

Divorce 1031

Chapter 1031 The Dilemma of Two Dads

I found it strange, so I followed her gaze to the opposite side of the street. Matthew was standing beneath a large tree with a stuffed animal in his arms.

When he noticed we were staring at him, he grew uncomfortable and tried to turn away, but it was too late.

I hesitated, looking at Atlas and then at Av, who remained rooted to the spot.

Atlas walked over and crouched down. He lifted Ava's chubby little face with his hand and said, "If you want to go, then go!"

Ava snapped out of it and threw herself into Atlas's embrace. She held onto his neck tightly and said, "Daddy! I just want you as my daddy!"

Atlas patted Ava's back, speaking softly, "Ava, you're such a loving daughter. Isn't it better to have two dads?"

Her eyes held stubborn resentment as she said, "But he's not a good dad!"

"Darling, people make mistakes, and we give them a chance to make up for them. Look! He came to see you, which means he loves you and knows he was wrong. It's great that there are so many people who care about you."

I didn't expect Atlas to say this. In truth, I felt helpless.

Ava looked into Atlas's eyes, and he gazed gently back at her. "You are Daddy's angel, full of love and positivity."

"Then, if I go to see that other daddy, will you still love me?" Ava asked Atlas solemnly.

I was surprised that she harbored such thoughts. Ava truly adored Atlas.

Atlas was surprised, too. He hugged her, saying, "Of course, Daddy will always love you because we're a family!" Atlas showed such affection for the entire family, and it made me feel warm.

He ruffled her head gently. "Daddy will always adore you, even if you have tiny brothers or sisters in the future!"

Ava rested her little head on his shoulder. "Daddy! But can I... not go?"

"What do you think? If someone you want to see doesn't want to see you, would you feel sad?" Atlas asked her. Ava nodded, "Yes!"

"Then don't let him down. Daddy will wait for you here!" Atlas said,

releasing her. "For as long as itel net takes! Then Daddy will bringe

home."

Ava looked at me for help. I nodded helplessly and said, "Go ahead!"

Ava's gaze shifted back to Matthew, still seeming uncertain.

Matthew crossed the street to stand nearby while glancing at us.

Ava looked back at Atlas, who smiled and ruffled her head again. "Go! Daddy will be waiting for you here!"

Ava moved her tiny feet and approached Matthew carefully, pausing now and then to take another look at Atlas.

Atlas came to my side and put his arm around my shoulder. I still held onto Jenny.

When she reached Matthew, Ava turned back to look at us. At that moment, I was experiencing a wide range of feelings.

Matthew crouched down and immediately embraced her. "Ava..."

Ava suddenly started crying loudly.

I wanted to run over to them, but Atlas pulled me into his arms and said, "Give them some time!"

"But she's crying, is she scared? What happened before..." I was anxious.

some Worry, trust me! This is something the child has to face/et

Atlas kissed my forehead and

"It will be okay, blood is thicker than

water!"

I nervously watched the father and daughter. Despite Ava crying so heartbreakingly, she didn't struggle and allowed Matthew to hold her.

I seemed to hear Matthew choking back sobs. I kept swallowing hard, suppressing my own emotions.

Atlas gave me a firm hug and

continued to pat my back. To be honest, I felt depressed because i didn't want Atlas to witness my sadness just yet.

Suddenly, Atlas patted my shoulder, released me, and pointed to Matthew and Ava.

Chapter 1032 She Makes Her Own Decision

I looked up at them and saw Ava's little hand slowly wrapping around Matthew's neck. Her tiny face was snuggled up to Matthew's neck.

This revealed Ava's true feelings. She still loved Matthew. Atlas was right-blood is thicker than water.

I watched as Matthew talked to her, lifted her, and kissed her. She remained still and nestled in Matthew's neck. They looked very affectionate together. After all, it had been about a year since they had last seen one another.

I couldn't understand my own emotions at this moment.

Atlas comforted me, "Don't worry, Ava is ours!"

I watched their every move from a distance as Ava lifted her head from Matthew's shoulder. She even reached out and wiped Matthew's face.

My heart honestly ached. Why had fate been so cruel to me?

After chatting for a while, I saw Matthew walking toward us while holding Ava. He looked at me and then at Atlas.

Matthew lowered his eyes and asked, "... Can I make a request? I..."

My heart skipped a beat. Just as I was about to speak, Atlas's hand on my waist tightened.

"Go ahead," Atlas calmly responded as he looked at Matthew.

"Can I have Ava stay with me for one night? Don't worry, I can take care of her. I-I just want to spend some more time with her!"

"Chloe, since I'm leaving Foswood, can you let me stay with my daughter for one night?" Matthew asked in a very modest tone.

I immediately refused. "That might not be possible. She hasn't been with you for a long time, and she might not be used to it."

Matthew's eyes welled up with tears. He looked down at the little one in his arms, hugging her tightly. "It'll be okay! Ava, is it okay? Just one night with Daddy!" Ava looked into Matthew's wet eyes, then turned to me and Atlas.

I couldn't imagine how conflicted her tiny heart must be. However, I didn't want her to leave my side.

Atlas said, "Let Ava decide for herself!"

"But..."

Atlas looked at Ava and asked, "Ava, do you want to spend one night with your daddy? Just you and your daddy."

"Daddy will take you to kindergarten tomorrow!" Matthew immediately promised, his eyes eagerly looking at Ava, waiting for her answer.

My heart tightened as if it were hanging in my throat.

Ava remained silent. She pouted and lowered her eyes as she fiddled with her hands. She didn't refuse, nor did she agree.

However, the fact that she didn't refuse made it clear to me what was on her mind. She wanted to be with her dad and was so nervous that it felt almost suffocating.

"Alright! Ava, you can have dinner

with your Daddy first and spend some more time with him. If you

want to come home at night, just

call me and I will come to pick you up no matter how late it is. How

about that?" Atlas gently suggested.

She looked up at Atlas with her sparkling big eyes and asked, "Daddy, can you find my dad's house?"

"Yes! Daddy promise to bring you back!" Atlas said confidently.

"Daddy, are you trustworthy?" Ava seemed a bit uneasy, asking for reassurance.

"Absolutely trustworthy! You know that!" Atlas said it patiently.

However, I felt slightly uneasy, as though she might abandon me.

Matthew looked at me and promised, "Don't worry, I'll take good care of her! Just like before!"

I glanced helplessly at Atlas, gripping his arm tightly.

He gently patted the back of my hand, holding onto his arm. "I'm here, don't worry!"

Then he looked at Matthew. "The reason I let you see Ava is not just because she's your daughter. It's about providing the best for her, not about keeping hate in her heart. You'd better shape up!"

"I understand!" Matthew nodded repeatedly. "You can rest assured."

"Ava, so are you going with Daddy?" I asked.

She glanced at Atlas, and seeing his gentle look, she slowly nodded.

With great excitement, Matthew kissed Ava and hurriedly remarked, "Well... we'll be going now! I promise to take good care of her! I'll make

sure to bring her to the kindergarten

on time tomorrow."

Saying this, as if afraid we might change our minds, he hugged Ava and walked briskly towards the exit.

As the figures of the father and daughter disappeared from my sight like that, I couldn't help but choke up, covering my face. I knew this was unavoidable, but my heart still ached.

Chapter 1033 Heartless Little One

Atlas pulled me into his arms and hugged me. Feeling emotional, I asked, "Did she go with him?" My heart felt empty at this very time-hollow and aching. I even blamed Ava for wanting to go.

Atlas lifted my chin with his hand, looking into my eyes. "Don't worry. She belongs to us. If she's upset, she'll call us, and I'll bring her back!"

"Do you know where he lives?" I looked at Atlas with some doubt.

Atlas nodded seriously. "I do. Now, let's go home and wait. We need to give them some time!"

All I could do was embrace Jenny while we were driving. The two little ones would always be frolicking in my embrace, but now there was just one.

Ava clearly seemed to miss him still. In the past, Matt would pick her up from school more often.

Back at the villa, Arnold had already returned. Seeing that Ava was not with us, he was puzzled.

He asked, "Jenny, where's Ava?"

Jenny immediately responded, "Ava went with her other daddy!"

Arnold observed my emotional state and became concerned. He looked into my eyes seriously and asked, "Did you cry? It's normal for her dad to take her. Why are you crying? Did he force her to leave?" "No, it's just that I feel Ava was too heartless. She said she's leaving, and off she goes. I..." I was out of breath and couldn't speak anymore.

Grandma Rose walked out, noticed my red eyes, and said, "This is your fault! This is not how you should act. He is her father."

"Grandma!" I hugged the old lady and choked up.

Atlas walked over, patted my back, and said, "I haven't seen you like this before. Don't worry. Let's wait for news from her!"

Grandma Rose smiled and said, "This is good, and it will make her happy. Don't worry, she won't leave you. Besides, doesn't this show that Matthew has realized his mistakes? Knowing he was wrong, he will be more affectionate towards Ava."

Suddenly, I recalled something Matthew had said and looked at Atlas in panic. "Atlas, he said he wants to leave Foswood. Will he...?"

I didn't dare to continue.

"Nah! He wouldn't have the

opportunity, even if he had such thoughts. He won't be that stupid. If he has such thoughts, I will make sure he never sees Ava again! Don't worry, okay?"

Atlas had a solemn, unquestioning expression as I glanced at him.

Throughout the night, I was restless and agitated. Despite Arnold and Atlas trying to distract me, I couldn't muster any interest. I clutched my phone tightly the entire time.

Late at night, Ava finally video-called

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me. She was wearing new red pajamas and smiling like a little red flower in front of the camera. She widened her eyes and asked "Mommy, where's Daddy?"

Atlas immediately showed a cheerful face.

"Daddy, can I stay with my daddy tonight?" She asked.

Atlas nodded and said, "Sure! Be good!"

"Daddy, can you pick me up from school tomorrow?"

"Okay, I will pick you up from school, and we'll go home together!" Atlas assured her.

Ava finally felt at ease and said, "Mommy, we had burgers and ice cream. Daddy bought me new pajamas and a new dress, and also this!"

She presented a stuffed cat toy that was nearly as large as her. "Daddy said this will accompany me when I sleep from now on! Mommy, Daddy also said he was wrong, and he won't leave Ava behind again!"

I smiled and nodded, feeling a bit emotional.

We spoke for a while until she eventually hung up. Matthew was nowhere to be seen throughout the exchange.

Atlas pulled me into his arms. "Don't worry! Look, she's happy now!"

"She is so happy, but my heart is still heavy!" I pouted like a child. Even though I saw Ava was joyful, my heart was still burdened.

Chapter 1034 Nightmares Come One After Another

I fell asleep in this state, haunted by bizarre nightmares. One moment, I couldn't find Ava. In the next, Atlas was nowhere to be found.

In another dream, I was a beautiful little girl, walking hand in hand with a handsome young man. We appeared to be heading home together after school, jumping and skipping happily as we entered a grand gate.

The gate was truly magnificent. As we ran inside, we saw many people rushing back and forth, but I couldn't see their faces.

The young man released my hand and ran towards a small building. I called after him while chasing him inside.

There was a lot of mist. I wanted to yell, but nothing came out. White fog covered everything, making it impossible for me to locate the young man. I was nervous.

I saw a beautiful woman looking back at me through the mist. Her appearance was so clear, and I murmured, "Mom!"

She smiled and walked inside. Her face was beautiful. I wanted to ask her where the young man was, but she entered the small building, and I quickly followed.

That building had a very large, vacant, and cold living room. The previous group of people vanished out of nowhere.

Next to the large living room was a small hall with a white piano. I touched the piano, running my fingers over the raised golden letters on the lower right corner of the lid. The touch felt real, but I could not read what it said.

I sat, carefully opened the piano lid, and began to play. The melody was harmonious and lively.

Before long, a few people gathered around the piano, including the beautiful woman I had seen earlier. Behind her stood a scholarly-looking man who smiled gently at me with his arm around the woman. Suddenly, I noticed the young man I was looking for sitting beside me. We played the piano together, and I was immersed in the music.

The other couple, presumably husband and wife, also watched us. Standing close to one another was a tall man next to a calm and kind woman. Occasionally, they shared knowing smiles, talking about something.

The scene was harmonious.

But the next moment, everything vanished, leaving only the kind woman. Black blood flowed from the corners of her eyes and mouth.

"Chloe, what's wrong?"

I felt a warm and robust arm pulling me close. I tightly grabbed onto Atlas' hand, staring wide-eyed in terror.

"Don't be afraid, Chloe! Look, I'm here!"

I took a moment to gather myself. My heart was still pounding, and I felt bewildered, unsure if I was in a dream or reality.

When I focused on Atlas's handsome face, I weakly leaned into his embrace.

"What happened? Did you have a nightmare?" He held me gently as he asked.

"What time is it?" I asked, deflecting the question.

Atlas checked the time and replied, "It's almost five!"

"I wonder if she's sleeping well," I said.

Atlas firmly grasped my arm, comforting me. "You can rest easy! That man is her biological father, right?"

I smiled bitterly. "Biological father?"

"Get some more sleep!" He coaxed, and I could only close my eyes and nuzzle into his embrace.

However, my mind wasn't calm. Various thoughts and images kept emerging.

Biological father! Where was my biological father? Is there any news from the Triple Alliance? How is my dad doing?

This chaotic stream of thoughts prevented me from falling back to sleep.

After a while, Atlas got up when he

sensed I hadn't gone to bed. He turned on the small lamp and

stretched. "Want to go for a run

together?"

"Run?" I questioned.

I turned to look out the window, and the day was already breaking.

I reached for my phone and checked the time-it was already 6 a.m., and there were still three hours before Ava went to kindergarten.

"Okay! Let's do some exercise!" I

up

said, lifting the blanket. Getting. and walking around was better than lying there feeling extremely sore.

We got out of bed, changed into

Star, and headed down surely

He joined me for a

jog in the direction of the orchard.

"Atlas, any news from the Triple Alliance?" I suddenly asked.

Chapter 1035 No Room for Refusal

He glanced at me and said, "Yes, we have. I've already sent people to infiltrate, Navi has been quite active recently in recruiting and expanding. Judging by the trend, he seems eager to make a big move." "So, that means we have an opportunity?" I looked at him, seeking clarification. "When are we going there?"

"Dylan has already gone!" Atlas replied.

So that was why I hadn't seen Dylan around in the past few days.

"Did Loak go with him?" I asked.

"Yes! Loak is familiar with the place. Our operation will be more secure with him there," Atlas said without revealing too much. "How about bringing Anya to Fremont Bay?" I asked Atlas. I wanted her around so I could inquire about some issues at any time. "Sure, you can bring her here anytime you want!" Knowing how much I liked the girl, Atlas granted my request without hesitation. "By the way, I'm going to Gerby today! I need to inspect the actual situation at Jaxford Doors Factory. Also, there's something else!" With a doubtful gaze, he asked, "What else is there?"

"You remember when I told you about Beatrice, my classmate? Grayson discovered more information, and since then, she has been admitted to a psychiatric hospital. We have a suspicion that something is not right. I want to go to the hospital where she is."

I knew I had talked to him about this before, so I looked at him as I spoke.

"I took a quick check into this subject. You should not go alone if possible. Take no chances until we get a clear picture. It threatens your safety as well as your classmate's."

Atlas looked at me solemnly and added, "If you're determined to find out, let me arrange for someone to investigate Keller's Dairy first. Oh... they've renamed it Chandler's Dairy."

"So, there's definitely a problem here. This classmate of mine was my closest friend in university. She's a year older than me and always took care of me like an older sister. We shared a dorm. Given what's happened to her, I can't just stand by!"

He nodded. "Alright!"

"Arnold will go with me. He had a classmate who is a police officer in Gerby. I thought I'd investigate and see Beatrice if I had the time."

"He's going too?" Atlas was surprised but thought momentarily, "Well, that's fine. He's full of ideas. Follow his lead, and don't act recklessly!"

"Yeah!" I responded. Even though I was just jogging slowly, I felt exhausted and my breathing was labored.

Seeing my condition, Atlas teased, "It

seems like you lack exercise. How can you be like this? I wondered why

you have so little stamina. You

always give up so early!"

Of course, I understood what he meant. I gave him a sidelong glance and said, "No shame at all."

"This is basic exercise. If your

stamina is not enough, how can we

be ready for pregnancy? How are

you going to be able to have a healthy baby given your physical state?" He spoke cheerfully as if this were an urgent matter that couldn't be delayed.

"Ah..." I stopped suddenly, panting with my hands on my hips. "You really... exaggerate everything! I never exercised before, yet I gave birth to Ava just fine!"

As soon as Ava was mentioned, I

quickly asked him, "Quick, check the time. Let's run back! I need to go to the kindergarten soon. I have to see if he's on time to drop Ava off at school!"

After saying that, I turned back to run.

Atlas smiled and caught up with me. "It's still early. Why are you so nervous? I promise he'll be on time to drop Ava off at the kindergarten!"

"You promise?" I gave him a playful look.

"Yes! I promise!"

After saying that, he forced me to run another lap around the flower bed.

I was drenched in sweat, and I couldn't run anymore. I gestured to Atlas, "I'm done running... Can't run anymore!"

Laughing, he walked over and stooped down to pick me up before sprinting away.

I screamed in fear, "You... you'll drop me! You can't do this!"

He smirked. "Don't ever say I can't do it!"

Chapter 1036 Getting More Unsettled

My heart raced and my face flushed at his words. Damn it! He was flirting.

He effortlessly carried me while he ran, his incredibly handsome face showing a hint of sweat. But still, his breathing was calm, regular, and not erratic in the slightest.

His demeanor fascinated me. When he held me, the muscles in his upper arm bulged, exuding a powerful feeling that sent me into a reverie. I couldn't resist pinching him, intoxicated by his strength. He glanced at me, lifted me, and kissed me.

He didn't set me down until we got to the main road that led to the main building. He grinned mischievously and said, "There you go. Isn't your husband great? Now you know why he lasts so long in 'battle'." "Get lost! You're always telling dirty jokes!" I gave him a fierce punch and blushed, running toward the main building.

I quickly had breakfast after a quick shower, changed into clean clothes, and took care of Jenny. I was planning to head to the kindergarten with Jenny in tow.

Atlas checked the time. "It's only eight o'clock. Are you sure you want to go so early?"

"Yes, I'm sure," I answered decisively. I had worried all night, and I was going crazy without Ava.

I could usually go a day or two without seeing her, but this was different. Matt had told me yesterday that he was leaving Foswood, and I hadn't even asked where he was going. If he took Ava away, I wouldn't be able to do a thing.

When Atlas saw me being so persistent, he said, "Wait a moment. I'll go with you."

After saying that, he went upstairs to change.

Grandma Rose happened to come downstairs. When she saw me already dressed, she asked in surprise, "Why are you up so early?"

"I... I want to go to the kindergarten and check on Ava. I'm worried about her." I knew I seemed paranoid.

Grandma Rose smiled helplessly, "Oh, you're being overly cautious. He's Ava's father. Besides, no matter how foolish he is, he wouldn't do anything to harm the child!"

"You don't understand him. In the past, he would do anything. He wouldn't have ended up this way otherwise," I argued. "I don't trust him anymore."

"Did you have breakfast?" She asked. "Has Jenny eaten?"

"We've both eaten!" Jenny shouted.

I nodded and added, "I have a business trip today and won't be back until tomorrow, Grandma."

"Well, go ahead. Cecelia and I will take care of Ava, so don't worry," she said as she walked into the dining room.

The old lady was in exceptionally good health, and she didn't seem like an 80-year-old at all. I wouldn't dare let her help me take care of Ava otherwise.

After a long wait, Atlas finally came downstairs. "Why were you so slow?" I said.

"You only think that because you're

in a hurry, Atlas said. He extended his arm to embrace me, then

onleft

the house and made our way to the kindergarten with Jenny.

We were very early. Jenny must have been the first one to arrive today. After taking her in, I waited at the entrance, and Atlas forcefully pulled me back into the car

He said softly, "Don't worry too much, okay? Be patient and wait!"

I had no choice but to sit in the car, looking outside as time gradually passed.

But I saw no sign of Matt and Ava, even after many children had arrived. I started to feel more unsettled.

There were only 20 minutes left until 9 o'clock, but they still hadn't appeared at the kindergarten gate.

I pushed the car door open and got out, looking around. My palms were sweaty, and I found it a little hard to breathe.

Atlas got out of the car to stand by my side. He placed his hand on my shoulder, comforting me. "Don't worry. Just wait a little longer."

I took a deep breath, thinking about

what could have happened. I felt

uneasy. I said to Atlas, "If he still hasn't shown up by now, could he really have taken Ava away?"

I quickly took out my phone and dialed Matt's number, but his phone was off.

Chapter 1037 Lost and Regained

I was devastated when I heard the automated message telling me Matt's phone was turned off. I couldn't believe it.

"He must have taken her away since he's turned off his phone!" My emotions were spiralling out of control as I looked at Atlas. He checked his wristwatch.

I glanced at my phone screen too, and realized there were still 5 minutes to nine.

At that moment, I heard a faint shout, "... Mom!"

Startled, I turned to see the tall figure of Matt at the end of the pavement, walking briskly toward us. He was holding Ava.

With just one glance, my heart settled back into place.

I quickly walked toward them, and Ava joyfully called out, "Mommy!"

She was dressed in a gorgeous new green dress, and her laughter was endearing.

"Why are you only her here now?" Even though I had finally seen Ava, I was still a little angry.

Relieved, I extended my hand to grab Ava and give her a firm embrace and kiss.

"Don't be mad at Daddy, Mommy! Daddy doesn't have a car anymore, so we took the bus! And there was traffic!" Ava explained in her sweet voice, fearing I might blame her father.

Then she shouted at Atlas, "Daddy! Daddy! Why are you both at kindergarten? Did you miss me?"

Atlas approached Ava, giving her a little pinch on her nose while grinning. "Mommy was worried you wouldn't sleep well. Were you a good girl? That's why we came here to check on you." She reached out to Atlas, saying, "Daddy, did you miss me?"

"Of course! I'm not used to you not being at home!" Atlas responded, just as she expected.

Matt looked at me, his mouth twitching. "Sorry I was late!"

Then he handed me a big bag of things, saying, "These are some things I bought for her yesterday. Take them."

Ava quickly said, "Take them home for me, Mommy. Daddy said the cute kitty should always be with me when I sleep!"

I was speechless. I had bought her many things, but she didn't treasure any of them like this.

"I want Daddy to take me inside and tell the teacher I'm late!" She said, looking at Atlas.

Atlas nodded quickly, turned, and took her inside like a devoted parent.

Ava turned to wave at Matt. She exclaimed, "Daddy! You need to keep your promise!"

Matt nodded, "I will! Definitely!"

I didn't know what secrets they had between them.

Matt looked uneasy as he glanced at me and at Atlas carrying Ava inside.

He lowered his gaze to his toes and said, "Um... please take care of Ava. I might leave Foswood soon. I promised Ava last night that I'd visit her when I'm back." "Where are you going?" I couldn't help but ask.

"When the company's affairs are settled, I'll leave Foswood. I haven't decided where I'm going yet." His eyes were fixed on Atlas carrying Ava inside.

"Oh, by the way, I asked John to help with Ava's household registration." Matt said. "I have nothing left, so it doesn't matter anymore. Wherever I go will be home."

"Even if you don't care, you won't be

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able to see her again if you just leave like this. She'll still miss you. Isn't it better to stumble and get up where

you fall?" I said, looking

him.

Matt had lost a lot of weight. He seemed less like the previous self-assured Matt of the past. He was quieter and calmer than before.

"I told her that I'll be back to see her

when I'm ready," Matt said. "I... she's my only daughter. I won't stay away.

worry. Besides, I'm never going

t married again."

I couldn't help but scoff when I heard his words. He seemed to have a deeply ingrained habit of complaining. Or maybe he just always complained in front of me.

Any question of his marriage had nothing to do with me. I had no say over his marriage. Anyway, I couldn't control what he did. When he betrayed me, he had lost all connection with me.

I just regretted the winding path my

life had taken. If I hadn't been

separated from Atlas, hadn't been handed over to my

childhood memories, Parents

hadn't been deprived of my

hadn't met

Matt and married him, if...

Chapter 1038 Heading to Gerby

I couldn't help but laugh at myself.

There were simply too many "ifs." I wouldn't have caused my daughter to experience a fate like this without so many deviations.

Fate had been unfair to me, tormenting me and then subjecting my daughter to the same.

All because of the man in front of me.

Matt was the one who made me feel disgust from the bottom of my heart.

He had made this decision himself. His grievances had nothing to do with me.

I stopped talking to him. There was a reasonable saying: when the words don't fit, there's no need to force any more.

I thought of everything I did for Matt as a favor to my daughter.

Coincidentally, Atlas had just finished sending Ava off, and he strode out. Matt forced a bitter smile, looking at Atlas and bowing slightly, "Thanks for handling the lawsuit, Mr. Atlas. I'll entrust my daughter to you from now on."

"She's my daughter too." Atlas replied firmly.

Matt's mouth twitched again.

"Well, I won't disturb you any longer." Matt took a deep breath, looked at me, and said, "Seeing you happy makes me feel at ease. I'll repay everything I owe you in this life in the next. Let's part ways here. When I leave, I won't tell you when I'm going."

"Okay. Take care. Look after yourself." At this point, I still spoke softly.

Matt forced a casual smile. He turned and walked away.

I stared at his disappearing figure, not knowing how to describe my conflicted emotions. I hoped his adventures would go well from now on. I also wished he would have a happy life on behalf of my daughter. Atlas embraced me, standing by my side until Matt's figure disappeared.

"Let's go," Atlas whispered in my ear.

"Alright," I replied, turning around and looking up at him. "Thank you."

"Nonsense!" He smiled. "You're my wife."

We got into the car, and he dropped me off at the company building. "Are you really set on going to Gerby today?" He questioned hesitantly.

"I want to finish this as soon as possible. It will help with what needs to be done afterward." I looked at him and continued, "I'll call you once I figure out the route. Remember to pick up our daughter in the evening."

Atlas extended his arm to cup the back of my head, drew me in, and gave me a quick kiss. Then he said, "Of course I won't forget. Don't worry. Be careful on the road, and come back early. If you're meeting your classmate, be safe, and don't force yourself to do anything you don't want to. Wait for me to handle it."

"Okay." I nodded quickly, then gave him a quick kiss on the lips while grinning broadly. "I'm going upstairs now!"

When I returned to the office, Eleanor and Arnold were waiting for me.

Looking at them, I asked, "Are we leaving now?"

Eleanor quickly said, "We can leave whenever. There are trains to Gerby at any time."

I was still a little exhausted and felt like my heart ached, especially after a restless night's sleep.

"Let's go, then." I said casually.

"Are you tired? How about we leave tomorrow instead?" Eleanor sensed that I wasn't in a great mood.

"No, let's go today. I didn't get much

rest last night, but I'll rest on the train," I told her. I glanced over my outfit and realized we would only be gone for a day. I wouldn't be going back to get clothes for tomorrow night. I didn't have the energy for that.

"Let's go!" I said, getting up and walking out.

Before we even reached the station, Arnold's phone rang. After glancing at the screen, he arched his brow and answered. "Do you have some more instructions for me?"

It was probably a call from Atlas.

After a few words on the phone, he listened attentively to the instructions, responding with "yes" for quite a while before hanging up.

I asked, "Was that your brother-in-law?"

"What do you think?" He didn't answer me directly but threw the question back at me.

After buying tickets and boarding

the train, we sat in first class. I

reclined my seat, half-lying on it. The

air conditioning on the train was very cold. Arnold took off his jacket and covered me. I closed my eyes and

quickly fell asleep.

I slept until we arrived in Gerby. I would have slept through if Arnold hadn't woken me up.

"We're here. If you're still sleepy, go sleep in the hotel," Arnold teased.

Chapter 1039 Hidden Depths

When we walked out, we saw Mr. Cameron there in person to greet us, to my surprise. That truly warmed my heart.

After exchanging pleasantries, Mr. Cameron asked, "Ms. Chloe, should we go to the hotel first so you can get some rest or head straight to the factory?"

"Of course we'll go to the factory first. We can have lunch at your factory," I replied without hesitation.

Mr. Cameron laughed heartily. "You're definitely someone who gets things done, Ms. Chloe. I'll gladly follow your lead. Let's go to the factory."

We got into the car. Mr. Cameron drove, and we headed straight to the factory.

During the ride, we had a great conversation. As we traversed the city, Mr. Cameron enthusiastically told us about Gerby.

Casually, I said, "I heard that Keller's Dairy is doing well in Gerby."

"Oh? You know about Keller's Dairy?" He smiled and glanced at me in the rearview mirror. Then he continued, "It's been renamed Chandler's Dairy. The old Keller family is no more."

His tone was a little wistful.

"Is everyone from the Keller family gone?" I asked.

Mr. Cameron looked at me in the rearview mirror and said, "You're familiar with the Keller family?"

"No, I've only heard about them. They say the current head of Chandler's Dairy is formidable," I vaguely replied.

"He's just an opportunist!" Mr. Cameron's tone was full of disdain. "He married someone's daughter and eventually took over their business. I'm not sure if the many rumors I've heard are true or not. We don't have much contact with them. That person, though seemingly righteous, is not someone I've closely interacted with."

It seemed Mr. Cameron didn't have a favourable impression of Byron Chandler.

Then he resumed talking about the street scenery outside the car window. He didn't continue the topic of the Chandler family, and I didn't push any further.

Jaxford Doors was in a suburban area. I didn't know how big their factory was until I got there. It was a spectacular, expansive industrial complex.

It was clear that Mr. Cameron was a reserved person.

He was amiable and approachable. He had travelled to Foswood to meet me and had come to pick us up personally. It was evident that he was a hands-on and humble person. Jaxford was far larger than I had anticipated.

"Looks like you've hidden your capabilities, Mr. Cameron. To be honest, I didn't expect your factory to be this large." I couldn't contain my surprise.

"Heh! You're too kind, Ms. Chloe. We

moved to this new factory at the end of last year. The old factory in the

urban area was small and insufficient for our production needs, so we sold it and bought a new piece of land to build this."

He spoke humbly. "It was only completed recently. To be honest, you're the first clients to visit the new factory. I can see that you really get things done. My sales will rely on you!"

He laughed happily, not awkwardly or insincerely, while guiding us through the tour.

It might have been because it was a

new factory, but it looked

exceptionally standardised. Production workshops, warehouses, offices, dormitories, and canteens were well-organized and

immaculate. The productionOve

workshops were arranged according to the production process.

Mr. Cameron even showed me the meticulous production procedures, and the workers looked to be in good condition.

I was extremely satisfied with this factory.

When the tour ended, it was past lunchtime. "Do you really want to have lunch in our cafeteria?" Mr. Cameron asked, glancing at me.

Mr. Cameron was very straightforward. I had already observed this when we toured the entire production process with him. He was meticulous about product quality and didn't cut any corners.

The workers were having their meals in the cafeteria. The cafeteria had two private rooms, and he invited us in. The rooms were simple, with clean windows and white tablecloths.

"These rooms are for us to host any business guests. I hope you don't mind the simplicity, Ms. Chloe." He smiled humbly. "Please have a seat, and I'll have them bring the dishes right away."

He turned to his assistant who was following him and said, "Tell the kitchen to bring the dishes immediately!"

Mr. Cameron told us that the dishes were local specialties from Gerby, and to my surprise, they were delicious.

After going over their items, I made

it clear to him that I intended to

change the terms of our contract. verified their items for Tanum Corporation and suggested that the promotional efforts be intensified from Tanum's point of view.

My clear stance made Mr. Cameron very excited, and he promptly called his son over.

Chapter 1040 There's No Way She's Mentally Ill

I understood Mr. Cameron's intention. He hoped his son could meet me.

Soon, Mr. Cameron's assistant returned and informed us that his son would join us shortly.

Mr. Cameron promptly invited us to his office, and I was once again surprised. His office was very grand. On the other side of the spacious office was the product display area for Jaxford Doors's many doors. As soon as we entered the office, we were greeted by samples of the doors they had produced.

It was practically a history of the development of the door industry. I was awestruck. It was an excellent example of professionalism.

This was something Yorksen couldn't compare to at all.

I silently rejoiced that I had found a like-minded business partner.

I told my colleague, Eleanor, "If only our main materials suppliers could all be this high quality. We must choose to engage with manufacturers like this. We have to reorganise our partners when we get back. Let's examine every one of them. We have to eliminate any that are below par or that might cause problems."

In Mr. Cameron's office, I met his wife and the young heir to Jaxford Doors, Finn Bullock. He was a young man who had just come from the production line. He still smelled of paint, as he had been spray painting with the employees in the paint room.

The young man had thick eyebrows and big eyes. He wasn't tall, but he was robust, exuding wisdom and stability from his eyes.

Mr. Cameron's wife was the chef who had prepared the local specialities for us earlier.

I couldn't believe my eyes. A company like this naturally left me with no reservations.

In the evening, Mr. Cameron and his son insisted on taking us to supper at a renowned Gerby hotel. Arnold, who had parted ways with us at the train station, also showed up, accompanied by his friend, a police officer.

I came clean and told Mr. Cameron that I was on a mission to look into Chandler's Dairy.

Mr. Cameron was surprised to hear that and tentatively asked, "Are they related to you, Ms. Chloe?"

I told him that I was very close friends with the eldest daughter of Byron Chandler.

Unexpectedly, Finn, who had been silent all this while, spoke up. "I know who you're talking about. It's Beatrice Chandler!"

I immediately nodded, "Yes, it's Beatrice. Do you know her, Finn?"

Finn nodded, "Yes, I know her. There's no way she's mentally ill."

His tone was very sure, which boosted my confidence.

"Why are you so sure?" I asked Finn.

"Because saw her just two days before the incident. Everything about her was normal. I don't think it's possible she became mentally unwell in just two days, right?" Finn said uneasily.

The police officer said, "It was a little suspicious. Everyone who saw Beatrice at her mother's funeral said her emotions and everything else were normal. Her boyfriend was her every step of the way and took care of things for her. But two days later, she injured someone with a knife. It was a chaotic scene."

"Who was injured?" I asked in confusion.

"Her younger sister, Hazel Marrow. Oh... she's Hazelyn Chandler now." the police officer said.
"Apparently, Bryon Chandler reported it to the police and got Beatrice arrested." "Bryon Chandler?"

I found that hard to believe.

"Yes, Bryon reported it to the police, claiming that Beatrice had mental health issues since childhood. He said she would sometimes be better, but sometimes she would get worse."

"Nonsense!" Finn and I exclaimed simultaneously.

It seemed Finn had some insights into the matter involving Beatrice.

Mr. Cameron, who had been silent all this time, said, "I don't have a good impression of Bryon. I've known him since his early years."

"It looks like you knew him, Mr. Cameron?" I asked tentatively.

"I am familiar with him, but I don't want to be associated with him in any way. He's a despicable man. I only knew him because of the former director of the cable factory, Eric Rogers." "The one who died in a car accident?" I asked.

"That's right. I was good friends with

Eric. At that time, Byron was

completely obedient to Eric and followed att his orders. But after the factory director died in a car accident, he took advantage of the situation, exploiting the widow and the orphan. Finn knows the son of that family; they were classmates when they were children."

Finn nodded and looked at the police officer, saying, "I don't know if I should talk about this."