Zillionaire 401

Chapter 401 How Long
Have I Been Out
After multiple rejections, Linsey was left with no alternative but to walk away.
As Linsey moved away, Danny, standing by the door of the hospital room, watched her retreating form. He whispered under his breath, "You don't really have much patience, do you? I can't see what Mr. Green finds
appealing in you."
Suddenly, a frail voice echoed from inside the room. "Danny?"
Delighted, Danny eagerly opened the door. "Mr. Green, you've awakened!"
He saw that Gorman appeared pale and his lips were dry from dehydration.
"Mr. Green, are you alright? Would you like some water?" Danny asked eagerly, already reaching to pour a glass.
However, before he could do so, Gorman's gaze was fixed on the ceiling, his expression troubled. After a brief pause, he asked, "How long have I been out? Where is Linsey? Is she alright? I thought I heard her voice just
now. Did she stop by?"
Danny was taken aback, not anticipating Gorman's immediate concern for Linsey.

Gorman excelled in manu
areas-except, evidently, his choice in women.
With so many rich, attractive, and compassionate women in Grester, why was he
so attached to Linsey?
Frustration bubbled with:
Danny.
for
Struggling to mask his feelings, he chose to omit any mention of Flavia and responded with a tinge of bitterness,
"Mr. Green,
should you
about that indifferent woman. Linsey hasn't shown any concern for your wellbeing. You've been unconscious for three days, and she didn't visit even once. Don't you see, Mr. Green? She doesn't care about you at all! Please, just let her go."
Gorman's expression, which had briefly lit with hope, turned grim instantly.
He chuckled bitterly and exhaled deeply. "I should have realized. Why would she bother to visit? Guess was just fooling myself again."

Gorman took a moment, turned his head aside, and adopted a casual tone. "Linsey once saved my life. I thought I owed her, but perhaps we're even now."

Danny caught a glimpse of Gorman's hidden sorrow and felt a twinge of compassion. He paused, torn over whether to disclose the truth.

Then Gorman said firmly, "Get ready to leave. We're heading out in two weeks. There's nothing left for me in Grester. Once I leave this time, I'm not coming back."

At these words, Danny bit back the revelation he was about to share

It seemed Gorman had accepted the reality.

There was no benefit in unveiling the truth at this point.

Even revealing it wouldn't alter Linsey's feelings toward Gorman.

Maybe it was best to leave things unresolved.

Once they were out of Grester, Gorman would likely move past this chapter.

"Understood, Mr. Green. I'll handle everything." Danny responded, feeling a sense of relief

With Gorman's commendable traits, he could attract countless other partners. Linsey was already wed to Collin-she was not worthy of Gorman.

The incident might have traumatized him, but Danny worried that Gorman's continued pursuit of Linsey could prove disastrous.

On the other hand, Linsey, unaware of Gorman's sentiments, had purchased some health supplements and instructed a nurse to deliver them to his room.

Unbeknownst to her, these supplements were discarded by Danny and never reached their intended recipient.
Chapter 402 Linsey, You're Finally Back!
Two days later, Collin gave Linsey an update about Gorman. "The poison in Gorman's wound has been mostly cleared, and his condition is improving. He's recovering well, and there's nothing major to worry about."
Linsey sighed in relief, feeling a weight lift off her shoulders. She could now shift her focus back to taking care
of Collin.
As the days passed, Collin's arm continued to heal, and before long, he was discharged from the hospital and
returned to Vista Villa to rest.
On Linsey's first day back at work, she entered the office and immediately overheard a conversation between
some of her colleagues.
"Did you hear? We're about to partner with the Lawson Group! It's all over the Internet now!"
"I saw that too! They even mentioned there will be a banquet for the partnership."
"And guess what? The founder of the firm will be there, along with his wife! I'm so curious to see him, and I

bet his wife is stunning."
"Same here! We've all heard the stories about how he built CR Corporation from scratch and how he once spent a billion on his wife. This banquet might be our chance to finally see him in person."
"Do you think the founder is cute?"
"Or maybe he's just an old man with gray hair."
"Shh!"
Linsey, though curious herself, couldn't help but walk over and clear her throat to remind them, "Keep it down, or the higher-ups might hear you."
Her colleagues jumped in surprise and turned to face her, not having realized she had returned.
"Linsey, you're finally back!" one of them exclaimed.
"We've missed you so much!"
"How have you been lately? Everything going well at home?"
Linsey smiled, shaking her head. "Everything's fine. You all should get back to work."
"Alright, alright."
Seeing Linsey back, the colleagues who had been gossiping quickly scattered,
diving into their work.

After taking a few days off, Linsey found herself buried under a mountain of tasks. By the time she finished, the sky had already darkened. She rushed home. As soon as she stepped into the living room, she noticed Collin's assistant handing him an invitation to a banquet. "You're back early today?" Collin looked up at her right away. Linsey walked over, took a seat beside him, and gently placed her hand on his arm. "Of course, I was worried about you. How's your recovery going?" Collin gave a reassuring smile. "It's been fine, no pain for a while now. You don't need to worry." After a moment, he asked, "Are you hungry? Dinner should be ready. Let's eat together." Linsey nodded, and then her eyes fell on the invitation in his hand. With a hint of curiosity, she asked, "Another event to attend?" Collin smiled and replied, "It's a banquet." Linsey frowned. "You're still recovering. Can't you skip this one?" Collin held her hand and grinned. "It's an important one. You'll need to come with me." Linsey blinked. "Me? Why is it so important?"

She took the invitation from him, opened it, and gasped. "Wait... this is an invitation to the Lawson family banquet?" Chapter 403 You've Duped Me Once More! "Why on earth would the prestigious Lawson family invite you to their grand banquet?" Linsey exclaimed, her brow arching in disbelief. The Lawson family stood at the pinnacle of Grester's elite, their family name echoing with power and prestige, demanding respect wherever it was spoken. Despite their recent retreat from the public eye, their business ventures thrived, growing steadily. Their reach stretched beyond the local borders of Grester, cementing their status as a formidable force nationwide. Linsey, having caught wind of the upcoming Lawson family's banquet, knew it would be nothing short of spectacular, with the elite of the elite on the guest list. She had eavesdropped earlier that day at her office, catching snippets about the founder of CR Corporation attending, alongside his wife. The image of the opulent gathering was easy for her to conjure up, filled with glittering lights and echoing laughter, a true spectacle of wealth and power.

It was precisely because she understood the magnitude of such an event that Linsey found the invitation

to Collin so perplexing.

Catching the puzzled expression etching deeper into her features, Collin let out a soft chuckle, his eyes twinkling with mirth as he teased, "What's the matter? Don't you have faith in your husband's capabilities?"

Linsey hadn't anticipated his humor in such a grave moment.

Her cheeks tinged with a soft rose as surprise flickered across her face, prompting her to playfully smack his

arm.

"Ouch..." Collin sucked in a breath sharply, jolting Linsey just when she was readying a sharp comeback.

"What happened?" Her heart pounded with sudden concern. She was positive she had tapped his other arm, the one free of injury.

Tension knotted in her stomach as she leaned forward to examine the spot she had hit. "Show me."

Yet, as she outstretched her arm, Collin's features softened into a mischievous grin, and he swiftly captured her wrist in his grasp. His affectionate eyes locked onto hers.

Linsey's pulse raced. Breaking from her momentary trance, Linsey gathered her wits and scowled, her irritation laced with disbelief. "Collin, you've duped me once more!"

Her expression, a mix of annoyance and playful exasperation, only made Collin cherish this unexpected glimpse of her spirited side even more.

Linsey, usually so composed, now sparkled with an infectious energy that drew a genuine, admiring smile from Collin. His striking features softened, making him all the more captivating.

This man possessed an almost unfair level of attractiveness.

Even as she recognized his playful antics, Linsey found it exceedingly difficult to harbor any real anger toward
him.
With this thought, she released a half-exasperated, half-amused sigh.
Collin quickly responded, tenderly caressing her cheek in a comforting gesture, "Alright, I admit it-I was wrong." His tone lacked any real remorse.
"You hardly sound apologetic," Linsey retorted, her arms folded across her chest as she adopted a stern expression. "For a moment there, you really had me worried. I feared I might have accidentally struck your injured arm."
As he realized his joke had genuinely alarmed her, Collin's demeanor shifted to one of earnest concern. "I promise not to tease you like that again. Please, don't be upset, okay?"
The genuine remorse in his apology swiftly dissolved Linsey's irritation.
Their conversation soon resumed its playful tone before steering back to more serious matters.
"The Lawson family inviting you is notable, but I'm far more concerned about your arm. The banquet will be crowded-what if someone accidentally bumps into you?" Linsey expressed her worries.
Collin offered a reassuring smile. "Don't fret, I'm nearly healed. The banquet isn't for a few more days. With ample rest at home, I'll be in fine form. Besides, it's crucial I attend this banquet, and I'd like you to be there with me."
Chapter 404 Let's Go
Welcome Grandma
Linsey blinked in surprise.

As he spoke, Collin took her hand, his grip firm. "I'm going to use this banquet to show everyone in town that Linsey's husband is no failure," he said, emphasizing each word.

Linsey's eyes flickered, her heart swelling with a mix of surprise and warmth.

She hadn't expected him to have such a plan.

The weight of his conviction settled in, and she realized arguing wouldn't change a thing.

He had already made up his mind.

"Alright, I'll go with you," she said, after a moment of thought. The Lawson family's banquet was a big deal, and going with Collin would be good for both of them.

Collin, finally hearing the words he had been hoping for, let out a quiet sigh of relief.

Suddenly, a piece of gossip from work popped into Linsey's mind, and she said out of curiosity, "By the way, I heard the founder of CR Corporation will be at the Lawson family banquet too. Dustin is the public face of the company-he must have met the founder already, right?"

Collin held back a smile, his eyes glinting with mystery. "You'll find out when the time comes."

Linsey nodded, her curiosity momentarily satisfied. Then, a new thought struck her. "Oh, when is Ivy coming back? Aren't we still planning her birthday banquet?"

"Grandma is coming back, but the birthday banquet might get canceled," Collin replied, glancing at the time. "Her flight lands tonight."

Linsey's eyes widened, a mix of surprise and excitement flooding her face. She stood up quickly, her voice a little flustered. "She's arriving in town tonight?"

She paced for a moment, looking anxious. "How could you not tell me something this important sooner?" Taking a deep breath, Linsey shot him a pointed look. "If I hadn't thought to ask, were you just not going to tell me at all?"

Collin raised an eyebrow, an amused glint in his eyes. "Of course not."

He reached out, gently guiding her back into her seat. His voice was calm, steady. "I just didn't want you to get all worked up right away. Look at you now-you're already shaking. Relax, we haven't even had dinner yet." Linsey pressed her lips together, at a loss for words for a moment.

He was right-she was jittery and had completely lost her appetite.

"I'm not hungry anymore," she murmured. "What time does Ivy land? Should we go to the airport to pick her

up?"

Seeing the tension in her face, Collin reached out and rubbed her back, his touch warm and comforting

"No need, I've got everything arranged. She should be here any minute," Collin said.

Just as he finished speaking, the sound of a car pulling up echoed from outside the villa.

Linsey froze, panic creeping in.

She hadn't even prepared a gift for Ivy's first visit!

That frustrating Collin hadn't told her a thing!

This was a disaster. Meeting Ivy for the first time, and she wasn't even ready. What kind of impression was she going to make? Linsey was a whirlwind of anxiety and frustration, her anger directed squarely at Collin. "Collin, you're really something! Throwing this meeting at me so suddenly." She lowered her voice, her glare sharp. "If you weren't injured, I'd seriously want to punch you right now!" Collin smiled faintly, his eyes soft with tenderness. He stood up, offering her a hand. "Come on, honey. Let's go welcome Grandma together." Chapter 405 Where's My Grandson's Lovely Wife As a figure slowly approached the villa entrance, Linsey had no time to think. She sprang to her feet, linked her arm with Collin's, and plastered on her sweetest, most obedient smile before stepping forward to greet the visitor. Outside Vista Villa, Ivy was just getting out of the car. Dressed in a loose-fitting dark outfit, her silver hair neatly combed, Ivy didn't look frail in the slightest. Despite the wrinkles on her face, she radiated energy. Collin's assistant, who looked nervous, quickly moved to offer help, but before he could touch her arm, Ivy shot him a dismissive glance and waved him away. "Enough! I'm not in perfect health, but I'm hardly dying. I don't need your help," she snapped, then grinned, her eyes filled with eager curiosity. "Now, where's my grandson's lovely wife? What are you waiting for? Show

me to her."

With that, Ivy strode forward on her own, her steps surprisingly brisk.

The assistant scrambled after her in a panic. "Mrs. Riley, please slow down! The doctor warned you not to overexert yourself!"

He stepped in front of Ivy, attempting to block her path and calm her down.

Ivy clicked her tongue in irritation, raising her cane as if to strike him. "Move aside! Don't waste my time-I'm here to see my dear granddaughter-in-law!"

Though she swung the cane in his direction, she never actually struck him.

The assistant squeezed his eyes shut and, with a sigh of resignation, said, "Mrs. Riley, go ahead, scold me if you must! But the doctor said your body can't handle any strain. Even if it means I end up getting beaten up, I can't just stand here and watch you ignore medical advice!"

Ivy kept her cane raised but didn't lower it.

Her glare was so sharp it could have cut through stone, her breath coming in uneven bursts as her aer flared.

"You brat! Did the doctor tell you to make me angry instead?" Ivy huffed, scolding him for what felt like forever, though her cane never made contact.

The back-and-forth at the villa entrance continued, the tension growing, but Ivy's health seemed just fine. Linsey, who had just stepped outside with Collin, couldn't help but watch the scene unfold.

She stood there, stunned. This was nothing like she had expected.

Hadn't Collin said Ivy was in poor health? That she had been recovering in some foreign sanatorium for years?

But now, watching Ivy banter with Collin's assistant, Linsey couldn't help but think that Ivy looked even
stronger than she did.
Ivy looked far too lively to be someone who needed rest.
Beside her, Collin let out a resigned sigh, though he seemed used to his grandfnother's antics.
After a beat, he finally spoke. "Grandma, please don't pick on my assistant. He's just doing his job. Please give
him a break."
Ivy immediately scowled. "Collin, what nonsense are you spouting? How am I bullying anyone? I'm just excited to meet my granddaughter-in-law, and your assistant is the one slowing me down."
She paused, then lifted her head, her eyes naturally landing on Linsey, who was standing beside Collin. Chapter 406 He's Very Kind
To Me
Linsey's heart raced as she locked eyes with Ivy, feeling an unexpected flutter.
Her grip on Collin's arm tightened without thinking.
Before Linsey could speak, Ivy's face lit up, her smile wide with unmistakable joy.
With a spring in her step, Ivy quickly moved past Collin's assistant and approached Collin and Linsey, her expression filled with excitement.

Linsey, taken aback, initially thought Ivy was thrilled to reunite with Collin. She released Collin's hand thoughtfully and murmured, "She seems eager to embrace you." Collin, surprised by her comment, opened his arms in anticipation of a hug from his grandmother. It had been a long time since their last meeting. Yet, as Ivy reached them, she unexpectedly bypassed Collin, pushing him slightly aside. "Move over," she said briskly. Ivy's glance at Collin was dismissive before she turned towards Linsey, her demeanor changing to gentle warmth as she clasped Linsey's hands. "Oh, my dear granddaughter-in-law! You are stunning-those sparkling eyes, that flawless skin!" Caught off guard, Linsey stood frozen, processing the sudden shift. The warmth of Ivy's hands was reassuring, easing the tension in Linsey's shoulders and melting her initial shock. With pure delight, Ivy assessed Linsey with a gaze full of admiration. "Such a charming girl! It's rare to find someone as endearing as you these days." Sighing deeply, Ivy continued, "I was overseas when I caught wind of a wild tale that Collin had wed. I dismissed it as sheer nonsense! Yet here you are, every bit the splendid bride they claimed!" Linsey, caught off guard by the whirlwind of warmth, murmured, "Ivy..."

Ivy's smile grew wider. "Look at you, so gracious and polite!"

The intensity of Ivy's affection took Linsey by surprise. Linsey was unprepared for such a fervent reception. Ivy's approval of Linsey was evident in her beaming expression.

With an affectionate cluck of her tongue, Ivy exclaimed, "What a gem you are. Coping with my hotheaded

grandson can't be easy."

Linsey was momentarily at a loss for words, but she quickly found her voice to defend Collin "He's very kind to me, Ivy. He's always so considerate."

Ivy snorted, her skepticism clear. "Hard to believe. Despite being married for a while now, you're still so petite -Collin isn't neglecting you, is he?"

This portrayal made Collin bristle with irritation. "Grandma, is that how you see me?"

Ivy glanced at him, her tone grave. "Given your history of driving away girls, how can you expect me to?" Chapter 407 We're Not In Any Rush

Collin cast a glance at Linsey and said earnestly, "Grandma, Linsey is unlike anyone I've ever known."

A twinkle of mischief sparkled in Ivy's eyes as she listened. "Really? And how is she different from the rest?"

Collin didn't hesitate, his voice softening. "Linsey is everything to me because I love her. That makes her

irreplaceable."

A blush crept up Linsey's cheeks, her heart fluttering at his words.
"Stop talking nonsense," she whispered, playfully hitting his arm, embarrassed by his forthrightness in front of
Ivy.
Yet Collin seemed totally at ease, raising an eyebrow. "Is there something wrong with what I said? Or do you not feel the same way about me?"
Linsey's embarrassment deepened, and she looked down, unable to meet his gaze.
Ivy observed their interaction with a contented smile on her face.
Her grandson's deep affection was unmistakable.
A broad grin spread across Ivy's features as she watched the young couple.
As she observed their affectionate interaction, Ivy's eyes twinkled as she looked towards Linsey's stomach, her smile broadening. "You two are so adorable together. I'm sure it won't be long before I'm holding a great-grandchild, right?" Linsey, taken aback by Ivy's forward comment, exclaimed, "What?"
With a warm, loving smile, Ivy continued, "With how close you and Collin are, I'd say a baby isn't too far off, is
it?"
Linsey's eyes met Ivy's, filled with expectation, and she remembered her previous false alarm about being pregnant. A shadow passed over her face, and she instinctively touched her stomach.

Having grown up without a family, Linsey deeply craved the familial warmth she had never known. This fueled her desire to start a family with Collin.

Linsey had stopped using birth control. Given that she and Collin were healthy and in prime condition, she was supposed to be expecting.

Yet, despite their readiness, there was still no pregnancy to announce.

"Ivy, I..." Linsey said, her voice trailing off as a wave of sadness enveloped her, rendering her momentarily speechless.

Noticing the change in her demeanor, Collin interjected, "Grandma, we have plenty of time. No need to rush"

When she heard his words, Ivy's expression grew concerned, her brows knitting together. She surmised that the lack of news about a pregnancy might be because Collin was hesitant to start a family.

Collin was likely just savoring his moments alone with his wife!

"You young fool, are you rushing or are you too slow? Don't act like a teen anymore." Ivy glared at Collin disapprovingly and playfully slapped his arm. "It's better to start a family sooner rather than later. Delaying could complicate things for Linsey physically."

Collin maintained his calm, standing protectively by Linsey against Ivy's gentle nudging "Grandma, it's not like that. Linsey and I are prioritizing our careers at the moment. We're not in any rush."

Ivy's expression shifted to one of mild frustration, her eyes widening as she said, "Who said anything about Linsey quitting her job to have children? You can balance work and family planning. If she becomes pregnant, we'll arrange for a nutritionist to assist her at her workplace. It won't disrupt her career. And after the baby arrives, don't worry-Grandma will be here to help with everything. You both won't need to stress about anything!"

Chapter 408 Has He Actually Gained Weight

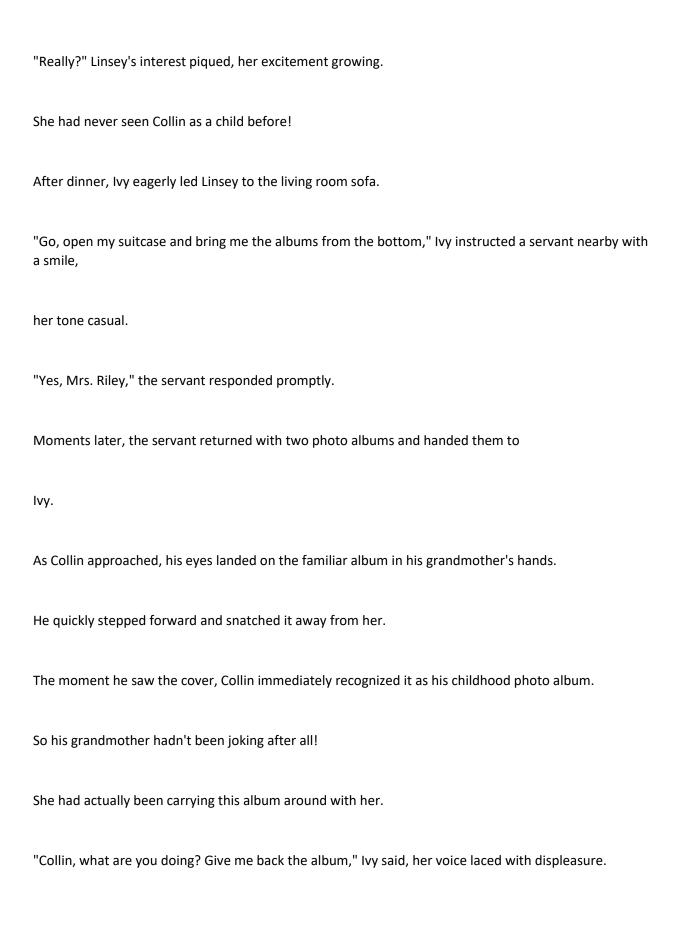
Upon hearing this, Linsey was caught off guard. She hadn't expected Ivy to think things through so thoroughly.
Ivy's words pulled Linsey out of her sadness.
"Ivy, actually" Linsey began, unsure of how to continue.
Collin cut in, his voice sharp. "Grandma, you need someone to take care of you now. How could we leave a
child in your care?"
Ivy's face flushed with frustration. "How dare you suggest I'm unwell?"
Her expression twisted into a scowl, and she raised her hand, as if she might strike Collin. "I'll show you I still
have plenty of strength!"
Linsey froze, her heart racing as she watched Ivy, her anger boiling over. Without thinking, she stepped in quickly, her hands gently guiding Ivy's arm down.
"Ivy, it's getting cold out here. Let's head inside," she suggested.
Linsey didn't want to be the cause of any more tension between Ivy and Collin.
With Linsey's intervention, Ivy reluctantly calmed down.
However, she still shot Collin a resentful look. "You little troublemaker, always making me angry," Ivy grumbled.

Linsey couldn't help but smile as she gently reassured Ivy and guided her toward the door.
"Linsey, you're the one with the heart. Collin's a lucky man. He's got a real blessing in you," Ivy said warmly.
By the time they stepped inside, dinner was just about ready.
At the table, Ivy's enthusiasm for Linsey showed no sign of fading.
"Linsey, come, try this. It's delicious. You're looking a little too thin. You need to eat more," Ivy urged, her
voice full of concern.
Linsey obediently replied, "Okay, Ivy."
The more Ivy looked at her, the more pleased she seemed. "Don't worry, Linsey. As long as I'm aro always have whatever you want to eat."
Linsey felt a little helpless, realizing that Ivy was convinced Collin wasn't taking care of her properly.
Without skipping a beat, Ivy continued to pile food onto Linsey's plate.
No matter how quickly Linsey ate, she couldn't keep up with Ivy's endless servings.
you'll
Eventually, Linsey found it hard to eat any more. Not wanting to outright refuse, she shot a desperate glance at





"Hmm?" At the mention of his name, Collin raised an eyebrow. "Grandma, are you saying I've gotten older or
taller?"
Ivy shot him a teasing sideways glance. "I'm saying you've become a lot livelier. Ever since you turned eighteen, you've gotten colder, more distant. But now? You're much more pleasant to be around."
Linsey couldn't help but grin. "Ivy's right. When I first met Collin, I thought he was a little intimidating."
At her words, Collin turned toward her, his gaze softening with nostalgia.
Their first meeting had been at the wedding.
Ivy sighed dramatically, growing animated as she reminisced about Collin's childhood. "Some people were just adorable when they were kids," she said fondly. "He used to be so clingy, always on the edge of tears if left alone. Never wanted to be apart from me, not even for a second!"
Linsey's eyes widened in disbelief. She couldn't picture that scene at all.
Collin was caught off guard by his grandmother's revelation, his face immediately darkening, his embarrassment written all over it.
"Grandma, please stop," he muttered, clearly uncomfortable.
But Ivy was having too much fun, laughing as she squeezed Linsey's hand. "I'm
not lying! I have a whole collection of Collin's childhood photos. I'll show them to you later, and you'll see for yourself!"



Collin stubbornly shook his head. "No way, Grandma. I'm keeping this album from now on. You're not looking
at it anymore."
He wasn't kidding. Why should anyone be flipping through his childhood photos while he was right there?
Wasn't he better looking now?
Ivy's irritation flared instantly. "I brought this album back. What right do you have to keep it from me?" Chapter 410 You're Unbelievable
Collin stubbornly held on to the album, defending his actions. This album is all about me, so naturally, I get to
try shot him an experted dere. "You're unbelievable. I've seen these photos a million times I just want to show them to Linsey now. She's your wife! What's the harm to letting her see you dikood photod
Collin hesitated, a flicker of uncertainty crossing his face.
Linsey, ber curiosity piqued, looked up at him with a soft, pleading expression "Honey, I really want to see them. Are you sure you're not willing to share them with me?*
If she could see those photos, maybe she could understand him a little better
Seeing the hopeful look on Linsey's face, Collin let out a long breath, unable to refuse
Under Linsey's ega que, he handed the album back to her.

Linsey's face lit up with a bright smile. "Thank you, honey!" From the side, Ivy couldn't resist teasing "Well, well, who would've thought? This rascal's become whipped.* Linsey blushed, a soft pink coloring her cheeks at Ivy's playful jab. "Ivy, let's look at the album," Linsey suggested, eager to change the subject. With curiosity, Linsey flipped open the album and gazed at the first photo. The boy in the picture was wearing a cozy red jacket, his innocent face full of wonder, taking in the world around him. Ivy pointed to the photo at just the right moment. "This was taken when Collin was one year old. Look how adorable he was. Even back then, you could tell he was going to grow up to be a handsome guy." Linsey studied the child in the photo, trying to imagine him as the Collin sitting beside her. It was hard to picture the two as the same person. Collin sat quietly next to Linsey, watching her as she became absorbed in the photo. He couldn't he As they continued flipping through the album, his smile slowly faded. t smile. The next photo showed a small Collin, sitting in a mud puddle, his rosy cheeks smeared with tears.

Linsey burst out laughing "How did you end up in a mud puddle?"
Ivy chuckled softly. "He was such a mischievous little thing. Accidents like that happened all the time. I was
used to it by then."
They continued flipping through the album.
In the next photo, little Collin looked utterly terrified, his eyes wide with fear.
Ivy's voice softened as she spoke to Linsey. "This one was taken when a caterpillar scared him to tears. I remember it well. He was determined to play in the backyard. I warned him that spring brought out a lot of bugs, but he wouldn't listen. Then, of course, he ended up crying when a caterpillar freaked him out." Linsey pointed at the child in the picture. "He must have been five or six then."
Ivy nodded, a smile tugging at her lips. "Yes, about that age."
Linsey couldn't help but smile, too. "What a kid-afraid of bugs."
Linsey's gaze remained locked on the album; she grew more fond of it with each page she turned.
Collin had been so adorable as a child, naturally endearing.
Lost in the thought, Linsey couldn't help but voice it aloud. "He was so cute as a kid. How did he end up so
reserved?"