn't help but cough violently until my face turned red and my nose was clogged with snot.

Edward took out a handkerchief and wiped his hands in disgust before he looked at me coldly.

"Let me be honest with you. The only reason you're still able to be with me is because you have the same eyes as Juliet."

"But Juliet is dead, and I am still with you!"

"You should feel lucky that she's not alive anymore, or you would have never become a part of this family. Besides, Caroline doesn't like you mentioning her mother's name."

Edward threw the handkerchief on the ground and left.

I trembled, facing my fear for life.

I had always known that Edward was a dangerous man, but now, it seemed like he was insane!

Chapter 415 I'll Wait For You

Charles' POV:

Not long after Scarlett left, one of our business partners contacted me and told me that he wanted to have lunch with me to discuss about our companies' cooperation.

I deliberately chose a restaurant near the Wilson Group.

During lunch, the business partner kept talking, but I was lost in thought as I kept looking at the Wilson Group from time to time.

I just wanted to see Scarlett one more time.

When she appeared at the entrance of the Wilson Group, I felt like my prayers had reached God's ears.

However, to my surprise, she was with Simon.

Why was he always pestering her?

I saw them making their way towards the dining room, laughing and talking like good friends.

Jealousy surged in my heart like a tide and I almost ended up bending the steel fork in my hand.

"Mr. Moore, what happened?" my business partner asked.

"I'm sorry. Can you stay here for a while? I'll be back soon."

Although my words surprised him, he said with a smile, "Sure thing. Please go ahead."

Hearing that, I picked up my coat and hurried out.

At that moment, I saw Scarlett and Simon sitting down. I felt like a stalker who was quietly observing them from the vicinity.

Simon was talking to her, and for some reason, his words made her smile too frequently.

He suddenly reached out and was about to touch her hair. I was shocked when I saw that she stayed still and did not dodge him.

'Damn it!'

As jealousy took over my mind and my heart, I could not help but walk over to them.

"Caroline, what are you doing here?" I greeted them with a gloomy expression.

"Charles, what a coincidence! I'm on a date with her. Are you also having lunch here?" Simon asked provocatively.

'A date?'

I clenched my fists silently as I resisted my urge to punch him in the face.

"Ma'am, your char-grilled steak is ready. Please enjoy."

The waiter placed a plate of steak in front of Scarlett, and I noticed there were a few slices of onions on it.

With a frown, I stared at the plate and moved it away from her.

"Sir?" The waiter looked at me in surprise.

I grabbed the fork from Scarlett's hand and picked out the onion from her plate.

"Charles, what are you doing?" Simon said with a frown.

"What? Don't you know that Caroline is allergic to onions?"

Stunned, he looked at Scarlett, and I lowered my head, staring at her as though I was waiting for her answer.

She glared at me before she looked at Simon with an apologetic smile and said, "I forgot to tell you that I am allergic to onions."

"It looks like you're not a very good date. You didn't even know that your date was allergic to onions!" I sneered.

"Thanks for the tip. I will be more careful next time," Simon retorted.

'What? Next time? Was he planning on going on another date with my Scarlett?'

The atmosphere became tense as Simon and I stared at each other in silence.

"That's enough, Charles. I don't want to see you, so please leave."

With a cold look in her eyes, Scarlett motioned for me to leave.

I could deal with my rival in love, but I did not know how to deal with the woman I was in love with.

I was not ready to give up on her so easily.

She could only be mine.

Ignoring her coldness, I sat down next to her and looked at her lovingly.

"Caroline, you visited my grandma today, which means that you still care about me and my family, so why don't you just admit that you're Scarlett?"

"Shut up! Charles, I think you're drunk. My name is Caroline Wilson!"

Scarlett's face turned red from anger as she narrowed her affectionate eyes at me.

Was I drunk? Probably.

From the moment I saw her, I became intoxicated, and I hadn't been sober ever since.

"Simon, let's go. There is an insane guy troubling us here, so I just want to leave."

Scarlett stood up, held Simon's hand, and walked out.

Were they trying to be rid of me? I was not going to let them have their way.

So I made up my mind to follow them.

Scarlett began to quicken her pace, and when she arrived at the hall, a cleaning trolley was pushed towards her.

"Watch out!"

I instantly rushed forward and pulled her into my arms while Simon stood beside the trolley.

"Can you stop being so reckless? What if you get hurt?"

I felt like my heart was about to jump out of my chest when I saw that the trolley was going to hit her.

All of a sudden, I felt a tearing pain from my palm, but holding Scarlett in my arms, I was able to gradually calm down.

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"Be careful when you walk," I reminded her gently.

She fell silent at that moment, and time seemed to have stopped.

Soon, she pushed me away with a cold look in her eyes.

"Thank you for what you just did, but please stay away from me from now on," Scarlett said, and I felt the pain in my hand increase again.

"What's wrong with your hand?"

With a frown, she took my hand and began to check if I was wounded. I could not help but snort.

She was such a softy. I could tell that she still cared about me.

My heart softened when I saw her lower her head and checked my hand, and I quickly kissed her on the forehead.

"Scarlett, I know that it is you. It's okay that you don't want to get back with me now. And I know that I wronged you, so I will make it up to you. Don't worry. I will wait for you to come back to me."

Looking into the eyes of the woman I was in love with, I promised her.

Simon's POV:

After Charles left, Caroline seemed to be lost in thought.

It seemed like she still had feelings for him.

"Looks like I have a very strong rival in love, then," I said with a bitter smile.

"I am so sorry that you were not able to have your lunch."

Caroline's face was pale and her voice was ridden with guilt.

Shaking my head, I joked, "It's alright. You can buy me some sandwiches."

Upon hearing that, a smile appeared on her lips. "You are so easy to please."

I walked her back to the Wilson Group, and she waved to me before getting in.

"Goodbye, Simon. I'm sorry for ruining the lunch. I promise to treat you to delicious food the next time."

With a smile, I said, "We can meet every day from tomorrow."

Caroline looked at me in confusion.

"As a partner of your new project, I obviously have to supervise it. What's wrong? You're not going to welcome me?" I teased.

Actually, Mr. Wilson had been worried because Caroline was still young and inexperienced, so he had asked me to help her.

"Of course, I am!"

Caroline's smile was bright and sweet, like a blossoming rose with an intoxicating scent.

Seeing her like that, I seemed to understand why Charles was so obsessed with her.

How could anyone not want a dazzling beauty like her?

Chapter 416 Ultimatum

Scarlett's POV:

I went back to work after the lunch break.

I was relieved to know that the ecological park project on the west coast was finally being carried out in an orderly way.

While I was reading some documents, my phone suddenly rang.

It was a call from Nina.

I picked up my phone and answered the call at once. "Hello?"

"Caroline, it's been a long time since you came back. Don't you have any plans to meet your best

friend?" Nina jokingly asked.

I could not help but chuckle at her clinginess. To be honest, I wanted to see her too, so I immediately agreed to have dinner with her.

"Of course."

After work, I asked Elena to drive me to a fancy restaurant that had a view overlooking the sea.

When I arrived at our meeting place, Nina was already there. She waved excitedly upon seeing me.

"Caroline, here!"

With a smile, I walked over to her and sat in front of her.

"Nina, long time no see."

"So you knew all along that it had been a long time since we had last seen each other? Did you know how sad I was when I found out you had come back, but I couldn't come to see you?" Nina complained with a pout.

"I'm sorry. It's all my fault," I apologized sincerely.

"Oh, come on! I was just kidding!" Nina held my hand and comforted me. "I understand that you've been going through a lot. Honestly, I feel sorry for you. You don't deserve to suffer."

I waved my hand in dismissal and let out a snort. "It's okay. Let bygones be bygones."

While we were having dinner, Nina turned to me and joked, "Did Charles pester you after you returned? Judging from his personality, I don't think he'll give up easily."

"I've divorced him. It's impossible for us to be together again. Besides, what he's done is unforgivable," I reminded Nina with a sneer tugging at the corners of my mouth.

Nina shook her head helplessly and changed the topic. "Enough about Charles. Do you have any new admirer? I won't be surprised if you have. You're intelligent, beautiful, and charming. I'm sure many men are chasing you."

Simon's face flashed through my mind. I sighed at the thought of him.

"Well, my father set me up with a guy. But the thing is, all I want is to get custody of my children. How am I supposed to have time to think about anything else?"

A sense of powerlessness washed over me as I thought of my kids.

The Moore family would not just give my children back to me, even though I was their mother. I could not even see them. Getting full custody of my children wouldn't be an easy feat.

Nina looked at me with concern. "Caroline, you can fight for their custody and start a new life at the same time."

I sighed. "Can we talk about that some other time?"

Nina shrugged. "If you say so. By the way, your birthday is coming. What do you plan on your birthday?"

"I haven't planned anything. But don't worry. I'll definitely invite you if I throw a party," I replied with a smile.

After dinner, Nina and I walked out of the restaurant side by side.

While we were walking in the street, she suddenly gasped in surprise and pulled me to the side.

"What's the matter?" I asked confusedly.

Nina pursed her lips and pointed at something not far away.

I looked in the direction where she was pointing and saw Adam and Susan passing by.

Susan was holding Adam's arm, and her head was resting on his shoulder. They looked like a couple.

I frowned as I stared at their receding figures.

"Since when did Susan and your uncle start hooking up with each other? Be careful. They're not good people," Nina cautioned.

"Don't worry. They can't stir up trouble anymore," I reassured her. But in all honesty, my instincts told me that they were up to something. I would be watching them.

William's POV:

Scarlett's reminder felt like a thorn in my heart.

Because of this, I contacted a private detective to look for the woman she was talking about.

At last, I received a call from the private detective today. Apparently, he had found Sofia Byrne and gotten her phone number.

So, without further ado, I decided to send her a message. "Sofia, this is William Stevens. Would you like

to have a drink with me?"

To my astonishment, she quickly texted back, "I can't drink. Not alcohol."

I frowned. "I see. What kind of drink would you like?"

"Milk."

Upon receiving her reply, I changed my clothes and went out.

Thirty minutes later, I arrived at Sofia's residence. Finding out where she lived was not difficult as she gave me her address without hesitation.

I must admit, I felt a little nervous as I stared at her closed door.

I had to muster all my courage for a moment before ringing the doorbell.

Sofia opened the door a few moments later. On the way here, I imagined how she would react when we finally saw each other. I assumed she would be happy to see me. On the contrary, she gave me a cold look instead.

"Come in," she said curtly.

Her indifference took me by surprise. My mind went blank, and the pleasantries that I had planned on saying got stuck in my throat.

I went into her home just as she had said. Sofia, on the other hand, sat on the sofa lazily.

Sofia was only wearing a thin silk nightdress with her long hair hanging casually over her shoulders. She looked alluring, especially since the lights in the living room were dim.

Because she said she wanted only milk, I brought a bottle with me. I put it on the table and went straight to the point. "Sofia, did you give birth to my child?"

"I hoven't plonned onything. But don't worry. I'll definitely invite you if I throw o porty," I replied with o smile.

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"Yes," Sofia admitted without hesitation.

I was taken aback. I did not expect her to be so straightforward.

Seeing that I was at a loss, she chuckled and explained, "Had I told you that I was pregnant, you would have forced me to have an abortion. But since I've given birth, there's nothing you can do about it anymore."

"Where's the baby? I want to see her," I demanded.

"I'm afraid you have no right to do so. You love Scarlett, don't you? That's the reason why I hid my pregnancy and delivery from you. If we get together because of the baby, then none of us would be happy."

Sofia's tone was casual, yet her attitude was resolute.

"You gave birth to my child. Of course, I should take responsibility for her."

"No need. We don't love each other anyway. Besides, I don't need you to be responsible for me or my child."

"We may not love each other, but that doesn't mean that I won't be good to my child. Sofia, I'm the baby's father. You have no right to stop me from seeing her!"

The more I spoke, the louder my voice became. However, as I looked at Sofia's stone-cold expression, I suddenly felt powerless.

Before coming here, I thought that she would take advantage of the baby so she could get close to me.

I was wrong. It seemed that she did not care about me at all.

"I can take care of her on my own," Sofia replied with a faint smile.

"Sofia, what can I do to make you let me see my child?"

All of a sudden, Sofia lifted her gaze and asked, "Is your company looking for a spokesperson for your new game?"

"What? You want to be the spokesperson of that game?" I asked confusedly.

"Hang on." Sofia took out a photo album and handed it to me. "I just shot these photos a few days ago. Don't you think I look just the heroine of the game?"

My gaze fell on the photo.

Sofia was undeniably outstanding in both appearance and body.

I returned the album to her. "Why don't you ask your agent to send it to the company? It's not my job to choose the spokesperson, after all."

"If that's the case, you can leave now."

Sofia's face suddenly turned cold.

Her attitude infuriated me.

"You gave birth to my child without telling me because you wanted to use her. You wanted my advertising endorsement in exchange for her. Isn't that right?" I asked with disdain.

"Believe what you want." Sofia turned her head away and did not say anything more.

Without another word, I stormed out in a huff.

My phone suddenly rang when I was walking downstairs.

"I won't marry the woman you've arranged for me. I've found the one for me!" I shouted in anger. With that, I hung up the call without waiting for a response.

Chapter 417 Cancel The Wedding

Nancy's POV:

My wedding with Liam proceeded as scheduled.

Many wealthy, influential people came to the wedding. It was a truly big event.
Once I had changed into the wedding dress, I hid in the dressing room, thinking of the past.

After Charles had hurt me, I was heartbroken. I went to a bar to get drunk.

And when I did get drunk, I ended up having sex with Liam.

Not long after, I found out that I was pregnant.

At the time, Nick's company was in a pinch and was in dire need of financing.

My only choice was to speak to Liam and convince him to finance Nick's company, and in exchange, I would get married to him.

Now that the wedding was being held as scheduled, I suddenly felt reluctant to go through with it.

I wasn't sure if I was marrying the right person, and I was uncertain if this marriage would bring me happiness in the future.

At this time, the door of the dressing room was suddenly pushed open.

Raina walked in and said, "Nancy, almost all of the guests are here. Are you ready to go out there?"

"Yup! Ready as I'll ever be," I replied with a smile, adjusting my mood.

"After you and Liam get married, you and I will finally become family, Nancy!" Raina held my hand gleefully.

"Thank you, Raina." I held her hand as well, and smiled back.

"Liam is a good person. I'm sure he'll treat you well. I hope you can finally move on from the past as soon as you can," Raina remarked kindly.

When I saw the worry and agitation in her eyes, I replied, "I've already let go of the past. There's no need to worry, Raina. I won't do anything that could be harmful to both of our families."

Raina breathed a sigh of relief and took me out.

During the ceremony, I slowly made my way towards Liam while holding the bridal bouquet.

In terms of family background and appearance, Liam was clearly an excellent man.

But for some reason, I always get the feeling that he was being indifferent towards me.

I suppressed my bitters and completed the wedding ceremony with a smile on my face.

After exchanging the rings, the guests' blessings and congratulations resonated throughout the hall.

As I stared at Liam's handsome face, I suddenly felt like I was in the clouds.

Suddenly, a sharp, angry voice broke the happy atmosphere of the wedding.

"Liam, you bastard!"

All the guests turned their attention to the woman who shouted.

I looked towards the direction the sound came from and saw a pregnant woman walking out of the crowd, holding a sharp knife.

"Cassie?" Liam's eyes widened, visibly shocked.

"Liam, if you go through with this marriage, our child and I will die right in front of you!" Cassie pointed the knife at her own stomach. It seemed that she was serious about her threat.

Liam let go of my hand, approached the woman, looking absolutely devastated.

"Cassie, what do you want?"

"You told me that you'd marry me, Liam. Why are you marrying another woman?" Cassie asked, visibly displeased.

"Stop messing around, Cassie. Put the knife down!" Liam exclaimed.

"No! Unless you walk out on your wedding with this woman, I will not put the knife down!" Cassie cried. It seemed that she was determined to go through with her threat.

The moment I heard this, I was dumbfounded.

I turned my attention to Gary to ask for his help, only to find that he, too, looked bothered.

The pain and disbelief of being cheated on overcame my heart. I burst into tears.

"Liam, what the hell is going on?" I asked while sobbing.

"It's not what it looks like," said Liam.

"Then who is the father of her baby?" I asked back.

Cassie looked like she was around seven to eight months pregnant.

"It's mine," Liam admitted. "But I've told you before that I've had a few romantic partners in the past and that I'm not a responsible and good man. Even so, you still insisted on marrying me, didn't you?"

"Liam, you bastard!" I slapped him across the face, glaring into his eyes.

"I really am a bastard. Otherwise, I wouldn't have had a one-night stand with you!" Liam touched his cheek; anger, visible in his eyes.

Cassie shoved me and growled, "Who the fuck permitted you to hit him, huh?"

"He is my husband. I slapped my 'husband'. What's that got to do with you?" I asked, scoffing at her.

"Why you little piece of... I'm going to let you know whose husband he really is!" Cassie scoffed back.

"I just got married to Liam today. You're nothing but a homewrecker!" I fired back.

In my opinion, Liam would never ignore the interests of our families.

"Liam, are you seriously going to stay married to this woman or are you going to leave with me? The child in my womb is about to be born. He needs his father!" Tears welled up in Cassie's eyes.

I turned my gaze towards Liam, feeling nervous.

"I'm coming with you," Liam said while firmly holding her hand.

My eyes widened in disbelief.

Nick grabbed Liam's collar and asked through gritted teeth, "This woman's child is yours? Isn't Nancy's child yours too?"

"Who knows?" Liam replied, putting on an impish grin.

Losing his patience, Nick punched him and knocked him to the ground.

I was so scared that my legs grew weak and I couldn't help but sob.

Liom let go of my hond, opprooched the womon, looking obsolutely devostoted.

"Cossie, whot do you wont?"

"You told me thot you'd morry me, Liom. Why ore you morrying onother womon?" Cossie osked, visibly displeosed.

"Stop messing oround, Cossie. Put the knife down!" Liom excloimed.

"No! Unless you wolk out on your wedding with this womon, I will not put the knife down!" Cossie cried. It seemed thot she wos determined to go through with her threot.

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I turned my ottention to Gory to osk for his help, only to find thot he, too, looked bothered.

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"Then who is the fother of her boby?" I osked bock.

Cossie looked like she wos oround seven to eight months pregnont.

"It's mine," Liom odmitted. "But I've told you before that I've had o few romantic portners in the post ond that I'm not o responsible and good mon. Even so, you still insisted on morrying me, didn't you?"

"Liom, you bostord!" I slopped him ocross the foce, gloring into his eyes.

"I reolly om o bostord. Otherwise, I wouldn't hove hod o one-night stond with you!" Liom touched his cheek; onger, visible in his eyes.

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"He is my husbond. I slopped my 'husbond'. Whot's thot got to do with you?" I osked, scoffing ot her.

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"Who knows?" Liom replied, putting on on impish grin.

Losing his potience, Nick punched him ond knocked him to the ground.

I wos so scored that my legs grew weak and I couldn't help but sob.

Liam chuckled wryly. "Nicholas, your sister forced me to marry her by threatening our family with that baby in her womb. If it weren't for that, I never would've agreed to marry her."

"But today is your wedding day!" Nick growled, clenching his jaws.

"I'm sorry that I have to hurt you, Nancy, but I knew Cassie way before you and I love her." Liam looked into my eyes. He seemed to be feeling genuinely guilty.

Having said his piece, he took Cassie's hand and gently kissed the back of her hand.

Seeing them so intimate disrupted the last bits of sanity I had left. I felt as though I had been thrown into a prison of ice.

Suddenly, I felt a sharp pain coming from my lower abdomen. I covered it because it was so painful.

"Nick, my belly hurts!" I cried.

Nick hurriedly helped me up.

When I noticed the blood on my wedding dress, I began panicking.

'My... my baby!'

"We got married because of that baby, but now it seems that will no longer be a problem," Liam remarked.

His heartless demeanor shocked me and pushed me towards despair.

"Liam, why did you do this to me?" I cried.

Though our marriage was merely a business alliance, I started to have feelings for Liam.

I was willing to move on from my painful past and be a good wife to him and an even better mother to

our child.

Sadly, it seemed that I was too naive.

Luck was never on my side when it came to love.

Both Charles and Liam chose another woman over me, and they did it so decisively.

"I don't love you. Even though so many guests have attended our wedding, none of these people sincerely bless our marriage." Liam had torn off his mask, revealing his truly ruthless side.

"But... you promised me that you'd be on my side," I complained tearfully.

"You've always loved Charles, but then you used that child in your womb to coerce me to marry you. Do you honestly believe that I'll marry a scheming woman like you?" asked Liam.

"Isn't Cassie doing the same thing? She threatened you by killing herself and her child at this wedding, and humiliated you in front of all these people!" I countered.

"She's different from you. She knows me better, and she's certainly a better person than you are." Liam embraced Cassie, showing his deep affection and tenderness towards her.

His words were like a knife, jabbing into my heart.

Finally, I broke down and began to cry bitterly. My legs were so week that I almost fell to my knees.

Nick quickly held me up and tried to comfort me. "Nancy, that man does not deserve you. You deserve someone so much better!"

Chapter 418 The Bloody Wedding

Nancy's POV:

"Liam, don't go. I promise, as long as the wedding carries on, I'll forget what happened between you and Cassie. In fact, I'll ask someone to take care of her and the baby."

I endured the pain in my belly and begged Liam for mercy. I even put my dignity in the line just to make him not leave me.

"I'm sorry for what I've done. I promise I'll make it up to you," Liam replied guiltily.

My eyes widened in shock. What did he mean by that?

Before I could find the answer to that question, Liam squatted down and held my hand. Then, to my

astonishment, he took the wedding ring off my finger.

"This ring doesn't belong to you, so it shouldn't be on your finger anymore."

I grabbed his hand and warned through gritted teeth, "Liam, don't push me too far!"

"I'm sorry, Nancy," Liam pulled my hand off and stood up.

Just as he was about to walk away, I grabbed his sleeve and implored, with tears streaming down my face, "Don't be so cruel to me."

Liam lowered his head and looked at me with expressionless eyes.

Then, he shook off my hand and walked toward Cassie without looking back.

He stretched out his hand at Cassie. The diamond ring that was on my finger a moment ago was now on his palm.

"Do you still want it?" he asked.

"No. I don't want it anymore. Someone has already worn it." Cassie threw the knife away and threw herself in Liam's arms. "I'm so sorry, Liam. It's just that I can't live without you."

"You silly girl, I'm right here with you, okay? Just you wait. I'll settle accounts with you once you've given birth to our baby. I'll be sure to teach you a lesson."

Liam said in a stern tone, yet his expression was doting and affectionate.

The tall and handsome man in front of me held the pregnant woman in his tight embrace. Those who could see them right now would think that they were a happy couple.

But... what about me? What about my baby?

This was my wedding. Today was supposed to be the best day of my life. But here I was, watching my groom hold another woman in his arms.

How pathetic.

A few moments later, Liam finally let go of Cassie. To everyone's surprise, he threw the diamond ring as if it was worth nothing and then held Cassie's hand again.

"Let's go," he said with a smile.

"Yes," Cassie gleefully replied.

Despair washed over me as my wedding ring disappeared in the sea of people, just like my happiness.

"Oh my God! What's going on? Did the bridegroom just run away with his mistress?"

"I know, right?! The bride must be in anguish as the groom's mistress had come to ruin her wedding day. To think, he even chose the mistress and abandoned his bride!"

"There must be something in her that made the groom choose his mistress. Oh well. This is humiliating for both the Wood and Hill family."

The crowd's whispers and gossips with one another were a tight slap in my face.

I lost everything.

That shameless couple destroyed my happiness and trampled on my dignity.

Ironically, even though I was the victim, Liam and Cassie seemed to be having the best day of their lives.

How could they live happily ever after ruining my life?!

Without thinking, I picked up the knife that Cassie had thrown and rushed toward them.

"Liam!" I shouted at the top of my lungs, which sounded like a battle cry.

I wanted them to have a taste of their own medicine.

The sound of the knife piercing into flesh greeted my ear, and blood splattered on my white wedding dress.

How could this be?

My gaze shifted from the knife to the person in front of me.

I was going to stab Liam. But at the last second, Cassie rushed forward and blocked the knife.

"Cassie!" Liam cried out.

A sound of metal clanking echoed in the hall as the knife fell to the ground. But to me, everything went eerily silent. I lowered my gaze and looked at my bloody hands. I could still feel the coldness of the knife and the warmth of the blood.

I... I killed someone.

"Ah!"

I seemed to have woken up from a horrible nightmare. Suddenly, my knees buckled, and I collapsed onto the cold, hard ground. For a moment, the world felt like it was spinning around.

I could hear my brother and parents shouting my name in the distance. My eyelids started to feel heavy, and I felt something leaving my body.

With that, everything went black.

Nicholas's POV:

Liam and I stood by the door of the operating room. The atmosphere between us was depressing.

Today was supposed to be the happiest day in Nancy's life. But here she was, lying on the operating table with blood all over her body. I had no news about her condition yet. I also wondered if the baby was fine.

Why did this happen?

I was confused. To make Nancy stop pestering Charles and find her own happiness, I tried everything I could to marry her off to Liam. However, I did not expect that she would be pushed further down into hell.

Was I at fault here?

While I was in deep thought, the door of the operating room opened.

"Doctor, how is she?" Liam and I asked at the same time.

"Congratulations. She has given birth to a healthy baby girl."

I was stunned. Was the doctor talking about Cassie?

"What about the child's mother?" Liam anxiously asked.

"Fortunately, the knife did not stab into any vital organs. She's in a stable condition now with non-lifethreatening injuries. Please take good care of her. She'll recover soon."

Liam seemed relieved.

But it irked me that he did not ask a single question about Nancy. It was as if he did not care.

"Doctor, what about my sister, the other pregnant woman?"

The doctor fell silent, and a look of guilt flashed across his face.

My heart sank. The doctor did not need to answer my question.

"Unfortunately, it was too late when she was sent here. We couldn't do anything about the baby."

I was both relieved and in dismay.

Although my sister lost her baby, I was glad that she was fine.

"But, I'm afraid she'll never be able to conceive again." The doctor sighed and shook his head with regret.

How could they live hoppily ever ofter ruining my life?!

Without thinking, I picked up the knife thot Cossie hod thrown ond rushed toword them.

"Liom!" I shouted ot the top of my lungs, which sounded like o bottle cry.

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"Doctor, how is she?" Liom ond I osked ot the some time.

"Congrotulotions. She hos given birth to o heolthy boby girl."

I wos stunned. Wos the doctor tolking obout Cossie?

"Whot obout the child's mother?" Liom onxiously osked.

"Fortunotely, the knife did not stob into ony vitol orgons. She's in o stoble condition now with non-lifethreotening injuries. Pleose toke good core of her. She'll recover soon."

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"But, I'm ofroid she'll never be oble to conceive ogoin." The doctor sighed ond shook his heod with regret.

Unable to conceive again?

I looked at the doctor upon hearing this.

"I'm sorry. We've tried everything we could." The doctor bowed apologetically, turned around, and left.

Liam and I were stunned when we heard the bad news.

"You bastard!" I bellowed.

With tears in my eyes, I clenched my fist and hit Liam square in the face.

This was all his fault. If it were not for him, Nancy would not have lost her child, nor would she have lost the ability to be a mother.

He was the one who caused all these tragedies!

The blow sent Liam to the ground.

Nevertheless, I was still dissatisfied. I rode on him and threw punches one after another. Surprisingly, he did not resist and just let me vent my anger on him.

"Stop!" the hospital security guards shouted behind me. Although reluctant, I had no choice but to let him go.

"Sorry for the trouble," Liam said to the guards, his face beaten black and blue.

Gary rushed to the hospital with Sunny at his heels. "Don't worry, Nicholas. The Hill family will make it up to Nancy."

I sat on the chair and sneered. "How are you going to make it up to her?"

"The Hill Group will give the Wood Group a big project for free," Gary replied apologetically.

A project?

I was fuming with anger, but his words made me burst into laughter. "Do you honestly think you can buy me off with a project? How dare you assume you can make up for what my sister is going through? You're dreaming!"

Thinking that I would not be swayed, Gary ordered Liam, "Liam, get over here!"

Liam walked over silently.

"Apologize now!"

Liam took a look at me and bowed his head. "I'm sorry."

"Nicholas, I'm really sorry for what happened. I'll send someone to your company tomorrow to talk about the project in detail," Gary added.

As I looked at his cynical expression, I felt as though I had swallowed a thousand ants.

Did he think he could get forgiveness with a simple apology?

"All of you, get the hell out of here!" I roared, my hands trembling in anger.

Once the Hill family was gone, I forced myself to calm down. It was only when I regained my composure that I walked into my sister's ward.

Nancy had woken up. She was lying on the bed, her shoulders trembling as she sobbed in silence.

"Nicky..."

I rushed towards her and gave her a hug. It must have been then that she realized the weight of what had happened that she broke down.

My heart ached as if it had been pierced by a knife.

I tried my best to hold back my tears. Right now, she needed me to lend her a shoulder to cry on. "Everything's going to be okay, Nancy. Take good care of yourself. A scum like Liam doesn't deserve you. There are better men waiting for you."

"I hate him so much!"

Nancy's voice was filled with grief and anguish. I held her in my arms to give her the comfort she needed. And, once again, tears welled up in my eyes.

Chapter 419 I Don't Accept Her

Charles' POV:

That evening when I was playing with James in the living room, I saw the news of Nancy's wedding broadcasting on TV.

"Dad, look!" James exclaimed, pointing at the TV.

When I looked up, I saw Nancy rushing towards Liam with a knife in her hand.

Subconsciously, I covered my son's eyes to avoid him from seeing it.

"Dad, what's the matter?" James asked in a puzzled tone.

"It's something not proper for kids to watch."

Even after hearing my advice, James pursed his lips, pulled my hand away from his eyes, and continued to point at Nancy.

"Dad, I have seen that woman! She has come to our house before! What happened to her? She looks so pitiful."

James widened his eyes as he turned to me with a curious look.

"James, everyone has to live their own life, and some people are lucky, while others are not," I explained bluntly with a sigh.

"Then you must be really lucky, Dad!" James said with a serious expression.

"Why do you think so?" I asked, amused by his words.

"Well, it is because you have me, my brothers, and Mommy!"

James' voice was filled with pride as he looked at me and gave a firm nod.

I could not help but feel amused at heart. I reached out my hand and touched his nose lovingly while pretending to be upset.

"I made your mom angry before, and I still haven't gotten her back yet. What do you think I should do?"

"You should try harder to win her back, Dad!"

"Don't you want to help me, son?"

Narrowing his eyes with a serious expression, James began to think carefully.

"I will pray for you, and I really hope that she forgives you soon, Dad."

A sense of comforting warmth filled my heart when I heard my son's affectionate words.

I couldn't help but hug him. "James, you are such a good boy!"

At that moment, my mom walked up to us.

"Charles, I need to talk to you," she said in a serious tone.

"Okay." I nodded in reply.

"James, go upstairs to your room, okay? I need to talk to your grandma."

After giving me an obedient nod, he walked upstairs with the nanny.

My mom and I were alone in the living room.

"Charles, how is you hand now?"

Asking that, she tried to take my hand, but I quickly hid my bandaged hand behind my back.

"Mom, don't worry. My hand has healed very well. It's all right now."

A short pause later, she withdrew her hand silently.

"I heard that you took the blue diamond necklace that I gave to Raina. Is it true that you cancelled the cooperation with the Hill Group too?" Cherles' POV:

Thet evening when I wes pleying with Jemes in the living room, I sew the news of Nency's wedding broedcesting on TV.

"Ded, look!" Jemes excleimed, pointing et the TV.

When I looked up, I sew Nency rushing towerds Liem with e knife in her hend.

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"Ded, I heve seen thet women! She hes come to our house before! Whet heppened to her? She looks so pitiful."

Jemes widened his eyes es he turned to me with e curious look.

"Jemes, everyone hes to live their own life, end some people ere lucky, while others ere not," I expleined bluntly with e sigh.

"Then you must be reelly lucky, Ded!" Jemes seid with e serious expression.

"Why do you think so?" I esked, emused by his words.

"Well, it is beceuse you heve me, my brothers, end Mommy!"

Jemes' voice wes filled with pride es he looked et me end geve e firm nod.

I could not help but feel emused et heert. I reeched out my hend end touched his nose lovingly while pretending to be upset.

"I mede your mom engry before, end I still heven't gotten her beck yet. Whet do you think I should do?"

"You should try herder to win her beck, Ded!"

"Don't you went to help me, son?"

Nerrowing his eyes with e serious expression, Jemes begen to think cerefully.

"I will prey for you, end I reelly hope thet she forgives you soon, Ded."

A sense of comforting wermth filled my heert when I heerd my son's effectionete words.

I couldn't help but hug him. "Jemes, you ere such e good boy!"

At thet moment, my mom welked up to us.

"Cherles, I need to telk to you," she seid in e serious tone.

"Okey." I nodded in reply.

"Jemes, go upsteirs to your room, okey? I need to telk to your grendme."

After giving me en obedient nod, he welked upsteirs with the nenny.

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A short peuse leter, she withdrew her hend silently.

"I heerd thet you took the blue diemond necklece thet I geve to Reine. Is it true thet you cencelled the cooperetion with the Hill Group too?"

Someone had clearly snitched to her.

"Yes," I replied in a calm voice.

My mom's expression changed at once and she became impatient. "Charles, how can you do that? I gave that necklace to Raina, but it didn't mean anything. It has nothing to do with her family, either. How could you go up against the Hill Group over a necklace? You really disappoint me, son."

My mom was a great woman. She was kind, soft-hearted, and credulous. I could not help but sigh in my heart.

"Calm down, mom. It's not like you think. Don't be so credulous," I advised her in a patient tone.

Once she was calmer, she turned to me and said earnestly, "Charles, I know that you still have feelings for Scarlett, and that's why you don't like Raina. But I pity Raina. Although she is Rita's twin sister, I don't think that they are the same..."

"Stop talking about her," I interrupted her abruptly. "I know that you want me to give up on Scarlett, but I won't marry anyone but her. If you find it tiring to take care of three kids, then I'll hire more nannies to help you. I hope you keep your distance from Raina in the future."

After saying those words in a fret, I was about to leave.

"Charles! I don't care what you think, but I won't accept Scarlett. And I don't care whether Caroline is Scarlett or not, but I can't allow her to be Mrs. Moore."

Upon hearing her loud words, I frowned, shocked by her attitude.

"She keeps snatching all of the Moore Group's projects, and hurts you. A woman like her is too mean to be your wife."

It was the first time that my mother was being so resentful towards Scarlett. Until now, she had only considered her like a daughter, and the sudden change in her attitude confused me.

Why and when did she change?

Not wanting to talk to her anymore, I turned around and left.

At that moment, I got a call from Corey.

"Charles, Caroline wants to see me tomorrow to discuss the cooperation."

"Okay." I thought for a moment and added, "Meet her at the tennis court at ten o'clock tomorrow morning. I will also be there, so be careful, and don't expose yourself."

"Got it."

Once I hung up, I walked upstairs to see if the kids were okay and found them sound asleep.

How was I going to show up at the tennis court without making Scarlett suspicious?

Thinking of the problem, I suddenly came up with an idea.

I quickly took out my phone and called David. "Come to the Mint Bar immediately. I have something to talk to you about." Then I called Spencer and told him the same thing.

After hanging up, I drove over to the Mint Bar.

As soon as I walked in, I saw Vivian pushing Spencer inside.

Glancing at Spencer, who was in a wheelchair, I found him to be a little ruddy-looking. He did not look as depressed as he had a few days ago.

"Looks like you've recovered really well. The power of love is great, indeed," I teased.

"That's right! I deserve the credit. I take care of him and give him a good massage every day. Why wouldn't he look good?" Vivian said with pride.

Upon hearing that, Spencer's face turned red, and he coughed awkwardly.

"Alright, you're the best. Go and get us some drinks. I want to talk to Charles."

Vivian snorted, turned around, and left.

I was relieved to see them getting along so well. With Vivian by his side, Spencer would never want to give up on himself.

"Looks like you want to remarry her. Isn't that right?" I asked curiously.

"Well, yes," Spencer scratched his head and added, "Don't just talk about my business. What are you calling me here?"

"I came to ask you and David to play tennis with me tomorrow."

"Tennis? Do you really think that I am in a state to play tennis now? Are you okay?"

Looking at me in shock, Spencer pointed at his legs and then at my injured hand.

"But Caroline is going."

"Are you even sure that Caroline is Scarlett?" Spencer asked in confusion.

"That doesn't matter as long as I am certain that she is my wife."

As soon as I said that, David and Vivian walked over to us with a few bottles in their hands.

"Would you like a drink?"

I picked up a bottle of whiskey, poured a few shots and handed one to David and then Spencer.

Just when I was about to hand one to Vivian, she refused, shaking her head.

"No, thanks. I..."

Before she could finish her words, she covered her mouth and bolted to the bathroom.

Watching her run away, I was lost in thought.

Was she pregnant?

"Vivian, don't think that I will be soft-hearted to you just because you have stomach problems!" Spencer shouted in a tone filled with duplicity.

"Spencer, there can be another reason for a woman to throw up," I reminded him.

"What a fool!" David burst into laughter.

Stunned, Spencer asked, "What do you mean?"

David and I smiled at each other before I turned to Spencer with a helpless look and said, "Think about it."

Thinking that Vivian and Spencer were finally living a happy life, I could not help but sigh with relief.

Chapter 420 Your Biological Mother

Spencer's POV:

When I saw the smile on their faces, I was left befuddled.

Vivian came back, visibly livid.

"Charles, did Scarlett have the same symptoms back then?" she asked while frowning.

"She did. Considering how adorable the baby is, she said everything she suffered was worth it." Charles nodded in agreement.

Vivian sat on the chair weakly while caressing her belly.

"I felt like I almost threw up my intestines just now," she remarked.

"You have to put up with it. Morning sickness is a common symptom. You'll be fine after a few months," David chimed in, trying to comfort her with a smile.

"Do I have any other choice? That's all I can do." Vivian shrugged, feeling helpless.

Suddenly, David patted me on the shoulder and bantered, "Well, what are you waiting for, Spencer?"

"What are you trying to say? I don't get it," I replied.

"Moron," Vivian remarked. Then, she glanced down at her belly. "Don't be like your father when you grow up, sweetheart."

'Father?'

Upon hearing that word, I felt like a thunderclap resonated within my head. I was so stunned that I was frozen in my seat.

"Vivian, are you pregnant?" I asked, visibly astonished.

"You finally figure it out! I guess you're not so stupid, after all." Vivian sounded really disdainful.

"Is the baby inside you mine?" I asked tentatively.

'Do I really have a child now?

Am I going to be a dad?'

"Who else could it be?" Vivian cackled in anger.

While I was staring at her lower abdomen, my heart was filled with amazement.

After several moments, I finally found my voice.

"Why didn't you tell me earlier?"

Had I known that she was pregnant, I never would've pushed Vivian away.

"I've tried to hint it to you many times, but you were so stupid to understand any of my cues. You're so focused on trying to make me back away from you by being a difficult asshole!" Vivian shouted. Clearly, she was displeased of me.

Now that I looked back on what I had done to her, I felt guilty.

I hurried to her side and apologized sincerely. "I'm so sorry, my love. I want to make it up to you!"

"Now do you understand how much I've been suffering?" Tears welled up in her eyes. Vivian looked truly miserable.

My heart ached for her, so I quickly pulled her into my arms.

"I've always known that, Vivian. I'm so sorry. It was stupid of me to make you suffer. Can you find it in your heart to forgive me?" I pleaded. Spencer's POV:

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"That depends on your performance." Vivian looked away, blushing.

It was a relief to me that she didn't refuse me decisively.

Perhaps it wasn't too late yet. I still had a chance to make up for all the bad things I did to her.

"Let's get down to business first, shall we? Stop displaying your affection in public, okay?" Charles interrupted abruptly.

"You guys can go ahead and talk. I saw some friends over there. I'm gonna go and say hi." With that, Vivian stood up and left with a smile on her face.

"You two go to the tennis court tomorrow. If you want, you can bring some friends with you as well," said Charles.

"Your hand is still injured, isn't it? Don't try to act tough. Don't you want to recover as soon as possible?" David asked Charles, scoffing at him.

"I'm fine. I can do it," Charles responded firmly.

David and I exchanged glances while shaking our heads and sighing.

Ever since Scarlett disappeared, Charles had been living miserably.

No one knew better than us just how much he loved Scarlett.

"I don't think I can play tennis now with my legs, but I can still come and watch the fun." I chuckled.

After setting up an appointment the next day, we drank for a while and said goodbye.

After my friends left, I sat alone for a long time before calling my mom.

"Mom, I want to remarry Vivian as soon as possible.

Raina's POV:

In order to deal with the trouble that Liam had caused, Dad had been working really hard lately. Thus, I was left home alone.

The fiasco at the marriage attracted clout. Nobody anticipated that something that scandalous would happen.

At this time, someone rang the doorbell.

I went to the door to open it.

Upon seeing the person standing on the other side of the door, my eyes narrowed in disgust.

"Raina, I'm your biological mother, Susan Lively," Susan said to me while smiling.

"The only mother I have is Sunny Hill." I glared at her, quickly closing the door and feeling disgusted of her.

However, Susan prevented me from closing it. She was looking at me with pleading eyes.

"Raina, please. Can you come out here for a sec so we can talk? I have so much to tell you."

"There's nothing I want to talk to you about. You're not welcome here. Please leave," I responded listlessly.

"Raina, don't you want to deal with Caroline? I can help you," Susan spluttered.

Upon hearing those words, I paused, visibly surprised. "Is that so? How can you help?"

"I'm certain that I can help! I've already figured out a way to deal with her," Susan replied.

After a moment of hesitation, I followed her out.

Once we entered a bar, Susan began to look at me intently.

The way she was staring at me made me feel uncomfortable.

Feeling disdainful, I asked, "Didn't you say that you have something to tell me?"

Tears welled up in Susan's eyes as she cried, "I'm so sorry to have made you suffer through so much,

Raina."

"From the moment you abandoned me, you were no longer my mother!" I exclaimed.

"It's not what you think! Someone deceived us both!" cried Susan.

"What? What are you trying to say?"

"Your father, Nate Lively, was quite the golden bachelor back in the day. Many women adored him, and I, myself, wasn't an exception. I was the first woman to have his babies, and I had twins. So, I was fortunate to have married him soon." Susan let out a sigh.

"I'm not interested in your shitty love story." I interrupted her reminiscence.

"After I gave birth to Rita, the doctor told me that the other child was stillborn. That's why I didn't know that you were still alive all these years." Susan covered her face and burst into tears.

"Are you serious?"

My heart became indescribably heavy.

For as long as I could remember, I had always believed that I had been abandoned at the orphanage. That was why I loathed my biological parents with every fiber of my being.

Upon learning that my twin sister, Rita, had grown into such a fine young woman and had lived a life of luxury, I became even more resentful.

I never expected that this was the truth.

Susan nodded to affirm my question.

"You also said that you'd help me deal with Caroline, right? Are you for real?"

"Raina, I owe you a lifetime of apologies and many more. Please, give me one chance to make it up to you. I know that you've been wanting to get rid of Caroline all this time. As long as we work together, we'll be able to get you what you want." Susan looked into my eyes. She seemed really sincere about this matter.