

Divorce 1151

Chapter 1151 Am I Seeing Things Correctly?

"You left without a word, so how could I ask them to come?" Ryan grumbled, "But we had a discussion in the video call and provided them with relevant data. After explaining our ideas, they were interested and suggested visiting for an inspection, which came as a surprise

to me." "Oh?" I looked at Ryan and said seriously, "I don't want to collaborate on this project. I want us to do it on our own."

"I understand. They want to inspect on-site to get a more accurate positioning. After all, global trends in tourism projects are booming, especially those with their own uniqueness. If the plan is feasible, then they can help us connect with opportunities globally," Ryan explained. "Alright, when you come back from Solaris, we can put this matter on the formal agenda." I suggested tentatively.

He glanced at me, speaking with a somewhat complaining tone, "Wait until I come back to discuss it? I know you too well. You're whimsical. You can just leave without saying anything. If I make an appointment, and you're not there, it'll be in vain. I need to align with your plans."

I chuckled, standing up to defend myself. "When have I ever slackened off in my work? I may have left without a word, but have I been lazy in serious matters? It was a special circumstance!"

"The thing is you have too many special circumstances, and they come without any warning," Ryan complained.

I giggled because that was true.

After I left Ryan's office, I called for Carol to accompany me to Bourdamun.

While going downstairs, I made a phone call to Atlas, briefing him on my trip to Bourdamun and informing him about the dinner arrangement with Ivanna and Jared in the evening. "Who are you going with? Alone?" Atlas asked with a hint of concern.

"No, I'm going with Carol. We'll also finalize the location for Fred's factory. He called a few days ago and said his people would be coming soon."

"Call me anytime if you need anything. Take care." He repeatedly reminded me.

After hanging up the phone, I understood that Atlas was worried about any mishaps, especially with Liora's escape. However, just because she fled didn't mean I would stop everything.

In the evening, Ivanna and Jared had arranged a dinner with us, and I didn't dare refuse. After all, I hadn't seen her for a month, and rejecting her might lead to her storming to Pleca Park to argue with me.

Carol drove well, both stable and fast. Whenever she accompanied me on business trips, I always handed her the car keys because she was simply a better driver than I

was.

Before reaching Bourdamun, I could already see the new city's buildings on the horizon. They were majestic.

I was amazed at the speed, and it was quite spectacular. I had Carol park the car from a distance, and I stood there gazing for a long time.

To be honest, it was truly breathtaking. Once completed, it would be a magnificent sight.

I couldn't believe this was the miracle I created.

Seeing my joyful expression, Carol

stood beside me and said, "Chloe,

this is just the beginning. I admire you for achieving such a big dream."

I gave a slight smile. "Yeah."

"I remember back then... that Jeremiah, right? When he came, he was so noisy. I didn't expect that, he turned out to be a good sign. He actually let you sense some

business opportunities. This is what sets you apart. Not everyone has your sharp intuition."

Although Carol's words had a hint of flattery, they were not entirely wrong. Sometimes even I was surprised by the thoughts I had in my head.

I smiled, pulling Carol into an embrace. "You're right. I will ride the highs here. I believe I can do it."

Both of us laughed, got into the car, and headed straight for that dreamlike place.

Unexpectedly, I saw a familiar figure on the construction site, working vigorously. This person was none other than Charlie's father, Arton.

I doubted my eyes, but upon closer inspection, it really was Arton.

I stared at him working diligently with sweat pouring down, and he didn't notice our presence at all, fully immersed in his work.

Carol was also surprised. She whispered in my ear, "I'll be damned. Is that Arton? Am I seeing things?"

Chapter 1152 Just As Expected

I exchanged a glance with Carol and smiled, remarking, "Looks like he's turned a new leaf. His son is a little angel who changed his life."

"Chloe, if he's like this now, I might need to reconsider my opinions of him. I can't look down on him anymore." Carol playfully stuck out her tongue.

Her words made me smile. I glanced at her and teased, "So, you admit you used to look down on him?"

"I... didn't know. How did he suddenly change so much?" Carol chuckled awkwardly.

As I approached Arton, he gave us a casual glance and continued working without paying us much attention. He had only realized it was me when I reached him. He immediately stopped working, offering an awkward smile. "Ms. Chloe..." He scratched his head after speaking, "Why are you here?"

"It's my construction site, so of course, I'm here," I replied with a smile.

"I-I didn't mean that," he said, inserting the shovel into the sand. Then he picked up the towel around his neck and wiped his sweat.

Carol turned and left in the car.

I looked at Arton and asked, "How's it going? Are you getting used to it?"

"Yeah. It was quite tiring at the beginning, but it feels good in my heart." He wiped his face again, which was significantly tanned now.

"How long have you been working here?" I asked. Judging by the degree of his sunburn, it must have been some time.

"One month, and it's good. I feel at ease in my heart. When I'm tired, I sleep, so I don't have random thoughts. At least my son will spend the money I earn cleanly in the future." He grinned and said earnestly, "I-I know it's your construction site." "Indeed, I'm really happy that you can do this. Work well." I sincerely told him. To be honest, I had the idea of having him assist Johnson, but he came on his own. This must be fate.

However, I didn't tell him my thoughts. I needed to assess his endurance and perseverance first.

Just as Carol came back by car, she shouted at him, "Hey, Arton, come here."

He hurriedly ran over, and Carol opened the trunk, revealing several boxes of water she had bought.

Then she said to me, "I arranged for the site to deliver water for everyone later."

I gave Carol a thumbs up.

Arton unloaded the water and then called over the people from his team, "Come and have some water, everyone."

I was very pleased. It seemed like he was getting along well with these people.

"You're familiar with all of them?" I asked.

"Yeah. We've become friends early on." Arton handed me a bottle of water, but he quickly retracted it. "M-My hands are a bit dirty."

I said, "Give it here. In fact, when I started my business, I also visited construction sites."

As soon as Arton heard me say this, he quickly handed me the bottle. I opened it and took a sip. Today's water felt particularly sweet.

The workers also came over to drink

water. I chatted with them, asked about the situation on the construction site, and any needs they had before leaving.

It seemed that what Ryan said was true. They were progressing fast.

I also checked the location I had chosen for Fred's factory and then went to see Noah. He was quite satisfied with the current construction progress.

I took the opportunity to talk to him about the idea of the old Bourdamun. Noah immediately sensed the information and asked me, "Do you have any ideas?" "That depends on the policies on our end." I tested the waters.

"Then we can sit down and have a good chat. With the cooperation of the new city, I can seek approval from the higher-ups," Noah said seriously.

That was enough of a promise from him, but now was not the time to sit down and talk.

"I'm still thinking about it, and it's not confirmed yet." I retracted the topic.

Then I talked to him about the construction of Fred's factory. I wanted to fight for some good benefits for the latter.

Of course, Noah was still as sharp

as ever. He immediately told me the benefits he offered. I was already very satisfied. After all, Fred was the first to invest in Solaris.

When I came out of Noah's place, it was already after 3 p.m. I told Carol, "Let's go back to Foswood."

In the car, I called Johnson, inquiring if he knew about Arton coming to Bourdamun.

He said, "I knew about it because... it was me who recommended him. Is there... anything wrong, Chloe? Myra went to see the child and came back telling me that Arton wanted to find a decent job. But in Foswood, he has always found it difficult to do that.

"After all, he used to... you know. So I'm afraid he'll lose patience, go astray, and end up harming his child."

It was just as I expected. I chuckled and said, "You did the right thing. Keep an eye on him and assess him."

"Okay, Chloe, I got it." Johnson was astute and immediately understood what I meant by that.

Chapter 1153 Rescuing the Bachelor in Distress

I hung up the phone, and Carol remarked, "Johnson is truly clever. Back then during Matthew's era in Tanum, he was nothing but a smooth talker, adapting his words to different people. Surprisingly, he has changed a lot now. At least he's not annoying anymore." I chuckled. Carol was spot on. If I hadn't seized the opportunity to put pressure on him back then, I couldn't imagine how Johnson would be today.

"People deserve a chance to change," I sighed, "It's fortunate that he turned over a new leaf."

"That's because you intervened in time. Otherwise, where would he be today?" Carol commented, "Those of us who can be by your side, to be honest, it's our blessing. I'm no exception. If it weren't for you, I might be in a completely different situation now." I glanced at Carol and said, "And I wouldn't have been able to handle things so effectively without your support."

"That's true. It's all about fate. Back then, I was almost bullied to the brink by that devil, Melanie. Just when I was thinking of resigning, I met an angel." Carol playfully looked at me.

Before entering Foswood, I received a call from my mom. As soon as I answered, her laughter filled the line. "Chloe, where are you? When are you coming back?"

"I went to Bourdamun and I'm on my way back. Why are you so happy?" I inquired.

"Haha... our house, the one in our hometown has been sold at the price we set. Alas, my persistence paid off. Mike said the deposit has been paid, and the final payment will be settled once the ownership is changed."

"That's great." I was excited too. "Finally, I can put that worry to rest."

"It's all thanks to Mike."

"Are you two going back?" I asked.

"Your dad said he could handle it himself and he doesn't need me to go. After all, Mike is there."

"Alright, when will Dad go back?"

"Tomorrow. The buyer is in a hurry, and besides, your dad said everything can be handled after the transfer is complete." My mom said, "Come back soon and we'll celebrate today."

"I can't be back anytime soon."

Ivanna wants to meet up today. I

haven't seen her in a month, and I need to check on her. Besides, we've been celebrating a lot lately. Can't it wait for another day?"

"Once you're back, it's like you're a ghost, invisible!" My mom complained; but she also

understood my relationship with et

Ivanna, so she reluctantly conceded, "Alright then. Oh, is Atlas going too?"

"Yeah! Ivanna wants to play matchmaker for Oliver and Lauren because they are still at odds. Everyone else is doing well, but they still haven't sorted things out. There needs to be a resolution!" I came up with a perfect excuse, "We'll be back early tomorrow, I promise

"Okay, let's wait for your dad to come back before deciding." She hung up the phone.

Carol chuckled, "Looks like you've stirred up a protest from your mom."

"Yeah. I've been spending too little time at home lately," I sighed, "But it's beyond my control."

"Chloe, are we really going to develop the Old Bourdamun?" Carol asked.

"Yes, after the assessment, we'll discuss it. It's still just an idea for now."

"But Noah's eyes lit up when he heard about it. He knows how to seize the opportunity. He had just been appointed, and he meets such a big benefactor right away." Carol exclaimed.

"I don't even know where my luck comes from," I scoffed, leaning back into the seat, "But I have a feeling this might be another new beginning."

"Opportunities don't come twice. If we can turn it into a scenic old city, it would be amazing!"

We chatted excitedly all the way back, arriving in Foswood just before 6 p.m. Ivanna had set our dinner right at that time.

As soon as Carol dropped me off at the hotel, Grayson called, "Chloe, my car broke down. Can you send someone to pick me up? I'm at the intersection near the airport."

I laughed when I heard this. "Wait a moment."

Then I said to Carol, "Go, save the bachelor in distress at the intersection near the airport. Grayson's car broke down."

Upon hearing my words, Carol quickly got back into the car and sped away. I smirked, seeing that she was in such a hurry to leave.

Chapter 1154 Successfully Bribe

Just as I was about to step inside, a shout came from behind, "Hey, you heartless woman! Didn't you see me?"

I quickly turned around, and that glance was more than enough to surprise me. Her belly was much bigger now!

In the past month, it seemed like she has been eating well, making her gain a little weight and looking a little rounder.

Dressed in the maternity dress I bought for her, she had her hair tied up in a bun. Now she truly portrayed the image of a gentle expectant mother.

Seeing her rushing toward me, Jared quickly followed and cautioned, "Take it easy! Watch your steps."

Ivanna hugged me as soon as she reached me. "I missed you so much. You just left without a word, taking Lauren with you. That worried me. I almost went to Gerby. If you didn't come back, I might have actually gone." I believed her words. After all, Beatrice was our classmate.

I pulled away from her and examined her. "You've really changed a lot. Are you still doing the show?"

I deliberately asked this question, and I was sure that the show business was probably off.

"Nonsense. It feels like people are scrutinizing me like a criminal. I can't do this, I can't do that. I don't even know what's acceptable anymore. It's as if others haven't given birth before," Ivanna playfully complained.

I disdainfully looked at her. "Isn't this what you wanted? If people don't pay attention to your complaints, you feel upset. Now that they are paying attention, you're still not satisfied. What exactly do you want?" Ivanna rolled her eyes at me, then glanced at Jared. "Did he bribe you?"

I casually replied, "All I have is money."

At that moment, Oliver also arrived. After getting out of the car, he gave some instructions to the driver and walked toward us. However, today he gave me a slightly different feeling.

Among our group, Oliver was the oldest, but today he had dressed handsomely and elegantly. Perhaps he was in a good mood. He appeared much younger and more spirited than before. With his arrival, Jared immediately said, "Let's go inside."

The rest of us walked in together, with Jared and Oliver chatting behind us. Ivanna and I continued chatting in front.

When we reached the private room, Ivanna began discussing Liora's situation. Jared looked at me and said, "According to my investigation, the ones who helped Liora are not from Foswood." "They're outsiders?" I was a bit surprised.

"Yes, those people seem to be from the Bermuda."

"The Bermuda?" This was even more unexpected.

At that moment, Lauren walked in. I noticed she had trimmed her hair and changed her hairstyle, looking very beautiful.

I saw Oliver's eyes immediately light up. I couldn't understand what was going on between these two.

She had tidied up her hair beautifully

and gracefully, while the other one

had looked more mature. It was a typical case of mutual admiration. Yet, the way they looked at each other was as if they had been arch nemesis for decades.

I glanced at Ivanna, and she raised her eyebrows. I smiled knowingly.

Now, only Atlas was left. He must be very busy today, as he was late even though he was the closest to this place.

I didn't say anything and continued asking Jared, "How could Liora have a connection with people from the Bermuda?"

"Don't forget, she has someone behind her. Melvern, right?" Jared said, "As soon as the case of Matthew closed, he smelled danger and ran away."

I slapped the table, "Right, I completely forgot about this. I haven't seen him for so long. But being able to escape in such a crowded situation must have been the outcome of a meticulous plan."

"Perhaps Melvern hired many people

to participate in Eugene's funeral,

then used them as a cover to divert attention. When people realized, it was already too late. It's said that many people attended Eugene's funeral that day, and the Thompson family certainly doesn't have such popularity."

Jared's analysis resonated with me.

"Things out of the ordinary must have a cause. But there is one thing. Melvern rescuing Liora must have a purpose. What is his purpose?" I murmured to myself.

Then I looked at Jared and asked, "Could it be that it was related to the case in the beginning?"

Jared shook his head. "This matter

exposed most of the things they did

in the past. For those who died because of Liora, we have most of the information we need by now. It seems to be unrelated to the case from before, and they're probably not targeting Atticus anymore."

"Are they targeting me then?"

Chapter 1155 Mutual Understanding

I immediately added, "But I feel like this reason is a bit far-fetched."

Jared shook his head gently, "Don't overthink it. We've been investigating the movements of Melvern and the Sunny family thoroughly. Once we figure out the Sunny family's intentions, we can understand their purpose. Of course, we can't rule out the possibility that Liora wants revenge, but Melvern may not have the same motive."

Jared looked at me and said, "You have no bad blood with Melvern."

"It's hard to say, as these kinds of people are unconventional. Do you know how they think? I couldn't be sure about that. At the very least, Melvern must see me as an obstacle." "But he fears Atlas," Jared stated.

At that moment, Atlas walked in with large strides. Noticing that we were all there, he came directly to me.

Jared glanced at Atlas and asked, "Why are you so late?"

"Had a few clients to talk to." He exchanged a look with Jared.

These two seemed to have a good understanding of each other. Just that momentary eye contact likely had some hidden meaning.

Atlas looked at Oliver and said, "Oliver, how about going to Gerby one day?"

"What's on your mind again?" Oliver was unsure but agreed. "You set the time."

"Good. You won't regret it," Atlas said.

I wondered, what was Atlas's motive in inviting Oliver to Gerby?

Ivanna said to Jared, "Hurry up, let them bring the dishes. I'm hungry so let's chat while eating."

Jared immediately turned around and rang the bell, notifying them to serve the dishes.

I glanced at Lauren and chuckled. Lauren was straightforward and said, "Ivanna, you're acting like a queen now. A wave of your hand, and someone immediately follows your orders?" Ivanna, nonchalant, glanced at Lauren, "Wait until you're pregnant, and you'll be a queen too. I'm sure Oliver would follow your orders too, right?"

When Ivanna cracked this joke, both Lauren and Oliver's expressions suddenly lit up.

Lauren blushed, feeling a bit embarrassed. However, Oliver's eyes brightened as he looked at Lauren, displaying a hint of joy.

Lauren felt a bit awkward and

protested to Ivanna, "Ivanna, stop your nonsense. I see you've really been spoiled. Jared, you need to teach her a lesson so she doesn't

sprout nonsense anymore."

Jared didn't expect to get called out. He looked at Lauren, who seemed embarrassed, and calmly smiled. "Alright. I'll go home and talk to her quietly. But Ivanna still has some sense." Upon hearing Jared's words, Ivanna burst into laughter, pleased with herself.

"In that case, my words were pointless?" Lauren was a bit unwilling. "Everything she says is right, isn't it?"

Jared said, "She's anxious seeing both of you dragging things on like this. I think you shouldn't let her worry anymore. After all, she's in a special period now."

I was truly impressed by this side of Jared. This mighty and cold person was acting as a peacemaker today, which was quite remarkable.

"Your friendship is special, so it's

natural for her to worry about you. We all see it. The matter between you two important to both our families. Atlas and I have the same opinion. We hope you can let go of the past grievances, and we can all be at ease."

Jared's words made Lauren blush, and for a moment, she couldn't say anything.

"Normally, I shouldn't say such things, but this is important to all of us. Everyone knows how much Oliver cares for you. Lauren, take a step back, and just follow what your heart wants."

With Jared's advice, I was sure that even if Lauren wanted to retort, she couldn't find the words. I noticed Lauren looked a little awkward, so I quickly gave Atlas a look.

Since the men had intervened, I wouldn't express my stance. However, Atlas was different when he spoke.

Atlas immediately understood, looked at Lauren, and said, "This is what all of us want. Oliver, make your stance. Do you really love our friend, Lauren?"

Atlas spoke in a tone that made me feel like all of us were part of a big family.

He continued, "If the two of you have no such intentions, then we promise to never bring this matter up again in the future. After all, we understand that Oliver was wrong in the past, which caused your relationship to fall apart. So, you know what to do!"

Although Atlas's words seemed light, they carried significant weight. Inadvertently, he was supporting Lauren. So, we all turned our gaze to Oliver.

Chapter 1156 Powerful Assistance

From a different perspective, this was a chance for Oliver to mend things, and Lauren couldn't do anything about it, because she knew just how influential and powerful Jared and Atlas were. It had to mean something that they were meddling in her business. And Oliver himself was the God of Wealth in Foswood. Naturally, his assistants would be great people as well. If Atlas provided him with an opportunity like this, he wouldn't let it go to waste.

He quickly stepped forward. "I love her. I also know that Lauren has endured a lot for me over the years. She's faced a lot of criticism and hardship. I know all this, and it's a pain engraved in my heart."

When Lauren saw Oliver immediately declare his stance, she glanced at me, her face burning red.

"My emotions were conflicted at that time. When I was faced with that life and death separation, I wanted her to leave peacefully, and I overlooked Lauren's feelings for me. But when Lauren left me, my whole world collapsed. It was like I had lost direction, like I lost my soul. "I can't live without Lauren. We've been apart for over half a year, and my life and work has been chaos. Please come back to me, Lauren."

Oliver took Lauren's hands. She struggled a little, but Oliver held on tightly, refusing to let go.

His eyes were filled with deep affection as he stared at Lauren's slightly lowered face, softly saying, "Marry me, and we'll start a new life. Nothing will come between us this time. If you entrust your life to me, I'll make sure this is a bet you'll never lose." Atlas looked at Oliver. "Well said."

Oliver gulped when he heard Atlas. Lauren was dumbfounded at the assistance from Jared and Atlas.

She wanted to react, but she didn't have the courage to embarrass herself in front of Atlas and Jared.

Oliver's hands that were holding Lauren's trembled visibly. He held her small hands tightly in his large ones and looked at her, softly saying, "Lauren, marry me."

He went down on one knee right in front of us. He took out a ring from his pocket, but hesitated to put it on Lauren's finger, waiting for her to nod.

We were all dumbfounded, and Lauren was too. It was a difficult choice for her to make.

She glanced at me, and I said, "Marry him. I hope you two will be happy together."

Ivanna chimed in. "Stop being silly, Lauren. Are you really that foolish?"

Lauren's face was red. She lowered her head and said to Oliver, "Get up. Stop kneeling. I... I really can't stand you. Can you give me some time?"

"Do you really need more time? I'm hungry. Hurry up, Oliver. Are you afraid of what she's going to do? Don't you know she loves you?" Ivanna hurriedly added fuel to the fire.

"We've said it before. If she didn't

love you, could she have endured all those years of criticism and

hardship for you? She's not crazy

Ivanna's words were straightforward but reasonable. "Stop making us worry about you!"

Then Ivanna looked at Oliver, speaking solemnly. "I'm telling you, Oliver. Chloe, Atlas, Jared, and I will all be watching. If you ever dare upset Lauren even a little bit you'll face our wrath!"

"Ivanna." Jared stopped her from going overboard.

To be honest, only Ivanna could say these things. After all, Ivanna was the youngest among us, and someone needed to speak up for Lauren.

Ivanna glanced at Jared. She completely ignored his warning and continued, "I don't care if you're some bank president or whatever. I only care about my best friend, my sister from another mother.

"If you want to be my brother-in-law, take good care of her. Otherwise, it won't work, even if you beg her to come back to you. Do you understand?" Ivanna was acting like a worried little sister.

Oliver, inspired by Ivanna, hurriedly

slipped the ring onto Lauren's finger.

When Oliver put the ring on her, he seemed to shine brightly. He kissed Lauren's hand affectionately and stood up, hugging her tight

Chapter 1157 A Terrifying Moment

We all breathed a collective sigh of relief. Ivanna clapped her hands and exclaimed, "Alright, let's eat. Get them to serve the food quickly, Jared! I'm starving."

Jared promptly played the role of a waiter and summoned the servers waiting at the entrance to bring in the food.

We sat together as three families. Ivanna, never one to miss an opportunity to tease, threw a comment at Oliver. "You'd better hurry up, Oliver. Look, you're the oldest among the three families, but your future child will be the youngest. You should seize the opportunity while Atlas hasn't completed his mission yet. It shouldn't be too hard."

That remark instantly made us all blush. Lauren complained, "Control her, Jared. She wasn't like this before. You've spoiled her."

"You should let Oliver spoil you too," Ivanna retorted before Jared could respond.

"After you give birth, we'll settle the score properly." Lauren gave Ivanna a sly glance.

"Stop trying to avoid the topic. You're both not young anymore, so just live a good life together. Stop waiting to experience life together as a real family!" Ivanna's words made us all burst into laughter.

Dinner was joyful and harmonious, finally bringing fulfillment to our three families. However, I knew that there was still something bothering Lauren. After we left the hotel, we said goodbye at the entrance. The three men each protected their own woman.

It was a warm and beautiful moment. Little did we know that, at that very moment, something unexpected would happen.

As we said our goodbyes, a couple on the pedestrian path not far away suddenly dashed toward us.

I was facing the opposite direction, and Lauren and Oliver stood across from me.

Lauren was the first to sense that something was wrong. She shouted in alarm and swiftly pushed me aside. I saw Oliver hold Lauren abruptly. Ivanna screamed in shock, and Atlas moved me aside.

At the same time, several people rushed toward us, and as I turned back, I saw a couple who looked like they were fleeing in different directions. Everything happened in that instant.

Just then, I heard Lauren scream, "Oliver!"

I turned to look at Oliver and Lauren beside me. Oliver fell to the ground, still holding Lauren. Atlas swiftly held Oliver and said, "Jared, call an ambulance, quick." "Oliver..."

I saw Lauren grabbing Oliver's hand, calling out to him with a trembling voice. She was panicking.

Everything happened so suddenly.

Jared immediately let go of Ivanna, who had been in his arms. Ivanna was petrified with fear and Jared quickly called an ambulance

Atlas supported Oliver and said, "Oliver, are you okay? Hang in there. We're going to the hospital right now."

Oliver looked at Lauren and said weakly, "Don't be afraid... it's nothing."

"Oliver..." Lauren cried, and only then did I notice that her hands were covered in blood. She murmured, "What's all this blood? Where are you injured?"

Atlas said softly, "He's been stabbed in the back. We're all here. Don't be afraid."

I didn't know who he was trying to comfort, but I thought that Oliver didn't look too good.

"Oliver, are you okay? Oliver..."

A crowd had gathered, and some people were even recording videos.

"Quick, call the cops! Someone's been stabbed."

"Isn't that Oliver?"

"Call the cops. Call the cops, quickly!"

The scene grew chaotic. I was helpless, unsure of what to do. Ivanna held onto Jared's arm tightly. "Will he be okay? Nothing will happen to him, right?"

Jared comforted her while on the phone.

When the ambulance arrived, Oliver was already losing consciousness. As the paramedics placed him on the stretcher, Atlas shouted, "There's

a knife in his back. Bend him forward..."

I saw the knife stuck in Oliver's back, its blade deep within him. Blood was flowing profusely.

We quickly got into the car and followed the ambulance straight to the hospital.

Lauren went with Oliver in the ambulance.

On the way there, Atlas made several calls, arranging for doctors and calling Cane.

I could clearly sense that Atlas was nervous...

Chapter 1158 He is Unconscious

My heart was lodged in my throat. I had a feeling that when Oliver shielded Lauren from the knife attack, stepping in front of her in a split second, he had actually taken the blow meant for me. I sensed it the moment Lauren pushed me away, her swift gesture revealing that

the assailant was targeting me.

I realized that if she had reacted a second later, I would have been injured.

The car arrived at the hospital, and the ambulance stopped at the entrance. The doctors who had been waiting swiftly transferred Oliver on a mobile bed to head to the emergency room.

Oliver was rushed into the emergency room, and Lauren sat on the floor, staring at her blood-stained hands and muttering, "Why is there so much blood? He'll be fine, won't he?"

I hurried over and grabbed her. "Don't worry, Lauren. He'll be okay."

She looked at me in disbelief, gripping my hand tightly. "He's lost so much blood, Chlo. What do we do? I can't let anything happen to him!"

At that moment, more doctors hurried over, and I saw the hospital director among them. Atlas gave them some brief instructions and commanded, "Make sure you bring him back to me."

That phrase sent shivers down my spine. Atlas never spoke like that. What did "bring him back to me" mean?

The doctors quickly entered the emergency room.

I couldn't believe what I was seeing and looked at Atlas. His expression was serious.

He exchanged a glance with Jared, who said, "There's no escape."

Then, everyone fell silent. I helped Lauren up from the ground, settling her in a chair. Her face was deathly pale, and her hand that gripped mine was ice-cold.

As time ticked away, our anxiety grew.

Atlas stood silently by the emergency room door. Ivanna sat beside Lauren.

My phone began ringing sharply, breaking the silence. Startled, I quickly pulled out my phone and saw that it was a call from home.

I answered, and my mom said, "Why aren't you back yet, Chlo?"

"You should just go to sleep, Mom. Something happened, and Oliver's been injured. We're all at the hospital, and we might not be back tonight. You go ahead and sleep; I'll have Carol book a flight for Dad tomorrow morning." I had forgotten about this. My mom asked a few more questions, and I reassured her before promptly calling Carol to arrange the flight.

When Carol answered, she immediately asked, "What happened? What's going on? I was just going to call you."

"Oliver's been injured, and we're all at the hospital."

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on and asked her to book a flight.

"Alright, I'll do it right away. Do you need me to do anything else?" Carol asked. "Everything's fine right now," I said, then hung up.

As time passed, Lauren became even more emotional and agitated. She couldn't sit still and paced back and forth at the door, anxiously scanning the interior.

A nurse ran out, and Lauren immediately grabbed her, which earned herself a scolding. "Don't disrupt my work. I need to

some blood packs. Let go!

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Lauren released her grip, and the nurse hurriedly ran out. She returned with three bags of blood in no time.

I grew nervous too. Why did she need so many blood packs?

But no one dared stop the nurse this time, afraid that it might delay her from saving Oliver.

Lauren grabbed me. "Chlo, he'll be fine, right?"

"Yes. Just stay strong for him," I said, trying to comfort her, silently praying that everything would be okay.

But I had noticed that Atlas seemed unusually unsettled this time.

At that moment, Cane entered. He looked at Atlas and whispered in his ear, "We've caught them."

"Send them to the storage area," Atlas said in a low voice.

Cane immediately left to carry out the order.

After all, the cops were here.

Atlas exchanged glances with Jared.

The lights in the emergency room finally went out at 2 a.m. Lauren froze in place. She looked at me in panic and grabbed my hand.

The hospital director emerged from the emergency room, and Atlas quickly stepped forward but didn't speak.

Chapter 1159 Excessive Blood Loss

All eyes were fixed on the hospital director, and a hush fell over the room.

The director announced, "We managed to save the patient. Fortunately, the knife missed his heart by only a few millimeters, so we managed to work on his wound. If the knife had been any closer to his heart, it would have been impossible for us to do anything. "He lost a lot of blood as we extracted the knife because it was a risky procedure. The good thing is, we made sure he didn't suffer from a second injury throughout the surgery.

"If he had fallen to the ground, he would have died on the spot. He'll be sent to the Intensive Care Unit for observation in the next 24 hours. If he can get through this, he should be fine after that."

Lauren's body trembled, tears streaming down her face. She murmured, "He did it for me."

I quickly tried to reassure her. "Take it easy, Lauren. He's been saved. Don't worry. I know you two did it to save me."

"I want to see him," Lauren pleaded.

We went to the Intensive Care Unit. Oliver was wheeled inside shortly after, covered in tubes, lying pale on the bed.

Lauren broke down and pressed against the large glass window of the ICU, sobbing. "Oliver! You need to pull through. I'll be here waiting for you."

After learning about Oliver's condition, I told Jared, "Take Ivanna back to get some rest. She shouldn't be straining herself."

Then, I said to Ivanna, "You already know what's going on here. Go get some rest and don't worry. You can come back after you get some sleep. He'll be out by then. We can't do anything right now."

Ivanna nodded. She said, "I'll head back now, Lauren. Don't worry too much. I'll bring you breakfast in the morning."

Jared glanced at Atlas and said, "I'll take Ivanna home. I'll be back later."

Atlas nodded, and Jared quickly escorted Ivanna away, followed by a few bodyguards.

I stayed by Lauren's side, and Atlas spoke to the cops before instructing Cane to get a hospital room.

In the morning, news of Oliver's stabbing spread like wildfire. Given Oliver's significant influence, the authorities confirmed the news, declaring that only they would release official statements about Oliver's condition. All other media outlets were strictly prohibited from reporting anything, leading to a complete lack of information.

That drove the media into a frenzy. They flocked to the hospital, eagerly awaiting updates.

Oliver's son also arrived. He was a tall and slim young man. When he saw Lauren waiting anxiously

outside the ICU, he seemed stunned,

but quickly greeted her politely.

I found comfort in the fact that this young man seemed sensible.

When Lauren noticed him, she wiped her tears away and managed a forced smile. "Everything's fine. Don't worry."

As I watched their silent companionship, I felt a warmth in my heart. It was good to have someone you could rely on in times of crisis.

Oliver woke up 28 hours after his

surgery. insisted that Lauren take a

short nap while he was asleep. The

rest of the time, she stood fixedly by the window, staring at him without blinking.

She was no longer resentful, but she was unwilling to leave, afraid that if she closed her eyes, she might miss seeing him again.

Oliver only woke up briefly. The doctors quickly entered to check his indicators. One of the doctors asked him something while gesturing at the window.

He turned his head weakly, looking toward the window. When he saw Lauren beside his son, he managed a weak smile. Then, he quickly fell back into a deep sleep.

This sudden development frightened Lauren. She tapped on the window, asking loudly, "What happened? How is he?"

We were all nervous. No one knew what was going on as the doctors examined him. Soon, one of the doctors left the ICU. Lauren rushed over and anxiously asked, "What happened to him?"

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The doctor reassured her, explaining that it was normal for him to go back to sleep again after waking up. Lauren sighed in relief before she fainted.

The doctor examined her quickly and said, "She's exhausted. Let her sleep for a while."

I got Cane to carry her into the room we had gotten for Oliver. Oliver's son, Alex, nervously asked, "What happened to her, Chloe?"

I explained, "She hasn't slept in nearly 28 hours and she's very stressed. She just fainted from exhaustion. Let her sleep. She'll be fine."

Alex's gaze fixed on Lauren's face, his expression complex.

Chapter 1160 Breaking Down

After sleeping for just over four hours, Lauren woke up and hurriedly returned to the Intensive Care Unit. Unfortunately, the nurse had just wheeled Oliver out to transfer him to the regular ward. Lauren broke down when she didn't see Oliver, crying, "Where is he? Where's Oliver?"

At that moment, I was afraid that if something really happened to Oliver, Lauren might think about ending her life too.

Alex stepped forward, gently embracing the agitated Lauren. He softly said, "Don't be upset, Lauren. They're getting ready to move him to the regular ward. Don't worry." Lauren looked at Alex in astonishment, asking, "Really? Don't lie to me."

"It's true."

I nodded, and we helped her back to the room to wait. Shortly after, they brought Oliver back.

Lauren rushed over. "Oliver."

Oliver was still unconscious on the bed. He looked extremely pale, and was still receiving a blood transfusion.

Soon after, Jared and Atlas entered the room together. They had been handling business outside all this time.

The ward was crowded with people, including some official personnel.

When the doctors arrived, they frowned at the crowded room. "Only family members can stay. The rest of you should leave. This won't help the patient's recovery."

Atlas nodded apologetically, then escorted everyone out.

Oliver woke up four hours later being taken back to the ward. It was his first real moment of clarity. When he saw Lauren and Alex by his side, a relieved smile appeared on his pale face. "You're all here. I just had a little nap... Everything's fine." He held Lauren's hand and said, "I knew you were here, so I slept really well."

"Oliver..." Lauren choked up and tears streamed down her face. "You scared me."

"Don't cry. It's okay. I won't die just like that. We haven't really... started our life together. Don't cry anymore, alright?"

Then, he looked at his son. "Alex, I'm fine. Don't worry about me and just go to class."

"I'll stay with you for a while, Dad." Alex looked at his father fondly.

It was my first time seeing the boy. I had only met him briefly at his mother's funeral and had forgotten what he looked like. Looking at him now, he seemed like a

man, resembling Oliver in

well-mannered and polite youel. Be

temperament and speech.

I hoped he wouldn't follow in his mother's cunning footsteps. Otherwise, this family, which had started so well, would face difficulties in the future.

I believed Lauren would be a good stepmother.

At that moment, my phone rang, and I quickly answered. Mike said urgently, "Chloe, it's Mike. There's something I need to report to you."

My heart suddenly tightened. "Go ahead."

"Your dad is missing!" Mike was extremely anxious.

"What?" My head spun for a moment. "Say that again? Missing? You mean my father?"

As I spoke, Atlas looked over, and I quickly put the call on speaker.

"Yes. It's been several hours now. Something's not right. I thought he might be sleeping with his phone turned off, but when I couldn't reach him at all, I got worried and went to the hotel. He wasn't there at all." Atlas chimed in. "Mike, hello, this is Atlas. Can you tell us when you last saw him?"

"Well, it was around 9 p.m. last night. We had completed all the

procedures smoothly yesterday, got the money, and I suggested celebrating. We had dinner at my place and drank only a little since he had a flight back to Foswood at 145 a.m. today." Mike described

the situation with great urgency.

"We agreed that I would come early to pick him up and take him to the airport. It's an hour's drive from our place to the airport, and we planned to leave at 8 a.m. I started calling him at 7 a.m., but his phone was switched off.

"I went to the hotel and knocked on his door but got no response. I thought he had gone for breakfast, but at 8 a.m, I felt something was wrong, so I got the staff to open the door to his room, but he wasn't there.

"I still can't reach him. I really think something's not right!" Mike said with a trembling voice. "How could he just disappear like that? It's 10 a.m., but he's nowhere to be found."