

Chapter 557 A Confrontation Over The Line

Wanda noticed the displeasure on Eva's face and hesitated, a flicker of unease in her chest.

After so many years under the same roof, Wanda knew Eva's moods by heart. It wasn't hard to guess—Eva had probably been turned down by Arthur again and was now in a foul mood.

In the past, Wanda would have gone straight to Eva with gentle words to cheer her up. But today was different. Cole had just dumped her, and fear gnawed at her. She had no strength left to comfort Eva. What she needed now was Eva's help to win Cole back.

"Mom, something terrible happened," Wanda said in a small voice.

Eva, struggling to keep her patience, replied, "What happened? Speak up."

In an instant, Wanda dropped to her knees, clutched Eva's hands, and looked up with watery eyes. "Mom, Cole said our engagement is over."

Wanda had cried all the way home.

When Eva and Wanda locked eyes, they shared the same look of heartbreak.

"What did you just say?" Eva asked, stunned. Her own marriage troubles were already weighing her down, and now this news doubled her worries.

When Cole was young, Eva's relationship with his mother was strained, so her bond with Cole was not strong. If he hadn't suddenly proposed to Wanda, who knew when their relationship would have softened.

That proposal had been a lifeline. Through Cole, Eva hoped to win back the Evans family's protection. But... How could the engagement suddenly be over? Hadn't Cole adored Wanda? After all, he was the one who'd traveled all the way to the Campbell family estate to propose.

Why did he change his heart so abruptly?

Wanda still didn't fully understand Cole's reason, which was why she'd rushed back for Eva's help.

"Mom, I don't know either. Today, Cole told me our engagement was over. He even handed me a check—one hundred million—as a settlement ... And told me never to bother him again," Wanda said.

Eva's brows knitted tightly. What was Cole playing at? He was the one who wanted the engagement. There hadn't even been a formal party yet, and now he wanted out? No—she couldn't lose him now.

Without another word, Eva pulled out her phone and called Cole.

The call was quickly answered. On the other end, Cole's indifferent voice came through. "Hello?"

"Cole, what's the meaning of telling Wanda the engagement is over?" Eva asked sharply.

Cole paused for a moment and then replied, "Do you want the truth?"

"Of course," Eva snapped.

Cole didn't sugarcoat it. "I proposed to Wanda to fulfill my mother's last wish—she wanted me to marry the Campbell family's heiress."

Eva's frown deepened. Cole's mother hadn't died—she had run away from home. There had been no news of her death, so how could there be a "last wish?"

"I didn't know then that the Campbell family's real heiress was missing outside. I thought Wanda, the adopted daughter, was the only one, so I made a mistake," Cole continued, unaware of Eva's thoughts. "Now that the real heiress has been found, my engagement to Wanda means nothing. I acted rashly and caused you trouble. Whatever compensation you want, name it—I'll try to make it right."

Wanda heard every word. So, he was leaving her simply because she wasn't a real Campbell. The old wound split open again—her not being a Campbell had already kept her from winning Arthur's or Milton's hearts. And now, it had cost her Cole, too. She wished she could drain every drop of her blood and replace it with the Campbell family's.

But Eva wasn't thinking of Wanda's pain—her mind was on Cole's claim about his mother's last wish. "Cole, you're saying you proposed to the Campbell family's heiress to fulfill your mother's last wish?" she asked.

"Yes. That's what she wanted," Cole answered.

Eva let out a sharp laugh. "I know I had a bad relationship with your mother, and I understand you dislike me. But if you want revenge, at least come up with a believable excuse." Her temper flared. "Even if the Evans family casts me aside, I am still your aunt. I won't tolerate being treated like a fool!"

Her sudden outburst made Wanda flinch and shuffle away.

Eva shot to her feet, shouting into the phone, "Your mother didn't die—she ran away and vanished. And now you dare to invent a dying wish? You're nothing but a shameless liar!"