Warning 421

Chapter 421 Can You Blow Away Daddy's Pain

Raina's POV:

"I'll have to think about it. I'll call you back in a few days," I said, checked the time, and stood up in a hurry.

Susan's promise was tempting, but I didn't commit anything to her right away.

I knew better than anyone else that there was no free lunch in this world.

"Very well. I'm living a miserable life now, and I desperately need your help," Susan groaned and wiped her tears.

I ignored her crying while keeping my face expressionless.

"Here's my phone number. Call me when you make up your mind," Susan said seriously.

When I got home, I saw Dad sitting on the sofa with a long face.

"Are you just coming home? It's late. Where have you been?" he asked, his face darkening.

"I went to ask some of my friends to help us deal with the news about the wedding," I lied.

Looking at my father's serious face, I felt a little guilty.

Fortunately, he didn't ask further.

He took out a bunch of papers and handed them to me. Then, he said coldly, "Sign this."

"What's this?" I asked curiously.

"It's a movie contract."

"Why are you suddenly asking me to sign a movie contract?"

"I have raised you for so many years, Raina. Since you've lost your chance to marry Charles Moore, it's time for you to get out there and make your own money," he said flatly.

I felt like I'd just been struck by lightning. I explained hurriedly, "No, I haven't lost my chance to marry Charles. I can still make the wedding happen. I just..."

"Raina, I have given you more than enough time and countless opportunities, and you've exhausted

every last ounce of my patience," Dad rudely interrupted me. Then, he added, "You should be thankful I'm still helping you get a job. Sign the contract."

Staring at my father's cold eyes, I gritted my teeth, picked up the pen, and signed the movie contract.

Charles's POV:

After breakfast, I drove James to the kindergarten.

On the way, I asked him, "James, would you like to accompany me somewhere? I will talk to your teacher later so that you'll be excused from your classes."

"Where are we going?" James asked, looking at me curiously.

"To see Mommy," I answered with a smile.

"Really?"

James's eyes lit up and an excited smile brightened up his face.

He agreed without hesitation and looked absolutely thrilled the entire trip.

When I pulled over at the tennis courts, James jumped out of the car.

I quickly stopped him.

"Why are you stopping me, Daddy? I want to see Mommy," James pouted.

"I have something to tell you first."

"What is it?"

James sat back in the seat, his eyes full of inquisitiveness.

"Daddy's hand is injured. I can't play tennis today. Can you act with me later and tell Mommy how badly I'm hurt so that she'll worry about me?" I asked in a low voice. Reine's POV:

"I'll heve to think ebout it. I'll cell you beck in e few deys," I seid, checked the time, end stood up in e hurry.

Susen's promise wes tempting, but I didn't commit enything to her right ewey.

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"I heve something to tell you first."

"Whet is it?"

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"Deddy's hend is injured. I cen't pley tennis todey. Cen you ect with me leter end tell Mommy how bedly I'm hurt so thet she'll worry ebout me?" I esked in e low voice.

James thought for a while and then nodded.

"Sure. But I have one condition."

"What is it?"

I shook my head, amused by my little boy's words.

Since when did he learn to bargain with adults?

"From now on, you must take me with you whenever you go see Mommy," James replied firmly.

"Well, that condition should have conditions of my own. You can't come with me all the time. There are some occasions that I can't take you to."

"That's okay. Just take me when you can."

James put on a big smile, gave me a high five, and ran to the tennis courts in a flash.

Watching him race away, I couldn't help smiling.

James was as lively and witty as Scarlett when she was a child.

"Hello, Uncle Spencer and Uncle David," James greeted David and Spencer politely.

"Really, Charles? You're going to pursue your wife using your kid? You're really hell-bent on this, aren't you?" Spencer teased.

"Yes, because if I am not, I won't stand a chance," I backfired.

David patted me on the shoulder to comfort me.

"Where is Mommy, Daddy?" James looked around for Caroline.

"She's not here yet, buddy. Why don't I teach you how to play tennis in the meantime?"

"Okay!"

It was the first time that James tried to play tennis, so his movements were a little reluctant and awkward.

Before long, I caught a glimpse of Caroline walking toward the tennis courts.

Even through the iron wire net, I still recognized her slender figure.

She was wearing casual clothes today, making her look vigorous.

I gestured to James to get ready.

He nodded and beamed, letting me know that he got my hint.

I managed to pick up the tennis racket with my left hand. Then, I began to teach James the basics of playing tennis.

James listened carefully and then shouted excitedly, "You're so awesome, Daddy! Even though your right hand is injured, you can still play tennis so well with your left hand and teach me!"

David and Spencer exchanged glances. David pinched the bridge of his nose while Spencer swallowed his lips.

"Dude, you are so lame," Spencer said bluntly.

"I don't care as long as I get her attention. You two look too stiff. Loosen up!" I whined and glared at the two of them.

David and Spencer simply nodded and then stepped aside.

With a satisfied smile, I continued to teach James how to play tennis while glancing at Caroline out of the corner of my eye.

As soon as she entered the courts, she saw James.

After whispering a few words to Corey, Caroline hurried over.

"Mommy!"

James immediately dropped the ball in his hand and ran toward Caroline.

I wasn't able to stop him, so I just slapped my forehead in frustration.

"Mommy, Mommy, I've missed you so much!" James exclaimed, hugged Caroline tightly, and clung to her like a baby koala.

"What are you doing here?" Caroline asked in surprise.

"Daddy is teaching me how to play tennis. Daddy is so amazing. His right hand is hurt, but he can still play with his left hand," James replied enthusiastically, held Caroline's hand, and towed her toward me.

"Are you here to play tennis, too, Caroline?" I said by way of greeting.

"Yes, I am," Caroline responded indifferently.

Looking at her cold gaze, I lowered my eyes, afraid that she would see the disappointment in them.

"Mommy, Daddy's hand hurts. Can you blow away his pain? Please?" James pleaded, raising my injured hand and showing it to his mother.

I looked at him with appreciation.

It seemed that I had made the right choice to take James here with me today.

He truly was my son.

"Your daddy can take care of his own pain, sweetie," Caroline smiled and stroked James's hair.

"No, I can't."

I got close to Caroline and gave her my injured hand.

"Go to the hospital and see a doctor if your hand hurts. Making me blow on it won't fix it," Caroline snarled, her face darkening and her eyes narrowing.

"So, are you admitting now that you really are my mommy?" James asked with eyes brimming with fear and expectation.

Caroline flashed him a weak smile but didn't answer.

It broke my heart to see the disappointment in James's face.

When Caroline was about to turn around and leave, I frowned in pain.

"I'm really hurt, Caroline. I need help."

Then, my whole body quivered, and I fell toward Caroline.

She instinctively reached out to support me.

"Your hand is injured, yet you still came here to play tennis and even tried to teach your son how to play. Are you trying to get yourself disabled?" Caroline glared at me.

"Do you still care about me?" I asked and leaned on her on purpose.

A faint fragrance wafted from her body, and I greedily sniffed it.

Her scent made me think about all the wonderful memories we shared together, those I could still remember of course—the sweet hugs, the soft kisses, and all the times we made love.

In my mind, she didn't look icy and distant like this.

Remembering that the warm, loving woman I once had was no longer the one that was in front of me now, I felt my chest constrict.

"Mommy, don't blame Daddy. It's my fault. I wanted to learn how to play tennis, so I pestered him to teach me," James explained.

Caroline pushed me away and told James, It's not weekend. You're supposed to be in school. Why are you here now? Is it just a coincidence?"

James and I looked at each other and were rendered speechless.

Caroline flashed me an accusatory stare, and all I could do was look away and try to bite down my guilt.

Chapter 422 Shooting An Adult Movie

Scarlett's POV:

I became suspicious, looking at the father and son in front of me.

How did they find out that I was going to be at the tennis courts?

I turned to Corey.

Was it really just a coincidence that Charles came to the tennis courts on the same day that Corey invited me?

"Don't get me wrong. I know the manager of this place, and he told me that you had booked the court for the day," Charles explained.

Was that really the reason he came there? I did not think so.

I believed that there must be more to the story.

However, I decided to ignore him and rolled my eyes.

I then walked to Corey.

"Mr. Stanton, I'm so sorry. Something weird happened here, but it's all good now. Shall we continue?"

"It's all right. Waiting on a lady is a necessary virtue for a British gentleman like me, especially when the lady is as beautiful as you, Miss Wilson."

I smiled and pretended to ask in a casual tone, "Mr. Stanton, do you happen to know Charles?"

"Do you mean Mr. Charles Moore over there? Of course, I do! In fact, I am pretty sure that the whole world knows a celebrity like him. But he doesn't know me. I would love to work with him, though. What's wrong?"

I could not help but feel that Corey's answer was too flawless, almost as if it was scripted.

"Nothing. Let's start."

Was I really reading too much into it?

Suppressing the suspicious feeling in my heart, I began to focus on the game.

Although I was playing tennis with Corey, I unconsciously glanced at Charles and James from the corner of my eye.

I saw that they were not leaving.

"Mommy, you are the best!" James shouted in an excited voice as he raised his hand up and waved to me.

I could not focus on the game after I heard his sweet voice.

I missed another hit and warned myself.

'Be focused!'

Even then, I could not stop myself from looking at my darling son.

"Looks like Miss Wilson is not really interested in the game, so why don't we discuss the cooperation first?" Corey suggested with a smile as he walked to me.

I put down the tennis racket, wiped the sweat off my face, and nodded with a smile. Scerlett's POV:

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How did they find out thet I wes going to be et the tennis courts?

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"Mr. Stenton, I'm so sorry. Something weird heppened here, but it's ell good now. Shell we continue?"

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I put down the tennis recket, wiped the sweet off my fece, end nodded with e smile.

"I would love that."

"Then let's find a place to sit down and talk."

I glanced back and found the court next to ours empty.

While I was not looking, Charles and James left.

For some strange reason, a sense of depression clouded my heart.

Raina's POV:

That morning, I woke up, got dressed, and rushed to the movie set that my father told me about.

Once I arrived at the set, the director looked at me.

There seemed to be an undisguised straightforwardness in his eyes.

Seeing that, I could not help but frown.

I was respected wherever I went as the daughter of the Hill family.

And I had never been looked down upon by anyone.

"Miss Hill, we are going to shoot a... well, an action movie. Sort of. You should read the script first."

With a smile, the director handed me the script.

Taking it from his hands, I began to read it carefully.

However, the contents of the script stunned me.

It was not an action movie, but a porn movie!

"Are you sure this is the correct script?" I asked with a hint of suspicion in my voice.

Looking at me, the man nodded with a smile.

When I saw that, I felt my heart sink to the bottom of my gut.

How could that be possible?

I threw the papers in my hand, and said firmly, "I won't do it!"

"Miss Hill, you have no choice now because your father, Gary Hill, has already given us the contract with your signature on it."

"No way! How could my dad do that?"

My eyes widened in disbelief.

"Miss Hill, we have paid a high fee for your role in the movie. You will have to pay for the liquidated damages if you refuse to act." The director's expression darkened as he threatened me in a vicious tone.

Standing there in a daze, I felt my heart sink deeper and deeper.

I knew that my dad would not pay for the liquidated damages on behalf of me.

And I had not saved any money over the years.

Did I really have no choice but to accept my fate now?

I quickly grabbed my phone from my bag and called my mom.

But to my surprise, she did not answer.

I then called my dad, but he did not answer, either.

The last ray of hope in my heart faded away. Feeling numb, I could not help but collapse to the ground weakly.

Why was my own dad doing such a thing to me?

Why did I not read the contract thoroughly before I signed it?

Resentment and regret filled my heart, drowning me in misery.

"Go and get changed. Don't leave the crew waiting for you."

With an indifferent look in his eyes, the director glanced at me and left.

I absent-mindedly walked to the dressing room.

Tears of despair flowed down my cheeks when I saw the costumes that the crew had prepared for me.

The clothes were so scanty that they couldn't even cover my breasts and butt partially.

I grabbed them reluctantly and changed into them.

A while later, I walked out of the changing room.

Everyone outside looked at me with admiration and greed in their eyes.

Enduring the disgust in my heart, I walked over to the set.

The very first scene itself was a physical one!

Suddenly, I saw a strong naked man walking towards me.

Subconsciously, I wanted to retreat, but his strong arms trapped me.

Feeling his hormones, I bit my lip nervously.

Beneath the mask, my face was contorted with pain.

He then began to stroke my exposed skin with his broad hands.

The photographer approached us. The camera moved with the man's movements until it was aimed at my naked vagina.

I felt thankful that I was wearing a mask.

If I was not wearing a mask, then I would feel completely exposed and vulnerable.

After the shoot was over, I pushed away the humiliation in my heart and walked out of the set.

I found Susan's number and called her immediately.

"Susan, I agree with your proposal. I want to cooperate with you as soon as possible."

After hanging up, I clenched my fists.

I knew that I had to try one last time so that I would not have to live my life so miserably anymore.

Chapter 423 I've Been Thinking About You For A Long Time

Raina's POV:

As soon as I got home, I ran to the bathroom to take a shower.

I scrubbed every inch of my skin over and over again to get rid of those disgusting people's marks.

The vulgar scenes that I was forced to act in kept flashing through my mind.

I finally seemed to understand that I was nothing more than just a pawn to the Hill family.

They had loved me up until I was beneficial to them.

And when I was no longer in a position to be beneficial to them, they stripped me off my dignity and used me for one last thing.

I hated Susan for losing me and I hated Gary for using me as a bargaining chip to help him get what he wanted. And I hated the heartless and cruel world that I lived in even more.

It took me a long time to calm down and walk out of the bathroom.

Before I got dressed, Gary, the man I used to see as my father but now nothing more than an animal, broke into my room and looked at me with perversion in his eyes.

Feeling uncomfortable under his burning gaze, I took a step back subconsciously.

"This is my room! What are you doing here?"

"Your room? This is my villa, and I can go into any room I want here," Gary sneered as he slowly walked towards me.

I widened my eyes in horror, continuing to retreat.

In the end, my back was against the cold wall, and I could not escape.

The strong smell of alcohol on his breath disgusted me.

"What the hell are you doing?"

"You've been on my mind for a long time now. I needed to use you to get close to Charles before, so I had to restrain my urges. But now that you have failed, you are of no use to me anymore," Gary said in a sarcastic tone, looking at me.

"I have already convinced Chloe and Alice and they'll help me. Please give me more time..." I pleaded.

"Ever since the moment Caroline returned, you were doomed to fail," Gary hissed, sighing with disappointment.

Unwillingly, I shook my head. I was desperate.

"Raina, how was the shoot today? How about I help you recall the scenes you shot today, huh?" Saying that, Gary suddenly burst into obscene laughter.

I immediately figured out that he did it on purpose.

Struggling, I asked him coldly, "Why did you let me act in that kind of a film, Gary? I have no dignity left anymore because of that!"

"Don't worry. You were made to wear a mask so that no one can recognize you," Gary comforted me with a smile.

"Are you sure?" I asked hesitantly.

"Of course! After all, you are still the daughter of the Hill family. And if people find out that it was you in that porn movie, then the whole Hill family will be disgraced." Saying that, Gary slowly slid his fingers under my robe and began to caress my body. Reine's POV:

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"Of course! After ell, you ere still the deughter of the Hill femily. And if people find out thet it wes you in thet porn movie, then the whole Hill femily will be disgreced." Seying thet, Gery slowly slid his fingers under my robe end begen to ceress my body.

The corners of my mouth twitched bitterly and my heart sank.

Considering his character, I knew that he would cut off all ties with me and blame the whole thing on me the moment my role in the porn became news to the world.

And I would be doomed for good when that happened.

"I'll do as you want me to, just please don't use me anymore." Sniffling and sobbing, I continued to plead with him.

"Use you? You really think that you have done something useful for the Hill family? Anything? Sunny and I have been trying our best to turn you into a remarkable heir, but you haven't contributed anything to the family. Who do you think is to blame here?" With a fierce coldness in his eyes, he glared at me. He looked like a snake in hiding that was making me tremble with fear.

"Can you please let me go?"

"So many men have touched you, so why are you still keeping up the pure act? Hurry up and let me have some fun."

Sneering, he threw me on the bed.

He then pounced on me, pressing me under his body.

Crying miserably, I began to struggle out of desperation.

"You can't do this to me!"

"If those men can touch you, why can't I? After all, I raised you. I would rather enjoy you myself than to let those men take advantage of your body!" With a lewd smile on his lips, Gary tore off my robe.

"Mom, help!" I shouted.

"No one is home now. They are all at the hospital, accompanying Cassie. You can shout as loud as you like. No one is going to hear you!" Gary then unbuckled his belt with a hideous look.

I closed my eyes in humiliation, letting him leave hickeys all over my body.

He then continued to penetrate me without even seeing if I was ready.

I frowned in pain, and tears appeared in my eyes.

Ignoring my despair and pain, he continued to ruthlessly rampage my body.

He gasped and groaned as he thrust himself deeper and deeper inside me.

But to me, his sounds of pleasure sounded like a curse from the devil.

I felt my body tearing from the pain, but I felt like I did not even have the right to wince or grimace.

Just when I thought that the nightmare was finally over, he turned me over.

Hugging me from behind, he raped me like an animal.

After what felt like hours, he finally stopped.

With a satisfied smile, he put on his clothes and got out of bed before he promised in a low voice, "Raina, as long as you are obedient, the Hill family will continue to treat you well."

The ripping pain from my body made me smile with self-mockery.

'Treat me well? What kind of treatment do you call this?'

Seeing my reaction, Gary threatened me in a cold voice, "If you still want to stay in the Hill family, then be on call in the future. Or else, you won't even be able to act in adult movies. I am a man of my word, so don't think that I am just kidding with you."

After that, he turned around, and left my room.

The air in my room was mixed with the repulsive odor of alcohol and sex.

Curling up into a ball, I finally burst into tears.

Scarlett's POV:

When I walked out of the company after work, I saw Charles downstairs.

I noticed a cigarette in his hand and his face was haggard.

Although I was a little surprised at first, I pretended to be calm as I walked past him.

"Caroline, wait a sec!"

Charles suddenly stopped me.

"What's up?" I asked flatly.

"Caroline, James is going to take tennis lessons, so we will be there at the same tennis court at five in the afternoon on Wednesdays. If you want to see him, then you can come there," Charles explained.

Although I was moved by his sudden gesture, I tried to keep a straight face as I said, "That has nothing to do with me."

"Caroline, James keeps telling me every day that he wants his mom. It's pretty obvious that you hate me, but the kids are innocent."

Recalling the happy and excited look in James' eyes when we had met the last time at the tennis courts, my heart ached.

Even though it was clear as day to me that Charles had an ulterior motive, I still could not bring myself to

refuse his temptation.

Looking into his deep eyes, I smiled bitterly.

He always knew how to use my weaknesses against me.

That was the case before, and that was the case now.

I would never be able to get rid of him as long as the kids lived with him.

"It's not a big deal. Anyway, Mr. Moore, you didn't have to come all the way to tell me about it in person." Sneering at him, I was about to leave.

"Caroline, you can also come to the Moore mansion to see the kids every Friday night. And if you feel uncomfortable, then I can ask my mom and the others to leave when you come," he said.

After giving him a curt nod, I walked to my car in silence.

"Caroline."

I heard someone calling my name as soon as I got in my car.

I turned around and saw Simon walking towards me.

"Simon, let's go together."

"Okay."

Simon gave Charles a polite smile before he got in my car.

Stunned, Charles' handsome face stiffened.

I could not help but smile and feel better when I saw him angry.

Chapter 424 Get Wet In The Rain

Charles' POV:

After seeing Simon and Caroline leave together, I could not help but rush to follow them.

Caroline's car stopped in front of her house, and instead of leaving, Simon walked into her house with her.

I suddenly felt a sense of crisis.

My heart twisted and ached at the possibility of her falling in love with another man.

Caroline was mine.

And she could not be anyone else's!

I was determined to never let Simon have her.

I ran to her door and knocked.

Soon, Elena opened the door.

Surprised, she looked at me and asked, "Mr. Moore, what are you doing here?"

"I came to see Caroline," I answered bluntly.

"But Miss Wilson doesn't want to see you, so please leave! She is not the person you are looking for, and I hope that you will stop troubling her," Elena warned coldly before she shut the door on my face.

Looking at the closed door, I lowered my eyes in disappointment.

After standing there for a long time, I walked back to the car and lit a cigarette.

As the cigarette smoke pervaded, I frowned, lost in thought.

If Simon could get into her house, why couldn't I?

Could it be that Simon was more important in Caroline's heart than I was?

Was she really moving farther and farther away from me?

Feeling the unbearable pain in my heart, I could not breathe.

Clenching my fists, I punched the steering wheel to vent my anger.

Soon, the sky turned dark and the moon rose. I put out the cigarette and got off the car.

It had been a while since Simon walked into her villa, and he still hadn't come out.

Staring at Caroline's bedroom window, I was unwilling to leave.

After a long time, I saw the lights in her room turn on.

However, Simon still was in the villa.

Was he in Caroline's room now?

What were they doing?

Overwhelmed by such questions, I felt like I was suffocating. Cherles' POV:

After seeing Simon end Ceroline leeve together, I could not help but rush to follow them.

Ceroline's cer stopped in front of her house, end insteed of leeving, Simon welked into her house with her.

I suddenly felt e sense of crisis.

My heert twisted end eched et the possibility of her felling in love with enother men.

Ceroline wes mine.

And she could not be enyone else's!

I wes determined to never let Simon heve her.

I ren to her door end knocked.

Soon, Elene opened the door.

Surprised, she looked et me end esked, "Mr. Moore, whet ere you doing here?"

"I ceme to see Ceroline," I enswered bluntly.

"But Miss Wilson doesn't went to see you, so pleese leeve! She is not the person you ere looking for, end I hope thet you will stop troubling her," Elene werned coldly before she shut the door on my fece.

Looking et the closed door, I lowered my eyes in diseppointment.

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If Simon could get into her house, why couldn't I?

Could it be thet Simon wes more importent in Ceroline's heert then I wes?

Wes she reelly moving ferther end ferther ewey from me?

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However, Simon still wes in the ville.

Wes he in Ceroline's room now?

Whet were they doing?

Overwhelmed by such questions, I felt like I wes suffoceting.

I wanted to knock on her door again, but I was afraid that I might annoy her, so I decided to continue waiting outside.

The sky roared loudly, followed by a bright flash of lightning, indicating that a violent storm was coming.

Soon, the rain began pouring down, and the loud clashes of thunder pierced my ears.

Within seconds, my whole body was soaked, and I could not help but shudder from the coldness.

I raised my head and stared at Caroline's bedroom without blinking. All I could think about was the sweet and loving memories that we had. Yes, I had recently started to remember things from our past.

She would be so shy and blush whenever I flirted with her, and she would obediently nestle in my arms, letting me kiss her. She had tolerated everything that I had done to her.

Thinking of our past, I couldn't help but burst into tears.

Under the pouring rain, my tears were indistinguishable.

At times, I would want to go back in time and beat myself up for unscrupulously hurting the woman I loved.

She used to love me with all her heart, but now, she was not even willing to give me a chance to make it up to her.

Suppressing the pain in my heart, I prayed to God that she would appear in my sight again.

Time passed, but my prayers were not answered.

All of a sudden, I heard my phone ringing in the car.

I got in the car and answered it.

"Charles, Jason has a fever. Come home immediately."

I hung up the phone, and looked out of the window reluctantly.

However, Caroline's door was still closed.

I tossed my phone aside and drove away reluctantly.

Simon's POV:

It was pouring when I was standing in front of the French window, looking outside. I saw Charles standing in the rain.

He was completely soaked, and looked really embarrassed, but I did not know how long he had been standing there.

"Elena, don't tell Caroline that Charles is waiting outside. I like her, and I don't want my competition to get any chance," I ordered in a low voice.

Elena smiled and warned, "I hope you can be kind to Caroline in the future. She is a kind and strong woman. If you dare to hurt her, I will never let you go."

"Don't worry. I would never hurt her," I promised with a serious look in my eyes.

"Caroline was deeply hurt because of her previous relationship, and she still hasn't recovered from the heartbreak. So it might not be easy for you to win her over," Elena reminded me with a sigh.

"I understand."

I looked out the window again and saw that Charles had finally left.

Relief flooded my heart.

As soon as I got home, I called Edward.

"Simon, how does Caroline feel about you? And how is your relationship going?" There was concern in his voice.

"She is nice to me, but we are just friends for now," I replied in a voice that was filled with regret.

"Caroline is a late-bloomer, but don't worry too much, and take things slow," Edward comforted me.

"Yes, I understand."

"I am looking forward to hearing some good news from you two!"

"I'm looking forward to it, too. When are you coming back, Mr. Wilson?"

"About two weeks later. I will be back on Caroline's birthday. What's your plan?" Edward teased.

"I'm planning a surprise for her, and I hope she will like it."

"What is it?" Edward asked curiously.

"You will find out when the time comes."

After hanging up, I turned on my laptop and began to browse the Internet for gifts that Caroline might like.

Although she seemed to be a gentle person, she was more stubborn than anyone I'd ever met.

Ordinary gifts wouldn't make the cut if I wanted to impress her.

My hands stopped moving when my gaze fell on a photo.

It was a photo of Edward, and Eason Felix, my dad.

They were standing beside each other with a bright smile.

Chapter 425 Go To The Hospital

Charles' POV:

As I hurried home, my heart was filled with worry for my son, Jason.

Until now, my clothes were still wet and they clung to my body, making me feel uncomfortable.

The second I entered the living room, my mother, Alice, approached me.

Visibly surprised, she asked me, "Charles, where have you been? How did you end up like that?"

"It was raining and I forgot to bring an umbrella." I shrugged casually.

"Richard said that you left the company quite early today. Did you go see Caroline again?" asked my mother.

I pursed my lips and fell silent.

"Charles, haven't you had enough of this? She's done nothing but hurt you! It's time for you to move on with your life."

My mother frowned at me, visibly disappointed.

"Mom, just go back and get some rest. I'll take care of Jason tonight."

After that slightly vexing exchange of words, I went back to my room with a sullen expression.

Once I had closed the door, I sighed bitterly.

Between me and Caroline, she was the one who had gotten more hurt.

However, I was so selfish that I refused to set her free.

I was the one who had committed the most heinous crime.

After changing into a fresh set of clothes, I went to the twins' room.

Jason was having a fever and was sleeping restlessly.

I sat on the edge of the bed, quietly staring at his reddened face.

"Mommy."

Jason was talking in his sleep.

My heart ached for him. In a soft voice, I tried to comfort him. "Mommy will be back soon. Sleep now, my good boy."

Soon, Jason fell asleep.

I gently tucked him in and stayed at his bedside the entire night.

It wasn't until dawn that Jason's temperature finally stabilized. Once I was certain he would be fine, I breathed a sigh of relief.

Perhaps because I had gotten wet in the rain and was unable to sleep for an entire night, my head began to ache again.

I stood up, wanting to go back to my room.

But the next second, I felt lightheaded and lost consciousness.

Scarlett's POV:

In the morning, I was awakened from my dreams because of the heavy rain outside the window.

I reluctantly got up from the bed, washed up, and went downstairs.

"Elena, how long has it been raining?" I asked.

"Since last night, I guess?" she replied.

"Huh... no wonder I fell asleep early last night." I watched the heavy downpour of rain outside the window and let out a sigh. Cherles' POV:

As I hurried home, my heert wes filled with worry for my son, Jeson.

Until now, my clothes were still wet end they clung to my body, meking me feel uncomforteble.

The second I entered the living room, my mother, Alice, epproeched me.

Visibly surprised, she esked me, "Cherles, where heve you been? How did you end up like thet?"

"It wes reining end I forgot to bring en umbrelle." I shrugged cesuelly.

"Richerd seid thet you left the compeny quite eerly todey. Did you go see Ceroline egein?" esked my mother.

I pursed my lips end fell silent.

"Cherles, heven't you hed enough of this? She's done nothing but hurt you! It's time for you to move on with your life."

My mother frowned et me, visibly diseppointed.

"Mom, just go beck end get some rest. I'll teke cere of Jeson tonight."

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My heert eched for him. In e soft voice, I tried to comfort him. "Mommy will be beck soon. Sleep now, my good boy."

Soon, Jeson fell esleep.

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Scerlett's POV:

In the morning, I wes ewekened from my dreems beceuse of the heevy rein outside the window.

I reluctently got up from the bed, weshed up, end went downsteirs.

"Elene, how long hes it been reining?" I esked.

"Since lest night, I guess?" she replied.

"Huh... no wonder I fell esleep eerly lest night." I wetched the heevy downpour of rein outside the window end let out e sigh.

In all honesty, I regretted bringing Simon home yesterday the second I did it.

I shouldn't have used him to piss Charles off.

Now that I looked back on it, I realized how childish I was yesterday and how selfish I was being.

Elena nodded at me and smiled. Afterwards, she put the breakfast she cooked on the table.

Even after we finished eating breakfast, the rain didn't ease off.

"It's raining really hard. I won't be going to the company today. Elena, I've review the project information before I went to bed last night. Help me send them back to the team. If some of the employees couldn't make it to the company because of the downpour, tell them they can work from home today," I ordered.

"Got it. I'll inform them at once."

Once Elena had left, I stood in front of the window, watching the rain pour nonstop.

Thunder boomed down from the sky and fell to the ground.

Somehow, it made me feel uneasy and irritable.

It made me feel as though something bad was about to happen.

Before I could think on it, my phone on the table rang all of a sudden.

When I saw Charles' name on the phone's screen, I dropped the call right away.

A moment later, my phone rang again.

I rejected the call again.

However, the caller refused to give up, so my phone kept on ringing.

With no other choice, I had to answer it.

"What do you want?" I asked impatiently.

'Have I not made myself clear yesterday? Why does this idiot keep badgering me?'

"Mommy? Mommy, it's me! James!"

James' anxious voice came through the phone, leaving me stunned.

"James? What's the matter?" I asked, softening my tone.

"Mommy, come to the hospital right away. Please!" James sounded really bothered.

"Did something happen? Are you not feeling well? Which hospital?" I asked anxiously.

But before James could answer any of my questions, the call was disconnected.

'Could James be sick? I wonder if it's serious. He probably wants to see his mother right now!'

The thought of James' pitiful appearance left me flustered.

After changing my clothes, I left the house quickly.

The rain wasn't letting up. It was getting heavier by the minute. I stared at the congested roads, burning with anxiety.

I kept comforting myself with the thought that James sounded okay, so I thought that maybe his condition wasn't as serious as I initially believed it to be.

I held the steering wheel tightly, taking deep breaths to calm myself down.

After a long time, I finally arrived at the hospital.

I went to the nurses' station in the inpatient department and asked, "Hello, is there a patient here named James Moore?"

The nurse checked the records of inpatients and replied, "There's a patient whose surname is Moore. Go straight down that hallway and turn right. He's in the third ward."

"Thank you!"

I rushed towards the ward that the nurse mentioned.

Upon opening the door and walking in, I didn't see James. All I saw was Charles lying on the bed with a

ghastly pale face. He had an IV drip attached to his hand.

Alice was sitting on the edge of the bed, staring at him with worried eyes.

I looked at Charles blankly for a second, and suddenly realized that I had been deceived.

It wasn't James who was sick. It was Charles!

'How dare that naughty boy play tricks on his mother?' I thought.

Alice stood up and shouted, "Caroline, you made Charles stay in the rain and now he's been hospitalized. The nerve of you to come here!"

She made her disgust of me no secret.

I was left confused by her accusation.

'When did I do that?

And what does his conditions have to do with me?'

In the corner of my eye, I saw James sitting on the sofa. He didn't seem ill, so I was relieved to know that. Thus, I turned around, ready to leave.

But James ran to my side and held my hand.

"Mommy, don't go yet."

My heart softened at the sight of his pure eyes.

I ruffled my son's hair and said, "James, I have some important stuff to do. Why don't I just come visit you another day?"

"No! I want Mommy to stay with me!"

James hugged me tightly, refusing to let me leave.

Feeling helpless, I sighed. I didn't have the heart to refuse his request.

"James, she doesn't deserve to be your mother. Just let her go!"

Alice tried to pull James away from me.

However, the boy avoided her hand and held onto me more tightly.

"Mom, just go home. I'm fine now," Charles said firmly.

Feeling like she had no choice, Alice had to leave the hospital, albeit reluctantly.

Chapter 426 Give Me A Kiss

Scarlett's POV:

There was an awkward silence in the ward after Alice left.

With a worried expression, James held my hand and said, "Mommy, Daddy has a fever! And the doctor said that his headache was becoming more serious."

It was true that Charles was indeed looking severely pale and ill.

As I sat down in front of the bed, I was at a loss for words.

A while later, I asked, "How did you get sick all of a sudden? You were fine yesterday, right?"

"Caroline, are you caring about me now?"

There was a glimmer of hope in Charles' eyes as he looked up at me.

"If you don't want to tell me, then forget it."

Glaring at him, I stood up, and was about to leave.

However, Charles quickly grabbed my hand.

"Don't go!"

"Don't touch me," I hissed, shaking off his hand.

"It's because you did not let me in yesterday," Charles said in a pitiful tone.

"What do you mean?" I asked with a frown.

"Daddy waited outside your house for a long time and got soaked in the rain, Mommy! Jason became sick last night, so Daddy went home and stayed up all night taking care of him and fainted this morning!"

Upon hearing that, my heart ached and I asked worriedly, "Jason's sick? How is he now?"

"His fever has come down, so don't worry," Charles comforted me softly.

Bitterness filled my heart, and I could not help but lower my eyes.

I scolded myself for being a terrible mom.

I couldn't even take care of my sick child.

"You can come to see them this Friday. They really miss you a lot. Jason kept calling your name in his sleep while he was sick last night."

"I will go and see them."

My eyes turned red at the thought of the twins.

I also missed them deeply and was longing to see if they were doing okay.

"Okay, I'll be waiting for you."

The room fell silent again.

With a smile on his lips, Charles fixed his deep gaze on me.

Feeling a little uncomfortable, I tried to avoid looking at him.

Rolling his eyes, James covered his mouth and yawned.

"Mommy, you stay and take care of Daddy. I'm tired, so I want to sleep for a while."

With that, James climbed onto the sofa and fell asleep.

I felt more awkward with Charles. I bit my lip nervously, not knowing what to say.

"Where is the thermometer? I'll get it for you."

I pretended to look around for the thermometer to evade the awkwardness between us.

All of a sudden, Charles held my hand and said softly, "Caroline, just stay with me. I am really glad that you came to see me."

I withdrew my hand and said in a stubborn voice, "If I had known that you were the one that was sick, then I would not have come. You have led James astray, and now, he is plotting with you to trick me!" Scerlett's POV:

There wes en ewkwerd silence in the werd efter Alice left.

With e worried expression, Jemes held my hend end seid, "Mommy, Deddy hes e fever! And the doctor seid thet his heedeche wes becoming more serious."

It wes true thet Cherles wes indeed looking severely pele end ill.

As I set down in front of the bed, I wes et e loss for words.

A while leter, I esked, "How did you get sick ell of e sudden? You were fine yesterdey, right?"

"Ceroline, ere you cering ebout me now?"

There wes e glimmer of hope in Cherles' eyes es he looked up et me.

"If you don't went to tell me, then forget it."

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However, Cherles quickly grebbed my hend.

"Don't go!"

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"It's beceuse you did not let me in yesterdey," Cherles seid in e pitiful tone.

"Whet do you meen?" I esked with e frown.

"Deddy weited outside your house for e long time end got soeked in the rein, Mommy! Jeson beceme sick lest night, so Deddy went home end steyed up ell night teking cere of him end feinted this morning!"

Upon heering thet, my heert eched end I esked worriedly, "Jeson's sick? How is he now?"

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"Okey, I'll be weiting for you."

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I withdrew my hend end seid in e stubborn voice, "If I hed known thet you were the one thet wes sick, then I would not heve come. You heve led Jemes estrey, end now, he is plotting with you to trick me!"

Charles handed his phone to me and explained helplessly, "My phone died. I didn't mean to deceive you."

With a suspicious look in my eyes, I took the phone from him and checked it. It was indeed dead.

"I am sorry that I misunderstood you. But you can't blame me for doubting you. After all, you have tricked me many times before," I explained in a low voice.

"Yes, and it's not your fault," Charles said gently.

"Did you really come to see me yesterday?" I looked at him in surprise.

If James had not mentioned it, then I would not have known that Charles had come to visit me the night before.

And obviously, I could not have known that he was waiting downstairs in the rain like a fool.

"I saw you leave with Simon yesterday, and I saw him walk into your house and not come back for a long time, so I kept waiting outside for you," Charles explained with a bitter smile.

Hearing that, I fell into deep thought.

I remembered that it had not been raining when Simon had left the previous night.

So why was Charles saying that he did not see Simon leave my house?

Moreover, considering Charles' character, how could he have just quietly waited outside?

However, before I could ask him about it, the doctor walked into the ward.

I immediately pushed those thoughts away and asked, "Doctor, how is Charles?"

"He caught a bad cold and a fever, which aggravated his headache."

A hint of guilt kept flashing through my heart and I felt terrible.

He would not have gotten sick if he had not waited outside my house in the rain all night.

"Why is his headache so severe, doctor?" I asked in a low voice.

"You're his wife. Don't you know about your husband's condition? Mr. Moore encountered a serious head injury a year ago, which is the reason he gets headaches very often." The doctor was clearly shocked and seemed to be accusing me.

"I'm not his wife," I explained awkwardly.

I used to be, but now I was not.

With an apologetic smile, the doctor exhorted, "The trigeminal neuralgia that was caused because of the previous injury to his brain might become increasingly serious. It could even make him lose memory again."

"Is it really that serious?" I asked in shock.

"Yes, and that's the reason you should pay more attention to his condition."

With that, the doctor left, and I sat down in front of the bed, having mixed feelings.

Charles had always been in good health and had rarely ever fallen sick.

And now, he was hospitalized because of a cold.

How had he gotten through the past year in that state?

"Don't be so reckless in the future! Don't you know that you're supposed to take shelter when it rains?"

"Is this you caring about me?" Charles' eyes lit up with joy.

"No! I am just worried because I don't want the kids to lose their dad," I retorted, glaring at him.

Seeing that, his smile grew wider.

And his eyes were as bright as the stars.

Looking at him, my heart skipped a beat, so I immediately turned away.

He grabbed my hand and put it on his forehead. "Caroline, I have a fever and my head hurts."

I subconsciously withdrew my hand when I felt the heat on his forehead.

However, Charles didn't seem to want to let go of me at all.

"Give me a kiss, and I'll let you go."

His cheekiness stunned me.

Resentment and unwillingness were the only feelings in my heart for over a year now.

I did not expect to hear such tender words from him just when I was trying to get my revenge on him and grow stronger.

Pursing my lips, I fell silent, but the flush in my cheeks betrayed me.

I cast a reproachful glance at James, who was sleeping on the couch.

'What a bad boy!'

"You are still just as shy as I remember." Saying that, Charles smiled warmly.
His eyes were filled with love that was as vast as the sky.

I glared at him and ordered, "Close your eyes and sleep!"

Looking at his eye bags, I knew that he must be very exhausted after staying up all night to take care of Jason.

"Stay with me. Don't leave when I am not looking, okay?" Charles pleaded in a soft voice.

My heart softened instantly.

"I'll leave after you wake up. I promise."

Only after hearing my promise did he close his eyes obediently.

However, he still did not let go of my hand.

I tried to pull my hand away, but he only held it tighter.

My face turned red again when I felt the warmth from his palm.

A while later, he fell asleep.

I fell into a trance, watching his sleeping face.

Charles, who had lost his memory back then, seemed to have become the man that I loved.

He was no longer domineering or indifferent, and his suffocating possessiveness seemed to have vanished.

Now, I was the only one that remembered our cruel and torturous past.

Staring at his face, I was starting to feel sleepy.

However, Charles was still holding my hand so tight, and even though he was asleep, I could not break free.

I rested my head on the edge of the bed and fell asleep as well.

Chapter 427 Come Back To Me

Charles's POV:

Holding Caroline's hand, I closed my eyes and pretended to be asleep. This was the first time I had felt so content and happy after a long time.

How I wished we could always be like this.

The room quieted down after a long while.

It did not take long before I started drifting off to sleep.

All of a sudden, I felt someone's hand on my forehead.

I opened my eyes and met James's bright and clear eyes.

He withdrew his hand and whispered in my ear, "Dad, your forehead isn't hot anymore. Your fever has dissipated."

I smiled at him. Just as I was about to say something, he put his index finger on his lips.

"Shh. Mom is asleep. I'll go home with Tracy now. Dad, behave well in front of Mom."

A smile tugged at my lips, and I nodded at my son in response.

Without another word, James opened the door and said a few words to Tracy, who was standing by the door.

Then, she looked at me, awaiting my order.

I nodded in approval, and she left the room with James.

Only two people were left in the ward—Caroline and me.

She was lying on the edge of the bed with her head resting on her arm.

She was a mother of three. And yet, time did not leave any trace on her body. She was as beautiful as the day I lost her. Perhaps even more.

Her pearly white skin and pretty face were like a rose blossom. Even if she was just sleeping, her angelic face melted my heart.

"I'm sorry, Scarlett," I blurted out. Upon realizing what I had just said, a wave of panic washed over me.

It was not until I made sure that she was fast asleep that I felt relieved.

I could not help but laugh at myself for being too cautious.

At this moment, I gazed at her sleeping face and whispered, "I know. I shouldn't have been so

possessive. It's just that I couldn't control my emotions. I get so jealous when I see you with another man."

As I spoke, I stroked her hand that was holding mine.

"Do you really have no feelings for me? Please forgive me. Come back to me, okay?" Cherles's POV:

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She wes e mother of three. And yet, time did not leeve eny trece on her body. She wes es beeutiful es the dey I lost her. Perheps even more.

Her peerly white skin end pretty fece were like e rose blossom. Even if she wes just sleeping, her engelic fece melted my heert.

"I'm sorry, Scerlett," I blurted out. Upon reelizing whet I hed just seid, e weve of penic weshed over me.

It wes not until I mede sure thet she wes fest esleep thet I felt relieved.

I could not help but leugh et myself for being too ceutious.

At this moment, I gezed et her sleeping fece end whispered, "I know. I shouldn't heve been so possessive. It's just thet I couldn't control my emotions. I get so jeelous when I see you with enother men."

As I spoke, I stroked her hend thet wes holding mine.

"Do you reelly heve no feelings for me? Pleese forgive me. Come beck to me, okey?"

Caroline did not respond, and her eyes remained closed.

Her long eyelashes cast a faint shadow on her face.

Suddenly, I felt an urge to reach out and caress her face.

How I wished I could recall every second we shared together and see what she had gone through.

"I still wonder why you left the hospital without saying goodbye and then asked for a divorce a year ago," I uttered with a heavy sigh.

My heart ached as I reminisced the past

"Actually, you don't have to tell me your reason for doing that. Just come back to me. Please. You're the only one that I want."

I gazed at the woman in front of me with love and affection. Then, with a faint smile, I kissed her gently on the forehead.

This time, I held her hand tighter. I swear to God I would never let her go again.

Raina's POV:

It was pouring outside the window.

But despite the heavy rain, I drove into the racecourse.

When I arrived at the meeting place, I saw Susan and Adam on the sofa making out.

A wave of nausea hit me, and I almost vomited in disgust.

When my mother said she was "living in pain", did she mean this?

How could that be? On the contrary, she looked very happy.

When my mother spotted me, she jumped out of Adam's arms and straightened her wrinkled clothes.

Then, she awkwardly cleared her throat and greeted me with a smile. "Raina, you're here."

I paid no attention to her pleasantries and just sat down opposite them.

How ironic.

Gary raped me in exchange for the Hill family's protection over me.

On the other hand, my mother slept with Adam in exchange for his help and power.

Did being pathetic run in the blood? Both my mother and I were being trampled on by vile men. What a shame.

Something caught Susan's eye, and her expression changed in the blink of an eye. With a frown, she strode toward me and forcefully ripped open my collar.

"What's this?"

I swatted her hand in disgust and fixed my collar to cover the hickeys on my neck. These were the marks Gary had left when he assaulted me.

"Raina, tell me the truth. What the hell happened?" Susan demanded.

I looked into her eyes hesitantly. Because I still needed her help, I decided to tell her what Gary had done to me.

Susan was enraged when she heard the truth.

"Isn't Gary afraid that his wife will find out about this?"

I shook my head in response. "Gary has multiple mistresses. His wife, Sunny, just turns a blind eye to them. If she finds out what happened between Gary and me, she won't do anything to him. Rather, she'll just kick me out of the house."

Adam, who was sitting aside, whistled and stared at me with a lascivious gaze. "I can't blame Gary. You're irresistible," he chimed in.

I stared daggers at him. His words made my hair stand on end.

Instead of being offended by my attitude, Adam smiled and leaned toward me. "If you want, you can come to my racecourse to be an escort."

Susan stood in front of me and Adam and roared, "No way! Keep your hands off my daughter!"

I looked at her in awe.

I never expected that she would stand up for me.

However, Adam remained unmoved. "Don't forget that you're also mine. What can you do to stop me from touching your daughter anyway?" he reminded her with a sly smile.

The atmosphere became tense as the two stared at each other with an intense gaze.

Not wanting to worsen the situation, I grabbed Susan's arm and urged her to leave.

But before I could say a word, she sneered and said, "Adam, I checked your bank account. I know you don't have much money left. If you want to win against Edward, you have to acquire shares from his company. But how are you gonna do that when you don't have enough money?"

The corners of Adam's mouth twitched.

He looked into Susan's eyes and asked coldly, "What are you planning?"

Chapter 428 Waiting For You To Come Back

Susan's POV:

Although I knew that Adam was not reliable and that he had evil intentions, I had no choice but to hold onto him.

Suppressing the fear in my heart, I forced myself to answer calmly.

"As long as you work with us, we will make sure that you get whatever you want."

Adam narrowed his eyes at me as though he was contemplating whether I was worth his help or not.

Pretending to be confident, I said to Raina, "From now on, you have to find a way to monitor the Moore family."

Looking at her, I noticed the hesitation in her eyes, so I held her hand earnestly. "Raina, as long as you do this, I can help you deal with Caroline."

The very mention of Caroline's name irritated Raina, and she agreed immediately.

"Okay, I can ask Chloe for updates about the Moore family."

"But you need to be careful not to blow your cover, okay?" I warned.

"I get it."

"Three days later, I will let you know what you need to do next,"

I said to Raina before I turned to Adam.

I instantly softened my voice on purpose. "Adam, can you lend me some men? I will give you a great show."

However, Adam just looked at me coldly and did not say a word.

I was so nervous when I looked into his eyes, feeling like my heart was about to jump out of my chest at any moment.

Just when I thought that he was going to refuse, I noticed him grinning.

"Sure! I'm bored anyway. Susan, I just hope that you don't let me down."

Caroline's POV:

The bright sunlight was bathing me when I woke up.

Was it dusk already?

Had I really slept through the day?

I sat up in surprise, only to find that Charles was still holding my hand.

Seeing that, my heart skipped a beat.

I withdrew my hand at once.

I then turned around, but I could not see James in the ward.

I suddenly heard my phone vibrating faintly.

By the time I found it, Elena had already hung up.

That was when I saw the notification saying that I had twenty-three missed calls.

Susen's POV:

Although I knew thet Adem wes not relieble end thet he hed evil intentions, I hed no choice but to hold onto him.

Suppressing the feer in my heert, I forced myself to enswer celmly.

"As long es you work with us, we will meke sure thet you get whetever you went."

Adem nerrowed his eyes et me es though he wes contempleting whether I wes worth his help or not.

Pretending to be confident, I seid to Reine, "From now on, you heve to find e wey to monitor the Moore femily."

Looking et her, I noticed the hesitetion in her eyes, so I held her hend eernestly. "Reine, es long es you do this, I cen help you deel with Ceroline."

The very mention of Ceroline's neme irriteted Reine, end she egreed immedietely.

"Okey, I cen esk Chloe for updetes ebout the Moore femily."

"But you need to be cereful not to blow your cover, okey?" I werned.

"I get it."

"Three deys leter, I will let you know whet you need to do next,"

I seid to Reine before I turned to Adem.

I instently softened my voice on purpose. "Adem, cen you lend me some men? I will give you e greet show."

However, Adem just looked et me coldly end did not sey e word.

I wes so nervous when I looked into his eyes, feeling like my heert wes ebout to jump out of my chest et eny moment.

Just when I thought thet he wes going to refuse, I noticed him grinning.

"Sure! I'm bored enywey. Susen, I just hope thet you don't let me down."

Ceroline's POV:

The bright sunlight wes bething me when I woke up.

Wes it dusk elreedy?

Hed I reelly slept through the dey?

I set up in surprise, only to find thet Cherles wes still holding my hend.

Seeing thet, my heert skipped e beet.

I withdrew my hend et once.

I then turned eround, but I could not see Jemes in the werd.

I suddenly heerd my phone vibreting feintly.

By the time I found it, Elene hed elreedy hung up.

Thet wes when I sew the notification saying that I had twenty-three missed cells.

Recalling that I had muted my phone when I had arrived at the hospital, and had forgotten to inform Elena, I sent her a message in a hurry.

"I'll be home soon."

I put my phone away, and looked at Charles, who was lying on the bed.

He was still sleeping, and his face was slightly flushed.

I touched his forehead, only to find that it was a bit hot.

Although it had been a whole day, his fever had not reduced at all.

Frowning, I found an ice bag, wrapped it with a towel, and applied it to his forehead.

Looking at his delicate and handsome face, I remembered his murmuring.

I was not fast asleep at that time, and I woke up as soon as I heard his voice.

His apology and confession were sincere, and softened my heart at once.

I couldn't help biting my lip as I sniffled and felt tears in my eyes.

However, I held back my tears and continued to stare at him in silence.

Time seemed to have stopped at that beautiful moment.

I even found myself hoping that Charles would be so peacefully asleep all the time.

He would not make me feel so sad if he was asleep.

At that moment, my phone vibrated again.

It was a call from my dad.

I walked up to the window quietly to answer it. "Dad."

"Caroline, why didn't you answer my call before?" He sounded like he was dissatisfied with me.

Since I could not tell him that I was taking care of Charles now, I had to give him a vague answer. "I am sorry, dad. I was just really busy."

"Is that so?" My dad then added meaningfully, "Elena said you had gone to the hospital."

"I just felt a little uncomfortable, but I'm fine now."

I could not bring myself to tell him that I had come to the hospital to visit Charles because I did not want him to think that I still had trouble moving on.

"Caroline, what do you think of Simon?"

Looking back at Charles subconsciously, I was a little hesitant.

A few seconds later, I sighed and replied, "Simon is a nice guy."

"Really? Then why don't you think about dating him?" My dad asked with a smile.

Upon hearing that, I fell silent. "Okay, I'll think about it."

I hung up, walked back to the bed, and sat down.

My heart twisted into a knot as I gazed at Charles' handsome face and reached out, wanting to smooth his frown.

But I stopped.

I was worried that I might end up making a mistake again, so I quickly checked his temperature again, and after making sure that it was normal, I walked out of the ward immediately.

The moment I opened the door, I saw Richard standing outside.

With a complicated expression, he said, "Scarlett..."

"Sorry, I'm Caroline Wilson," I corrected him.

With a bitter smile, Richard said in a serious tone, "No matter who you are, Mr. Moore has been waiting for you to come back to him, and so are the kids."

Although I was moved when I heard that, I kept a cold face.

"For many years now, I have watched you both go through almost all kinds of things. But I still can't understand one thing, though. It's clear as day that you two are in love, so do you still have to torture each other?" Richard sighed.

Why were we torturing each other?

I didn't know the reason, either. And I could never understand why God put us through such terrible fate.

"Bye."

Without saying more, I turned around, and walked out of the hospital without looking back.

There were so many complex emotions brewing in my heart as I drove home.

Elena appeared out of nowhere before I could even take a sip of water.

"Caroline, where have you been?"

"I went to see James."

Elena replied with a nod and then brought up something else.

"I've been keeping an eye on Adam for a while now. And he's been staying on the racecourse lately, but he seemed to have gotten close to Susan."

With a solemn expression, I ordered, "Watch them both. Susan is not a good person."

After all, she used to be Rita's accomplice, and if she dared to provoke me again, I would never let her get away with it.

Chapter 429 Sending An Invitation

Scarlett's POV:

The next morning, I finally saw the sun in the sky.

As the sunlight scattered through the clouds, it slowly dispelled the haze in the air.

I got a text from Charles while I was on my way to work.

"Caroline, I have been discharged from the hospital, and I want to thank you for taking care of me."

Snorting in my heart, I typed a reply, "I did it for James, not for you!"

A long time later, he sent me another text, "Don't forget to come to our family dinner on Friday. I will arrange it if you want to be alone with the kids."

"Okay," I replied immediately.

The very thought of seeing my kids on Friday was enough to cheer me up.

I felt that even Charles had become less annoying now.

By the time I walked into the company, I saw Sofia waiting for me in my office.

"Miss Wilson, I've signed the contract. When can we start the shoot?" Sofia asked with a smile.

After thinking for a moment, I replied, "The official shoot will begin in a few more days. But there is a groundbreaking ceremony in two days, and I want you to accompany me to the event."

"Okay."

"Many celebrities and reporters will be present there, so you need to be prepared. If you need anything, just give me a call, okay?" I reminded her softly.

Sofia nodded in reply with a grateful expression.

"Miss Wilson, William came to see me a few days ago, knowing that I gave birth to his child."

Sofia sounded very calm.

It almost seemed like she did not really care much about William.

"Did he really manage to find out about you that soon?" I was surprised.

It was evident that William attached great importance to his child.

In fact, it was Sofia's coldness towards William that surprised me.

"He wanted to see the child, but I refused," Sofia replied casually.

"What's your plan, then?"

I knew that William was not the type to give up easily.

And Sofia was not in a place to go up against him.

"I heard that his family is urging him to get married, and I am guessing that's the reason he approached me and my child, but I won't let him have his way," Sofia said firmly. Scerlett's POV:

The next morning, I finelly sew the sun in the sky.

As the sunlight scettered through the clouds, it slowly dispelled the heze in the eir.

I got e text from Cherles while I wes on my wey to work.

"Ceroline, I heve been discherged from the hospitel, end I went to thenk you for teking cere of me."

Snorting in my heert, I typed e reply, "I did it for Jemes, not for you!"

A long time leter, he sent me enother text, "Don't forget to come to our femily dinner on Fridey. I will errenge it if you went to be elone with the kids."

"Okey," I replied immedietely.

The very thought of seeing my kids on Fridey wes enough to cheer me up.

I felt thet even Cherles hed become less ennoying now.

By the time I welked into the compeny, I sew Sofie weiting for me in my office.

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groundbreeking ceremony in two deys, end I went you to eccompeny me to the event."

"Okey."

"Meny celebrities end reporters will be present there, so you need to be prepered. If you need enything, just give me e cell, okey?" I reminded her softly.

Sofie nodded in reply with e greteful expression.

"Miss Wilson, Williem ceme to see me e few deys ego, knowing thet I geve birth to his child."

Sofie sounded very celm.

It elmost seemed like she did not reelly cere much ebout Williem.

"Did he reelly menege to find out ebout you thet soon?" I wes surprised.

It wes evident thet Williem etteched greet importence to his child.

In fect, it wes Sofie's coldness towerds Williem thet surprised me.

"He wented to see the child, but I refused," Sofie replied cesuelly.

"Whet's your plen, then?"

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And Sofie wes not in e plece to go up egeinst him.

"I heerd thet his femily is urging him to get merried, end I em guessing thet's the reeson he epproeched me end my child, but I won't let him heve his wey," Sofie seid firmly.

"Just stick to your decision."

I admired her firm attitude towards him, and I did not want to get tangled with William again.

After seeing her off, I made a call to the public relations department.

Soon, a really admirable woman walked into my office.

"Miss Wilson, what can I do for you?" Victoria Melford stood in front of me, smiling brightly.

"I want to host a groundbreaking ceremony for the east bank project in a few days."

"Okay, I'll arrange it right away."

I fell in deep thought after she left my office.

That moment, Elena walked into my office after finishing her work.

"Elena, once the invitation of the groundbreaking ceremony is ready, send one to Adam."

Although Adam and I didn't get along with each other, we still had to pretend like we were family on the surface.

Elena nodded in reply.

"Should I send one to Mr. Moore as well?" she asked right before she left.

I was stunned for a moment before I gave her a nod.

"Yes. We may cooperate with the Moore Group in the future, so it is important for us to be on good terms with them."

It was clearly an excuse to convince myself.

When I looked at Elena's meaningful gaze, I couldn't help blushing.

"By the way, I've got another task for you," I added, thinking of something.

Elena looked at me with a puzzled expression.

I signaled her to come closer and whispered something in her ear.

Elena's POV:

Once I got the invitation card, I left the company and drove to Adam's racecourse.

I vaguely heard his roar when I got there.

Looking around, I frowned.

There were fewer staff of the racecourse, and the place looked more depressing than ever.

I heard that the racecourse was not doing well lately, and I did not believe it until I saw it with my eyes now.

Setting my doubts aside, I knocked on the door of Adam's office.

The roar from inside stopped at once.

Soon, the door was opened.

Looking at me, Adam asked in surprise, "What are you doing here? Did Caroline send you?"

"The groundbreaking ceremony of the project will be held in a few days and Miss Wilson specially asked me to invite you," I said flatly, handing him the invitation.

Adam took it from my hand with a sneer.

"So I am supposed to go just because Caroline invited me, huh? Does she really think that she is my boss?"

I frowned with displeasure and reminded him in a low voice, "You are a major shareholder of the company. If you don't attend such important occasions, then what do you think the media will say about it?"

"Who do you think you are? And what makes you think that you're in any place to tell me what I can and can't do? Go back to your Caroline, and tell her this isn't over!" Adam sneered in a voice filled with disdain.

"You'd better worry about yourself!"

With a cold glare, I was about to leave.

However, Adam's men surrounded me.

They were strong and fierce. They were all looking at me vulgarly.

Their lewd thoughts were not that hard to figure out.

I turned to Adam again and glared at him.

"Elena, my subordinates haven't gotten laid in a while, and that's why they are not able to control their urges. Please don't take it personally."

Even though Adam seemingly sounded sorry, he was also not asking his men to stop.

"Let's see what they've got."

Sneering fiercely, I rolled up my sleeves.

A while later, those men were on the ground, whining and grimacing.

"Adam, your men are not as strong as you make them sound. And looks like your racecourse will be shut down soon."

With that, I turned around and left.

After walking out of the racecourse, I drove around aimlessly for a while before I returned to the company to report to Caroline.

"Miss Wilson, I didn't see Susan there, and I don't think that the racecourse can stay in business for long."

"Adam is not good at managing the place, so I am not even surprised," Caroline sneered.

Chapter 430 Raina's Plan

Raina's POV:

I had been waiting for Susan for a long time when she finally called me.

"Have you found out what I asked you to?" I eagerly asked in a low voice.

"Yes. Apparently, Alice takes the twins to the park near the Moore mansion for a walk every morning."

Susan's words lit up a glimmer of hope in my heart.

"Very well. Let's do it on Friday then. That'll be the perfect time to execute our plan as the Moore family gathers on that day."

"I see. I'll have it arranged right away."

"Make sure you don't make any mistake," I warned.

If someone found out what I was planning to do, it would be the end of me.

"Don't worry. Adam's men are not to be underestimated. I assure you, everything will go according to plan. By that time, you can have Charles for yourself."

The call ended shortly after. I was ecstatic. But then again, it was too early for a celebration, so I tried my best to suppress the joy in my heart.

This would be my last and only chance. It was now or never.

A few moments later, I went out of my room to see if Gary was home.

I had lost my freedom ever since he violated me.

And whenever he wanted me, I had to come running to him that instant.

Because of that bastard, I lived in pain and humiliation every single day.

When I walked out of the room, I ran into Sunny, who was about to go down the stairs.

She smiled and greeted me warmly upon seeing me.

"Mom, has Dad gone to work?" I asked tentatively.

"No. He's still downstairs. He's waiting for us, so we could eat breakfast together."

Fear washed over me like a bucket of cold water.

I unconsciously turned around to go back to my room to hide.

"Raina, what's the matter with you? Why do you look so pale? Do you have a fever? Are you not feeling well?" Sunny reached out her hand to feel my temperature.

However, I dodged her hand and reassured her, "I'm fine."

Sunny was unmoved. She looked me in the eye and asked, "Why are you acting strange these past few days?"

I forced a smile and reasoned out, "Really? Maybe it's because I haven't had a good rest."

"I see. Anyway, you should go downstairs and have breakfast. Don't keep your father waiting." Sunny held my hand and took me downstairs as she spoke.

I wanted to escape from her grasp and run away. However, I was afraid that Sunny would find out that something was wrong.

Downstairs, Gary was seated at the dining table, eating breakfast.

He looked up at me, and I felt the air freeze for a moment.

To say that I was scared was an understatement. I was terrified. Reine's POV:

I hed been weiting for Susen for e long time when she finelly celled me.

"Heve you found out whet I esked you to?" I eegerly esked in e low voice.

"Yes. Apperently, Alice tekes the twins to the perk neer the Moore mension for e welk every morning."

Susen's words lit up e glimmer of hope in my heert.

"Very well. Let's do it on Fridey then. Thet'll be the perfect time to execute our plen es the Moore femily gethers on thet dey."

"I see. I'll heve it errenged right ewey."

"Meke sure you don't meke eny misteke," I werned.

If someone found out whet I wes plenning to do, it would be the end of me.

"Don't worry. Adem's men ere not to be underestimeted. I essure you, everything will go eccording to plen. By thet time, you cen heve Cherles for yourself."

The cell ended shortly efter. I wes ecstetic. But then egein, it wes too eerly for e celebretion, so I tried my best to suppress the joy in my heert.

This would be my lest end only chence. It wes now or never.

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She smiled end greeted me wermly upon seeing me.

"Mom, hes Ded gone to work?" I esked tentetively.

"No. He's still downsteirs. He's weiting for us, so we could eet breekfest together."

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"I see. Anywey, you should go downsteirs end heve breekfest. Don't keep your fether weiting." Sunny held my hend end took me downsteirs es she spoke.

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Downsteirs, Gery wes seeted et the dining teble, eeting breekfest.

He looked up et me, end I felt the eir freeze for e moment.

To sey thet I wes scered wes en understetement. I wes terrified.

My body trembled in dismay as the memory of when he ravaged my body came into my mind.

"Raina, why are you still standing there? Sit down and eat."

Sunny's voice brought me back to my senses. She beckoned me to sit at the table and then asked the servants to bring out my food.

I glanced at her and sighed inwardly.

Sunny was so naive.

The atmosphere at the table was awkward. And yet, she did not seem to notice it.

I was at a loss for words, so I just nodded with a smile.

"Raina, please don't think we're ignoring you. It's just that we've been busy these past few days because of what Liam had done. You can talk to us anytime, though. Just let your father know when you need anything," Sunny advised kindly.

The smile on my face froze.

Little did she know, I wished to leave this place.

I had no intention of talking to Gary. Unfortunately, what I had been dreading had happened.

"Raina, how is the filming going?" Gary asked with feigned concern.

Under the table, he rubbed his foot against my thighs.

Then, he lifted the hem of my dress, exposing my skin. Sadly, there was nothing I could do but endure the embarrassment.

At this moment, I nodded at him in response and answered perfunctorily, "Good. I'm doing a great job in acting."

Gary chuckled and replied meaningfully, "If that's the case, then you should work harder and take part in more movies in the future."

My heart sank upon realizing what Gary meant.

I swallowed my fear and changed the topic. "How is Liam doing?"

"How else can he be? He's in that woman's bed day and night. He indeed stopped fooling around other with women though."

Despite what Gary had said, I could hear that he was relieved.

"She must be special considering that she can really make Liam change," I remarked with a sneer.

Gary nodded in agreement and continued eating. And when he was done, he left for the company.

I could not help but breathe a sigh of relief the moment he stepped out of the house.

"Raina, what movie are you shooting recently? Do you want me to arrange assistants and bodyguards for you?" Sunny asked with concern.

"No, thanks. I can handle it myself. Enjoy your breakfast, Mom. I have to go now."

In fear that Sunny would keep asking questions, I excused myself and went to my room.

The instant I closed the door of my room behind me, I called Chloe and asked her out.

The two of us met about an hour later.

"Raina, what have you been up to? I've asked you out several times, but you always turn me down," Chloe complained.

"Something happened. As you know, Liam's wedding was a wreck, so there's a hell of a mess we need to deal with," I reasoned out.

Chloe sighed. "Raina, you've changed."

"Chloe, do you think I still have a chance?" If, for instance, I plan on doing something, will you help me?" I asked in a serious tone.

I needed to get close to Charles as soon as possible so that I could get out of the pain and humiliation Gary was giving me.

Chloe nodded without hesitation. "Of course! Just tell me your plan. I'll help you however I can."

I was overjoyed. Now that I was sure that Chloe was aboard, I went straight to the point. "Chloe, I want to talk to Alice. Can you find a way to get rid of her bodyguards?"

Chloe agreed at once. "That's easy. Don't worry. I'll handle it."

Charles's POV:

When I returned home after being hospitalized, Grandma was the one who welcomed me.

She looked at me with concern and asked, "Charles, are you feeling better now?"

"I'm much better. There's nothing to worry about," I reassured.

Grandma touched my forehead with the back of her hand to feel my temperature and breathed a sigh of relief.

"Grandma, Caroline will come to our house on Friday evening. Please don't forget to order something she likes. Beef and eggs are her favorite," I said in a low voice.

"Is she really coming? You're not kidding me, are you?" Christine exclaimed.

I nodded with a smile.

This was the moment I had been waiting for.

For the first time, Caroline did not turn down my invitation.

"Has she forgiven you? How could she agree to come to our house?" Grandma asked confusedly.

"Mommy and Daddy got along very well in the hospital. As long as Daddy works harder, Mommy will forgive him!" James chimed in. He appeared out of thin air. When he spoke, his face was full of joy and

excitement.

"That's good to hear. But even though she has agreed to come, you should still work harder, Charles. Scarlett... I mean, Caroline's birthday is coming. Remember to prepare everything in advance. I want everything to be perfect," Grandma advised.

"Don't worry. I will."

When I went to my room, I pondered about what gift I should give to Caroline.

Since she already had everything, I wanted to give her something that she could not refuse.

What could it be?

My gaze fell on the picture frame on the bedside table. I picked it up and stroked Caroline's face with my fingertips. Suddenly, what she had said on the phone the other day crossed my mind. At the thought of this, my excitement burst in an instant.