

Divorce 1061

Chapter 1061 The Show Has Just Begun

"I will try to overcome my possessiveness and give you the space you deserve. Otherwise, those who fantasize about you won't see the sun tomorrow," he said with a confident tone. "But I won't control your freedom. You're an individual, and you should have your own. That's how you'll be happy. My mission is not only to protect you but also to make you feel happy. "That's what makes a good husband. So, I have to overcome this possessiveness. Am I not the best?"

My eyes welled up, and I nestled into his embrace. "Of course, from the first time I saw you, I knew you're the best."

He lightly bit my lips and gazed at me. "So seeing these photos is not strange to me, and I know my Stella won't be interested in anyone else. If she does, it only means one thing-I haven't done my best, and I need to strive harder."

I didn't expect Atlas to express such touching words. I felt like I was getting intoxicated with his sweetness.

I said solemnly, "Atlas, it's so good to have you by my side. I don't know what happened in the past, but I will remember that our journey together will be wonderful. I may have many friends of either gender, but there's only one person I love deeply, and that will never change."

Atlas's hand cupped the back of my head, his index finger caressing my lips. "How can a husband not trust his wife?"

I clung to his neck and kissed him.

It was time to deal with Liora, and we discussed what needed to be done.

The next day, Atlas sent his subordinate to my office. A thorough search was conducted, and they found a hidden camera. I didn't let them move it.

I went to the secretary's office and saw Adelaide bossing around another secretary. As soon as I walked in, she sensed something from the other secretary's expression.

As soon as she turned around and saw me enter, she immediately put on a smiling face. "Ms. Chloe, what can I do for you? I was just discussing the report with Sydney." Sydney looked frustrated and was about to speak, but Adelaide quickly said, "Ms. Chloe, feel free to order me around. I'm new here, so I hope to learn more."

I noticed the displeased look on Sydney's face as she continued with the matter at hand.

"That's great. I love your spirit," I said calmly.

"Sydney, I'm looking forward to reading the report in your hand. Why haven't you submitted it to me?" I asked Sydney

Before Sydney could speak, Adelaide

immediately interrupted her.

"Sydney, that

let me do the report ne

you haven't finished. Let's not delay

Ms. Chloe's approval."

My eyes narrowed as I watched Adelaide efficiently take a folder from Sydney's desk, sit down, and pretend to work earnestly.

Sydney looked at me, visibly distressed. I remained silent, turned around, and left the secretary's office.

Coincidentally, I ran into Carol at the doorway. I said, "I was just looking for you."

Carol hesitated for a moment, looked at me, and understood my intention. "Ms. Chloe, what can I do for you?"

"I need you to accompany me to Adrian's office. Melanie has news. She wants to plead guilty tomorrow. I want to consult Adrian about the possible sentence if she pleads

guilty. That way, I'll know what to

do.

I finished speaking and pulled Carol towards the exit, confident that Adelaide would understand the implications of my words.

The two of us went downstairs and

drove out of the underground

garage, stopping in front of the

opposite building. I sat in the caret

with Carol, called Atlas, and

informed him that I had relayed the

message to Adelaide and that they

should be prepared.

In no time, I saw Adelaide hastily coming out of the building, talking on the phone as she walked.

Carol and I exchanged a glance, both smiling. Tonight, there would be a good show.

We got out of the car and returned to the office. It looked like there would be some interesting developments tonight.

Chapter 1062 The Big Reveal

Before the end of the afternoon, Lauren came to my office. She had been working and studying at ATL Empire, so she spent most of her time there.

As she walked in, she asked, "I didn't see Atlas at ATL Empire today. How are we handling that news?"

"It's in progress. If you're free tonight, I'll take you to watch an interesting show," I said with a satisfied smile. I figured someone might be keeping an eye on me.

"What kind of show?" Lauren asked eagerly.

"You'll find out when the time comes," I said mysteriously. I had checked with Cane. Those pinhole cameras could only capture images, not sound. That was why I felt so free to say whatever I wanted.

In the afternoon, I saw Adelaide had returned to the office, looking calm. It seemed she had already spread the news.

Without asking about it, Lauren inquired about the situation in Gerby. Mentioning this matter immediately soured my mood.

Shaking my head with a sigh, I said, "Beatrice is in deep trouble."

"Why do you say that?" Lauren asked.

I recounted the whole process to Lauren in detail. She was left speechless. "Oh my! That's just outrageous!"

While we were discussing this, unexpectedly, Carol knocked on the door and announced, "Poppy is here!"

There was helplessness on all our faces. This woman was quite persistent.

"Come in," I said resignedly.

The next moment, Poppy walked in. This time, she looked refreshingly casual, not fully covered. It seemed Arnold's words had indeed worked.

Before I could speak, Lauren took the lead, looking at Poppy. "Why have you been so carefree lately, Ms. Poppy?"

Poppy smiled. "What do you mean? I just finished work and thought you must be back from your business trip!"

"I just got back. You're pretty accurate," I said with a smile.

"I was worried for you. How can you be so indifferent to the online rumors? Why doesn't Mr. Atlas help you handle it?" She seemed genuinely concerned, but the latter part of her sentence was clearly a jab at Atlas.

"Let them talk. The truth will always prevail," I replied nonchalantly. "It's just a few insults. Who knows who'll end up looking stupid?"

"You're really confident! Aren't you afraid of people saying too much and affecting your relationship with Mr. Atlas?" Poppy said it with a somewhat gloating expression.

Lauren immediately retorted, "Oh,

don't worry. Her and Atlas? That's a match made in heaven. You may not know it yet, but Atlas had searched for Chloe for 18 years. How Could a little gossip shake that?"

Poppy looked at me in astonishment. "What do you mean?"

"It means whatever other people say is futile. They've been together since they were children. Understand?" Lauren said it matter-of-factly.

Naturally, Poppy didn't believe it. She looked at me and said with a smile, "Chlo, your charm is still there! Otherwise, why would Mr. Atlas be so devoted?"

Lauren immediately added, "Oh, Ms. Poppy, after knowing you for so long, you've finally said something sensible. Mr. Atlas is truly devoted, right?" Poppy felt uncomfortable and said, "Chlo, since you're back, how about I treat you tonight? Let's have a get-together. You pick the place."

"No, not tonight. I have something

going on. We have some family

matters to attend to. I apologize." I

quickly declined her invitation.

Tonight was absolutely not to be

occupied.

"Really? Are you just going to turn me down like this?" Poppy seemed skeptical. "Is there really something on at home?"

"Indeed there is," I replied unequivocally.

"I finally found some free time, and it seems it's a waste." Poppy seemed a bit unwilling. I was sure she thought she could be invited to my home as before. However, she shouldn't be involved in tonight's affair, even if it was a grand spectacle.

Chapter 1063 Waiting For Her Next Move

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Seeing Poppy's reluctance, I had to say, "There's something very important at home today. Another day, perhaps. My apologies."

"Oh! Ms. Poppy, I just remembered. Do you remember Harmony?" Lauren suddenly brought up, and I instantly understood her intention.

Poppy looked at Lauren and nodded. "Yes! What about her?"

"Have you heard of how she's doing now?" Lauren teased a bit.

"How?" Poppy's curiosity was piqued.

"She's turned into a stunning beauty, even more so than before. Probably making a comeback in the entertainment industry. You might have another formidable rival."

Lauren was clearly up to no good.

"Is that so?" Poppy asked skeptically.

"It's true. I've seen her in person. She's back in action," Lauren said. "It seems like she's after some resources."

Poppy looked dismissive. "Times have changed. It's difficult to make a comeback in our industry."

Lauren nodded. "We outsiders really don't understand your industry! No wonder you all work so hard to find a good match for yourselves."

"Every woman wants a good ending. How many are as fortunate as you two?" Poppy complimented us.

"People have different destinies," Lauren said with a touch of wisdom.

"Yeah. That's why we envy you so much." Poppy genuinely expressed her admiration. I could tell that she meant it, and it didn't feel forced. Just then, Carol knocked and came in. She said to me, "Work's done! I'm going off now!"

I nodded and said, "You guys can go first. I'm waiting for Atlas to pick me up."

Carol immediately gestured an 'OK' and said, "Alright, I'm off. You guys carry on."

Not long after, Atlas called, asking me to come downstairs. The three of us then got up and went down together. Poppy had to bid me farewell at the door. She watched me enter Atlas's car while Lauren drove back to Pleca Park.

It just so happened that Ava's ride had also just returned.

As soon as the car door opened, she jumped down with a cheer and ran straight to Atlas.

"Daddy, why did you and Mommy come back so early today?"

She reached out for Atlas to pick her up.

Atlas lifted her with a smile. "Ava! I came back quickly because I missed you."

Ava hugged his neck and gave Atlas a loud smooch.

Then, she called out to Lauren, "Aunt Lauren, I have a question for you."

She climbed down from Atlas's arms, ran toward Lauren, and hugged her with delight.

"What's the question?" Lauren asked with joy.

Ava whispered something in her ear, and I saw Lauren nodding and laughing.

Ava's expression was exaggerated, her little face full of shock. I wondered what could make her react like that.

After greeting everyone, Jenny had already run back to find her grandmother.

I glanced at Atlas and asked softly, "Do you think she will make a move tonight?"

I was, of course, referring to Liora.

"She definitely won't let Melanie get caught. Melanie knows too much about her, at least enough to give her a lot of trouble this time. Not to mention that it will involve a bunch of people!" Atlas said.

"Now Liora is besieged from all sides. You think we're the only ones pressuring her?"

Atlas said, "It's already confirmed.

Felix and Franklin, the two brothers, are also connected to her. If we move against her, it will expose a whole lot. And there's also Melvern... en.swhovels.net

"Keegan's side is the same. If Melanie isn't captured and brought back, he's on thin ice. Once Melanie is captured, he's doomed." I also

understood the logic in this.

"So, she will definitely suppress Melanie. You can rest assured. She will definitely make a move," Atlas reassured me.

Hearing Atlas say this, I felt more at ease. It seemed like Liora's good days were coming to an end.

I was more eager to see what Melanie looked like now. The days of her escape for over a month must have been tormenting. Perhaps this time would be her end. For her, it might be a good thing.

Chapter 1064 Sincere Advice

Rose saw we were all back and quickly instructed Nigel to prepare dinner.

Having an elderly person at home really made a difference. My mom had been away for so many days while Rose had been taking care of the kids at the villa.

There were quite a few servants in the villa, and they could take good care of Ava. But I always feel more at ease with Rose around.

"Thanks for holding the fort, Grandma Rose. Otherwise, I don't know how to deal with this little troublemaker." I looped my arm around Rose's, looking at Ava, who was still whispering secrets to Lauren.

It seemed like Lauren needed to have her own child. While I was away these few days, I didn't know if she had made progress with Oliver.

Rose patted my hand. "Being busy is a good thing. Recently, I've delegated many things to Arnold, and it's been very relaxing. The air in this yard is refreshing, and I feel light and healthy."

Lauren walked in. She looked at Rose and said, "Madam, you don't look like an 80-year-old. To still govern at 80, you are my role model."

Rose laughed heartily. "You sure know how to sweet-talk. How are you and Oliver doing?"

"Hey! How else can we be? He is him, and I am me," Lauren said carelessly.

"Hey! Don't miss out. How can there be no setbacks in life? You have to allow others to make mistakes. He made a serious mistake, but I think his way of admitting it is sincere," Rose advised. "Even you know about this?" Lauren looked surprised at Rose, her face turning red.

"For matters like yours, it has long become a big mystery in Foswood. Everyone is speculating about the final outcome. It's turning into a betting game. Oliver is really daring!" Rose said. "Rose, why are you gossiping, too?" Lauren said shyly.

"How is this gossiping? I'm just an ordinary person. Besides, you also have to look at who the male lead is."

"Why does it matter who he is?" I chuckled and joined in.

"You have to learn to stop at the right time. Don't you know the type of person Oliver is? He kneeled for you in public! In my opinion, you've already earned your dignity. Don't be unyielding.

"You're not young anymore. You have to give yourself a chance. How much good time do you think you have left?" Rose's words were heavy, and even though they sounded like advice, I could hear the criticism.

"Once you are my age, you will know. Oliver has something to offer you that no other man can. If you miss him, you will regret it for the rest of your life," Rose said with deep sincerity.

Lauren nodded passively.

"It's Oliver. You don't need more than that. Just stay by the side of such a man, be a legitimate companion, and live a comfortable life. You can be superior to everyone! Moreover, if he extends this olive branch for for you and you don't take it, do you think you still have a chance?"

I added, "Grandma Rose's words make sense. He has already proposed to you, and what better way to apologize is there?"

Our words left Lauren speechless and a bit discouraged. "I still can't get past the hurdle with that woman. I'm afraid I will never forget it. I have my pride to uphold."

The old lady snorted. "Hmph! Some dignity is just your misconception! This has ruined many people."

Chapter 1065 Knowing When to Stop

I must admit, Rose was quite insightful. I agreed with what she said.

Rose continued, "It's okay to have feelings, but you shouldn't be stubborn. A truly smart woman knows when to stop and when to bend. Punishing each other for the time spent together is both torture and relief. You wanted to punish him, didn't you?"

Lauren looked at Rose in astonishment, her eyes filled with hopeful light.

"If he has hurt you, this grudge can only be settled when you're with him. Silly girl. Try and understand what I'm saying."

Rose poked Lauren's head and gestured to us. "Let's go. We'll chat while we eat. The little girl must be starving after playing at the kindergarten. Dinner is ready."

Sure enough, Ava devoured her dinner. I felt as if I had been neglecting my daughter too much lately.

Watching her enjoy her meal, I asked, "Was the lunch at the kindergarten not yummy?"

She looked at me with big, twinkling eyes and said in a cute voice, "Of course, our home-cooked dinner is much better, so I ate very little for lunch."

Jenny quickly added, "She ate a lot of yummy food too!"

Everyone burst into laughter.

Looking at Ava, I smiled. "My daughter, you're such a little foodie."

"What do you think was delicious at the kindergarten?" Atlas asked, looking at her.

She didn't hesitate and replied quickly, "They cook dishes we don't make at home, and those are the delicious ones."

I pressed on, "Such as?"

Like a little hamster, she turned, still chewing on her food. "My favorite is chicken tenders. It smells so good. I can eat a lot of it."

Jenny chimed in, "And mini quiches!"

These were the two dishes our family's chef had never made.

Atlas immediately instructed the chef, "Make chicken tenders for dinner from now on."

Ava quickly swallowed her food and said, "Daddy, chicken wings are delicious too."

"Okay. I will take you and Jenny to eat them together," Atlas promised indulgently.

Ava asked me, "Mommy, when will Grandma come back? They're coming back, right?"

"Of course," I said confidently. "They went to sell the house in their hometown, so it might take a little longer. But they will definitely come back. Just be patient and wait."

"Does that mean we can't go back to the small town again?" Ava's question suddenly made me feel a hint of nostalgia.

Pondering, I said, "It's not that we can't go back. We can visit it, but we can't stay there for a long time."

"Then, we won't have our home there anymore, right? But Jenny hasn't been there yet. She said she had never seen snow."

Ava's words made me suddenly feel

a touch of homesickness. I hadn't called my parents for two days, and I didn't know how things were going on their end or whether the house affairs were going smoothly.

All these recent events in Gerby had been quite tumultuous. Every time I thought of Beatrice still in a difficult situation, I felt anxious.

It seemed that needed to call my parents later to inquire. If things didn't go smoothly, I would entrust the Phillips family to handle it. There was no need for them to wait there until the house was sold before coming back.

After dinner, I took the children to play in the yard.

Lauren continued chatting with Rose, and didn't interrupt them. thought Rose might advise her, and perhaps she would listen. After all, that old lady's perspective on things was quite different.

I knew deep down that Lauren still had a lingering affection for Oliver. It was just that she couldn't get past that hurdle herself, and this hurdle could only be crossed by her and no one else.

Chapter 1066 A Difficult Look

Seizing the moment, I called my mom.

My mom promptly answered. "You're back early today."

I chuckled and replied, "Mom! How did you know I came back early?"

"How? It's been a few days since you called. I thought you were busy, so I didn't want to bother you."
My mom knew me well.

"I was on a business trip for three days. I've been pretty busy, so I didn't have time to call you. How are things over there? Does it seem like we can sell the house soon? If we can't, you should come back. We can entrust it to the Phillips family."

"We had a few potential buyers, but nothing was finalized. Looks like we won't be able to sell the house as quickly as we thought. Will it be too much trouble for the Phillips family? They're already helping us look at houses."

"In that case, find a neighbor you can trust, leave the keys with them, and let them take care of it. Or you could hire a reputable real estate agent and let them handle everything," I suggested, knowing that if it were me, I would definitely hire the real estate agent and just pay the fee.

"I've been busy, and Grandma Rose has been taking care of things at home. You should come back as soon as possible," I added. I was worried about any sudden emergencies.

The most pressing matter right now was the situation in Gerby. Atlas had also said yesterday that Dylan had some news. I hadn't had a chance to ask him about that because of the situation with Liora. It seemed like I would be busy again and might not have time to ask today as well.

There was Nocturnia too. David had been on my case twice already. It looked like I would have to go back, especially since he was the patriarch of the Pierce family.

"Okay, I'll discuss it with your dad, and we'll try to come back as soon as possible. We've dealt with everything here. There's nothing left. It's all empty. It looks like we're fleeing the scene or something." I could sense the sadness in my mom's tone.

I smiled, trying to stay casual, and asked, "Which do you think is better, Mom? Our villa or the small town?"

My mom sighed. "My child, how could you compare them? They're incomparable. We have so many years of memories with your dad here!"

Suddenly, my heart stung. She treasured those memories, but they had taken away my own.

I clutched the phone and fell into silence.

My mom continued, "Let's try to get things done as soon as possible. We miss Ava, too. At least she's gotten used to it. When we first left, she seemed a little lost. Has she been asking about us these days?"

I quickly said, "She just asked me about you a moment ago. She wondered when you would be back."

"What a sweetie!" My mom laughed immediately, her tone much lighter.

I hung up the phone after exchanging a few more words with my mom.

The sky gradually darkened, and Atlas came over, calling me inside. I knew it was time for us to leave.

I quickly called the children back into the house.

Then, I told them we had some business to attend to.

Ava was easy-going as always. She just looked up at me and asked, "Mommy, where are you going?"

"Me, Daddy, and Aunt Lauren are

going to meet a client. If we get back late, make sure to have Aunt Cecelia help you take a bath and go to bed early. Don't make Grandma Rose worry, okay?"

"Okay. I'll be good. I won't let Grandma worry. You should go."

She turned to run off, but after a few steps, she suddenly turned back and shouted at me, "Mommy, can I ask you something?"

I could only smile and nod. "Go ahead."

Ava grinned mischievously and said,

"Can Daddy make a call again and take us to the place where all those parents went last time? My classmates wanted me to ask you about that! They said they had a lot of fun and they want to go again. And many of my classmates didn't get to go last time, so can we have more people this time?"

After hearing her request, I felt my head ache.

Chapter 1067 A Sudden Change

The last time we went with those parents to visit the farm, it had been an absolute blast. We had almost torn down the whole place.

Before I could respond to her request, Atlas was already ruffling her little head indulgently. "Don't worry. I'll make sure to invite your classmates to the farm for another round of fun." Ava cheered excitedly then ran off to share the good news with Jenny.

As we left, I saw her rushing into her great-grandma's arms, chattering away about something.

Atlas's phone rang at that moment, and he answered as he walked.

I watched Atlas's face as he took the call. When his expression gradually grew serious, I knew something must have happened.

Even Lauren looked at Atlas, and we exchanged glances.

After he hung up, he said, "Get in the car. We're going to the hospital."

"The hospital?" Puzzled, I grabbed Lauren and followed Atlas to his car.

Once in the car, I asked Atlas what was going on.

He told me, "Things have changed. It seems Liora has suddenly acted against Melanie, but she didn't do it in person. Liora has gone missing."

"What? Missing?" Lauren and I exclaimed simultaneously. It was hard to believe.

"Somebody disguised themselves as her, went to the construction site, and called Melanie away. Our people mistook the imposter for Liora and didn't intervene. There was a car accident later. Melanie was severely injured, and the person disguised as Liora has died. Melanie has been taken to the hospital. We need to go there immediately."

Now I understood what was going on.

Melanie couldn't die right now. She was a key witness.

Many pieces of evidence wouldn't be strong enough if something happened to her.

"How do we know Liora is missing?" Lauren asked anxiously.

"Our people sensed that something was wrong and rushed back to Liora's residence, but they found it empty. Liora was nowhere to be seen," Atlas explained.

"That was a cunning move. She played a trick to divert attention," I murmured. "Liora is making some desperate moves!"

None of us spoke. The car sped through the streets, heading straight to the Klinein Hospital.

Once at the hospital, we went straight to the emergency room.

Cane came over as we entered the corridor. Atlas asked, "How is she? Is there any hope?"

Cane explained the situation to us in detail.

"Cut off all transportation channels immediately. We can't let her

escape As long as she's still in

Foswood, I guarantee she'll show up

within 24 hours," Atlas instructed Cane.

"Understood, I've already arranged it."

"Inform the police," Atlas added.

Cane quickly walked away.

Shortly after, several police officers arrived. Atlas briefed them on the situation.

The surgery only ended at ten o'clock. The doctors explained the situation to the police. Melanie had survived, but the outlook was not good. She had two broken ribs a punctured lung, a ruptured spleen, and a mild concussion.

Atlas talked to the leading officer and wanted to take us away, but I insisted on seeing Melanie.

She was wheeled out not long after. She looked like she had been through a lot and had a bandage around her head. She was still unconscious.

I didn't expect to see Melanie like this. She looked nothing like her original self. Her skin was

sallow and emaciated, and she looked like a chain smoker. There was darkness under her eyes, and her hands were dirty. It seemed like she hadn't washed them in a long time.

To be honest, my heart felt heavy when I saw Melanie. I experienced no joy in revenge.

Lauren glanced at me and pulled me

away. Displeased, she said, "Don't show mercy to the devil. She might

seem weak, but her heart is still cruel. Don't forget, her mother is a living example. And don't forget how Grace died."

Lauren's words made any compassion I felt disappear.

Instead of returning to Pleca Park, we went to the warehouse district.

Chapter 1068 Something Happened to Melanie

It was my first time entering the warehouse district from the outside. I used to access it through the secret passage from my home.

Lauren was utterly astonished as she also experienced it for the first time. I explained that this place was an absolute secret and she couldn't tell anyone about it.

There was no need for me to say any more. Lauren understood.

Atlas asked me to check on Anya while he went to the main building.

I got someone to fetch Anya for me. It had been quite a while since I last saw her.

She arrived quickly. She probably knew it was me. Her face lit up with joy as she ran over to me with a big smile on her lovely face, making her even more charming. Lauren stared at her and asked, "Where did you find such a pretty little girl?"

I kept it brief.

Anya looked completely different. Her complexion was brighter. She spoke to me in still awkward English. "You're here, Madam!"

"Oh, you can speak English now?" I looked at her in delight, pulling her over and introducing her to Lauren. "This is a good friend of mine. You're making good progress." She listened earnestly to what I said. She was probably struggling to keep up with my pace.

"I study every day," she said.

I wanted to ask her if there was any news about Loak, but I realized she might not have that information.

So, I asked if she was comfortable here. Her smile told me the answer.

I didn't ask, but she told me that her brother had gone to find my dad.

She put it vaguely, but I understood what she meant. Her brother had left, saying he needed to find my dad and bring him back.

She tried hard to convey that her brother promised they could make it happen, and this was their commitment to me.

I was delighted when I heard this. I had subconsciously thought that they were my only hope of meeting my biological father.

We spoke for a long time, even

though it was a little challenging. I could still understand a lot from her words. It was a significant

improvement. And I enjoyed it net

especially considering that it was the first time we had communicated without a translator.

Atlas spent a long time inside before coming out of the building. He exchanged a few words with Anya, who responded respectfully.

After bidding me farewell, she returned to where she lived, walking quite a distance before smiling and waving at me.

Atlas was on the phone in the car, discussing something to do with Melanie.

Finally, he added a reminder. "Make sure no news gets out tonight. Tomorrow, release all the details of Melanie's accident. Include the information that she's still in a coma, but out of danger. The police are still investigating."

I understood Atlas's intention. He wanted to lure out Liora.

Liora must be afraid of Melanie waking up, since Melanie knew a lot of Liora's secrets.

We went back to Pleca Park. It was late, so Lauren stayed over.

Before going to bed, I asked, "Why wait until tomorrow to release the news?"

Atlas embraced me, his voice gentle, "To put pressure on her. She wants information about Melanie, but she won't get it tonight. She'll be scared. She'll only be able to muster the courage to take drastic action after getting the news tomorrow."

Atlas spoke with confidence. He was someone who sought victory in stability, regardless of how turbulent the outside world was or how clear the direction was. He was never constrained or influenced by anyone, and he always maintained a clear mind and relied on his own judgment.

I eagerly anticipated Liora's appearance tomorrow. Our confrontation could finally come to an end.

As I lay in Atlas's arms, feeling his breath and listening to his heartbeat, I suddenly felt incredibly happy.

At this moment, the person who hated me to the bone was enduring time as if it were crawling, while her moments of freedom ticked away.

Chapter 1069 Easy Bait

The next day, I went to the company with Lauren. She returned to her own office and instead of going to ATL Empire. Before I could reach my office, I saw Adelaide busy in the pantry.

When she saw me, she quickly walked over with a smile. "Good morning, Ms. Chloe. Would you like a cup of coffee?"

"I don't like coffee," I said firmly. "Is Carol here yet?"

"She's not in yet. You can tell me if you need anything," she replied eagerly.

"Tell her to come to my office when she gets here," I said, then walked into my office, thinking that Adelaide seemed to have completed her mission.

Before long, Carol hurriedly walked in. "Are you looking for me, Chlo?"

"Are there any special documents I need to handle?" I asked. "And keep an eye on that one outside. Find a reason to kick her out."

"There are no special documents. I asked Mr. Ryan to handle them yesterday. He's been in touch with the people in Bourdamun. He's been busy with that these days. He said he was going to Bourdamun today."

"Alright, I got it."

"When do you plan on getting rid of the one outside?" Carol asked me.

I knew she was talking about Adelaide. After thinking for a moment, I replied, "We'll wait until Liora is captured."

I was afraid that Liora might still contact her if something went wrong and try to gather information about me. We might still be able to get some useful leverage.

Carol went out to attend to her duties, and I was lost in thought about Melanie.

I didn't even notice Lauren when she came in.

I was preoccupied and wanted to check on Melanie's condition.

Lauren understood what was on my mind. She reached over and tapped my desk, saying, "Alright, stop being so absent-minded. Let's go. I'll go with you to check on her again." Only then did I realize she was already in front of my desk.

When we arrived at the hospital, it was swarming with reporters. We were afraid of causing a scene, so we bypassed them and entered the inpatient department through the back door.

To my surprise, I saw Matthew in the corridor of the ward.

He seemed a little surprised to et

both of us. His expression was awkward, and he was caught off guard. It was too late to hide so he stood there, looking dazed

Lauren wasn't going to let this go. She looked at Matthew disdainfully.

Before I could speak, she said, "Looks like some people are just easy bait. How shameless."

Matthew looked at me awkwardly. "Why are you here?"

"Atlas's people saved her, and I came to visit," I said indifferently. "Did you see her? Should I talk to them so you can go in?"

"There's no need for that. This is her own fault," Matthew said heartlessly. "It doesn't matter if she lives or dies, she'll have nothing to do with the Murphy family from now on. I've entrusted Adrian to dissolve the

marriage with her."

I looked at him but didn't respond, because I felt it had nothing to do with me.

"I was wrong. I was punished for what I did. Why do you need to rub it in? Are you having fun?" Matthew said emotionlessly. Then, he walked away.

"Why, you little..." Lauren was unable to vent her anger. She wanted to say something more, but I stopped her.

"Let it go," I said softly.

I didn't know what to say.

His words had obviously been emotional. Was he sick?

He had chosen his own path, but he was trying to blame someone else for the trouble he had experienced. He was really something.

Lauren looked at Matthew's departing figure and asked, "Has he lost his mind?"

I shrugged and said wryly, "Have you only just realized that?"

We laughed and walked toward Melanie's ward.

Chapter 1070 A Familiar Silhouette

Melanie had a private room, and two police officers guarded the door. They knew who I was since I had handed her over to them last night. After a brief exchange, one of them accompanied us inside. Melanie still hadn't woken up. She looked solemn.

The bandage on her head made her look even paler. If it weren't for the beeping of the machines by her bed, you wouldn't even have realized she was alive.

Lauren said disdainfully, "I never thought she'd end up like this. She brought it on herself. I didn't know until now. What do you think her reaction will be when she wakes up and discovers the truth? When she realizes she was manipulated and silenced? Her life is a complete mess. Do you think she'll regret it?"

As I looked at the motionless Melanie, I thought about Lauren's question and didn't know what to say.

Sighing, I said, "It's really sad. People like her all end up the same way. You need to get to the end to realize how foolish you've been. You're right. She doesn't deserve any sympathy.

"But it's good that Matthew has awakened to reality. They can figure out the rest on their own. Let's go."

Lauren and I left Melanie's hospital room.

Once outside, we passed a nurse pushing a cart with some syringes. She walked quickly, and I glanced at her casually. We returned downstairs through the original route.

The internet had been flooded with reports of Melanie's arrest, and many people were constantly giving updates from the hospital. The comment section was buzzing with speculation about the reason behind her arrest.

Even those so-called "wise" individuals had started dissecting the secrets within, analyzing Melanie's significance in those cases.

Since there was such overwhelming media coverage about this, all the scandalous rumors about me had been swept away, disappearing without a trace.

Some even hinted at a connection between Melanie's accident and an attempt to silence her.

The reporters following this story had nearly lost their minds. They rushed to the hospital to get the latest news.

Lauren and I quietly used the staff passage at the back to return to our car. Before I got in, I saw Arton entering the hospital gate.

Puzzled, I wondered if Arton had also come to see Melanie.

I nudged Lauren, and she looked at me. I nodded subtly toward Arton.

Lauren glanced in the direction I had nodded and said, "Oh, that guy's quite a hottie. He seems really manly. What's he doing here?"

"I haven't figured it out. I don't think

he's going to do anything to That would be foolish," I sa

foolish," I said a

, watching Arto

inside.

"Why is he here then?" Lauren asked. "Shall we go back and check?"

I thought for a moment. "Let's wait in the car and see."

Lauren immediately said, "Why should we wait in the car? If he doesn't come out, are we just going to keep waiting? Let's go in and see. If that guy really can't forget about her, I'm telling you, he'll be trouble."

I felt a little uneasy after hearing what Lauren said. Without saying another word, I closed the door that I had just opened, and we went back upstairs.

As we reached the corridor, we

heard arguing voices. I hurried to the corridor entrance to look inside and saw Arton arguing with two

policemen. Evidently, he wanted

to go in and see Melanie but was being refused.

The two policemen escorted Arton out.

They were already far away from the ward.

I quickly walked inside. Just as I was about to approach them, I saw a nurse pushing a cart out of Melanie's ward. She briskly returned to the nurse station.

I felt that she looked familiar for some reason!