

Divorce 861

Chapter 861 The Art of Making Money

I boldly voiced my speculation. "Don't tell me you guys orchestrated Melanie's escape?"

Atlas immediately shook his head. "No, but we did leverage the relationship between Liora and Felix, that's for sure."

I stared at Atlas, dumbfounded. He was overly modest if this was not their deal.

"How did you pull it off?" I asked, incredulous, while munching on food.

A hint of tenderness glinted in Atlas's eyes as he smiled.

"I had Liora and Felix's relationship thoroughly investigated by Grayson long ago. It wasn't part of our arrangement, but we used their connection." Suddenly, I remembered Grayson mentioning it to me.

"Grayson told me that he had checked in on Felix and Liora. Was it because of Melanie's confession? I said I'd have a good chat with Grayson tonight."

"I had investigated Melanie's confession because Liora always acted like she had insider information. I looked into it, and sure enough, information came from inside."

"You noticed Liora's behavior back then?" I was truly amazed at Atlas's sharpness.

I had to admit it, my admiration for him was growing more profound.

Atlas sat at the table lazily, gazing at my face with satisfaction. Such a sight made him even more captivating, almost mesmerizing.

He continued, "In recent years, Liora made a fortune by extorting money from the inmates, especially those involved in economic crimes. They didn't lack money but wanted to cause trouble. Liora became the bridge. It was a lucrative business for her."

I nodded in acknowledgment. "I respect this woman. Her thought process is definitely on a different level. No wonder Melanie was completely under her control."

"Melanie's situation was her own

doing. She indeed had unique advantages and handled them. skillfully," Atlas added, emphasizing how Melanie was completely under Liora's control.

It was no surprise that Liora wanted to win and did not take me seriously.

In fact, my background was incomparable to others, and she looked down on me.

Liora was a veteran warrior in Foswood.

Atlas continued, taking my astonishment seriously. "During Melanie's time inside, she suffered a lot, all thanks to Liora. So whatever

Liora told her to do, she dared not

refuse."

I was shocked, cautiously asking, "Are you saying Melanie was physically abused inside?"

"Physically abused is an understatement. It was inhumane treatment."

I was left speechless. I couldn't fathom the inhumane methods he referred to.

"But this time, Liora lost her composure. Why?" I was a bit puzzled.

"This time, Liora sensed a danger, and the pressure came from Melvern." Atlas spoke casually as if everything was within his strategic plan. "Melvorn?" I was surprised.

"Yes, when Melvern returned to the city, he felt something was off. Before his return, he had already prepared to take revenge against Atticus."

"I know about this. Melvern returned to the city mainly for revenge against Atticus." I looked at Atlas, telling him, "Atticus told me about it himself!"

"But when Melvern returned to the city, he sensed that the information he had received didn't quite match the actual situation. So, he stopped supplying Liora with information."

Atlas's words were an eye-opener, and suddenly, everything made sense. That explained why Liora took matters into her own hands.

Chapter 862 Pull a Fast One

I gazed at Atlas's handsome profile, feeling like I was falling in love all over again.

"I finally understand why Liora has been keeping a low profile lately." I smiled contentedly.

"Yeah, because she's lost her confidence. After Melvern cut off the funding, Liora's plans took a major hit. She feels the crisis and wants to liquidate her remaining assets as quickly as possible. What else does she have left?" Atlas chuckled, his smile charming.

"She only has Ardora left."

"Exactly! She intended to hand Ardora over to Melvern, but he refused. However, Melvern did release his shares, all because Liora threatened him. If he didn't comply, she would attract more funds and dilute his ownership."

"Liora completely manipulated Matthew and Melanie. They walked right into this mess themselves," I said.

"Once Matthew got caught in Liora's trap, he lost all autonomy. That's why he handed over Muborough to Melanie to manage. Melanie was the one acting out and disrupting their peaceful lives. So, Matthew used Muborough to control her, a temporary solution to deal with her antics."

I was utterly confused. Things were getting more convoluted by the minute.

"In fact, Matthew has been doing everything to protect Ardora. He's probably afraid of devaluation." I sighed.

"If that happens, Matthew will have nothing. Prior to this, Matthew brought in a sizable seven million dollars, along with funds from other investors Liora enlisted. Matthew agreed to invest these funds in Ardora through the issuance of shares.

"That was just a pie in the sky that Liora painted for Matthew. She must have fooled him big time." I rolled my eyes as I spoke.

Atlas reached out and pinched my cheek, asking softly, "Upset?"

I immediately glared at him. "Nonsense!"

He grinned, revealing his pearly white teeth. "Do you know how much Liora gained from empty-handedly deceiving him?"

"How much?" I was curious now. I realized I knew too little about Ardora, and Atlas had the whole picture.

I had to admit that, without Atlas, I would be utterly lost. I didn't know Liora's background or her ruthless tactics, while Atlas had a clear train of thought.

"15 percent! She obtained it through project investment, with Keegan owning 8 percent and the sisters owning 23 percent. It's nearly a quarter. As soon as she got it, she transferred this acquired stake to Melvern."

"Good grief!" I exclaimed.

Atlas looked at me with a smile.

"Melvern invested, seeing through Liora's game plan. Once he understood the situation, he woke Liora up from her dream. If she

didn't return the funds, Melver's net

would retaliate. But this retaliation would be fatal for Liora and the Thompson family."

"She's caught between a rock and a hard place." I sighed. "Isn't Melvern being too stingy?"

"He's definitely not stingy. He has other plans," Atlas said casually.

"My goodness, it's so complicated! So, Melvern and Liora are at odds now?" I finally grasped that point.

Atlas nodded decisively.

"Liora released Melanie to buy some time because, with Matthew acquitted, she has no other way out under Melvern's pressure."

"That's clever, but not the whole story."

I felt my brain working overtime. Suddenly, I asked Atlas a daring question. "Do you think...Liora and Felix have been friends for many years?" "Yes." Atlas nodded affirmatively.

I looked at Atlas, and questions swirled in my mind. Finally, feeling a little nosy, I asked my question...

Chapter 863 He Has Never a Good Person

"Do you think... Liora's son is Felix's?"

I stared at Atlas, waiting for his response.

Atlas immediately extended his hand toward me. I quickly stood up and nestled into his arms. I really wanted to know who Liora's child belonged to.

"She was married to Atticus back then, and Atticus only found out later," I shared with Atlas. "This is something that Atticus told me and Arnold has also mentioned. I think Atticus couldn't possibly not know who the child belongs to."

"This hasn't been confirmed, but Atticus's behavior makes it suspicious," Atlas said, looking at me in his arms.

"Atticus's behavior? What do you mean?" I asked.

"Atticus has always been clear-headed. He wouldn't overlook this, but it still needs to be confirmed," Atlas replied vaguely. "Because he has consistently supported you in dealing with Liora, and this is undoubtedly part of his manipulation."

"I already know that. He's never been a good person," I said noncommittally.

He gave me a gentle smile, kissed me, and asked, "Alright, are you full now?"

"I am!"

I was genuinely full. While he was analyzing all this for me, he fed me continuously. He had stuffed me like a duck.

"Then, let's go home." He let go of me, and I quickly stood up.

After a moment of thought, I picked up my phone and called Lauren. When she answered, I asked, "Have you guys eaten?" "We have. I just made some porridge and a few side dishes. She ate quite a bit," Lauren told me.

"Do I need to come over?" I asked.

"It's fine. You've been busy these past few days, so focus on your work." I could tell Lauren was saying this on purpose. "Alright! I'll come over tomorrow morning to accompany her to the hospital. Spend

more time with her for now," I said, feeling a bit uneasy. "I'll stay at her place tonight. Don't worry!" Lauren reassured me.

"Okay then."

After hanging up the phone, I looked at Atlas, and he knew I was worried about Ivanna.

He said, "If you're worried, we can go back to Amethyst Apartments. It'll be convenient for you to accompany her tomorrow morning."

I felt happy and quickly called my mom. I told her that something was going on with Ivanna, so we would stay there.

My mom asked what happened to Ivanna, but before I could answer, I heard Ava say on the phone, "I want to talk to Mommy!"

The next moment, I heard Ava's voice on the phone. Atlas took my phone, put it on speaker, and answered.

"Mommy, we're having a parent-child sports day on Saturday. The teacher said both parents have to participate. You guys must come!"

"Saturday is still a few days away."

This child couldn't hold back. It was still several days away, and she couldn't sit still.

"Of course, I know it's still a few days away, but you guys are always busy," Ava retorted. "I had to tell you earlier. Remember, don't be busy on Saturday. You have to be free.

"You need to come because the

teacher said these activities help parents and children get along better. The relationship between you and me is pretty bland now. It needs improvement."

Her words made me speechless. Did this child just say our relationship was bland?

"Okay, don't worry. We'll participate," Atlas said indulgently.

"Daddy, you have to remind Mommy. She always finds excuses. I'm very unhappy!" She spoke with conviction.

"I got it. I'll be better. It's not that I

don't want to come home, but I need to accompany Aunt Ivanna for a checkup at the hospital tomorrow morning. Should I accompany her?" I guided her, hoping she would understand.

"Yes. Will there be needles at the hospital? Why is Aunt Ivanna sick?" She reverted to being a child.

As we continued talking, we walked

out of the restaurant and down the

stairs. Atlas settled the bill at the front desk. Afraid my conversation might disturb them, I walked slowly out of the restaurant.

Just as I was about to step down the stairs, someone bumped into me from behind, and I tumbled down...

Chapter 864 A Horrifying Moment

A sudden force knocked the phone out of my hand, and I tumbled down with no chance of stabilizing myself. An instinctive scream escaped my lips, and I reached forward with both hands to try to keep my balance.

In this terrifying moment, I saw another dark figure emerge from beneath the steps, quickly catching me as I descended. The momentum caused us to stumble involuntarily.

Once stabilized, I saw that the person who caught me was Dylan.

Still in shock, I glared at the steps above, only to find Liora standing there. Her expression was quite complex, her mouth hanging open in a ridiculous manner.

There was astonishment on her face, and she gritted her teeth. Obviously, I hadn't fallen down as she had hoped, leaving her infuriated.

At that moment, another unexpected event occurred.

Seeing me glare at her, Liora tried to descend the steps to get to me. Atlas, however, approached her suddenly. With a powerful kick, he sent Liora tumbling down the steps. Her body flew out like a ragdoll.

The next second, she fell heavily at our feet with a dull thud and a painful groan.

Atlas quickly descended the steps, reaching us. He placed his foot on Liora's face without hesitation.

His thin lips curled sharply, evoking murderous intent. He stared at Liora's distorted face beneath his foot with a chilling gaze. His tone was frigid.

"How dare you lay your hands on her? I think you've grown tired of living!"

Liora's face deformed under the pressure of Atlas's foot. She still struggled vainly.

"A-Atlas, I'll sue you... You... You're intentionally causing harm!"

"Fine, I'll fulfill your wish and leave you with evidence." Atlas's cold voice sounded again. This warning carried a ruthless tone, sending shivers down the spine. Atlas swiftly lifted his foot from Liora's face as she raised her hand to crawl up.

Atlas's foot quickly pressed down, and before I could see what was happening, I heard something break and Liora's blood-curdling scream.

"This is the price for crossing my

bottom line. Harm her again, and I'll

make you wish you were dead. Remember this!" Atlas's voice echoed again, the warning sharp enough to make anyone shudder.

Atlas then pulled me into his arms. His tone was gentle despite his chilling presence. "Move around. Does it hurt anywhere? Don't be afraid, it's over now."

He rubbed my head and hugged me, his face full of remorse. It was a close call.

"I shouldn't have let you leave my side."

I shifted slightly, looking up at him and shaking my head.

"Chloe, I won't let you...have an easy time!" Liora's curses and groans echoed below us.

I suddenly looked at her with a trace of irony in my faint smile. I might have suffered a serious fall if it weren't for Dylan's agile skills today.

Taking a deep breath, I watched her struggle on the ground, a sarcastic smile on my face.

"You can try. I can't wait to see how you'll make me suffer. I'll be waiting."

At this point, Dylan had picked up my phone. Thankfully, the call had already been disconnected. Otherwise, my mom would worry again. "Bitch!" Liora continued to roll on the ground.

"Liora, I've never fought a woman

before, but what you did to her today

is not over!" Atlas looked down at

Liora, battered and bruised. His words were cold and deliberate. en.swhovels.net

Then, he pulled me into his arms. "Let's go."

He turned and got into the car parked on the side of the road, leaving Liora howling from behind.

Chapter 865 Unaware

Sitting in the car, I still had some lingering fear for Liora and me.

Sitting in the passenger seat, I sincerely thanked Dylan, "Thank you, Dylan! I would've had a nasty fall today if it weren't for you."

Dylan softly replied, "You're welcome. It's what I should do."

I looked at Dylan incredulously and asked, "How did you know she would push me? I had no idea she was behind me."

Dylan immediately explained, "When I brought the car over, I saw her turn around and rush toward you from behind. Her footsteps were getting faster, and I had a premonition that she would make a move. Fortunately, I judged correctly and managed to catch you in time."

"I didn't even sense her coming from behind!" I exclaimed in amazement.

"She didn't come directly from behind you. In fact, you passed each other closely," Dylan clarified.

I took a deep breath, suppressing my fear.

"It seems like she never expected you to be with Mr. Atlas," Dylan continued to explain. "She approached from the outside, and you probably didn't notice her while you were on the phone."

"She had reached the entrance, saw that you didn't notice her, and turned back. So, she didn't get a chance to see Mr. Atlas at the reception."

I was a bit stunned. She had passed right in front of me, and I hadn't noticed. It seemed that I was really unaware.

Atlas instructed the driver to go to Amethyst Apartments. When we exited the car, he quietly spoke a few words to Dylan. I didn't catch it, and the car left the villa.

Back at home, he led me to the sofa and looked at me.

"Scared, huh?" He tightened his embrace, expressing his concern. "It was a close call."

Snuggled in Atlas's arms, I did feel a bit shaken and softly admitted, "I thought I was going to fall for sure."

He kissed my forehead. "I'm sorry. It's my fault."

Just then, his phone rang. He softly patted my shoulder, saying, "Go upstairs and shower. Rest early. I'll be right there."

I nodded and went upstairs.

My legs felt like jelly. I was genuinely scared. If Dylan hadn't caught me in time, I would have landed on my face, sharing Liora's fate. Just imagining Liora's condition made me cringe.

However, I felt no pity for her. What she did to me was much worse than what Atlas did to her today. If I hadn't escaped her clutches, I might have died many times over.

She was getting more audacious, daring to attack me openly.

After a hot shower, I felt much better. Atlas hadn't returned to the room yet, so I went downstairs for a glass of water. Atlas was nowhere in the living room.

Back in the room, sitting on the bed and drying my hair, I remembered Grayson. We agreed that I would call him later.

I grabbed my phone and dialed Grayson's number, but he was still on another call. I left the phone aside and left the room.

I assumed Atlas must have gone to the study, so I headed there. Indeed, he was making a call in the study.

He saw me coming and waved, embracing me as he spoke on the phone. "Find a way to investigate this matter. Make sure to get accurate results."

He hung up the phone and looked at me. I raised my head, asking if it was Grayson. He nodded.

"I called him just now, but he didn't pick up!" I said. "I was planning to give him a call a bit later."

"Alright! Assign him to do something," Atlas nonchalantly told me.

After that, he held my hand and returned to the room, using a hairdryer to dry my hair.

"My grandfather just called. He...knows about our marriage and wants me to bring you to Nocturnia. He wants to meet you," he said as he blew dry my hair. I was shocked. "Your grandfather?!"

Chapter 866 The Pierce Family Gets the News

When I heard Atlas's words, I abruptly turned to look at him. He quickly adjusted my head and continued to blow-dry my hair. "That's right!" Atlas answered confidently, leaving me a little puzzled.

With a hint of unease, I asked him, "How did your grandfather find out about our marriage?"

"I'm sure he has some people working for him. It wouldn't have been that hard to dig up this information," Atlas replied simply.

It seemed that the old man from the Pierce family wasn't completely confined to their ancestral home. He still had some control over business outside the home too.

"So does that mean Celine knows about this too?" I said. "I didn't expect your grandfather to make the first move. I thought Celine would be the one to take action."

Atlas's fingers combed through my long hair as he blew it dry meticulously. It was a pleasant sensation.

"It doesn't matter who knew first, especially for me. The so-called Pierce family members currently have no say over my life and certainly aren't qualified to be my master. They'll find out sooner or later. I'm Louis Pierce's son. I'm not related to David," Atlas said firmly.

I understood that Atlas harbored no emotions for David.

"So, what do you think your grandfather will say when he meets me?" I inquired.

"He knows about my dad's friendship with Rory. It's just a reminder to me that I haven't completely unraveled the events of the past," Atlas explained.

"He still doesn't believe that what happened back then was because of his daughter, right?" I said with some indignation.

Atlas finished drying my hair, put the hairdryer away, and sat beside me. I looked at him uneasily.

He was silent, and I knew he was conflicted. After all, David was probably his only family.

"So, when do you plan for us to go back?" I cautiously asked.

After all, Nocturnia was a complex emotional place for me. I lived there for eleven years, but I had no memories of that time.

"There's no rush. Let's deal with Matthew first." Atlas appeared relaxed, extending his arms to

embrace me. "But we do need to

make a trip back. We should have a

proper discussion after so many years."

I said worriedly, "But we don't know when Matthew's case will go to trial."

He looked at me with a gentle smile and asked, "Are you in a hurry to see him? Aren't you afraid he'll try to stop you? Doesn't his attitude bother you?"

I gazed into his eyes and said confidently, "Why should I be afraid? We're legally married. Can he really stop us?" I spoke boldly, my face showing my determination.

"Even if he tries to stop us, I won't

back down. You're my husband, and

this isn't about whether he

acknowledges that. It's a matter of

legal rights. Even if he wants to act recklessly, I'm legally protected."

Atlas was pleased and hugged me tightly.

He smiled at me, pinched my nose, and said, "Good girl. I knew you wouldn't disappoint me."

Then, he earnestly told me,

"Remember, darling. Our connection

is destined by fate. It's not something anyone else can dictate. So if we go to Nocturnia, no matter what happens, don't take anything he says or does to heart. You just have to trust me. As long as you trust me, we're invincible."

I nodded solemnly. "I will. You're my husband. Who else would I trust?"

"Good. We'll deal with Matthew before heading to Nocturnia." He patted my shoulder.

"Who knows when the trial will take place?" I expressed some concern. "This has been dragging on for too long. It's not a good sign. It's been really draining."

"Don't worry, everything's under control. Keegan has already confessed. Melanie's already a pawn in Liora's game," Atlas assured me.

"You mean he admitted to killing the materials clerk?" I inquired.

"That's right."

When I heard Atlas's confidence, excitement surged within me. That meant Matthew's case would soon reach its conclusion.

Chapter 867 Playing Rogue Again

Atlas looked at my excited face and said, "Didn't you say you wanted to end this quickly? Let's do it, then."

He grinned.

Just then, his phone rang again. He picked it up, glanced at it, raised an eyebrow, and answered. "Yes?"

I heard Dylan's voice on the other end.

"Mr. Atlas, she went to meet Felix's brother, Franklin, today. He's a lawyer, but when Franklin found out about the incident, he left quietly without meeting her."

"Good! Let's apply pressure through public opinion and have Adrian request a court hearing."

After saying that, he hung up the phone.

I looked at him happily. "That was about Liora, right? If everything goes well, the court hearing will happen soon, won't it?"

"Absolutely," Atlas responded confidently.

"That's great!" I was even more delighted.

"Doesn't this call for a thank you?" Atlas looked at me with a mischievous smile.

I quickly leaned over and pecked him on the lips.

He extended his hand and pulled me close. "Just one kiss? Can't you show a little more sincerity?"

I tried to push him away. "Are you being unreasonable again?"

His handsome face approached mine, "Didn't you just say we were legally married? How am I being unreasonable?"

I chuckled helplessly, unable to respond. He always had a way with words.

Against his cunning, I had no room for resistance.

The next day, I gritted my teeth and got up early despite my exhaustion.

I hadn't taken Ivanna to the hospital yesterday, and if I didn't do it again today, I wouldn't be able to explain myself.

I went to Ivanna's place, where a small struggle was under way. Lauren was trying to persuade Ivanna, who was hiding under the blanket, to get up.

"Don't you remember our talk last

night? Didn't we make everything

clear? Why are you playing around again today? Come on, get up. Let's go to the hospital together"

Ivanna whined from under the blanket, "Can't I sleep a little longer, Lauren? Please? Right now, all I want to do is sleep, not go to the hospital."

Lauren was so frustrated that her face turned pale. She looked at me with a pained expression.

I walked forward, reached out, and lifted the blanket covering Ivanna. With a stern face, I scolded, "Get up quickly and come with us to the hospital!"

Ivanna raised her head and looked at me disdainfully. She pursed her lips but didn't dare speak. After a brief standoff, she reluctantly sat up and sighed before crawling out of bed, heading to the bathroom.

Lauren immediately said to me, "You really can be authoritative."

She gave me a thumbs-up and quickly turned to leave. Before going out, she said, "I was just making breakfast. Keep an eye on her. I'll

check on the food. Have you eaten?"

"I have," I replied as she hurried away.

I reached out to tidy up the bed, then waited by the bathroom door. I didn't know what Ivanna was doing inside, but eventually, I had to knock.

"What are you doing in there? Aren't you done?" I spoke sternly.

After a while, she finally came out, pouting and glancing at me unhappily.

She seemed extremely displeased as she muttered something under her breath.

When I saw her like that, I couldn't help but smile secretly.

She walked into the room, opened the wardrobe, pulled out a dress, and quickly put it on. Then, she tidied her hair in a swift motion.

I stood there watching her, and she kept her back to me the entire time.

When she finished, she turned around like a child who had done something wrong, avoiding eye contact.

"Is this enough?"

Her expression made me burst out laughing.

"You're terrible. Just tell me what you have to say."

Chapter 868 A Helpless Smile

She pouted, rushing to hug me.

With a look of grievance, she said, "Don't take what I said yesterday to heart. I didn't mean it!"

I retorted unkindly, "You didn't mean it? Come on, you totally meant it. You're just explaining yourself, and explanations are just lies."

I deliberately exposed her, "Deep down, you thought I would favor Trinity. Honestly, if you tap into your conscience and ask yourself about it, you'll know I've been quite lenient toward you." Ivanna whispered, "I know you're good to me, but I feel like it's different with Jared this time."

"I told Atlas that if he could contact Jared, I'd ask him to call you. But even Atlas can't reach him right now. So just relax and wait for a message from him. That's your best option right now," I said bluntly, heedless of whether she could accept it.

"If you love him, you need to make some sacrifices, especially in times like these. You can't appear to be irrational and make him feel like you're unreasonable or just causing trouble for the sake of it. You should use your generosity to shake his perception," I lectured her.

"Okay," Ivanna said. She seemed subdued and did not challenge my advice.

"Now, let's go downstairs for breakfast, then we'll go to the hospital to hear what the doctor says. I'm sure we'll be relieved once we know what's going on," I instructed her gently.

She obediently followed me downstairs like a child.

Downstairs, Lauren had prepared breakfast. We wanted to eat together, but Ivanna had bouts of nausea again. As I watched her, I felt a pang of sympathy. Her symptoms seemed more severe than when I was pregnant with Ava.

After throwing up, she looked tired as she wiped her face and complained, "If I had known it would be like this, I wouldn't have done it!"

Lauren and I chuckled.

Lauren said gently, "You should keep the baby. We can all raise it together. It's a wonderful idea. If I had one, I'd keep it no matter what. It'll be like you have a mini version of yourself. Look at Ava. Isn't she adorable?"

Ivanna was momentarily stunned.

I quickly shared what Ava had said during our phone call last night.

A smile appeared on Ivanna's face. "Not many kids are as charming as Ava."

"Maybe the one in your belly will be even cuter," I teased, seizing the opportunity. "You're a weirdo."

She smiled helplessly.

After we finished breakfast, the three of us went downstairs together and headed straight to the hospital. After a thorough examination, we found out that everything was fine. The baby was six weeks old. Ivanna had been silent the whole time. She was feeling a bit gloomy, and I completely understood.

If Jared had been with her today, she wouldn't have been so down.

She had joked with me before about this, saying there was no way she could get married and had missed her chance to have children. I knew that deep down, she had wished for

a child.

Pet

Just as we walked out of the gynecology corridor, we ran into Liora in the lobby. She was accompanied by a middle-aged woman, and was probably there to pick up some medication.

Her right hand was in a sling and a cast, hanging around her neck, and her face looked pale. It looked like she hadn't slept well last night. I could easily imagine the pain of a broken wrist.

She scowled and said something sharply to the woman following her.

Coincidentally, the three of us walked over, and her voice attracted my attention. When I saw her, I snorted and muttered, "Looks like we really are destined rivals."

Lauren looked over as well, her eyes narrowing as she focused on Liora's arm.

Before Lauren could speak, Liora sensed us and looked in our direction.

She suddenly raised her head, saw us, and erupted angrily. She pushed away the person following her and headed straight for me...

Chapter 869 Two Enemies Cross Paths

Ivanna watched as she charged toward us with an intense glare.

Ivanna stepped forward without hesitation and looked at Liora, saying sarcastically, "Oh! This is the most delightful thing that has happened to me lately. How did you end up with that bruise, Ms. Liora? It seems like the heavens have finally opened their eyes."

When she heard Ivanna's words, Liora became even more furious, "What did you say? Say it again!"

Ivanna was unperturbed. Instead, she playfully retorted, "I can repeat it as many times as you want. What's the matter? Don't you like hearing the truth? Well, tough luck. That's a fact. Looks like you're reaping what you sow. Did you do something terrible again?"

Her words made Lauren burst into laughter.

The woman who was with Liora caught up to her and grabbed her. Liora shouted, "Why are you pulling me away?!"

Frightened, the woman quickly released her grip, looking pale as she glanced at us.

Liora rushed toward Ivanna. It startled me as I was afraid she would touch Ivanna.

I hurriedly pulled Ivanna away, saying, "Be careful!"

Lauren also jumped in surprise. She stood in front of Ivanna and sternly addressed Liora. "Liora, are you out of your mind? You're injured, but you still want to go around picking fights?"

Liora didn't even look at Lauren. Instead, she pointed at me. "Chloe, you wicked woman! You shouldn't be too proud. You might not be the one who laughs last. Watch yourself. I'll remember this grudge." When she heard that, Ivanna, who was never afraid of anything, exclaimed, "Holy crap! Surely you didn't do this, Chlo? Why didn't you say that earlier? We could have shared in the joy. This is a great piece of news. I'm ecstatic. Why did you keep me in the dark?"

Lauren also seemed surprised. She looked at me and said, "Why didn't you say anything?"

I smiled faintly at the two of them, then said to Liora, "If you hadn't attacked me last night, your wrist wouldn't be broken right now. Try me again. I wouldn't mind seeing your left hand in a cast, too."

She looked at me with hostility, and it was clear from her gritted teeth that she hated me.

Casually, I continued, "We'll just have

to wait and see who'll come out on top in the end. Those who commit unjust acts will eventually self-destruct. I'd advise you to take care of yourself and reflect on what you've done. Your brother is a

perfect example."

"Stop pretending to be confident. Just because you're with Atlas doesn't mean you're invincible. Hah... There'll be moments when you cry, and Atlas won't be able to shield you from everything. He might crumble, too."

"Will you die if you stop boasting?" Ivanna retorted.

Lauren immediately chimed in, "If she doesn't brag, her tummy will hurt!"

Their banter didn't sway Liora.

nét

Instead, she yelled at me, "Just because I can't do it doesn't mean someone else can't handle you, Chloe. Do you think you can escape after stirring up trouble between me and Stella? Do you think I can't deal with you?!"

"Shut up!" She shouted at Ivanna.

Then she turned to me. "Someday, someone will take care of you for me, Chloe."

Her words were filled with hatred as if she wanted to tear me apart.

I stepped forward, moved past Lauren, and walked slowly toward her.

I smiled slightly. "Let's see what the future holds for you and me, Liora. I'll be waiting. I know there are many people who want to hurt me. Let's see if they have what it takes.

"At least my conscience is clear. I'm

Pet

sure there are many people who want to settle the score with you. When I can't sleep at night, I see a beautiful sky full of stars outside my window. I bet vengeful spirits-are seeking your life outside yours," I said calmly. My pointed words were not lost on her.

"Your brother is already inside. Do you think he won't testify against his sister?" As soon as the words left my mouth, I saw her eyes widen in shock.

It was clear that she was rattled.

Chapter 870 Good Trumps Evil

When I saw her expression, I seized the opportunity to continue, "Your tactics aren't that impressive. Where do you think those dump trucks came from? It's not as though we can't connect the dots from all

those incidents."

"Chloe..." Liora was shocked.

I spoke slowly, emphasizing each word, "Remember that name forever."

I glanced contemptuously at her, thinking that it would be enough to make her nervous. I turned to Lauren and Ivanna and said, "Let's go!"

They didn't hesitate and immediately turned around in sync when they heard my decision to leave.

Ivanna quickly caught up with me and asked, "How did she break her hand? Did I hear that right? Did she try to do something to you?"

Lauren added, "What did she do?"

"The important thing is, her hand didn't break because of me. Evil can't suppress the righteous. Her sinister actions backfired," I said as I continued walking outside.

In the car, Lauren and Ivanna kept asking me what happened to her hand.

I told them about how Liora had pushed me down the stairs last night.

This revelation angered them both. Lauren said, "Why didn't you tell us this last night?"

I glanced at Ivanna. "Enough about me. Do you remember what the doctor told you? Get lots of rest and have your meals on time!"

"Oh, I know! I'll go back to Bourdamun in a bit!" Ivanna suddenly looked dejected.

"Why are you in such a hurry to go to Bourdamun? Is there something important going on?" I asked her, concerned. "Didn't you hear what the doctor said? Rest is essential. You shouldn't go to Bourdamun if you have nothing particularly important to do there. Just take some time off!"

"The doctor said I need to be careful for the first three months. Am I supposed to stay at home for three whole months?" Her words amused us.

Lauren shook her head helplessly, "Why are you like this? I always thought you were considerate, but now you're just fooling around."

"They were rushing me yesterday. There's some stuff going on that can't be delayed. It's annoying to be in charge, but I have no choice now that I'm hosting a program. I was thinking of quitting too. It's better than getting fired later, which would be embarrassing!"

I knew she was a real workaholic and very dedicated to her work.

"Anyway, it's no big deal for me to go there. I'm organizing footage we've shot before and I'm planning the storyline of the next episode. I can't tell them that I can't work because I'm pregnant.

"After I finish this, I'll stay in Bourdamun with you," I said. "Production is starting, and I need to pay more attention to the early stages of work."

"Forget it! Bourdamun isn't that far. It's just a short drive away. I'll go back in the afternoon, check the plans, and if there's nothing important, I'll come back. Nothing beats home," she said helplessly. "Can you drive alone?" I asked. "You need to be careful if you're going by yourself. Don't overwork yourself."

After a moment of thought, Lauren

said, "How about this? I'll go with her

and study a few cases so we can kill

two birds with one stone. This will be a good chance for me to

ve

accompany her and take care of her

I nodded immediately. "That works. Thanks for thinking about that."

Lauren glared at me. "Enough with your nonsense."

Ivanna quickly said, "Do you two think I'm a child?"

Both Lauren and I said in unison, "You are."

Then I added, "You'll experience the most severe symptoms right now. Get some stuff to snack on. Have something to eat when you feel unwell. You can't let anyone else find out about this, so you should be

careful."

"I know. You're such a nag. Doesn't Atlas complain about that?" Ivanna teased me.

"He never complains." I scoffed.

"I'll drop you off at the company first. You can go to work! I'll take her to buy some necessities and snacks, then go back to get a couple sets of clean clothes before leaving," Lauren told me as she drove. "Let's buy the stuff first. I'll go back to the company later," I said.

"That's good. Looks like you're more experienced than me," Lauren remarked humbly.