

Divorce 751

Chapter 751 Owed Him in My Past Life

Owed Him in My Past Life

By the time I woke up, it was almost 9 a.m. I stretched my arm out, finding the space next to me empty, but the bed retained some warmth. It seemed that Atlas had been up for a while.

I shook my head, feeling a bit lazy. Staying up late was exhausting.

But there was no way around it. Matthew was like settling an old score from a past life. Perhaps I owed him something in a previous existence, and now he was coming to collect the debt.

I sighed softly, with a sense of resentment. Then I grabbed my phone and dialed Ryan.

After informing him of the situation, he said, "You should go to the hospital. I'm already at the office. Don't worry."

Ilazily replied, "It's great to have you at the company. Otherwise, I'd be in big trouble."

'You're just trying to butter me up,' he responded impatiently.

"In that case, I'll hang up." I teased him. "Focus on your work."

"Fine, I'm hanging up." He grumbled, "That damn Matthew is causing trouble! Stupid shit." "I agree," I chuckled.

Ryan had already hung up.

Unexpectedly, my laughter attracted Atlas. He pushed the door open and saw me holding the phone, laughing.

He quickly walked over, scrutinizing my face. "What's going on? Why are you laughing?"

I circled my arms around his neck. "I don't want to get up. I still want to sleep."

He hugged me, kissing my forehead. "Then sleep. Get enough rest. A woman without enough sleep isn't beautiful."

"Are you saying I'm not beautiful?" I stared into his eyes deliberately. "Have you set your sights on someone else? Is that why you find me unattractive already? You can't do that!"

He bit my nose playfully. "People talk about being cat lovers or dog lovers. I'm a you lover. Who else could I possibly be interested in?"

I giggled, all my morning grumpiness dissolving.

"I called Ryan. He said I have a talent for comforting him." I continued to laugh. "I also feel like I owe Matthew from a past life."

My words made Atlas laugh wholeheartedly. "Why do you think you owe him? Sooner or later, he'll have to pay you back. And you dare to comfort Ryan?"

Suddenly, the phone rang again. I quickly answered, and it was Adrian. He urgently said, "Ms. Chloe, come to the hospital quickly. Matthew woke up, and he's very agitated."

"I can't believe this. "I couldn't hold back, swearing under my breath. 'Is he a child? Tell him to wait quietly, or he won't see me. I don't owe him anything."

I purposely spoke loudly because I heard someone yelling in the background.

Then I hung up and got out of bed. My good mood from the early morning was completely gone, disrupted by this guy.

After washing up, I changed into a dress and went downstairs.

By the time I came downstairs, Atlas had already set the breakfast table.

'Eat breakfast before we go," he said coolly, his tone unquestionable.

I didn't dare to argue. I walked to the table and looked at the spread. The breakfast was indeed rich, and he got it from Al Dente. It seemed that Atlas had gotten up early to buy breakfast for me. I had no reason not to enjoy it.

I sat down and leisurely began to eat breakfast. It was delicious, especially since it was from Al Dente. But most importantly, my lover had bought it for me.

I couldn't let Atlas's affection go to waste.

Seeing me in this state, Atlas was satisfied, constantly putting delicious bites into my bowl. He told me, "Take your time. I'll accompany you later."

"You're going too?" I was skeptical. "Aren't you going to the company?"

"Yeah. I don't feel at ease if you go alone."

"Hmph." I snorted. "You're worried about my overflowing kindness. But how could that be?"

He glanced at me and didn't say anything, but it was clear that he wouldn't change his mind. Oh well. If we went together, I wouldn't worry about Matthew dragging me down. With Atlas present, he wouldn't dare,

When I was full and let out a satisfied burp, I put down my cutlery and held my mouth. "I'm full and a bit sleepy again."

Then go upstairs for a nap before we go. Let him wait," Atlas said lightly.

His nonchalance made me burst into laughter. "You're cunning. Forget it. The main thing is that I need to digest this food. Let's go to the hospital now."

Atlas also stood up with a smile and placed the dishes in the sink. He stayed by my side as we headed straight to the hospital.

Chapter 752 Not A Real Man

Not A Real Man

Upon reaching the hospital, I noticed a crowd of cops outside the ward. I snorted, silently cursing at the embarrassing situation. They were making things too obvious.

As I approached the door, Adrian emerged from inside.

"How is he?" I inquired.

"He's better now. They gave him a sedative," Adrian replied.

"Is he awake or still sleeping?" I assumed he'd be asleep after being sedated.

Adrian whispered, "They gave him a small dose. He's awake, but he's calm now,"

Hearing this, I stepped inside.

There were two cops in the room, keeping a watchful eye on him. Matthew, with a deathly pale face, turned toward me. When he saw me, he completely broke down, crying like a child.

I walked to him, towering over him. I finally said, "What's this? You don't want to live anymore?"

Seeing him cry like this stirred a strange feeling in me. No matter how much hatred there was, when the other person became vulnerable, we still could not bear to see them suffer.

I had no remaining emotions for Matthew. He had hurt me and deceived me too deeply. Even without Atlas, I wouldn't have the slightest affection left for him.

But witnessing his current state, I couldn't help but admit that I felt a tinge of sadness.

The Murphy family had reached the point of bankruptcy. Once hailed as an inspirational figure, this person had fallen to such depths, and only he knew how it happened.

I was sure that he must be regretting everything deeply at this moment.

Despite his tall height, he looked like an abandoned child, crying in such a pitiful manner that it left me speechless.

As I uttered those words, the two cops looked at me cautiously. "Madam, please be more considerate. After all, he is a patient."

Atlas appeared somewhat displeased. He exited the room and, upon reentering, addressed the two cops, 'Please leave for a moment.'

The two officers looked at Atlas, uncertain about his identity but sensing that he wasn't an ordinary person.

However, possibly due to their duty, one still questioned, "Who are you? In case something happens-

"I'm in charge here." Atlas cut him off. "Go outside."

The two officers exchanged glances, reluctantly leaving the room.

I sighed in relief. I didn't want to make a scene in front of outsiders.

I asked Matthew, "Who are you helping with this? Your deceased mother or your daughter?" Thank you for saving me, Chloe," he choked like a child.

'No need to thank me. It wasn't me who saved you; it was the police and Atlas," I coldly replied.

Matthew, how many people tirelessly searched for evidence for your case day and night? Adrian even worked until 2 a.m. Can you justify your actions to all those people? Are you really in a position to think about ending your life?"

The more I spoke, the angrier I became. "Can't you stand up like a man and walk with your head held high?"

'Everything is gone. I have nothing left. My life is a joke," he cried, his once-handsome face twisted and unsightly,

"You brought everything upon yourself. It's your fault. I warned you earlier, but did you believe me? Since everything is your own choice, bear it with dignity. Show those people that you are a real man."

I questioned him assertively, "Did you do those things? Did you cut corners?"

"No... Chloe, you have to believe me. I didn't do it. They fabricated the evidence and smeared my name. You have to believe me." Matthew shouted at me with determination.

"Then stand up and shout to the world that you didn't do it!" I demanded, my patience wearing thin.

Atlas embraced me from behind, whispering, 'Don't get angry.'

"I'm not a judge. What's the use of telling me? Moreover, Adrian is already searching for evidence to prove your innocence. Why can't you defend yourself? I pointed at him. "You're just a coward. If you die, you're committing suicide, and you'll never turn your life around. Your life will be ruined, and your daughter will be left to suffer. Did you forget about your daughter?"

My words abruptly silenced Matthew's sobbing.

Chapter 753 Giant Baby

Giant Baby

I didn't know if he took it to heart, but he stopped crying and fell into deep thought.

I was shocked to see him in this state. I wondered if I had been too harsh in what I said. The

series of blows he had received were indeed overwhelming for him.

Although his actions were infuriating, he was also a vulnerable individual.

He leaned up a bit, observing his emotions.

After a moment, he looked at me. His face remained pale. He seemed much older, and I even doubted if this was the Matthew I used to know, always lively and confident.

The person before me now appeared dejected and helpless.

Chloe, can I still clear my name? For the projects I supervised, I didn't cut corners or use subpar materials, but for the one in Muborough, I knew nothing about them. It was all Liora framing me." His emotions calmed, and his thoughts became clearer.

Then tell the truth to the judge. If you can't explain it the first time, do it a second or third time until you can prove your innocence. That's what a real man does." I encouraged him.

I knew that all this time, he considered me his backbone. In the ten years we lived together, every big and small decision of his was discussed with me. He sought my advice before taking any action.

After succeeding, he would revel in his achievements, thinking he had done something significant.

However, at that time, I couldn't see this flaw in him. I thought a man should experience the joy of success, and seeing results would boost his confidence.

Unexpectedly, this became his fatal weakness. I became his crutch, his adviser. Without this support, he felt lost and even hopeless.

I suddenly understood that all this was my doing.

Before, when he got into trouble, I knew he had been trying to see me. If I had seen him, encouraged him, and provided guidance, he wouldn't be in this situation today.

Not seeing me led to his despair. That was an undeniable fact confirmed by his question just

now.

But I knew I was not obligated to be his lifelong supporter.

We had already separated, and that was an undeniable fact. Even if he was Ava's father, and even for the sake of Grace's last wish, I couldn't be his support for a lifetime.

He should learn to be independent and move forward independently, no matter what he would face. This giant baby needed to grow up.

But what I found ironic was that after helping him achieve success, he betrayed and deceived me as he went on to have affairs.

How stupid of him.

I collected my thoughts, admonishing myself not to continue my foolish behavior. After all, I'm not this giant baby's mother.

"Since you know she's falsely accusing you, trying to take what's yours, can't you stop her? Can't you take it back? Use your brain, not your foolish actions.

'Moreover, I've hired a lawyer with undefeated records for you. You should assist him, find crucial evidence to prove your innocence and defeat them."

"Yeah, I can do that. Right, Chloe?"

His words were like a child's. I haven't seen a man like him before. I couldn't figure out how I could have been attracted to him.

"I can't answer that for you. You have to ask yourself. Don't come to me for answers. I've done everything I can to help. I told him straightforwardly.

Then I hesitated momentarily and said, "But Matthew, you have to understand I have no obligation to keep doing things for you or be your guardian. You should take care of yourself from now on.

"We have no relationship anymore. This is your choice. You should face it and go through it alone."

"Chloe, you..." He looked at me pleadingly, his eyes misty again.

'Take care of yourself and recover well," I said, and without turning back, I walked away.

Chapter 754 The Truth Can Be Harsh Sometimes

The Truth Can Be Harsh Sometimes

He urgently called out to me, "Chloe, I miss Ava."

This sentence made me both sad and angry.

I turned slowly and looked at Matthew on the bed with a sense of detachment. "Then you need to act like a man even more. Your previous actions have already had a huge impact on her. She's been mocked and beaten in kindergarten, and her injuries haven't healed yet. Reflect on what you've brought to her."

I paused for a moment. "You need to be a real man so she can be proud of you one day. You still have a lot to do."

I looked at Atlas, who had been by my side all along. At this moment, I was truly moved. He was my pillar and support. It was this man who carried all the burden for Ava and I.

"Atlas, let's go," I whispered softly.

Atlas nodded, held my hand, and we walked out together. I heard a sobbing sound behind me, followed by loud wailing.

The two cops rushed in, afraid that he might do something again.

Once outside the ward, I suddenly felt much lighter. During breakfast, I forced a smile, not wanting Atlas to know about my inner struggles. But at this moment, having said everything that needed, I felt much relieved.

From any perspective, whether it was regarding the Murphy family or Matthew, I had done my best.

I had also fulfilled the last wish of the Grace.

Seeing me silent and not speaking, fearing that I still carried a burden, Atlas tightened his arm and said softly. "It's been several days since you last saw Lauren, right? Do you want to go see her?"

I instantly felt happy and said, "Let's go."

When we arrived at Lauren's room, she was flipping through her phone. Seeing the two of us coming together, she looked puzzled. "Don't you two have to work?"

I quickly ran to her bed. "We came to see Matthew. Why didn't you get out of bed today? How about... I accompany you to the garden downstairs for some fresh air?"

She immediately agreed, and I told Atlas, "You return to work. I'll go back to the company by myself later. Just pick me up after work."

He raised an eyebrow. "Alright then. I'll head back first."

Once he disappeared from our sight, Lauren asked me, 'Matthew? What happened to him?' "He tried to kill himself."

"I can't believe it. Why is he doing this over such trivial matters?" Lauren scoffed. "For someone like him, just let him die. It's unnecessary to save him."

*These things are indeed a disaster for him. Even if he regains his freedom, he's likely to be homeless. "I sighed, thinking about Matthew's future.

"What's wrong? Are you having another relapse? Are you being soft-hearted again? Learn from your experiences." Lauren looked at me, adjusted her hospital gown, and pulled me along as we went downstairs to the garden.

As we walked, Lauren smiled and said, "The doctor said I can be discharged soon. Just a few more days of medication, and I'll be free.

"How do you feel? Are you really okay?" I looked at her with a bit of concern. "If not, stay a few more days.

"No way. I've had enough of staying here. Do look unwell to you? I'm perfectly fine." she said.

Then she continued, "Let me tell you something, Chloe. Don't get too entangled with Matthew. It might affect your relationship with Atlas. He has been searching for you for over 10 years, and that's not easy for him.

"He commands the world, but he sincerely loves you. Don't let that annoying parasite stick to you. He's not worth your further efforts. Sometimes harsh words are sincere advice, so don't blame me for being too harsh with you."

I remained silent. Indeed, Matthew was not worthy of my continued efforts, and I knew that.

'He's just a despicable person, and he brought all this upon himself by doing all those things over the years. This is the life he deserves. But you're different.

"It's a joke of fate that you encountered this idiot, wasting so many years. Now that you've returned to the right path, don't mess it up again."

Chapter 755 Unable to Turn Things Around

Unable to Turn Things Around

I nodded earnestly. I knew that only someone who cared for me genuinely could say such things.

"I know. After helping him clear his name this time, I will step back completely. I just told him not to seek help from me anymore. I have no obligation to always speak up for him. I've decided to stop my involvement no matter what."

Lauren looked at me. You said that yourself. Remember it. Some things should be done for those who deserve them. But Matthew...

Lauren sneered, shook her head, and said, "He's not worth it, nor does he deserve it. He and Atlas are worlds apart. There's no comparison, not considering their wealth or status. Just based on character, he is a complete loser.

"If you ever feel soft-hearted again, think about all the nonsense he did to you before."

I chuckled. I felt like a child she was protecting, and what Lauren said was indeed true.

Adrian called me again, informing me that he had applied for a trial postponement. This would give us some extra time to gather evidence.

Back at the company in the afternoon, Grayson was waiting for me in the office. He handed me a stack of documents related to Liora's recent activities. I looked at them seriously and was amazed. "You can even get these?

Grayson confidently smiled, "As long as you want it, I can get it for you. This time, she's gone too far. We've found the car that hit you, and the driver is currently detained in the warehouse area. He has already confessed to it."

He pointed to another set of documents and said, "Look at this. We have everything on audio and video."

I slapped the table. "That's great. Let's see how she turns the tables this time.

'How about your investigation into Melvern?' I asked Grayson while tidying up the documents.

"His current business status seems fine on the surface. He owns several major trading companies, and their operations seem normal."

"Normal?" I expressed doubt.

"However, he has almost no business dealings with Lance. Lance's businesses are all from the Sunny family's old, relatively conservative businesses." Grayson guided my thoughts.

"It seems that the Sunny family's business is now managed by the eldest, Lance. That means the family did not allow Melvern to join their company." Grayson said. "Chloe, do you think there's a problem with this?"

I pondered the situation. "Are you suggesting that the Sunny family is afraid Melvern might ruin the family, so they've distanced themselves from him?"

Grayson slammed the table. "You're sharp. Another crucial point is that Melver's funds are quickly circulating. We're digging deeper into this, hoping to find issues from this aspect." "It seems like he does have some problems."

"There must be problems. How could Melvern rise so rapidly without relying on his family business? If he could get rich by staying low-key, he would have become a prominent figure in Foswood long ago."

I said, "And keep an eye on Denton as well."

Grayson leaned back into the sofa, thoughtfully responding. "No movements on his end so far. He's very disciplined and just studying. He does socialize occasionally, but always only with his classmates. However, I feel it's the calm before the storm."

"Unusual occurrences often indicate something sinister. Keep a close eye on him. I've already briefed Noah about his situation. As long as he doesn't threaten Bourdamun's development, it's not a significant concern for us." I casually informed Grayson.

However, ironically, this person would soon become the biggest threat.

Chapter 756 Striking Back Decisively

Striking Back Decisively

When Lauren was discharged from the hospital, I went to pick her up, only to run into Liora in the hospital lobby.

Lauren whispered to me, "Why is she everywhere?"

I smiled nonchalantly. "I had Grayson check on this before. Liora visits the hospital often because her father's hospitalized here, supposedly with rectal cancer."

Lauren scoffed, "That's karma. They have done many terrible things."

We talked and laughed. Liora saw us as we headed toward the exit. She cast a sly glance at us and remarked, "I didn't expect you to be out of the hospital so soon. Be careful. Don't get yourself into trouble again."

I snorted disdainfully. "Those who do wrong will meet their own downfall. If someone dares to pull something again, she won't be so lucky."

When I responded, she stopped and looked at me arrogantly. "Don't get too complacent, Chloe. You should always have a backup plan."

Lauren had always ignored her before, but she couldn't hold back this time. She stopped abruptly and said coldly, "I would advise you to know when to stop, Liora."

When Lauren spoke up, Liora became even more agitated. She anchored herself and turned around, taking off the glasses perched on her nose. She squinted at Lauren, raised an eyebrow, and chuckled coldly. "I thought you were someone else. I see Ms. Lauren is still standing tall and proud even though no man wants her. It seems that your temper has grown, though."

She blatantly challenged Lauren, trying to figure out how to hurt her. Laura paled when she heard Liora's words. She retorted, "I don't need you to worry about me. You might be married, but you're not that great either."

"At least I am married, unlike some people who remain mistresses in their old age. Just a tool that's been used and nothing more." Liora's words were venomous. Lauren took a step forward, but I grabbed her.

"Well, it's still better than someone who isn't fit to be a tool and has to satisfy herself out there with God knows who!" I looked at her sternly. Think about your own dirty deeds before you talk about someone else. Do you really think you've cleaned up your mess?"

"Why, you..." She glared at me, clearly irritated.

I pulled Lauren and turned to leave. But suddenly, I stopped in my tracks. "Oh, by the way. You don't need to worry about my backup plan. I have plenty of plans, and I don't need to retreat. But you'd better keep an eye on your health since you've been having fun with all kinds of people."

Liora suddenly laughed confidently. "Haha, that depends on your destiny. For instance, I'm pretty satisfied with Ardora. It feels good to own it."

I smirked. "Is that so? Don't worry. It might feel good right now, but you'll have to return what doesn't belong to you soon."

"What, you're still concerned about your ex-husband?" She immediately retorted.

I remained calm, deliberately provoking her. "That's because I can do anything. You'd better watch out and pray that no one catches you in the act, Liora."

Everyone around me burst into laughter.

"You little..." She glared at us angrily.

What's the matter? I'm different from you. I do things with a clear conscience instead of scheming and ending up in betrayal and separation."

I continued to look down on her. "Don't forget, all your cousins disappeared without a trace. Maybe you'll be next."

Do you think you can really hide that car? It's just not time to settle the score with you yet." I deliberately mentioned the car as I scrutinized her face.

Sure enough, I saw her face pale and her eyes narrow.

I seized the moment and continued, "Have you cleaned up your act? Are you sure no one knows what you did? Can you remember everything you've done? After all, you have a lot on your plate."

I bombarded her with a series of questions, staring at her confrontationally. I was sure she wouldn't sleep well tonight,

She stepped back, visibly frustrated, and glared at me, "How dare you threaten me, Chloe?*

Chapter 757 I Know I Was Wrong

I Know I Was Wrong

I took a step forward, still scrutinizing her. "Threaten you? I usually don't bother to do anything like that. I just can't stand your attitude."

She looked at me menacingly. "Do you think you're really that lucky? Or do you believe Atlas can protect you?"

I looked into her eyes, smiling disdainfully. "He's doing a pretty good job protecting me right now. Anyone who dares harm me will face dire consequences. You've seen more than one example. I wouldn't mind if you tried your luck. Fate will tell who will go to hell"

I grinned mischievously. "You were too ambitious. You've committed too many sins, and your time is running out."

My words angered her, and she raised a hand to slap me.

Unfortunately for her, she was shorter than me, and I was prepared. I deftly blocked her and retaliated with a fierce slap of my own.

I didn't know if it hurt her, but my hand was numb.

After the slap, I looked at her, playfully saying, "How was that? Did it hurt? If you dare lay a hand on me again, I won't let you get away with just one slap. Remember that."

Afterward, I blew on my hand. "My hand hurts," I admitted reluctantly to Lauren.

Then, I addressed Lauren and Carol behind me. "Let's go home. We need to go grocery shopping."

We left confidently.

I could feel a malicious gaze burning into us from behind.

Carol was ecstatic about my dominant move. She caught up to me and said, "That was a boss move, Chlo. You should do that from now on. Just slap her every time you see her."

I chuckled, glancing at her. "Do you think I'm so crazy that I'll just hit someone on sight? If she doesn't provoke or attack me, I won't strike back. But if she lays a hand on me, I won't spare her."

Lauren smiled. "Looks like she won't have any peace from now on."

We reached the parking lot. Just as I was about to get in the car, I saw Oliver get out of a vehicle and head toward us.

I glanced at Lauren, hesitating a little. Should I give them another chance?

Oliver had been coming to visit Lauren, but since she had gotten angry last time, he hadn't dared try to see her again.

I signaled to Carol, who immediately understood. She stepped back, pretending to answer a call. Then she said to me, 'It's a call from the company. The people from Bourdamun have arrived. We need to go back to the office.'

"I'll take Lauren home," volunteered Oliver immediately.

But Lauren said, "Thank you, Mr. Oliver, but there's no need for that. I can take a cab since I don't have many things with me. Don't bother yourself."

I looked at Oliver helplessly. Lauren had left no room for reconciliation this time.

Before I could say anything, Lauren had already hailed a cab.

Oliver grabbed her wrist. "Do you really have to do this, Lauren? I know I was wrong."

His tone was humble, and there was a pleading look in his eyes.

Both Carol and I dared not look at the scene unfolding before us. We found it hard to believe that one of the influential figures of Foswood would lower himself like this for a woman.

Lauren pulled her hand back abruptly, glancing at Oliver. Her expression remained unchanged, but her tone was icy, "Please don't make a scene, Mr. Oliver. I don't want you to embarrass yourself in public, but my patience is limited."

'Lauren..."

'I've made myself clear. Please stop bothering me. I don't want to live a life where I'm insulted every day, okay?" Lauren was becoming upset.

She had just been insulted moments ago. There was no way she wouldn't be angry.

She quickly got into the car without giving Oliver a chance to say anything else. She didn't give me a chance to speak either, leaving me embarrassed and at a loss.

Then, she rolled down the window, telling me coldly, "You and Carol hurry back to the company. I can go home by myself. Don't bother coming over if you're busy tonight. I'll handle things."

The car sped away, leaving the rest of us staring at each other in silence.

Chapter 758 The Celebrity Visits

The Celebrity Visits

I looked at Oliver apologetically and whispered, "I'm sorry, Mr. Oliver. Don't blame her. She was just insulted because of this moments ago. Of course she's upset."

Oliver nodded with a heavy heart, still looking after the car that had sped away. "There's no need to apologize. It's not your fault, it's mine. Thank you for taking care of her."

I sighed. "You don't need to thank me. After all, she got hurt because of me. I'm heading back to the company now."

Throughout our conversation, Oliver's eyes remained fixed forlornly on the road, even after the car had disappeared.

As Carol and I got into the car, she remarked, "Lauren really doesn't care about anything, huh? No matter what he's done, he's still one of the big shots of Faswood. Anyone would respect him because of that, but look at how she spoke to him."

I sighed softly. "What's done is done."

Carol sighed too. "You can tell that Oliver really cares about Lauren."

'The more he cares about her, the more it hurts."

When we returned to the company, an unexpected guest was waiting for me.

It was the popular movie star, Poppy. She stood up to greet me as soon as she saw me coming out of the elevator. "I didn't expect you to be so busy, Ms. Chloe. I've been waiting for you for quite a while."

Carol was surprised and muttered softly, "What's going on? Why is a famous celebrity here?"

I figured I should treat her as a guest, so I greeted her with a smile. "I'm sorry for the wait, Ms. Poppy. I was just out handling some business.

Then I turned around and looked at Carol meaningfully. "Bring us two cups of coffee, and reschedule my meeting to an hour later."

Carol immediately understood and went to prepare our coffee.

I invited Poppy into my office politely. "Please have a seat, Ms. Poppy."

I put down my bag, walked back to the sofa, and gestured for Poppy to take a seat.

She probably didn't expect my office to be so modern and looked a bit surprised. When I motioned for her to sit, she quickly walked over and took a seat on the sofa.

She smiled and said, "I happened to have some business nearby and realized your office was here, so I decided to drop by and see you."

I knew that was just an excuse.

She chuckled and said, "You said your company was on the 10th floor the last time I asked. I inquired downstairs and they said you were here, so I came up. I hope I'm not disturbing you."

To an outsider, it might seem as though we were familiar with each other.

"How nice of you, Ms. Poppy. You're not disturbing me, but you certainly do have some privileges. Not just anyone can come up here. The receptionists downstairs are pretty snobby," I said. I laughed and redirected the conversation. "Your presence here has really brightened up our office, Ms. Poppy."

She smiled, turning on the charm. "You're too kind, Ms. Chloe.

I wasn't very interested in movies and TV shows because I didn't have much time to watch anything. If Ivanna hadn't told me about her at the banquet, I wouldn't even have known who Poppy was.

"I don't really see many celebrities," I said frankly. "And this is the first time I've ever talked to someone as popular as you, Ms. Poppy."

Just as I said that, Carol brought in two cups of coffee and placed them in front of us.

Poppy was pleased when she heard my compliment. "You exaggerate. I'm just an ordinary person. I'm no different from anyone else. I'm only here because of everyone's support.

Then, she looked at me intently and said, "Don't be offended, but you really do look like Harmony. When I saw you for the first time, I was genuinely startled because I thought you were her."

I shrugged, smiling casually. "That can be quite confusing. But those who know me can still tell the difference." "Oh, I see." She cast a meaningful glance at me. "But they said you defeated Harmony back then."

Chapter 759 Nowhere to Begin

Nowhere to Begin

Poppy had an interesting expression on her face as she said that. Her smile seemed both playful and sly as she looked at me.

I knew exactly what was going on. She was trying to play mind games and engage in subtle rivalry with me.

I understood what she was thinking. Her words had a bitter undertone to them despite her radiant smile. The true purpose of her visit was likely not as simple as it appeared. She had come all this way to see me, and I didn't believe it was just a casual visit, especially since we didn't really know each other. What she said seemed like a joke between friends, but it could also be a provocation between rivals in love. It even sounded like she was gloating.

I remained indifferent, pretending not to care. After all, Poppy was no friend of mine.

I casually took a sip of the coffee and calmly responded, "Well, Ms. Poppy, it depends on where you heard that."

My nonchalant demeanor left Poppy a little perplexed, and I could sense her frustration. I refused to give her an opening, which made it difficult for her to proceed.

In an attempt to salvage the situation, she said, "I just heard some gossip. You know how it is in our circles. Gossip is inevitable, and I can't help but listen."

She finished with a smile, acting as if this was a trivial matter while concealing her true intentions.

I found it amusing. It was like she was like a snake, peeking out and quickly retreating.

She seemed to realize that if she didn't probe any further, her visit might be in vain, so she added, "I heard a lot, especially when Harmony and Mr. Atlas had that intense affair. There were all kinds of rumors circulating back then." Original from NôvelDrámá.Org.

I chuckled. "Looks like you paid quite a lot of attention to these stories."

I was subtly hinting that she was overly concerned about the people involved in the gossip.

I casually remarked, "But I've never seen them having an affair. Maybe I've just been oblivious."

"How could that be? You're Mr. Atlas's girlfriend, so you should be more attentive." she quickly retorted, seizing the opportunity to challenge me.

In my mind, I chuckled. It was exactly as I had expected. She was here to test the waters.

"Do you have a boyfriend, Ms. Poppy?" I didn't rush to answer her question, choosing instead to counter with a question of my own.

She paused for a moment, then smiled wryly. "I can't exactly just get a boyfriend in my line of work. Besides, it's not easy to find a suitable man, especially within our circles. Let's just say I'm not interested."

She made her intentions very clear. No wonder she attended banquets like that. She seemed eager to find a wealthy husband among the big shots.

And since she was here at my small company, she must be really interested in Atlas.

She was being very straightforward about her goals.

"How unfortunate. No wonder you have such a naive perspective. Oh... I suppose simple-minded would be a more fitting description." I acted as if I was an elder giving her a reality check.

Since she had offered herself up for critique, I couldn't let her down.

"Oh?" Poppy took my words to heart, looking at me with a mixture of appreciation and craftiness. 'Please do enlighten me, Ms. Chloe.'

I didn't hold back. "If a man is meant to be yours, you won't need to fight for him. Even if you stay away, he'll still be yours. But if he isn't meant for you, he'll never stay, no matter how much attention or effort you put in."

She put her cup down. I could see her lips twitch, but she kept a smile on her face.

'So, I don't bother paying attention to unnecessary gossip because it's a waste of energy. Some people say I seduced him despite being a divorcee with a daughter. It sounds malicious, but the truth proves he's still mine,' I said assertively. Even I was impressed with myself.

Poppy was visibly stunned by what I said and looked at me in disbelief.

Chapter 760 Her Target Has Appeared

Her Target Has Appeared

I was convinced that she didn't believe I could be so confident. Maybe I even seemed a little arrogant to her.

But I had no intention of backing down. I continued, saying, "It's just fate. Take Harmony, for example. Even if she transformed herself to be like me, she would still be Harmony, not me."

"Harmony transformed herself to be like you?" Poppy asked incredulously.

"You probably understand Harmony better than me." I chuckled, throwing the question back at Poppy. Then, I explained, "As the saying goes, know yourself, know your enemy, and you will never be defeated. Harmony is your competitor. Don't you understand her?"

A moment later, I asked her again, "Was that confusing?"

Poppy seemed uneasy. "I envy you for having such confidence."

I smirked. "It's not just confidence. If you don't do anything out of line, nothing will happen to you. Harmony is a tragic example.

*She also came to me for advice back then, but unfortunately..." I shrugged. I used this example deliberately. Smart as she was, she wouldn't fail to grasp the message I wanted to deliver.

To my surprise, while we were talking, Atlas walked in with an imposing air as if he had been summoned by our discussion.

Poppy and I were both stunned when he pushed the door open and walked in.

Atlas rarely visited my office unless it was a special occasion.

He must have wanted to surprise me and assumed I would be in the office alone.

Poppy, on the other hand, probably hadn't expected her target to appear. The surprise in her eyes was clear.

Atlas was dressed in a well-tailored and stylish suit, exuding a captivating charm. His thick, casually combed-back hair revealed a full forehead, and his incredibly handsome face was impossible to ignore. He radiated an air of sophistication and aloofness from head to toe, like a king possessing an undeniable majesty.

He was completely unaffected by the 'outsider' in the office and continued to stride in naturally. Every move he made left Poppy infatuated. She seemed to momentarily forget where she was and that I was still there. Original from NôvelDráma. Org.

She probably thought Atlas's confident steps were meant for her. Suddenly, her face flushed with a mix of infatuation and greed. The longing in her eyes intensified with every step Atlas took. It was as if she wanted to pounce on him.

Her unmistakable desire to conquer him was evident, and I was sure she must be trembling with excitement. It made me uneasy.

It was clear that she had come here to snatch my man. This was no casual visit.

I remained calm and sat unmoving in my seat, watching Atlas approach with a smile on my face. After all, I had confidence in my man.

As he walked over, Poppy stood up with a charming smile.

Atlas looked at me and asked softly, "Didn't you hear my call?"

He completely ignored Poppy.

I gazed up at him and calmly said, "I didn't hear the call. I had a visitor."

"It's okay." He smiled indulgently.

Poppy kept her focus on Atlas. She was probably seeing him close-up in real life for the first time. She tried to use

her seductive charm as she greeted him. "Hello, Mr. Atlas."

That was an obvious move. She had started speaking without waiting for me to introduce them.

Atlas only glanced at her briefly, but she extended her hand toward him. "I'm Poppy. It's a pleasure to meet you."

Her voice was so enchanting that it would make any man fall for her.

I continued to watch the scene with a smile, but Poppy didn't feel that anything was amiss.

Atlas's gaze shifted toward her, and he nodded slightly. He became more aloof, withdrawing the warmth he had shown toward me.

Then, he said gently, "Go ahead and talk, you two. Don't let me interrupt you."

He redirected his gaze from Poppy to me, completely ignoring the hand she had extended to him.

He looked at me with a soft smile, gestured toward the door of the lounge behind me, and headed toward it.