

Warning My Mommy is A Savage! Chapter 330-361 by Seeking A Peaceful

Chapter 330

To Philip, a man like Anthony should only be with someone like his granddaughter McKenzie. How could a n adopted daughter that just came from Africa take him away?

He looked at McKenzie. "Why didn't you tell me earlier? You're my granddaughter! How could they bully you? Fret not, I'll make this right."

"It's okay, Grandpa. We don't have to do anything for now, since it'll only make it look like I'm desperate to marry him," commented McKenzie, her eyes filled with hatred.

Philip nodded in agreement. "Right, his parents would never accept a daughter-in-law like that woman. However, you must keep a close eye on them. Just tell me if you ever need any help."

"Okay." McKenzie raised her coffee cup and sipped elegantly.

To everyone else, she was still the exquisite and elegant heiress of Houston, but no one knew what her thoughts were at that moment. Since they could not get photos of Charmine with Anthony, then she would have to... Argh!

Meanwhile...

Just as Charmine walked out of Derby Café, she walked into a couple she least expected.

Julian and Tiffany

As usual, Julian was dressed in a suit and exuded the vibe of a successful businessman. Tiffany, on the other hand, was dressed in a pale green long dress. Her hair cascaded down her shoulders, softly and gently as if the wind would blow her away.

Julian frowned and instinctively let go of Tiffany's hand at the sight of Charmine.

"Charmine, why are you here?"

Since Charmine would not accept his confession, Tiffany said she could help him, and that was why they met up at the café. Who would have thought they would walk into Charmine out of all people...

Tiffany noticed Julian's reaction, and her clear eyes flashed with a wave of hatred. Nonetheless, she went forward, closer toward Charmine. "Charmine, I finally get to see

you. You haven't come back to the Jordan mansion and no longer live in Violet Villa. I've always wanted to apologize to you, but I didn't have the chance to. 1

"It was all my fault, I didn't mean to ruin your wedding. Julian and I truly have broken up, and what happened the other day was just for closure..."

Tiffany lowered her head to show her pain, and a faint blush even appeared on her face. Beneath that, however, Tiffany implied this: So what if Julian liked Charmine and wanted to marry her? He could not resist her body anyway.

Charmine scoffed and fixed her black sunglasses. "And here I thought who this woman was, looking like a prostitute. Turns out it's the fake Ms. Jordan in town, eh?" 4

Her tone was sluggish and mocking.

Tiffany's face flushed a little. Did Charmine just call her a prostitute?

She even called her 'fake'!

Tiffany had not been able to have a good night's sleep ever since Charmine returned. She was terrified that she would one day wake up where the Jordan family would realize her true identity and kick her out.

Charmine even said it out loud just moments ago!

Tiffany wanted nothing more than to tear her mouth, to kill her once and for all so she no longer had to live in fear. 1

Unfortunately, she could not do so. Julian was beside her; she had to hold back her anger.

Tiffany's eyes flickered. She took Charmine's hand and, with tears in her eyes, sobbed, "Charmine, I know you're mad at me. It was all my fault...! I'm sorry to have ruined you and Julian's wedding.... If you want to yell at me or hit me, you may-" Charmine suddenly raised her hand and slapped Tiffany squarely across her face, hard.

IN

Chapter 331 Slap!

A loud and crisp slap resonated in the air as Tiffany staggered at least two meters backward. She ungracefully fell into a nearby bush and got her skirt torn open. Startled, Julian quickly went to Tiffany's side and helped her up. "What was that for, Charmine?!"

"Didn't she ask me to hit her? I just did what she asked for," commented Charmine nonchalantly, her tone cold yet amused.

Tiffany lightly grazed her fingers on her swollen face and grabbed Julian's arm. "Don't

worry, Julian... I only feel better after she hit me. I don't blame her," muttered Tiffany as she looked at Charmine. "Sister, I've made a really grave mistake this time, but I can assure you that it won't happen again. I've also decided to leave the entertainment industry, and all of my resources and connections will be passed to you..."

"Huh? Do I need them?"

Not in the mood to even entertain her, Charmine merely walked past her and brusquely bumped Tiffany's shoulder with hers.

Charmine sashayed away from them as though Julian and Tiffany were strangers. The force sent Tiffany back into Julian's arms. He held onto Tiffany while his eyes lingered on Charmine's form. Dressed in a white suit, Charmine was drop-dead gorgeous with lips fiery red like it always was.

Julian was not used to seeing that side of Charmine, but he came to the conclusion at that moment—that only a capable woman like Charmine was good enough to stand with him. Only her resources could help him secure his status.

Also...

The way she acted, the way she moved... It all fueled Julian's desire to put her under him and make her, his.

Tiffany felt like she could combust in fury as she saw the desire in Julian's eyes.

Not only did Charmine take her career, but she even stole Julian's heart! How could she be so evil? 1

Alas, there was nothing Tiffany could do with Julian right next to her. She could only put up her facade, the gentle and meek Tiffany, as she sobbed into his arms, "It's all my fault, Julian. I'm so sorry...! I ruined your wedding...!"

Her sobs snapped Julian out of his trance on Charmine, and he felt annoyed as he looked at the useless woman in his arms. He was, needless to say, not the slightest bit interested in Tiffany. "Alright, stop crying already. Just make up for your mistake. Let's go."

With that, Julian walked into the café.

Tiffany jolted at that. Not only did Julian leave her without comforting her...but he even asked her to make it up to him?

So even Julian thought it was all her fault!?

Tiffany felt herself heated from anger.

Tiffany quickly mustered every last bit of sanity and calmness in her to repress her anger as she thought of what she could do.

She followed behind him into a room in the cafe. "Julian, I promised you to gain Charmine's approval, and I'll see through it. Look, this is what I prepared for you."

Tiffany then took out a folder and handed it to Julian.

Julian accepted it and saw the title. (Rex Walker. Walker gang.)

Julian frowned. "What's this?"

"Charmine has been following the Walker gang, and she wants to find Rex Walker to prove that I've set her all up. This is the only evidence that could prove that I set this up." 2

Tiffany looked at him and added, "Won't she be touched if you help her find this man and deliver justice on her behalf?"

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Julian's gaze hardened as he stared at Rex Walker's photo.

"I'll admit that it's a good idea, but wasn't Rex Walker relocated by the patriarch that nobody could find him till now? Also, how am I supposed to take revenge on her behalf? You're the person she hates the most!"

"I know where Rex Walker is. Alexander Walker wanted to kill him at one point, as if he wanted him to hide something, and I saved him by chance. He's now living in Glendale, working as a butcher."

Truth be told, Tiffany wanted to kill Rex Walker when she found him by the river, but before she could, the man got down on his knees and thanked Tiffany, hailing her as his savior. As he swore his unfailing allegiance to Tiffany, she decided to let him live.

A fine choice, as it turned out. Rex Walker did every dirty deed for Tiffany throughout the years, all as he remained loyal to her.

"If you set me up to sleep with Rex and let her see that I've suffered the same fate as she did, she'd surely forgive and fall for you," offered Tiffany.

"What? Tiffany, are you crazy?" Julian frowned.

Tiffany lowered her head pitifully. "Julian, this is nothing... My reputation was destroyed anyway, and as long as this could help you get Charmine... As long as you trust me, my heart will always be for you, loving you. This is nothing..." whimpered Tiffany as her tears rolled down her cheeks unceasingly, as though she was terrified.

Unable to comprehend his emotions, Julian took Tiffany's hand and pulled her into his arms. "You're a fool. How can I sacrifice you? You can only be mine!"

He said with a determined and arrogant tone.

Tiffany smiled bitterly. Such a bold proclamation—'you're only mine'—when he was out there looking for other women.

Of course, Tiffany masked that thought as she remained meek and gentle. "I want to be with you forever too, but I... I also want to see you happy, to help you get back what you deserve."

"Don't worry, this plan can be set in stone, but I have another idea. I'll find someone to take up your place on that day," comforted Julian, voice husky and firm.

"Julian..."

Tiffany looked at him, touched, as if she could have cried again.

Her eyes looked at him as if he was her everything and her world, which greatly satisfied his ego.

He wound his arm around her neck and pressed his lips against hers. Julian wanted to do her again, but all he could think of was Charmine's face.

Stunning Charmine, with legs that could go for days...

He closed his eyes and imagined the person sitting on his thighs was Charmine.

Being observant as she was, Tiffany could feel Julian was not himself. She could tell what he was thinking. 11

Though they shared an embrace, a kiss, he still thought of Charmine. Was Julian treating her as Charmine's stand-in?

Since when had she, Tiffany Jordan, fell to such a point?

She wanted Charmine to die...quickly!

Tiffany could once more get back to the old life she had, so long as Charmine got eliminated.

Charmine sat in the car as Luke drove her to the Bailey mansion. Luke, as he heard Charmine's sneeze, asked, "Is the temperature too low?"

"No, it's fine," she answered calmly.

Charmine was sure that b*tch Tiffany was plotting behind her back. She needed to be cautious, on guard at all times.

It was at that moment that Kay rang her and hastily reported, "Boss Jordan, you can't go back to the Bailey mansion for now. McKenzie got hold of the Special Warfare 919 spying camera to spy on the Bailey mansion. We haven't been able to locate its exact location, but we know what area it's in."

Special warfare? How did McKenzie get hold of a Special Warfare item?

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The Special Warfare 919 Spy Camera was a mosquito wing-sized micro-camera with a built-in battery, able to hide in designated areas.

Only international spies could possess a high-tech camera like this one, yet McKenzie was able to get hold of one!

Such determination...

The size of the micro-camera made it a hassle to spot, thus it only solidified the fact that Charmine should not return to the Bailey mansion.

Left without a choice, Charmine gave a detour to Luke, "Go to the Violet Villa."

"Yes, Madam." Luke instantly turned the steering wheel.

After she hung up on Kay, she called Chris right away. "Mommy, Mommy! Are you coming home?" beamed Chris in his adorable, cheerful voice.

"I'm sorry, Momo, but Mommy can't come home for the next few days. I need to take care of some things. You have to be good and listen to Daddy, okay?" Charmine comforted.

"Waa...! Mommy doesn't like Momo anymore? Mommy doesn't want Momo anymore? What did I do wrong...?"

Chris started crying and sobbing.

The image of the trembling Chris crossed Charmine's mine, thus she quickly assured, "of course you did nothing wrong. Mommy needs to deal with that bad Auntie, and only then can I return. As you know, the bad Auntie has many tactics, so Mommy needs some time to prepare."

"Oh, I see! Mommy should've said so earlier!" Chris' reverted back to his cheerful self as though he had not even cried.

He then said to Charmine in a much more mature tone, "Then Mommy needs to take good care of yourself, alright? Remember to call Daddy right away if you need any help."

Charmine was startled at Chris' tone.

It would be a total waste of talent to not let Momo become an actor!

Charmine merely shrugged it off as she replied earnestly, "Alright, Momo must take care as well. Mommy will video call you every day. You can't let Mommy worry about you, okay?"

"Alrighty! Momo wants to kiss Mommy goodbye! Mmwah!"

It was obvious, judging from the sound, that Chris bade Charmine goodbye with a virtual kiss; Charmine could sense his seriousness and innocence. Charmine would not

entertain such childish antics, and it was evident in her hesitation, but she eventually played along. "Mwah, mwah!"

"Yay! Thank you, Mommy!" Chris sounded as if he was jumping with happiness. He then suddenly said, "Oh, Daddy is back! Daddy, here, take the phone! Mommy wants to speak to you!"

That sent Charmine reeling in shock.

She did not

"Hmm?" came the voice of Anthony, as masculine and magnetic as ever. "What is it?"

Even through the phone, the charming, heart-seizing aura exuded by Anthony was almost palpable through the phone. Panicked, Charmine quickly addressed, "McKenzie placed a Special Warfare 919 in your house. Do take note."

"You already knew?" Anthony was surprised.

He only found out about this 30 seconds ago, but it seemed as though Charmine found out about the matter way before he did.

"Ahem! McKenzie has been keeping a close eye on you, and it's close to your father's birthday celebration soon," said Charmine, "so I won't come back for the next few days."

"Okay."

One word, though a rather weighty reply at that.

Charmine assumed he would continue to say anything, but he did not. Somehow, the situation got different.

"I'll hang up now then, since there's nothing else...?"

"Wait," Anthony stopped her. After a moment of silence, he said, "Did Ms. Jordan forget something?"

"Huh? What?" Charmine was confused. Anthony said, "What was the last thing you said to Momo?"

Chapter 334 'Last thing?

Charmine recalled what she had said to Chris and said to Anthony, "I asked Momo to take good care of himself, to not let me worry about him. What is it? Is there a problem?"

"The sentence after that," insisted Anthony.

Charmine frowned. The sentence after that? What did she say after? All she did was kiss Chris through the phone... What happened then?

Unless...

Realization dawned on Charmine as her blush seared across her cheeks.

"Anthony! How old are you again? Take care of Momo!" she told him off and hung up.

That man, that...pervert could still flirt with her through the phone!

Giving an adult man like him a goodbye kiss on the phone, the thought of it...

Anthony heard the busy tone on his phone, and his gaze landed on Chris.

Chris hurriedly covered his face. "Mommy only gave me two kisses, and I can't give one to you! I'm off to sleep now, goodnight!"

With that, Chris pulled the blanket over his face.

Anthony was left speechless.

Meanwhile, at Violet Villa...

Charmine walked out of the car once Luke pulled over and parked by a tree-a little

further from her villa. As she walked toward her home, she noted how every other villa had its lights on except hers, pitch dark
Chris would always wait for her with the lights on whenever she returned, yet...
The absence made Charmine feel off.
At that very moment, four elderly men made their way toward her, and Charmine, upon spotting them, turned to leave.
The men noticed her behavior and instantly called out, "Charmine! Stay there!"
They were men in their seventies or even eighties, yet they ran toward her like mere children
would and blocked her way.
Charmine's eyes sparkled. "Oh, what a coincidence! What brought you all here?"
"And here you are, pretending! Charmine Jordan, did you think we wouldn't see you? You were trying to run away from us!" accused one of the elderly men.
Charmine let out a dry smile. "Haha! You've got it all wrong, really! I was only testing if your body is still as fit. It seems that it's not too bad at all!"
"Ha-ha!" The four elderly men let out a sarcastic laugh before grabbing her by the arms and walked into the villa.
"We finally get to see you, so you have to accompany us and tell us everything tonight. Don't you try to run away again!"
Charmine, without a place to run to, had no choice but to welcome them into her villa.
"Don't worry, I live here now. Where can I run to?"
One of them sighed. "Lucky us, cause we came here to try our luck tonight. Knowing you, would we even get to see you at least once in a year?"
"Since you came home, why didn't you come to meet us right away? Is the entertainment industry fun? Is it even as fun as our game?" muttered the other elderly man with a long beard.
Charmine poured each of them water. "I didn't mean to. I'd surely come look for you all after I've dealt with my things."
"Eh? You? Ah, that's not right. Charmine! Why did you pass on the water to Old Larry first? Am I not deserving of getting it first?" Old Pop said.
"You already got it the second, what else do you want? Why am I the third to get the water?"
"And I'm the fourth! Charmine, do you not like Uncle Zul?"
The four elderly men started fighting over the water, just like four children.
Charmine sweat-dropped at the sight.
At a glance, no one would even think that those four elderly men were the driving forces of various industries!
Uncle Larry was the leader of the Esports industry; Uncle Zul was International Go Association's president; Uncle Pop was the bigshot in the scientific research industry; while Uncle Max was the leader of the construction industry.
Years ago when Charmine was sent to Africa, running away from Tiffany's prying eyes, she entered the territory of these four moguls and discovered crucial secrets related to them. 1
Just as they were about to kill her, Charmine managed to help them solve some head-splitting problems with her gifted talent, which-in turn-saved her life.

From then onward, the four men nurtured her as though she was their apprentice. They pitied her for the ordeals she endured, trained her wholeheartedly, and...

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For five whole years, these tycoons helped her to take care of Tiffany's doings, all while they made sure Charmine stayed under the radar.

As she learned under their tutelage, she managed to exceed the abilities of her own tutors. Shocked by her progress, they treated her as a rare pearl on the palm-adoring and pampering her.

Charmine noted how the four elderly men looked like they wanted to fight one another, thus she quickly dispersed the tension by changing the subject. "Alright, alright, I gave you water without any particular order. No point fighting over it! Why did you come looking for me again? I'm going to sleep if you keep fighting."

With that, she turned and was ready to walk upstairs.

The four men stopped fighting and quickly stopped her from leaving. "Charmine, you can't sleep yet. Something's up, and you need to solve it!"

Charmine sat on the sofa, her expression puzzled. "What is it?"

"Since you started planning to come home, you haven't cared about us for a long time. My Esports team lost terribly in this international tournament. The team from Kansas was being arrogant, and they mocked us for losing the match!"

"Charmine, I don't care how busy you are, cause you have to take some time out and help me fight a duel with their team leader! Make us proud!" said Uncle Larry excitedly. On the other hand, Uncle Max interrupted, "The Esports industry is unimportant; you losing doesn't mean much of anything. The most important thing now is infrastructure! Now that every country wants to build the tallest building to take over the Khalifa, we have to contend as well!"

"What are you all so anxious about? The international Go tournament is starting next month, and the Germans said their robots would win over our players! It'd be so embarrassing if we lose!"

"Those are nothing! The newly developed 7-series aircraft in Denmark is going autopilot! We're way behind!"

Everything sounded like chaos in Charmine's ears. Did she not just return for around two months? Why had so many things happened already?

Also, with so many things going on, she would need some time to solve them all together...

"Calm down," Charmine chimed in. "We'll solve them one by one, alright?"

"Okay, okay! Solve mine first!"

"Mine first!"

"No! Solve mine first!"

Charmine could barely form a word at the sight of them arguing.

The four of them broke into a fight again, and Charmine might not sleep if it continued.

She found four pieces of paper and wrote down numbers from 1 to 4 on them. Once she crumpled them into balls, she put them in her palm and said, "Have your pick, your number will determine your order."

"This is a smart idea! Our little Charmine is the smartest!" Uncle Larry praised.

Charmine shook the papers and tossed them on the table.

Quickly, the four elderly men broke into yet another fight over the papers: Uncle Larry of Esports got the first number, followed by Uncle Max and the infrastructure issue, then Uncle Zul of Go Association, followed by Uncle Pop of scientific research.

Uncle Pop fell back on the sofa, deflated.

Charmine comforted, "The scientific research field is the most time-consuming of all, and it'll take more than ten years anyway! Once I'm done with the rest, I'll have all my time to research with you, alright?"

"Alright. You promised!" Uncle Pop was instantly cheered up.

Charmine's words, however, dismayed Uncle Larry. "So what you're saying is that I was placed as the first one because mine is the least important?"

"Of course not! This is to make our country proud, it's not a small matter at all! Don't worry, I'll make you proud tonight," coaxed Charmine.

Since she was less likely to sleep, Charmine could play a few games.

Uncle Larry pulled at Charmine's arm and dragged her upstairs to the computer room.

"Hurry, hurry! Let's go! Let's start the game right away! I want Uji Quin to lose so badly! Let's show them that we're not some losers!"

The other three old men liked to watch Charmine play as well. While Uncle Zul, Uncle Max, and Uncle Pop hated gaming, they found it rather entertaining when Charmine could complete her kills.

With that, the four elderly men stood by Charmine's side to watch her play.

Charmine had forgotten about her previous username and password, so she used the new

username she logged in with back at Bailey mansion: Boss.

A young lady who used such a name! "Nice!" said Uncle Larry. "I like the name!"

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The other three agreed to Uncle Larry's remark.

Lord of Honors was a global game that required players to form groups. The highest-ranking player would earn the title 'Lord of Eternal'.

On the game page, one could see right away that the highest-ranking player was Uji Quin from Kansas, but they were not online.

Online gaming was their forte, and they did far better than players from Burlington.

There was only one player from Burlington in Lord of Honors' global top ten, while five were from Kansas.

Charmine clicked on Uji Quin's profile and clicked on one particular button: (Challenge)

The "challenge" was one of Lord of Honors' unique features, allowing its players to challenge anyone as long as they deposited some cash. If the player lost, however, the cash would not be refunded.

Charmine deposited one hundred million.

Just like that, Lord of Honors' world chat was overridden with comments about the challenge.

[OMG! Someone just deposited one hundred million to challenge Uji Quin!]

[This is the second time in five years anyone had ever challenged Uji Quin!]

[The last time someone challenged them was kill, but the user has gone under the radar. They're probably a goner by now.]

(This is a new player! Why so daring? What makes him think he could challenge the Lord of Eternal!)

(That's one hundred million. How gutsy!)

The four elderly men sitting behind Charmine merely smiled; they knew their little Charmine always had such boldness in her.

Moreover, Uji Quin would never be able to win away the money. Charmine could end Uji Quin without breaking a sweat!

Unfortunately, Uji Quin did not come online that night. As it got rather late, Charmine turned to them and said, "Why don't you go and get some rest? I'll find you when I hear back from them."

"No need, no need. I've come here to stay up the night anyway! I even brought along my supplements!" Uncle Pop took out a normal-looking pill and popped it into his mouth.

"Didn't we already discuss the rest?" sighed Charmine. "It's getting late."

"Who said so? We have a more pressing matter at hand. Didn't I ask Kay to speak to you the other day? What do you say?" pestered Uncle Larry.

Charmine was caught off-guard. "Huh?"

"Look at you! You didn't even take note while William checks on you every three to five days!" Uncle Pop said angrily.

That made Charmine alarmed. They came to pester her to marry William Peterson!

"That... Ah! I'm quite tired, and I need some rest..."

She stood up ready to leave, but the four elderly men blocked her way and placed her back on her seat.

Uncle Max said with a serious tone, "Charmine, we've heard about you and Anthony Bailey's progress after you came back. Anthony is indeed a good man, and he's good enough for you as well, but his family is too much of a mess."

"Exactly, just look at the situation about the kid. He's not accepted by the rest of the Bailey family, and you'd have to be his step-mother if you're to marry Anthony. Also, Anthony's parents won't make it easy for you either. It'd be difficult."

"By then, you'll get pulled into their messed-up dynamics. You won't even have time to truly make use of your full potential! That's a waste, don't you think?"

"Also, there's a mysterious force keeping an eye on the Baileys, and even we haven't been able to find out who they are. If you're to be with Anthony, it won't be easy."

The four of them added one after the other.

Charmine frowned. "A mysterious force? How do you know about that?"

"That's because we care about you, and we pulled at all the stops to do a checkup on the Baileys. There's no need to look at their business rivals and fights within the family; there was also a mysterious force involved five years ago with an anonymous purpose. And it's also this mysterious force that sent Momo to Anthony," explained Uncle Pop. Charmine's eyes darkened. "Mysterious force? Didn't Momo come from a surrogate mother?"

Anthony said it himself that Momo came from a surrogate mother. What had that to do with a mysterious force?

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Uncle Larry let out a sigh. "How're you so clueless on this while you're so smart on other things? Do you really think the child came from a surrogate mother? If he came

from a surrogate mother, why would his parents hate the child so much?"

Charmine's heart raced at that. Was Momo not from a surrogate mother?

Did Anthony keep something from her?

Based on Uncle Larry's comment, why did Momo's birth seem to harbor mysteries?

"That surrogate mother excuse was just a way for the Baileys to cover this up," said Uncle Max. "Five years ago, a mysterious force arranged for Anthony to sleep with a woman. In the same winter, Momo was sent to the hospital where Nial was admitted. It all seemed too much of a coincidence, but so what if the baby was sent to the Baileys? The child's mother could be anyone, and a family like the Baileys wouldn't accept her. "Anthony's parents thought that Momo's mother was some random woman. She could've been a prostitute, or perhaps a woman who wants to marry into the family. It's because of that that they hated this child and wouldn't let him become part of the family."

Everything clicked for Charmine once she listened to the elderly men. It made sense why Anthony would stutter or hesitate whenever they talked about Chris' mother, like he hid something from her. No wonder the Baileys hated Momo so much that they would not accept him.

Was that the genuine reason why, then?

"A powerful man like Anthony was set up to sleep with another woman?"

"I know, right? This is why William is better than him! William is still a good boy, and he's been waiting for you!" gushed Uncle Max.

Uncle Zul nodded to agree. and turned into the matchmaker he was. "Right, right! It's so hard to find a clean man like William these days! You won't find it even if you look with a torch on! Charmine, you have to choose wisely!"

"What's there to choose? It's William, for sure! Anthony's family is too complicated, and there's a mysterious force involved! Not good enough!" asserted Uncle Pop as he slammed his palm against the table.

Among the men, Uncle Larry remained silent as he gazed at Charmine. He believed that a wise girl like Charmine would know who to choose.

However...

Charmine's lips curled up into a beautiful smile. "Exactly! William is too much of a good man, and I'll only end up harming him. A person like me should be left with other men like Anthony."

The smile on Charmine's lips grew wider as she mentioned his name-Anthony's. There was relief deep in her eyes.

The four elderly men practically gaped at her. Did they hear her wrongly? Did she pick Anthony?

"Charmine, are you ill?" Uncle Larry could not help but reach out to feel her forehead.

Based on her ruthless persona in the game, how would Charmine accept her man that had slept with another woman before? Also, they knew Charmine well enough to know that she was a carefree person by heart; she had been downright idle all these years. She wanted to live a carefree life after taking revenge, but choosing Anthony would spell never-ending dilemma for her! 1

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"I'm not ill! My thinking is clear!" argued Charmine. "I was hesitant before because I

didn't want to harm Anthony, but now I know he had been set up and had slept with another woman while I was made to sleep with another man. We're a perfect match for one another, isn't it?"

The four elderly men reeled in shock.

"Charmine! What kind of thinking is this?!" "How could you call this a perfect match? This is like a blind cat accidentally catching a dead mouse!"

"If you choose Anthony, you'll be caught up with his family issues! Will you have time for all that mess?"

"And what about the mysterious force? Anthony had been searching for that for five years of with no result. Nobody knows what their purpose is to have done it, and you might get hurt!"

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"The plain-in-sight troubles can be easily solved, but the anonymous threats are the hardest to fight with. You can't take this risk! Don't be foolish!"

The four elderly men tried to talk Charmine out of her decision.

The adamant Charmine merely offered a small smile. "Don't worry. However foolish I may be, I'll still be able to protect myself. Even if I can't, I still have you all, as well as Kay and his men!"

It was apparent, with what she said, that she chose Anthony.

"Charmine Jordan!" Uncle Pop called out her full name with a serious tone.

"Alright, alright," ushered Charmine, "I know what I'm doing. It's getting late, though. I'm only twenty-three, and I'm not getting married till I'm at least thirty! It's getting late; go and get some rest. There are guest rooms upstairs."

"Charmine, we need to talk to you—"Uncle Larry wanted to continue.

Charmine looked at the time and said, "It's already one in the morning. How am I supposed to fight Uji Quin later on if this prolongs? If I don't get enough sleep, I'll lose the match and will hate myself for it. I won't have the heart to prepare for the Go match, and no heart for the research..."

"Hey, hey, hey! Alright, alright! We'll stop talking! Go and get your sleep. We're not in a hurry!"

"Do think about your relationship wisely! Do consider! Carefully consider it!"

"Go, go, go. Goodnight!"

The four elderly men stood up and ran out of the computer room as each of them found themselves a guest room.

Charmine smiled helplessly at their retreating forms. She would have pulled that trick earlier had she known it would have worked wonders, instead of letting them go on and on...

She went back to her bedroom and laid down on her bed when she felt a cold prick on her neck. Charmine brought her hand up, only to feel the necklace on her neck given by Anthony. She remembered how she tried to get rid of it, but she gradually forgot about it and unconsciously wore it ever since...

She hesitated to continue with Anthony, but upon listening to what her Uncles had to say about him, it was like a wave of relief that washed over her. No wonder Anthony acted strangely when the topic of Chris' mother was brought up. Such a big man, bedded by another

woman? Who would be able to say that out loud without feeling embarrassed? Since Anthony was bedded by another woman before, Charmine saw them as equal. Nothing made her fret anymore.

She and Anthony-equal!

The thought of it brought a smile to her face as her eyelids gradually closed.

Charmine had the best sleep she ever had for a very long time.

Morning came, and Charmine's phone rang at the bedside. It was a video call from Chris.

Charmine sat up and answered the call. Instantly, she could see Chris' adorable, round face as he waved at her happily. "Mommy, Mommy, I saw the news! You're the person in the news, right?"

"Huh? What news?" Charmine was confused.

Chris continued, "Lord of Honors! Someone deposited a billion bucks to challenge Uji Quin, and everyone's making guesses on who it is. Daddy and I both agreed that this is something Mommy would do! It's Mommy, isn't it?" gushed Chris as he blinked with his adorable doe eyes, just like a curious Teletubby.

Charmine frowned. How fast did that spiral to the news? Should she tell Chris? If she told him

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Chris was a young boy, and if she told him about her gaming, it might have a negative effect on him. She had considered Chris as her actual child to raise and teach.

Meanwhile, a deep and magnetic voice came from the phone, "Momo was last year's Lord of Eternal."

Wait, what?

"Really?" blurted Charmine.

Although she knew Chris was a smart kid, Lord of Honors was quite a complex game, and there were less than 200 players who earned the 'Lord of Eternal' title.

Chris nodded, and it strangely resembled that of a pecking chick. "Yes, yes! I'm rather impressive myself, huh Mommy? But I haven't met any challenge for some time and it got too boring for me, so that's why I quit for almost a year now."

Haven't met any challenge... Any challenge...

Too boring...

Cough! Cough! This kid!

"That's incredible! No wonder you're Mommy's little gem!"

Charmine praised Chris as she tried to pinch the screen, as if she could pinch his cheek.

Charmine decided to come clean as she confessed, "It's true, Mommy did challenge Uji Quin as I want to make Burlington proud. Don't tell anyone about this, though-we have to keep this a secret."

The people from Kansas were ruthless, especially Uji Quin. If they discover her identity, they might try to murder her! Since she was still caught up with the incident from five years ago, as well as Tiffany's revenge, she did not want to bring any more trouble to herself.

"Yes sir, Mommy! Momo and Daddy will keep this a secret!" Chris made a salute gesture to her.

A smile involuntarily appeared as Charmine gazed at Chris through the screen. She did not realize how much she looked like a mother.

Chris suddenly changed to the rear camera and said, "Mommy, we're eating! What about you?"

Chris pointed his camera at the dishes on the table, though most of what the camera captured was Anthony.

Charmine could see Anthony sitting on the other end of the table as he ate his breakfast with a knife and fork at hand.

He looked utterly elegant and handsome, as if he was in the making of a movie.

Charmine's heart would race whenever she saw Anthony. He was too ethereal;

Charmine might never tire from watching him.

She no longer held herself back as she recalled the news relayed by her Uncles.

"Breakfast looks delicious," said the smiling Charmine, "and your Daddy is looking handsome."

As he ate his breakfast, Anthony's fingers jolted at Charmine's comment through the loudspeaker.

Did Charmine just say he was handsome?

That was the first, after knowing her for so long, that she praised him.

For a moment there, Anthony thought his ears played tricks on him.

Charmine failed to bite back a grin as she saw his reaction; he seemed quite fun to play with. After a few more exchanges, she heard footsteps coming from upstairs.

It sounded like the elderly men were all coming down!

"Enjoy your breakfast, Momo, Daddy," said Charmine through the phone. "Mommy has some things to attend to, but I'll call you later."

"Alrighty!" chirped Chris before he ended the call.

At that moment, Charmine heard urgent knocks on her door, followed by the four elderly men's voices:

"Charmine! Wake up! It's happening! Wake up!" "Uji Quin is online! He's waiting for you!"

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Charmine stood up to open the door. "He's online? Waiting?" she spoke to the four elderly men at her door.

"Hmph! More than just that. They're being so pompous! Go to the computer room and look at it!" whined Uncle Larry as he pulled her by the arm and walked to the computer room.

The entire Esports community went wild overnight. Everyone caught wind of how someone challenged Uji Quin with a whole billion!

Everyone waited behind their screens as they anticipated the duel.

Charmine sat at the computer table and saw that Uji Quin was posting on his feed.

Uji Quin: (Didn't you try to challenge me? Why did you run away once I came online?)

Uji Quin: [If you had the guts to challenge someone, you should come online!]

The netizens agreed as they commented:

[Hahaha! Perhaps this person got too scared that they peed in their pants?]

[Maybe he clicked on the challenge button by accident?]

[Haha! Maybe he's just trying to make a name for himself, throwing cash to gain fame. Now, everyone knows about this person with the username Boss.]

[It's already ten in the morning! He's gotta be scared!]

[Another loser from Burlington! Losers! Losers!]

Someone started bombarding the feed with degrading comments, and people from Kansas swiftly followed and spammed. Gradually, the feed was filled with Uji Quin's supporters mocking Burlington, arrogantly and rudely so.

There was a glimmer of malice in Charmine's eyes as she clicked onto the 'worldview' feature. This was a paid feature and cost 1,000 bucks per usage. Once the player turned on the worldview feature, every player – including those who were in the game, forming a team, lobbying, or hunting-would be able to see the player's post.

With that, every online user received a notification on top of their screen.

Boss: [You woke up early to greet the Boss. I like your attitude.]

What an unruly, savage comeback!

The notification would stay visible for 30 seconds, thus it easily attracted the attention of those who were on their phones or computers.

Below the post in the comment section, everyone commented their amazement:

[Damn! Boss is online! I like the line!]

[Nice! Fight well, bro! You gotta bring pride to Burlington!]

[Go, Burlington! Go, Burlington!]

Many players showed their support for Charmine.

On the other hand, Uji Quin and the people from Kansas were pissed off. They never thought that this challenger would have such an arrogant streak on them.

Uji Quin also bought the worldview feature and replied:

(A new user has the courage to challenge me? Are you not scared of your tooth falling out? Didn't you say you want a duel? Bring it on! I'll beat you till your mother can't recognize you!)

What? Beat her until her mother could not recognize her? Charmine replied: [OK, duel starts now. If I can't win against you within one minute, you win.] With that, she sent an invitation to Uji Quin for a duel.

Players from around the world stared at their screens with keen gazes. Even Robert Jordan stared at his screen, reading the notifications with excitement as he revered that player-the player called Boss.

It did not matter as much if Boss won or not; their attitude won him over.

With that, Robert entered the 'Spectator mode' to watch the duel.

The way Lord of Honors worked was that every player could choose a hero character to attack one another, and the player with an empty healthy bar would lose. The game had a plethora of characters to choose from: Warrior, Mage, Knight, Healer, and many more.

Uji Quin chose the Assassin class once he got into the game, and spectators of the match frowned. The Assassin was capable of killing a player for every 10 steps it took; no one could survive the lethality. With the character's agility and speed, one move would be able to empty his enemy's health bar. Perhaps it was over for Charmine. How could she win?

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Uncle Larry sat behind Charmine as he instructed, "Choose the Warrior, Charmine. It's

the strongest! You have to, or the Assassin will kill you in seconds!"

The unperturbed Charmine merely offered a small smile in silence as she clicked on the Dancer instead.

The Dancer was a beautiful sniper heroine that used a crossbow as her weapon.

Her pick fueled everyone's bewilderment.

[Is Boss making a joke? Did Boss just choose the Dancer against the Assassin?]

(While the Dancer is deadly, she's too weak! The Assassin will kill her in a matter of seconds!)

(The Dancer needs Warriors and Nurses to protect her in fights, yet Boss chose to use Dancer for the duel with that Assassin?)

[Boss, please change into another character! For Burlington's sake and the sake of your one hundred million, please change into another character!]

Even Uncle Larry grabbed Charmine's arm and shook her vigorously. "Charmine, are you crazy? Change it right now! The Dancer is no match for the Assassin! Dancers are often in the back-end, shielded by everyone else in fights. There's no shield in the duel... You'll be killed!"

"Hah! We'll see who's the one being killed." Charmine smiled.

The game was starting, and the computer screen displayed a vast field that resembled a martial arts field in the wild. Players could not change characters once the game started.

Helpless Uncle Larry facepalmed before he sat behind Charmine, uneasily.

The observers looked at their screens without blinking; they could not afford to miss out even a single second!

Uji Quin: [Look, I'll give you a chance to change your mind before the duel. Call me boss and change your username to Uji's Dog, and I'll let you go.]

Charmine: (Ha! Why don't you do that?)

Uji Quin: (An arrogant brat, I see. I'll teach you what despair is by the end of the match!]

With that, he controlled his character and started running toward Charmine's base to attack.

Charmine merely typed on her keyboard, unperturbed : [Oh, did you forget something? I bet with one hundred million but you betted nothing. Are you scared?]

Uji Quin was triggered. (Who's the scaredy cat here? I'll bet with one billion! one billion bucks!

If you win against me today, the money is all yours!)

Uji Quin was too caught up with killing this challenger that he completely forgot to bet.

The challenger had chosen a useless character... He was sure to win their fight!

With that, he typed on his keyboard and bet one billion. He also typed, [If you lose, we'll meet up for real and you'll lick my foot.]

Lick his foot? Charmine had to lick his foot after losing one hundred million?

What a preposterous gamble.

Charmine liked the thrill of that. (Alright. If you lose, you change your name to Boss' Dog. Whoever doesn't keep the promise is a jack*ss!)

Their tones were harsh and arrogant.

People would surely notice it if Uji Quin, ranked as the No.1 player, changed his username. He never thought he would see the day when a player would speak to him so haughtily. Even the leader of Burlington's Esports, Old Larry had to watch his words

when he met him.

How could this person be so conceited?

Of course, that did not matter. This challenger would lick his foot by the end of their match!

With that, he answered: (Okay, deal. Whoever doesn't keep his words is a jack*ss! Everyone else, take note!]

Spectators got riled up with their gamble as the comment section was filled with comments.

[Okay! Screenshot!]

[An interesting gamble is taking place. We'll see who's the winner here!]

[What's there to see? The Dancer is going to lose anyway! There's no chance!]

[Really? I don't think so! Let's bet!]

[Bring it one! I bet 500 that Uji Quin wins!]

[I bet 1 buck for Boss!]

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Uji Quin: [Hahaha! This is hilarious! Look, newbie, why don't you leave the game now, and I'll let you pick a different character? I don't want you to lose too badly.]

Charmine: (Cut the bullsh*t. Bring it on!)

Uji Quin: [!!!]

With that, both of them entered Lord of Honors' dual-mode.

The dual-platform was a set with a rectangular design and a crystal castle for both players. A character would not be able to enter their opponent's castle; the castle would kill them should they attempt to.

The game was designed in a way that there were two ways to win the round. The first method was to kill the enemy right as they leave the castle, or before they could make it back in their own castle. The second way was to destroy the enemy's castle from the outside.

Uncle Larry saw how Uji Quin ran toward Charmine's castle to attack, thus he nervously blurted, "Charmine, be careful. Be careful! We can't lose! We can't afford to lose!"

The entire Burlington would be ashamed if she lost or refused to lick his foot.

"Don't worry," said the nonchalant Charmine as her Dancer made her way out from the castle.

Still, the Dancer could be eliminated quickly once she left the castle.

Everyone locked their gazes on their screens, unblinkingly. Uji Quin, on the other hand, glared daggers at his own.

He controlled his Assassin and ran toward the Dancer to attack first. The Assassin moved with such speed that mere shadow clones were left in his wake. In the blink of an eye, he appeared right before the Dancer.

The sound of metal ringing was heard as the Assassin swung his longsword toward the Dancer.

That was the Assassin's ultimate skill that could shred his enemies into pieces; his Final Move. A Warrior could shield himself if he was the one that went up against that lethality, but a mere Dancer—and other physically weaker characters—stood no chance against an Assassin's Final Move.

Everyone spectating the match had their breaths labored; the Dancer would die with this

ultimate attack! The Dancer was too weak, so much so that she had no way to defend herself.

Staggeringly, Charmine's fingers fluttered across her keyboard at such a speed that right when the Assassin unsheathed his longsword, she activated her Dancer's Immunity.

That was a special feature of the Dancer. While she was not offensively powerful, she had a special skill — Immunity—that would last for 1.5 seconds, activated right before the enemy's attack.

In that span of time, Immunity would reduce the damage received by the Dancer by 50 percent. Of course, the Dancer would still receive 50 percent of the attack, and she could still die if she failed to withstand it.

Spectators and gamers alike watched the live-stream through their devices without blinking.

So what if she chose Immunity? Immunity lasted only 1.5 seconds; the Dancer could still die!

However, the moment Charmine went on Immunity mode, her fingers swiftly moved to press the keys on her keyboard. While the Dancer was on Immunity, it shot arrows at the Assassin relentlessly.

At that moment, the Dancer was barely injured while the Assassin sustained heavy injuries from her attacks.

The arrows stabbed the Assassin and cost him half of his health bar.

Half!

Uji Quin looked at his screen and frowned. This player could use Immunity while attacking with such speed?

No matter; it was just a cheap trick

With that, Uji Quin moved his character to a space two meters away. He ran away!

Chapter 343 What speed!

That was the Assassin's best feature: He could move far away from his opponent after attacking them, giving them no chance to counter-attack. Had it been anyone else, the Assassin could have ended them swiftly, and all they could do was watch as the Assassin moved away without being able to fight back.

However, it was Charmine that went up against him...and she merely lost 20 percent of her health bar.

A weaker character was able to use Immunity to survive the Assassin's attack, and she had so many health points left to boot!

Uncle Larry let out the breath he held onto as he watched the Assassin flee, but he then anxiously warned, "Hurry, Charmine, go back to your castle and heal up. Best to keep it a hundred percent full, just to be safe!" 1

Charmine's lips curled. "Oh, heck no! I said I'd kill him in one minute." Instead of returning to her castle, Charmine's Dancer ran toward the Assassin!

Everyone cried out in shock. Was she crazy?!

Despite his 40 percent health bar, the Assassin could keep moving so that Charmine's Dancer could never close their distance.

With such capability, the Assassin could maintain distance, which would only do more harm than good for the Dancer.

Charmine, however, seemed to not care about such a detail. Her Dancer merely continued to run toward the Assassin.

Uji Quin frowned. So, the newbie had the guts to come after him? Never before had he seen a weak character with such courage to go up against him!

Hah! So his opponent wanted to catch up to him, was it? Not a chance!

His Assassin moved swiftly, so much so that the opposing Dancer was left miles behind. With such speed, the Dancer could not catch up.

Charmine, as undisturbed as ever, merely worked on her keyboard with a small yet confident smile. One of the Dancer's boons was that she could shoot an arrow from miles away which allowed her to attack from a safe distance.

Nonetheless, a player would need a good eye and a good aim. The arrow's direction, once shot, could not be altered, and the chance of sniping her opponent was rather incredibly low.

That did not deter Charmine, and her Dancer shot her arrow...

Thuck! The arrow penetrated the Assassin's abdomen.

Instantly, the Assassin's health bar went down to 30 percent!

Uji Quin gaped at that. The newbie was so skilled that she could shoot at him while his Assassin moved?

That was downright embarrassing!

He had to teach the newbie a lesson!

Luckily, his Final Move was usable again. With that, he turned around to attack the Dancer once more!

Just like before, he activated the killing mode again and had his character split into multiple avatars.

So what if she had Immunity? So what if she could reduce the harm by 50 percent? The Dancer only had 40 percent of her health bar left. He could take her on, face-to-face, and end her swiftly!

It took Uji Quin by surprise, however, when Charmine did not use her Immunity. Instead, the newbie's Dancer flickered out of the Assassin's trap.

Just like that, the Assassin's ultimate move became useless as the Dancer stood two meters away from him. After flickering away from the trap, Charmine's finger flitted across the keyboard as she unleashed a rain of arrows, followed by one long arrow to the Assassin.

The Assassin was ready to maneuver the attacks when Charmine, at that very moment, activated her Final Move!

The Dancer's Final Move allowed her to jump in front of her enemy and shoot three arrows in one go, allowing her to then return to her original position.

Just like that, it took the Dancer a mere second to strike down the Assassin, and she returned to her original position.

It all happened in the blink of an eye.

Not long after, words were displayed on the screen. (ASSASSIN GAME OVER]

ASSASSIN GAME OVER!

The newbie defeated him!

How? How could the Dancer kill the Assassin!?

Everyone else was just as bewildered as they rubbed their eyes before staring at their screens. All they could see was the Assassin at the Dancer's feet, his long sword flat on

the ground.
The game was over.
Charmine won!
Uji Quin lost! Everyone in Burlington went into an uproar!

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[OMG! This is crazy! We won!]
[Boss actually won over Uji Quin! Boss won against the best player in Kansas!]
(Hahaha! The best in Kansas is a mere loser!)
[It took exactly one minute! Haha! Boss' timing is impeccable!]
(Ahhh, I'm in love with Boss! What a time to be alive!]
(Uji Quin lost! Change your username! Change it! Change it!)
The gamers started bombarding the comment section.
It was, needless to say, a satisfying feeling to behold.
Uji Quin smashed his keyboard and mouse with a loud smack. Never did he think he would live to see the day when an opponent could end him in one minute!
He was already so quick. He was able to outrun his opponent, yet they were quicker! He was caught off-guard, and he still did not know what went wrong to have resulted in his defeat.
As he glared at the comments pestering him to change his username, he directed his sharp gaze to his assistant. "Go and check up on this douche out right now. Find out who he is! I want to kill him!"
"Yes, Sir!" His assistant left.
Meanwhile, at Violet Villa, Uncle Larry giddily jumped.
"This is wonderful! Finally, you brought back pride to us! You finally taught Uji Quin a lesson! Tell me what you want, Charmine, and Uncle will buy you anything!"
"Really? Anything that I ask for?" articulated Charmine.
Uncle Larry patted his chest. "Yes, anything!"
"I want to sleep in peace. Why don't you all go home?"
The longer they stayed at her home, the likelier would they pester her to get married. Before that happened, it was best to ask them leave.
Her request startled Uncle Larry. "What? You're not going to celebrate such a victorious moment with us and choose to sleep instead?"
"There's nothing to celebrate. When I've time, I'll train a team for you so that they can help you win! By then, you'd be able to see Uji Quin and the others losing every game. You have to get used to this feeling, treat it with a calm heart," said Charmine.
Uncle Larry's eyes twinkled at her reply. "Are you serious? You'll train a team for me?"
"Yes, I promise." Her voice was clear and reassuring.
The pleased Uncle Larry giddily spoke, "Alright, we'll go now! We won't disturb you anymore."
"Wake up, Old Larry! I get that you're pleased and all, but what about us?"
"Exactly! Have you forgotten why we came here?" Uncle Max glared at Uncle Larry.
It was then Uncle Larry remembered that the main reason they paid Charmine a visit was to convince her to marry William.
That was the highlight of everything!

He said, "We'll take our leave, Charmine, but we'd like to remind you to carefully consider everything. Please, do so-William is a good man. When he called last night, he said he'd come find you in Burlington."

"Also, William is ready to buy a house in Burlington so that he could accompany you. He'd live here for you! He's willing to move to Burlington for you!" gushed Uncle Zul, impressed at William.

Charmine frowned. She saw that coming...

Still, she did not expect that he would like her so much. A thought then occurred to Charmine as she squinted. "Why don't you send me his contact?"

The four elderly men gaped at Charmine. Did they hear her wrongly? Did Charmine just ask for William's contact?

Charmine never asked for anyone's contact number all these years, especially William's!

In her words, she would say, "If there's no chance, why bother talking? I don't want them to have any hope."

Yet, here they were-with Charmine asking for William's number. There was progress after all!

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Delighted, the four elderly scrambled to be the first to send William's contact number as they each gushed,

"Add him now! Talk to him!"

"Yeah, you youngsters need to communicate more!"

"It's okay to not know him yet. Relationships take time!"

"Both of you are geniuses! The baby you'll have will be a genius, too!"

The four of them added onto one another as if they could not wait for them to get married.

Charmine massaged her temples and said, "Don't worry, I know what to do. If you don't leave now, I'll have no heart to plan what happens next."

"Alright, alright! Remember to contact him."

"Right, I brought you a chess manual. Do have a look when you have the time." Uncle Zul placed a few books on her desk.

Uncle Pop also handed in some research papers, while Uncle Max placed down a few building plans.

Charmine looked at them as they left and sighed in relief.

It was those men that trained her and provided her with so many resources all these years – they were the ones who shaped her. If only they stopped pestering her to get married, it would be perfect!

The departure of the elderly men made Charmine's villa silent once more. She reclined onto the sofa as she clicked open her Whatsapp.

Since the four elderly men insisted so badly, she might as well talk to William. Once she added William to her contact, he texted her right away:

(Charmine, how're you doing?)

During the time at the research base, everyone called her on first-name basis- Charmine.

She replied, (Yeah, I'm alright. I added you to tell you something.)

She wanted to get to the point right away, but William sent her a text before she did. 1

(Charmine, please have a look at this project. We were working on this, but there's a problem here and the machine couldn't function properly. Do you know what's the problem?)

[I've been troubleshooting all this while. I didn't want to trouble you, but I haven't been able to locate the problem yet, so I've no choice but to ask for your help.]

Even through the texts, she could feel his warmth and gentleness.

Charmine thought they were going to talk about their relationship, but she frowned after [There's a problem? Let me have a look.]

Once William sent her the documents, Charmine went and read the contents.

Meanwhile, at the Bailey mansion...

Chris shook Anthony's arm with vigor. "Daddy, Daddy, please bring me to Mommy! I want to see Mommy! I want to see how Mommy plays the game! Please take me there!"

"No, now let go of my hand," ordered Anthony.

It was only a day that he had not seen Charmine; how could he go and bother her?

Moreover, the issue about McKenzie was not resolved, and he had to take care of that.

Chris, however, did not relent as he shook his arm and cried as though he was

wronged. "Waa ...! I won't let go... I want to find Mommy! I want to see Mommy!"

His admiration for Charmine only grew after watching how she won over Uji Quin. Chris could not wait to see her, to be in her arms again.

Anthony's face remained cold. He gave a firm 'no', but why did the kid still insist on the matter?

Just as he was about to tell him off, Nial walked toward him. "Bro, it's bad. Here's the latest update: My sister-in-law is being pestered to marry a man named William Peterson. They're chatting on Whatsapp!"

"What?" Anthony frowned. He no longer cared about Chris beside him.

Chris, too, stopped annoying him instantly as he stood up and looked at Nial.

Nial continued, "Yeah, you heard right. I have a mutual friend with William, and he happened to see some old folks texting William about Charmine, and he also saw William texting her. He told me about it right away."

An ominous gleam flashed past Anthony's eyes.

William Peterson? Charmine was texting William Peterson?

She only left for a day, yet she was already meeting another man?

He looked at Luke coldly and instructed, "Get the car ready, we're going to the Violet Villa

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"Yes, Sir." Luke went out right away to prepare the car.

Anthony held onto Chris' arm and walked to the door. Nial followed swiftly, not wanting to miss out on the exciting drama.

The matte black luxury car left the Bailey mansion and headed for Violet Villa.

Meanwhile, at Violet Villa...

Charmine's phone rang incessantly; they were all news shared to her by Kay and his men.

[Burlington won against Uji Quin for one billion!]

(Uji Quin, defeated!)

[Who is the Boss!?!]

Charmine ignored them all as she focused on the documents sent to her by William. She had to fix the problems so that she could ask William to leave her alone.

After what happened last night, Charmine made up her mind to be with Anthony. Of course, she had clear things up with William so that her four Uncles would leave her alone.

At that moment...

Knock, knock, knock!

The wary Charmine inched closer to the door. She looked through the peephole and saw Julian standing outside.

Why did he come again?

She opened the door and condescendingly commented, "Are you here to be asked to leave again?"

"Charmine, I came here today with an important matter. Didn't you want to find Rex Walker? I can take you to him," said Julian, not beating around the bush.

Charmine frowned. Rex Walker?

"You know where he is?"

"Of course. I've also prepared a gift for you. Follow me," said Julian before he turned away.

While she hesitated for a moment, the mention of that name-Rex Walker-made Charmine follow after Julian. She could at last beat him up, so long as she knew where Rex Walker was. 1

With him as Charmine's witness, Tiffany would be over!

Julian knew his plan worked when he heard Charmine walking right behind him. Since the previous incident, his reputation had deteriorated while Mile-End's shares steadily dropped, resulting in him losing over hundred millions of bucks every day. Furthermore, his family members and even shareholders had not been pleased with him.

If everything went on according to plan, Charmine would fall for him and everything would be fixed. He had to win Charmine's heart!

They both got into a car that then drove out of Burlington and headed for a secluded village. Charmine sat on the backseat as she rested with her eyes closed, but she was still very alert of the things happening around her. She would open her eyes from time to time to look outside the window, taking note of road signs and the direction.

The journey took them eight hours, and it was only in the evening that the car pulled over before a mountain.

Julian got out of the car and opened the door for Charmine like a gentleman. "I'm afraid we'll have to get there by foot," said Julian. "I'm sorry for the inconvenience."

However, Charmine merely opened the other door and got out of the car, swiftly and rather charismatically. She stood by the road and looked over.

She could see a small village at the heel of the mountain. The small roads were rugged and rocky with countless tiled roof huts.

The scene looked like it was straight out of a poem, especially with the way how dark clouds of smoke came out of the tiled roof huts.

Who would have thought Rex Walker would vanish for five years, all while he lived in a peaceful place?

Julian closed the car door and walked to her side. "The road is rocky, so it's best if you hold onto my arm."

Tiffany almost tripped over when walking down the mountain, so Charmine would likely need his help as well. All it took was a little body contact, and she would eventually feel some type of way for him! Also... How would Anthony feel if he saw a photo of them touching one another, and realized she was seeing another man while she was with him?

Hah!

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The last thing Julian expected was for Charmine to reply sharply, "Hold on, do you think I'm that fake girlfriend of yours? Walk quicker, and don't drag me down."

With that, Charmine walked in front of him. The path was narrow and rugged with steps made of stones, each steeper than the previous ones.

Despite that, Charmine walked with grace and stability, and she got a few steps down swiftly.

Julian looked at her back with narrowed eyes. How could Charmine walk with such grace on such a rugged path? Not to mention, she could easily slip and fall in just a misstep. It was a daunting path, yet she was not scared at all.

Amazement welled in Julian's eyes.

Tiffany, on the other hand, practically glued herself to him when they came to this place last night, and her actions served only to stroke Julian's ego as a man. Looking at Charmine's confident self, however, made him see that a woman could be just as handsome.

A woman like her could only be his.

Julian's gaze darkened at the thought of his plan as he caught up to Charmine. Both of them walked for at least half an hour before reaching the heel of the mountain.

The sky had darkened at that point, and villagers had started to make meals at their homes, evident by the smoke coming out of their chimneys.

Julian eventually cut Charmine off and walked in front of her instead. "Follow me."

Charmine remained cautious as she followed him deeper into the village. They walked past ridges and roads, and under the dark sky, there were no villagers in sight.

As he walked, Julian slowly began, "Charmine, I've regretted my actions over the past five years. I shouldn't have supported Tiffany's mistakes back then."

Charmine merely scoffed and said nothing to that.

If a douchebag could repent, the world might as well start rotating in the opposite direction.

Still, Charmine was all up to find out what Julian was trying to pull.

"What I'm saying is true, Charmine." Julian stopped abruptly and turned to look at her.

"Back then during our wedding ceremony, I genuinely wanted to marry you, and I sincerely wanted to make it up to you for the rest of my life. What happened between me and Tiffany was an accident, and I brought you here to find Rex Walker today to prove my sincere intentions."

"Cut the bullsh*t. Are you walking or not?" huffed the impatient Charmine.

Julian's face darkened again. He put down his ego to say such things to her, yet Charmine showed him such an attitude?

How could she be so rude?

He stamped down his anger at the thought of his plan and fought back the urge to lash out. "You'll believe me soon enough."

His cold tone was filled with confidence. As he walked, he made a phone call to instruct, "Charmine doesn't believe me. We'll have to do it now."

"Huh? Mr. Cabell, are you truly sure you want Ms. Tiffany to be"

"This is an order. Do it now," asserted Julian before he hung up.

The keen Charmine overheard everything.

'Do it now'? To Tiffany?

What trick was Julian trying to play?

She followed behind Julian as they arrived at a remote, lone hut in the area built leaning toward the mountain. A faint, very dim light came from inside the hut.

Instead of leading Charmine to the main door, Julian led her to the one side of the hut.

There was a see-through window, and Charmine could peer inside with it. She saw a large, rough-looking man tossing a tied-up woman onto the bed.

"Forgive me, Ms. Tiffany," said the man, "but Mr. Julian wants to beg for Charmine's forgiveness. You crossed the line back then... This is what you deserve."

The man's thick, rough hands tore Tiffany's clothes.

Rip!

The woman shrank into the bed as she screamed and cried all while her dress was torn, her two long, white legs exposed in the process.

Chapter 348

"No... No! Julian won't do this to me! Go away! You can't do this to me! I want to see Julian!"

"Forget about it! Your Julian has fallen for Charmine and doesn't like you anymore! You'll be in my care tonight!" With that, the man went on top of Tiffany and tore her dress violently.

The clothing was ripped apart just like that, leaving Tiffany with only her underwear and bra. She wailed and trembled.

Charmine frowned. Julian had the heart to go as far as putting Tiffany in bed with another man? Speaking of the man, Charmine could tell he had some surgeries done to his face even with only his side-profile. She could tell, with her sharpness, that it was Rex Walker.

With fierce and violent eyes, Rex Walker's facial features were rough and thick as he had yellowish teeth. Who would have thought he was hidden in this mountain village for five years, only to appear and assault Tiffany?

"I know you want revenge, Charmine," murmured Julian "so this is my most sincere apology." As he spoke in the darkness, he held her hand. "I can promise you that I won't let you down for the rest of our lives. I won't see Tiffany ever again. I'll make it all up to you, all of my mistakes, by a hundred-fold."

His eyes were sincere and his voice sounded genuine. The level of sincerity was so refined that even Julian could not tell if he meant it or not. Somehow, unknowingly, his feelings for Charmine had changed.

Alas, Charmine merely scoffed as she pulled her hand away from his before walking to

the hut's main door.

Julian frowned. What was she doing?

Bam!

Instantly, Charmine kicked open the wooden door and walked to the bedroom.

In the bedroom, she found Rex Walker on top of Tiffany as made out with her. Tiffany's clothes were all torn off.

Rex Walker saw Charmine approaching them, thus he guiltily said, "What... What are you doing here? This woman made me hurt you five years ago. I'll hurt her now!"

"Pah!"

Charmine scoffed and walked to the bedside and reached out to hold Tiffany's face.

She felt for a spot and tore it with force.

Fwoop!

Instantly, a skin-mask was torn away. The face of 'Tiffany' came off of the woman's face.

She was not Tiffany at all!

The air became tense and quiet.

Rex was flabbergasted, and Julian-who just walked in-was just as shocked.

Julian spent a large sum of money to make this skin-mask. How could Charmine spot it in the dark? How did she know this was a skin-mask? Was she so observant?

Charmine looked at the mask and tossed it aside, and it landed on Julian's feet.

Her gaze hardened as she sharply glared at Julian. "What's the fun in pulling this stunt?" she sneered.

"Charmine, I..." Julian was caught off-guard, speechless at the turn of events.

He looked forward to having Charmine fall for him, not for her to expose him...

Meanwhile, Charmine already turned over and held onto Rex's collar. She raised him up!

Charmine managed to pull up a tall and big man like Rex, a heavily built man with a weight about 70 kilograms, from the bed!

Charmine threw him with all her might, and a loud crash was heard as Rex was slammed against the wall. The hub shook at the impact.

"Argh!"

He landed on the floor and let out a loud cry. He could feel his organs shaking! How could a woman have such strength in her body?! Was she a monster?

Before he could speak, Charmine got closer to him, one step at a time, as an ominous aura was emitted from her being.

Chapter 349

Charmine stood before Rex Walker with ice-cold eyes.

The man before her ruined her five years ago. He ruined her entire life!

It did not matter how Tiffany bribed him; he was an adult man who did a despicable act against an innocent woman. A grown-up!

A man like him should be dead.

With fists clenched tightly, Charmine pounded Rex Walker's face.

"Argh!"

Rex fell onto the ground again as a tooth fell out of his gums. Just as he was about to get back up on his feet, Charmine climbed on top of him as she unleashed kicks after

punches.

With a deadly gaze, Charmine's punches were driven with ferocity and savagery. It was as though she was pummeling a mere punching bag.

"Aaarghhh!"

Rex cried out in agony as he shielded his head with his arms, cowering in a corner as he cried out, "Mr. Cabell... Mr. Cabell! Help...help me! Argh!"

Each cry was more harrowing than the last as he wailed in agony.

Julian wanted to step in, but the air Charmine was exuding was too murderous!

Moreover...

Charmine should have her fill since she wanted to punch him! Only with that could Charmine forgive Julian

"This is what you deserve," said Julian, "so take it!"

The helpless Rex could only resign to his fate as he took in her punches with his head shrank in.

The sight only fueled Charmine's anger to a greater degree, and her fury boiled within her. "Damn it! I was ruined by a useless man like you?! You jerk!"

She raised him up once more, ready to toss him out of the window!

Rex was terrified. He would be heavily incapacitated if she tossed him out, if not dead!

Was Charmine mental? Did she truly want to toss him out of the window?

"Wait, wait!" cried Rex. "Wait! Let me go! It wasn't me! I wasn't the one who slept with you back then!"

"Pah!"

Charmine scoffed. Did he think she would believe a bullsh*t like this?

She raised her hands and tossed him out.

Crash!

Rex was thrown right out of the window as broken wood pieces scattered.

The violence of the scene was as if they were filming an action movie!

Julian was shocked. Since when did Charmine become so strong? Was she not weak and shy? How could she be so powerful?

Rex landed on the floor as fresh blood spurted out from his mouth. He mumbled weakly,

"Not me...really wasn't me...! Why don't you believe me...?!"

Charmine's eyes narrowed at that. Why was it not him, he said? She made a thorough investigation and found out he was the one whom Tiffany had bribed!

She jumped out from the window, held onto his arm, and dragged him away. "Don't defend yourself, I'm bringing you to the police!"

Even though she was not pressing charge on Tiffany yet, she had to get hold of this piece of evidence!

For all the pain she endured in five whole years, she would make them pay dearly!

Tiffany –who had watched in the dark-stomped her feet anxiously. What now? What could she do?!

It would be over for Tiffany once Charmine brought Rex to the police station!

Tiffany had carefully planned everything, all so Charmine would fall head over heels for Julian. Not only was that ruined, but Charmine took Rex with her!

Tiffany was about to rush out when Rex-dragged across the ground, skin frayed and all burst in agony, unable to hold back the pain, "Boss Jordan, please forgive me! I beg you! I wasn't the one who slept with you back then!"

Chapter 350

"It's true that I followed Tiffany's instruction to walk into the karaoke room in Royal Banquet Bar, but the room was empty, and Tiffany locked the door from the outside because she didn't want either of us to run away.

"I thought the plan had failed, that I wouldn't earn my commission, but the Gang Master actually carried you back to the room! The person who slept with you was the Walkers' Gang Master!"

Rex Walker cried out in agony. He sounded sincere and honest, nothing like a lie would sound like.

Charmine frowned. She stopped and looked at him sharply. "The Walkers' Gang Master? Do you mean Alexander Walker?"

"Yes, yes, yes!" Rex noticed how she stopped to listen, thus he hastily continued,

"When he brought you back, he gave you to me and asked me to pretend that everything went as planned. The sky was already brighter then. You looked messed up and were sent back by the Gang Master. It's obvious that he slept with you! How would I dare touch the woman that the Gang Master slept with!

"Also, Tiffany and Mr. Cabell came to pick you up just a few minutes after that. I never touched you; not even the tip of your fingernails! I can swear to God! If you don't believe me, you can ask Mr. Cabell or Tiffany. My clothes were well-put, and I didn't even take off my socks!" said Rex as he looked at Julian, silently begging for help.

Charmine did not even turn to look at Julian; her eyes darkened at the new revelation.

Julian said that she was raped in Royal Banquet Bar, not Phoenix Hotel!

Charmine was sent to Phoenix Hotel to give the impression that she had slept with Julian.

No wonder the staff in Phoenix Hotel said that she saw two people dragging her to the hotel.

So that was the reason!

Did that mean Charmine, by some chance, happened to walk out of the karaoke room before Rex got in, ran into Alexander Walker, and was raped after that?

Julian caught up with them and said, "Charmine, since it's in the past and you've beaten him up, there's no need to bring this to the police. If you're still unsatisfied with the matter, I can help you find the Walkers' Master and make him apologize to you."

Charmine glared at him coldly. "Do you think I'm after an apology? What I want is for Tiffany to be put into prison. She has to pay for what she did to me!" snapped Charmine before she continued to walk away.

Tiffany—who observed everything from afar—was just as staggered as Julian.

Was Charmine that cruel that she wanted to ruin Tiffany completely? They had already apologized to her! Why was she still hooked onto vengeance?! 2

Julian glared at her back as his lips curled into an evil smirk. He had long planned for Charmine to not leave this place easily.

He had to have her tonight.

He signaled toward Rex and Tiffany before he went to chase after Charmine.

Tiffany sighed—they thankfully had a Plan B. Whatever it took, that plan had to succeed! She walked up to Rex and said, "You're not so bad at making up stories! She actually believed you! Come on up, I'll reward you after this."

"o...kay..." Rex supported his wounded body and went back to his hut as quickly as he

could.

What he had said was no lie at all, and he wanted to tell that. He truly did not sleep with Charmine, but there was no point in talking about it. It was enough that he could get away from that evil woman and survive!

Meanwhile...

Charmine tried to walk out of the village based on her memory. She could hear Rex's words ringing in her ears.

She got out from the room before Rex came in, and slept with another man.

That man was Alexander Walker.

She had seen Alexander before, when she went into the Walkers' base the other night.

Alexander was a hauntingly beautiful man, devilishly handsome. Charmine, on the other hand, was ugly and terrible-looking five years ago. Why would a high-up gang master sleep with someone like her? Charmine felt something off about the whole story. Did she miss out on something?

Chapter 351

Charmine walked as she swam in her thoughts, but it became stranger the more she walked. She was sure she had passed this particular area... Why was she back in the same area?

She remembered that it took less than half an hour to get to Rex's hut from the entrance of the village, yet she had walked for over an hour already. Why was she not out yet?

She stopped dead in her tracks and eyed her surroundings.

Her surroundings were dimly lit by the moonlight. Nothing seemed out of the ordinary, just some huts sitting not far away from where she stood.

Perhaps she was too caught up with her thoughts that she did not pay attention to her surroundings? She focused on the path in front of her and continued walking.

Despite that, she found no way out even as she walked. She always returned at the same spot by the ridge.

How peculiar.

All of a sudden, rain fell from the sky. It was not too heavy, nothing like a downpour, but it was enough to drench anyone.

"Charmine!" called a gentle yet urgent voice.

Julian ran up to her and removed his suit to cover her head. "It's raining. Why don't we look for a shelter?" he offered as he reached out to hold her, seemingly worried.

"Cut the bullsh*t!" Charmine pulled off his suit and tossed it back at him. "Tell me, what's up with the path?"

"It's a long story, and I just realized it as well. Let's find a shelter first, and I'll tell you then."

With that, Julian covered Charmine with his suit again and walked in front of her.

Charmine did not want to follow him, but everything seemed so strange. It did not help that the rain got heavier by the minute, thus she had no choice but to follow him.

With Julian taking the lead, both of them eventually arrived at a pitch-dark cave, but Julian used his phone as a torch to light up the cave.

Both Julian and Charmine were drenched, and that went especially for Julian as his white shirt was completely wet. Even his hair had beads of water dripping down from it. He looked at Charmine. "Come on in to rest. The entrance is too chilly."

Charmine tossed him his suit and asked impatiently, "What is it?" She did not want to spend any more time with him in the cave. Julian did not expect her to be so rude even after being drenched, but he eventually relented as he explained, "When I came out to chase after you, Rex told me that there's a nickname for this village, and they call it the Ghost Village. No one can get out of here when night falls, and that even goes for the villagers who live here." Ghost Village?

Charmine scoffed, "Do you think I'm still a three-year-old girl?"

"Of course, I wouldn't lie to you. You've changed so much after all these years, so you should've heard about this. With a special designing method, an architect could create the effect of a ghost town that keeps anyone from getting out.

"This village and the huts were built according to this principle. No one can leave this place without adequate light when night falls," added Julian.

Charmine frowned. She knew about that principle.

To explain it, any living thing would travel in circles should they have no clear intention. If the surroundings or the signs appeared similar, a passerby would keep traveling in a circle.

That went especially at night. Even with the help of a torch, the visibility was compromised while the surroundings were made of similar-looking huts and fields. Charmine saw small houses from afar and tried to walk toward them, but the truth was that those houses were positioned at such an angle that it was in fact misleading her to walk in a circle.

She had to wait for sunrise so she could get a better view of everything-ridges and all-and only then would she be able to get out.

Julian saw the change in her eyes, and his voice became gentler than before. "Sit down and have a rest. I'll make fire." With that, he started looking for woods to pile up.

Chapter 352

Charmine saw Julian piling up wood but remained unperturbed as she fished out her phone and fiddled with it.

Julian did not stop her. He knew that there was no signal reception in this village, and no message of hers would be sent with that.

Since both she and Julian were stuck in the cave, Charmine had to spend a night with him until morning came. Julian would start a fire that could warm her as he would dry her clothes, care for her, and look after her. Charmine was sure to be moved!

Since her clothes were soaked, Charmine would have to remove them so he could dry them. Something would surely happen then.

Charmine would be his by the night ended!

Meanwhile, Charmine did not seem to care about him. She leaned on the wall while she continued working on her phone.

On the other side, Julian kept up his caring persona as he ignited fire between them. He also picked up his suit and dried it out by the fire. After a while, he asked with a caring tone, "Put this one when it's dried out, alright? Why don't you take a nap first?"

"Nap? Where?" quipped Charmine.

Julian frowned; Charmine was picky. After all, there were stones everywhere without a place to lay down.

Did it matter that she was picky, though? All that mattered was that she spoke to him; there was an improvement!

Charmine stayed quietly as well, and it was apparent that she was willing to stay here with him!

He put on his best act as he kindly replied, "I'll make you a bed."

There was some hay that he had prepared, but he placed them further inside the cave to make it less noticeable. At the thought of Charmine laying on the hay, Julian's eyes glimmered with anticipation and desire.

There were only the two of them here. He had to bed her!

Willingly, he went into the deep end of the cave to look for the hay. It took him almost an hour of effort to make the bed.

"It's ready for you now."

The cave was rather cold, and it was tiring to sit on the stone floor. Charmine would surely choose to lay down!

However...

"You lay down if you want. I don't need it," sneered Charmine.

What did she mean, she did not need it?

Before he could process her words, a loud hum was heard in the skies followed by a bright searchlight.

The sound...

Julian almost could not believe his eyes. He rushed to the entrance of the cave to see a helicopter landing from above. Just like he speculated, it was the noise of a helicopter!

He frowned at Charmine. "Did you call for this?"

"You're not too dumb after all." Charmine's red lips curled upward as she dusted her buttocks. "I'm leaving now. Enjoy your night in the cave."

With that, she walked out of the cave.

Julian quickly grabbed her arm. "How did you contact them? When did you contact them?"

There was no signal in the village. It was impossible to contact them!

"Do you really think my phone doesn't have a signal booster?" asked Charmine rhetorically with an amused tone.

While it was true that the village had no signal reception, Charmine had modified her phone in such a way that she would get a signal to contact the outside world, even if she went to an ancient forest!

She swung his arm away and marched toward the helicopter.

The helicopter was parked two meters up in the air. Charmine leaped forward and jumped up swiftly. She accurately grabbed the lower part of the helicopter and used her lower body strength to jump inside the helicopter.

Her movements were swift and refined.

Julian looked at her arrogant back with clouded eyes. He clenched his fists tightly.

That meant Charmine knew she could leave the village from the start, but she watched him start a fire, dry the clothes, and make the bed?

She acted so calmly not because she was willing to spend the night with him, but it was because she merely waited for her time to leave! "Charmine! How can you be so cold-hearted?!"

Chapter 353

"Cold-hearted?" Up in the helicopter, Charmine scoffed as she glared at Julian. "I guess I am cold-hearted, but nothing like you. So fake and yet you're nowhere close to that fake girlfriend of yours! You guys wanted to set me up to gain my trust and my assets, huh? Hah! Dream on!"

Her clear and cold voice resonated in the night sky as the helicopter rose higher in the air.

Julian's body jolted at Charmine's words. She knew of his plan from the start?

How was she so sharp?

How did the woman who used to follow after him-the shy and dumb girl-became so smart and cautious?

His fists tightened even as he stared at Charmine carried away by the helicopter.

Why was Charmine so cruel? Could she not tell that his feelings for her became genuine as of late?

One day... He would make her love him one day!

Frustrated, he kicked at a stone in the cave. Julian disappointedly gazed at the hay bed he had made. He nearly succeeded in his plan, and they would have gotten closer to one another! Alas, it was futile...

Damn it. He wanted her so badly!

Thoughts of the lean, haughty Charmine occupied Julian's mind incessantly.

Inside the helicopter...

Kay handed Charmine fresh clothes to change into.

"Boss Jordan, do wash up and get changed. Don't get ill."

"Okay." Charmine accepted the clothes and walked into the restroom inside the helicopter.

The bathrobe caught Charmine's attention as she bathed, and her mind instantly wandered to the memory of when she stood in front of Anthony in just her bathrobe.

Oh, right! Anthony! Chris!

She promised Chris that she would call him after everything got sorted, and she had not contacted them. She wondered how they were doing.

Charmine quickly finished her shower and walked out to ask, "Any news from Anthony?"

"Well..." Kay's eyes darted as he spoke, "Boss Jordan, are you sure you want to be with Anthony? Are you not going to reconsider the words the four men said to you?"

"What's there to reconsider? William is indeed a good man, but once cannot force a relationship. I can only treat him as a colleague." Charmine dried her hair and sat on the chair.

Kay sat beside her and asserted, "But Anthony slept with another woman five years ago! And he even had a son! You'll become a step-mom if you marry him!" 1

"That's quite good. I don't have to get pregnant – I get one for free! Anyone would dream to have that! You won't understand how painful it is for a woman to be pregnant for nine months and give birth." Charmine reclined on the chair languidly and fished out her phone.

Kay was speechless.

That was it! It was over! Boss Jordan could no longer think clearly! How could she mix up the facts and even spoke of the disadvantages as her advantages? Would William adopt a kid right away if he heard what Charmine had said?

Charmine said nothing else as she turned on her phone to contact Anthony and Chris, only to find her Twitter and Whatsapp filled with countless messages and multiple missed calls.

Her phone had somehow had its Do Not Disturb function turned on, and all notifications were silenced and were not displayed.

She clicked on the chatroom to see her screen bombarded with the following:

[Mommy! Mommy! Where have you been?]

(Mommy! Daddy and I are looking for you! Reply me when you see this!]

[Mommy, Mommy! Waaa! Do you hate Momo now? Do you not like Momo and Daddy anymore?]

[Momo misses you! What did Momo do...? Did Momo piss Mommy off? Mommy, please don't disappear.] Charmine frowned. Did she accidentally turn on the Do Not Disturb mode?

Chapter 354

She had not contacted Anthony and Chris for the whole day. They must have been anxious!

She called Anthony right away, but all she heard was the automated voice through the phone, "Sorry, the number you have dialed is unavailable."

Unavailable?

She called Chris' phone and the same automated reply greeted her.

It was not until then when she realized something was up, thus she turned her gaze toward Kay. "What did you do?"

"N-Nothing," blurted the anxious Kay, unable to meet Charmine's gaze.

Charmine glared at him unblinkingly. "Nothing? I know how Anthony is, so why is it so hard to get in touch with him? And why is my phone on Do Not Disturb mode?"

"This... Well... Perhaps Anthony wasn't looking for you at all? Perhaps...he doesn't treat you as seriously as you thought? Err... Also, maybe you're the one to turn on the Do Not Disturb mode without realizing it?" I

"Hah! Yeah, right! Go on, continue!" Charmine tossed her phone onto the table and glared at him questionably with her hands on her waist.

Her gaze was sharp like a knife, ready to cut him into pieces.

Kay shivered under her gaze. He stood up quickly and quipped, "I'm going to the bathroom."

"I think Africa suits you quite well. You'll go back tomorrow," came Charmine's calmly masked threat.

Terrified with the comment, Key instantly sat down and confessed, "Boss Jordan, don't blame me! This was all Mr. Pop's idea!

"He wanted Anthony to think that you chose William over him. He even made us wipe clean the route you and Julian had taken, so that Anthony would think you and Julian did this on purpose to avoid him.

"Now that Anthony and Chris couldn't find you, it seems that they had given up..."

'Given up?

That explained why no one picked up her calls!

Anthony must have thought she wanted to be with William, and he might even assume that she wanted to get back with Julian!

Knowing him and his jealousy, who knew what else he made up in his mind?
She took out phone, trying to turn on her location.
Kay said, "No use. Mr. Zul made us keep a close eye on Anthony and Chris Bailey. When we checked an hour ago, we found out they had gone out of radar as well."
Gone out of radar...
This was the first time Charmine wanted to beat them up for what they did. How would she find them? What if Anthony hated her for this? All this happened just as she made up her mind to be with Anthony, too...
What if Chris had a seizure again?
Overwhelmed with worry, Charmine barked, "This is stupid. I want all of you to use everything you got to find where they are, right now! Otherwise, you'll be sent to Africa and mine for diamonds tomorrow onward!"
"Ahh, ahh! I'll check right away!" The terrified Kay shot up from his seat and got to work on his laptop.
He did not want to go back to Africa.
Charmine seemed genuinely angered. It seemed that her feelings for Anthony were genuine...
Did that mean all hope was lost for William?
No, no! The person he should be most worried about was himself! He had to do the task she gave him, and fast!
Charmine wanted to search for them as well, but the program on her phone was not complex enough to locate Anthony and Chris. She could only ask them to send her to Violet Villa; only there would she have some high-functioning computers that could amplify her power to search and locate.
Once she got out of the helicopter, she warned Kay, "You have one hour!"
One hour!
Kay wanted to cry. How could he find Anthony and Chris if they intentionally evaded Charmine?
Although they were highly skilled, Anthony was even more skilled! What could he do? Where should he even start?

Chapter 355

Once Charmine entered her villa, Kay frantically called Mr. Zul's number. "What do I do? Boss Jordan says that I'll be sent to Africa if I can't find Anthony and Chris in one hour!"
"Then go back to Africa. Sacrificing you is worth it for Charmine's sake. Oh, Kay, what a noble man!" comforted Mr. Zul.
Kay's lips twitched at his words. "But Boss Jordan also said that if she can't find them, she'd have no heart to do the research, and she won't care for anything else!"
Uncle Zul reeled back in shock
Preposterous!
"Then look for them!" ordered Mr. Zul. "Keep searching! Use everything you got to find them!"
Surely they would be able to find Anthony Bailey, what with all the men they had! Inside the villa...
Charmine hastily went up to the computer room.
She was worried for Chris. What if he had seizures again under the assumption she did

not want him anymore? He was just a boy; he did not deserve such agony! Still, judging Anthony's character, it was likely that he would keep Chris away from her if he despised her and under the impression that she was frolicking with other men.. The Baileys had way too many properties, and Charmine could only try her luck in searching

At that moment...

She was greeted with the sight of both Anthony and Chris on the sofa on the second floor.

Anthony was dressed in his usual, customized suit-elegant, expensive, and handsome while Chris slept on his lap. His small, adorable face seemed at peace.

Before them were snacks, pizzas, cakes, and a glass of milk placed on the coffee table. It seemed that they prepared everything for her!

Charmine's eyes twitched. "How... Why are you both here?"

"What? Do you not want to see us?" Anthony said calmly.

Charmine explained hastily, "Of course not! I'm just curious. Aren't you supposed to...leave, and never want to see me again?"

"If the woman I like really cheated behind my back, I'll only get rid of her lover instead of walking away. So, Ms. Jordan, I'm afraid we'll have to disappoint those who set it up," spoke Anthony, voice crisp and masculine, as a faint smile made its way to his face.

Charmine was shocked. Anthony knew someone set this up? How smart was he?

Also, did he just say that he would only kill the other person if she cheated on him?

How officious!

Charmine instinctively walked toward them and sat by Anthony's side. "Your overzealousness is rather impressive! Still, what made you think I'd show up here?"

"Well, I've lived with you for quite some time now, and I'd be a loser if I didn't know who you are," commented Anthony as he gently placed Chris by his side and handed a slice of cake to her.

His action was elegant and smooth, giving one a sense of sensibility and maturity.

Charmine accepted the cake as she failed at biting back her grin. "It almost seems that you're certain about me not liking William and Julian."

"Of course."

Charmine did not even like him. Why would she have feelings for a nerd like William Peterson?

As of Julian... Hah! Anthony knew Charmine would not be blind.

He had to admit that he was furious when he knew Charmine went out with Julian while he and Chris came to Violet Villa. However, after looking for them half a day, they realized every trace was wiped clean, and only Charmine's men were capable of doing such things.

He then thought about William, and it all made sense.

"Have some bites," offered Anthony, "you must be hungry."

Charmine felt a strange surge of warmth that spread throughout her chest. She disappeared for a day, but not only did Anthony not hate her for it, but he even prepared a table with various dishes for her.

Chapter 356

Charmine grew more certain of the decision she made.

"Oh, how's it going with the Special Warfare 919 Spy Camera?" spoke Charmine as she ate. "I want to go back soon and sleep with Momo."

Anthony's eyes widened. Did Charmine just say she wanted to go back to his mansion? It seemed as though there was a change in Charmine's heart after what had happened! Charmine noted how Anthony remained silent at her question, thus she suspiciously asked, "What? Is it impossible?"

"Nothing's impossible, and I don't have to deal with it either. I'll let McKenzie watch all she wants. Momo and I will be staying here until my father's birthday celebration," decided Anthony, all with a calm disposition.

Charmine looked at him in shock. "Live here?"

Anthony nodded. "The most dangerous place is always the safest place. I'm sure Ms. Jordan understands this principle."

It all clicked for Charmine at that very moment. Anthony had gone all over Burlington to look for her, but nobody thought he would go to Violet Villa. Charmine knew not how Anthony pulled it, but nobody found out he came back. Not even her own men knew! McKenzie would never know Anthony planned to stay in Violet Villa with her, what with her mere capabilities.

"That's a good idea," agreed Charmine, "let's do it!"

McKenzie would surely hunt them down in the following days, but Charmine would make sure she would never find them. She would pull at all the stops for it.

Once the birthday celebration was over, Senior Bailey would stop pestering Anthony to marry McKenzie.

Still, not leaving the villa for a few days seemed rather impossible to accomplish.

It was as if Anthony could read her mind when he assured, "Everything is settled; we've brought with us all necessary items. Living here for one month isn't an issue." Charmine glanced around and noticed there were men-related and child-related items placed around.

Had Anthony planned to live with her for some time?!

As Charmine gazed at all the snacks and food on her table, however, she decided to keep them anyway.

With that, Charmine picked up a fork and ate the cake as she sipped the milk prepared for her. Her movement was swift and unpretentious.

Anthony sat by the side as he gazed at her, gentleness evident in his eyes.

It was only after a few spoons in that Charmine remembered an important issue. The four Uncles said someone was plotting against Anthony, that he was plotted to sleep with a woman five years ago. They said that Anthony had no leads to what happened, and who did it.

Charmine thought of asking Anthony for details so she could help him, but she hesitated at the thought that it might hurt his ego. It did not help that he intentionally kept it hidden from her, just as how she hid things from him,

She understood how he felt. Furthermore, he was a man once raped...

Charmine eventually decided against asking him.

Charmine only finished her meal when it was two in the morning. "There are many rooms here," said Charmine, "and they're all brand new. Have your pick."

Have his pick?

"Alright."

Anthony carried Chris in his arms and walked straight into Charmine's bedroom. Charmine frowned and walked forward to remind him, "This is my bedroom. You can sleep in the room next to mine."

Although she had decided to accept him, there were still many things unresolved. They could not sleep together all the time!

Moreover, they only shared a bed together to improve Momo's illness, and the boy had shown improvement for some time.

"Momo had been crying a lot today," reasoned Anthony, "and he might have seizures tonight."

That basically meant they had to share a bed again!

With that, he carried Chris in his arms and went right to her bed.

Chapter 357

Charmine was flabbergasted at Anthony's remark

That man always had so many excuses up his sleeve, and Momo is often the center of them all!

Whatever! Since it was for Chris, she let it slide.

She went to secure her spot on one side of the bed and let Chris sleep between them.

Thankfully, Chris was not awake, soundly asleep.

Anthony made no arguments as he laid on the other side, beside Chris. He turned off the light as moonlight peeked from the window, and the room was filled with warmth and love.

Meanwhile, Julian was livid.

He even set up bats so he could be Charmine's knight in shining armor, protecting her from them. Drat, his plan failed horribly!

It did not help his case that Rex had exposed himself, and Charmine would surely act on it.

Tiffany rushed to the cave and grabbed Julian's hands. "Julian, what should we do now?" fretted Tiffany. "I've even given out Rex Walker! I really wanted you two to end up together. I can't believe she can be so heartless, and she's out there too! What if she reports Rex and then presses charges against me? I'll end up in jail..."

"Then why did you do the things you did five years ago if you'd be this scared?" Julian lashed out at her.

Five years ago, he asked Charmine to meet him at Royal Banquet Bar, all so he could make her ask Senior Jordan to give her the 15 percent family share. Everything that happened after that was not what he had planned, but he had to change it accordingly. Because of all that mess, Charmine bore such hatred against him all these years!

Julian had never lashed out at Tiffany before, but he changed ever since Charmine returned to Burlington. He had changed...

Even though she was furious, Tiffany had to lower her head and asked for sympathy, "I'm sorry, Julian. This is all my fault, it really is... Why don't you hand me and Rex out? Put us to jail-maybe then she'll forgive you..."

"I would've done that long ago if I could! Go home and get some rest. Stay low in the following days, and don't look for me." Julian took the umbrella from her and walked into the rain.

Tiffany watched Julian's retreating form as her fists balled tightly.

Did Julian just ask her to not look for him? He was already distancing himself from her! Everyone from the Jordan family gave her the cold shoulder ever since the failed wedding ceremony between Julian and Charmine, and Julian had joined their boat! Hah! What a family! What a bunch of jerks! Tiffany was reduced to a mere football that everyone could kick around!

Funny, seeing as they used to smother her with attention before that.

This should not continue. She had to regain her ground; Charmine should not bully her! Tiffany's hand drifted to her stomach as she thought of her plan.

Soon... It would all unravel!

Her plan would succeed!

Rex, who stood by her side, felt the cold aura Tiffany emitted and quivered at it.

Only then did Tiffany realize someone was next to her, so she concealed the look on her face and asked, "Any update from what I asked you to check?"

Ever since Veronica went to jail, Rex was the only person she could trust.

Rex replied, "I've checked on Madam Cabell. The thing she likes the most is a type of skincare called Jules. The products from this brand aren't available to the public, and only the elite could get their hands on them. Ladies with wealth favored this skincare brand, but the producer only produces a hundred bottles per year, and they'd go on sale on eBay at irregular times, often sold out quickly. Madam Cabell failed to get her hands on them this year, and she's upset about it."

Tiffany frowned. She had heard of this brand; it came out three years ago. Sources said that a genius came up with the skincare products in the lab, and it just so happened that Joey favored that skincare brand as well.

Tiffany had tried to bid one for Joey so she could please her, and she even attempted to buy off this brand for her. Alas, the seller only went online on eBay and never revealed his identity nor replied to any message.

Chapter 358

Who knew Madam Cabell was an avid fan of the skincare brand Jules as well?

Tiffany's eyes narrowed. "There's one more thing to do: Find out Jules' recipes, no matter what it costs."

Since someone bought the skincare, all Tiffany had to do was to get an original product of Jules to a lab and find out the ingredients, and she can then ask a chemist to replicate the product.

Rex nodded. "Yes, Madam!"

Upon leaving the village, Julian called for Julian, "Send flowers and breakfast to Charmine every day from today onward. Also, you don't have to manage my Twitter and Whatsapp anymore."

Oliver had been the one texting Charmine; perhaps Charmine thought he was insincere with that.

Charmine was not the same woman from five years ago. She was no longer easily fooled, so Julian must put more effort into everything!

Somehow, he had started to care more about Charmine. He had only one goal in his mind: he had to win her heart!

The following morning, Charmine's doorbell rang.

Anthony woke up alertly. Seeing that Charmine was still asleep, he walked out of the

room gently.

He walked down the stairs and opened the door to see no one outside, though there was a box with a purple card on top that read:

[Repent. Regret. Remorse.]

Inside the box was a set of breakfast.

Anthony frowned. It was Julian.

So, Julian started to pursue Charmine more seriously, was he?

His eyes darkened. "Send this to Tiffany," he instructed the bodyguards who were on standby in the darkness.

"Huh?" said one of the bodyguards, confused.

Julian sent them to Charmine, but Anthony wanted to send the gift to Tiffany?

They could feel Anthony's burning gaze, however, thus they silently took the box and did as told.

When Anthony closed the door, he saw Chris somehow had woken up and was standing on the staircase.

He frowned and warned in a low voice, "Secret."

"Don't worry, Daddy, I won't tell Mommy! This is the right away to get rid of gifts from the douche!" remarked the cooperative Chris.

Sending the gift meant for Charmine to Tiffany? A hilarious act, it was! One could only imagine how furious Tiffany would be, or what she might do to the gift!

Also, how would Julian react when he found out?

With a thought in his mind, Chris hurriedly wobbled to Anthony, "Daddy, look! We need to manage this phone as well!"

Anthony lowered his head to see that it was Charmine's Whatsapp. Julian had sent her a couple of messages:

(Charmine, believe it or not, I truly regret what I've done.)

[However deep I've hurt you five years ago, I'll love you even harder five years later.]

[Be with me, and I'll spend the rest of my life making it up to you.]

[I can help you to put Rex Walker to jail. But not Tiffany.]

(I don't love her anymore, but she grew up with us. She's your sister, and that makes her my family as well. I won't hurt her, but I won't love her either.)

(Charmine, give me one last chance. Nobody can love you as much as I will.)

Anthony's gaze hardened as he read the texts. He clicked on the screen and deleted all of the unread messages. Swiftly after, he installed a program onto the phone.

Every message from Julian would be deleted, unknowingly!

Julian would not know, and Charmine would not find out!

Chris gleefully jumped with admiration for him. "Daddy is amazing! Nicely done!"

Anthony's gaze remained cold and distant, however. It was not enough.

Chapter 359

Anthony took out his phone and called Luke. "Mile-End Corporation has been too bored lately. Give them something to do."

"Yes, Sir."

At Mile-End Corporation.

Julian reclined on his presidential chair languidly as he anticipated for a message to ring his phone. Plastered on his face was a determined expression.

Charmine pined after him for so many years; how could she stop loving so abruptly? She would come back to him so long as he put in some effort into what he did.

All of a sudden, Oliver ran into his room, panting, "This is bad, Mr. Cabell. Something happened! A couple of luxury brands terminated their contracts with us, and they even said they'd never work with us again!"

"What?" Julian's brows furrowed at the report.

Mile-End Corporation's main source of profit was derived from their shopping malls that housed all sorts of luxury shops. Basically, they were places for the rich to spend their cash. If every luxury brand terminated their contracts, the corporation's shares would plummet and would land them in a daunting position.

Head lowered, Oliver meekly added, "According to what I found, this was Boss Bailey's doing."

Boss Bailey?

Anthony Bailey?

It was then Julian recalled what Anthony spoke to him at Violet Villa the last time they met, and his words resonated in his ears: "She's mine. If you disturb her again, I'll make sure the Cabells' name disappears from Burlington!"

So, Anthony did this to him?

Was he not just fooling around with Charmine? Why would a man on such a high pedestal fall

for Charmine? How could he attack the entire Cabell family for this woman?

Abruptly, a few shareholders barged into his room as they voiced their displeasure.

"Mr. Cabell, what's going on here? Why did they terminate their contracts?"

"Our company shares have been dropping due to your personal issues not long ago. The loss

was big, and we've yet to recover. Who did you offend this time?"

"How are we supposed to trust you? Are you trying to destroy Mile-End Corporation?"

"I must've been blinded to have chosen you as the president!"

Each one of them spoke more aggressively than the other.

Julian's gaze turned cold and malicious as he glared daggers at them."Get out!"

Everyone jumped in shock. Julian had gotten too comfortable with his position as the company's president throughout the years.

Even though the shareholders were scared of him, the scare of losing out too much gave them the courage to speak again.

"You should give us a plausible answer!"

"This loss isn't that money can solve on its own. You must do something about it!"

"How am I supposed to solve this when you're all here making a scene? Why don't you be the president then?" Julian glared at them with his authoritative look.

The men jumped a little. Them, becoming the president? How could they?

Although they were the main shareholders, their job as shareholders was to collect the profits. The real power to make decisions and solve problems still belonged to Julian.

One had to admit that Julian was indeed a capable man.

Well... That was before everything went downhill!

One of the men said, "Alright, we'll give you some time. You have half a month to turn Mile End Corporation's reputation for the better. We wait to see the results."

With that, he left with the rest of the shareholders.

After they left, Julian's hands tightened with such force that the armrest of his chair showed some cracks. His aura was akin to a cold winter.

Charmine...! Charmine Jordan!

The once shy Charmine had all that confidence to make Anthony do this to him, just after sleeping with him?

Did she truly think Anthony would like her?

Did Charmine genuinely believe she would live happily ever after with Anthony?

Chapter 360

Hah! Not if he had to do anything about it!

"Keep sending gifts to Violet Villa," Julian ordered Oliver, "and get me tickets to Paris right away!"

Julian had built connections with people over the years, and there were luxury brands that wanted to sign with Mile-End Corporation. All he had to do was talk to their representatives.

Oliver hesitated for a while before he sincerely added, "The things we sent over in the morning were sent away by Boss Bailey to Ms. Tiffany. She's upset."

Oliver's tone shifted to a more concerned, protective tone as he talked about Tiffany.

Julian's face darkened. Anthony sent away the things he sent to Charmine and were sent to Tiffany instead?

Damn... Darn it!

He never wanted to cut things off completely with Tiffany; they had mutual feelings for each other after all. Also, Tiffany had some evidence of his doings with her...

Because of this, he had to go comfort Tiffany!

Why did Anthony have to meddle in his business?

Julian rubbed his temples, and after hesitating for a moment, he instructed, "Keep sending the gifts, and try to send them when Anthony isn't around!"

He was determined to make sure Charmine received his gifts.

As for Anthony... It should be alright so long as there were no face-to-face conflicts. Never did he think, however, that the gifts did not even reach Charmine for days. No matter how he sent them, all of them ended up with Tiffany.

He had not once received any reply from her end, even though he had sent her so many messages!

What else could Julian do at that point?

He only had half a month to gain Charmine's favor, all so she could help resolve the negative impacts dealt on Mile-End Corporation.

At the Jordan mansion.

Tiffany was overwhelmed with fury at the sight of so many gifts piling up inside the house. Her face was distorted in anger.

A box with a purple envelope would come every day, and the gifts would vary: necklaces, bags, and handmade art items!

Julian never showered her that much before! Even when they were together when they were younger, they always had to be secretive about their relationship, that she always had to hide it from everyone.

They got together officially after Charmine was sent to Africa, but by then, they had already known each other too well. It was always her pleasing him and taking care of

him, and he would only send her some gifts on important dates.
Why was he so generous with Charmine?!

Tiffany's heart was overwhelmed with nauseating insecurity, worry, and anger!
She once thought she could control Julian's heart, yet it seemed that she had failed to do so.

Julian's heart had changed. Completely.

With hatred welling in her eyes, Tiffany stood up and walked out of the house.

Ronnie asked, "Tiffany, where are you going?" "I haven't seen Julian for some time now. He probably misses me." Tiffany looked into the mirror by the door and fixed her hair.

"Get the car ready," she ordered Ronnie, "and take me to Mile-End Corporation."

At Mile-End Corporation...

Julian was still thinking of a way to get Charmine back when Oliver barged into his office. "Mr. Cabell, Ms. McKenzie Houston is here, and she's looking for you."

McKenzie?

Julian frowned. She was known as the reputable 'genius entrepreneur', though he only saw her once or twice from afar during one international conference.

What brought her here to Mile-End Corporation?

As he was caught up in his thoughts, McKenzie walked into his room.

She was dressed in a beige lace-dress, exuding an air of elegance and exquisiteness from within that could not be found in Tiffany or even Charmine!

The kind of exquisiteness that could only be passed on through genes, the uppest form of dignity that could only be cultured in those who had grown up in the highest class of society.

Oliver knew his stance and quickly left the room, shutting the door behind him as he did.

McKenzie walked up to his desk. Silently, she placed a small pill bottle on his desk and pushed it toward him.

Julian eyed the bottle. "This is..."

"This is a pill that can help you win Charmine's heart. There's only one of it in the world."

1McKenzie's voice was calm yet calculative.

Chapter 361

Julian's eyes narrowed at McKenzie's offer. Could she truly get Julian what he wanted? Was that substance...an aphrodisiac?

As though she could tell what Julian had in his mind, McKenzie explained, "This isn't just any ordinary aphrodisiac – I worked on this pill for ten years. She doesn't have to ingest it, for as long as her skin touches the pill, you'd be able to do all you want to her."

Julian looked at McKenzie, impressed and in awe.

What a genius entrepreneur! She actually came up with this!

Still...

"Why would you help me?"

"You don't have to know. Anthony would go to the Bailey mansion in ten days, and that'll be your only chance."

McKenzie stood up and walked out of the office in her crystal heels sophisticatedly.

Julian's eyes were fixed on the pill bottle, caught up in his thoughts.

In ten days?

Outside the office door, Tiffany hid behind a plant to stay hidden. When she made sure McKenzie did not spot her, she sighed in relief before signaling to Oliver right next to her. “You, go in and talk to Julian.”

“Yes, Madam.” Oliver understood her and walked into the office.

He saw the pill bottle in Julian’s hand and frowned. “Mr. Cabell, what’s—”

“Cancel all my schedule in ten days,” Julian instructed.

Oliver seemed even more worried at that. “So Mr. Cabell has decided to be with Ms. Charmine? What about Tiffany? If Ms. Tiffany finds out, she might be upset...”

“No, she’s very understanding. She’d know what’s right,” said Julian calmly.

Tiffany, still outside Julian’s office, clenched her fists tightly. Would she have to be his secret lover forever and watched as he chased another woman, all because she was ‘understanding’?

Even Oliver pitied Tiffany; an impressive woman like Tiffany did not deserve to be treated like that.

Oliver built up his courage and asked, “What... What’s next? Even if you eventually get a hold

of Ms. Charmine, she may not fall for your plan so easily seeing who she is right now, and it might be difficult to divorce her later on. Taking her assets won’t be as easy...”

Julian’s eyes narrowed. Divorce?

He did not know why, but that word just made him uncomfortable somehow.

Charmine was so powerful and capable, with so much wealth and resources. Why divorce her?

“Oliver, you speak too much today.”

“I’m sorry.” Oliver lowered his head as he turned to leave, but just as he took a few steps, the question spilled from his lips before he could think, “If Mr. Cabell is not divorcing Ms. Charmine, what would Ms. Tiffany do for the rest of her life?”

The anxious Tiffany clenched her fists as she waited for his answer.

They had been together for so many years. He would probably care for her, right?

Which was why it came as a surprise that, after a moment of silence, Julian replied, “I’ll make sure she has enough money.”

‘Enough money...

Ha-ha-ha! ‘Enough money?’

That basically meant he would not marry her!

Tiffany felt her heart shattered into pieces as tears rolled down her cheeks incessantly.

She had planned things with Julian for so many years as she supported him wholeheartedly, helping him to be Mile-End Corporation’s president, and what did she get in return? ‘Enough money? 1

Julian used to tell her he would love her forever, and that changed to ‘he won’t disappoint her’, and it then changed to ‘enough money’.

Ha-ha-ha...!

Oliver asked nothing else as he left the office and shut the door behind him.

The gut-punched Tiffany’s waterworks did not stop as she hid behind the plant.

Heart tugged at the sight, Oliver instinctively reached out to help her wipe off her tears, but Tiffany took a step back and recomposed herself. “Oliver, please behave.” 2

Defensive like a hedgehog, she spoke pitilessly and unsparingly.

