

Ex Convict 1961

Chapter 1961

Moments later, her voice quietly rang in his ears. "Hadwin, how about I stay here with you until after your birthday? The swelling on my face should be gone by then, and I can wait here for you to come back after your birthday party to have cake with you."

".." He did not answer.

However, Lina was delighted. He did not reject her, which meant he agreed to it.

Hadwin Stephenson's birthday party could be said to be one of the most popular events in J City, especially since it was said that most of J City's single socialites had been invited to the party.

Therefore, someone even joked that it was not a birthday party but a wife selection party.

Of course, the rich families were still a little concerned about

Emily Flowers's identity as a homewrecker. After all, it was

nothing glorious, but Stephenson Group was now on a roll. Even if Emily Flowers's identity was nothing glorious, Hadwin Stephenson was the patriarch of the Stephenson family, after

all.

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Therefore, the whole party was bustling. Emily Flowers dressed up luxuriously. She even wore the Stephenson family's heirloom jade as if to tell others that she was the real owner of the Stephenson family!

Hadwin Stephenson listened idly as his mother introduced him to one socialite after another.

These women were not bad-looking, plus they had put in the effort to dress up, so one could consider them beautiful. Besides, their families were popular in J City.

If it were before he met Lina, he would be so intent on getting to the top that he would not care what kind of woman he married but her family background.

However, looking at these women now, he remembered Lina's face.

"What's the matter? Not interested in any of these women?" Emily Flowers asked when it was just the two of them.

"Mom, I'll decide what kind of woman I want to marry, and I'll look for her myself," said Hadwin Stephenson, hinting at his mother not to arrange such blind dates for him again.

"I like the Tang family's heiress. The Tang family is also influential in J City. Their ancestors left them a lot of

properties and they have investments overseas. Miss Keller is knowledgeable and gentle. I like her very much," Emily Flowers said pointedly.

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"If you like her, you can have her as your goddaughter," said Hadwin Stephenson. He understood what his mother meant, but he had no feelings for Miss Keller.

Emily Flowers's expression changed before she smiled and handed her son a glass of wine. "If you don't like her, then I won't force it. Alright, I wish you a happy birthday!"

Hadwin Stephenson took the glass and gently clinked it with the glass in his mother's hand before downing the wine in it.

Emily Flowers smiled meaningfully as she watched her son finish the glass of wine.

'I'll have things go my way no matter what. As for Lina, so what if my son has feelings for her?

'A woman like that doesn't deserve the Stephenson family!

'Once my son and the Tang family's heiress get together, Lina will not have any chance!'

Chapter 1962

As the party continued, Emily Flowers smiled as she watched her son walk toward the lounge on the second floor with a faint blush on his cheek.

Everything was going exactly as she wanted, Miss Keller was already waiting there. After tonight, the Stephenson family and the Tang family's marriage would be decided, Lind would have nothing to do with them anymore!

Emily Flowers counted the time in her mind while drinking wine and exchanging pleasantries with the guests.

However, there was suddenly a loud noise on the second floor, followed by dead silence.

The guests looked at each other in confusion, not knowing what was going on.

Emily Flowers had a forced smile on her face as she went to the second floor to check, only to find two of Hadwin's men standing in front of the lounge Miss Keller was in. The men she had arranged were nowhere to be seen.

"What are you...." Emily Flowers said with a puzzled look on her face.

"Mr. Stephenson said to let Miss Keller and Madam's men

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"What?" Emily Flowers was startled. She immediately went forward to open the door, only to see Miss Koffer collapsed on the couch while fully dressed. Her two men were lying on the floor, all tied up.

Her son was nowhere to be seen in the lounge. It was obvious he was not here.

"Where's Hadwin?" she asked sharply.

They said, "Mr. Stephenson said he's going home first. He also asked you to stop doing such nonsense in the future, Madam!"

Emily Flowers gritted her teeth hard, knowing that her son had seen through it all!

She would have to appease the Tang family after this!

Hadwin Stephenson sat in the back of the car, enduring the strange feeling in his body.

He smiled bitterly, surprised that his mother would make

a move on him. He was wary of outsiders but not his own mother. That was why he fell for her dirty tricks.

He should have known what his mother was like, but now it only made him see the truth more clearly.

When the car drove to the Stephenson family's mansion, Hadwin

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Stephenson walked into the main house while ordering the butler with a slight gasp, "No one is allowed to enter the main house without my permission."

The butler froze. "But..."

Before he could finish, Hadwin Stephenson had walked into the main house and shut the door with a bang.

"Miss Sweeney is still inside." The second half of the butler's words went unheard.

When Hadwin Stephenson walked to the living room, he suddenly stopped. The living room lights were on. Lina was sitting on the couch in the living room, and an exquisite cake with digit candles stating his age was on the coffee table in front of her.

She was dressed in a white dress while her hair was tied loosely. The light fell on her face and body, making her look lovely. She smiled when she saw him come in.

"Hadwin, you're back! Wait while I light the candles," she said as she lit the candles with a lighter.

"No thanks..." Hadwin Stephenson said gruffly, wanting to go upstairs right away.

However, Lina went forward, looked at Hadwin Stephenson's unusually red face, and asked, "What's come over you? Are

you okay?" She raised her hand to touch his forehead as she

Chapter 1963

However, he flung her away with one hand. "Don't mind me... Don't come to my room again tonight!"

For the past two nights, she would come to his room with the pregnancy pillow in her arms. If she came to his room again. tonight, he might...

“What’s come over you? Did you drink too much at the party? Or is something else the matter?” She instantly tugged on his arm, unwilling to let him leave without an explanation.

Besides, it was his birthday today. She bought the cake with great difficulty and did not even have a bite with him yet!

Hadwin Stephenson stiffened. When she approached him, his arm felt the tenderness of her body. Her scent and the

concern in her eyes seemed to imperceptibly fascinate him, breaking down what was left of his sanity.

“Don’t touch me...” he said with a gasp, his face getting paler.

Even his handsome features were slightly distorted as he tried to control the urge in his body.

However, the more he acted like this, the more worried she became. “What happened to you? If you don’t feel well, I’ll

go to the hospital with you, or I can ask your family doctor to

“No!” he said.

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“But-”

“I said no!” He immediately snapped as if he could no longer resist the urge in his body. He seized her jaw and kissed her hard.

Her lips were soft with her unique scent and sweetness. They seemed to be enticing him to want more... More... He needed to fulfill the burning desire he felt at the moment.

He was like a nomad dying of thirst in the desert and found water. He wanted it at all costs.

She was his water, making him want more...

Rip!

He tore the neckline of her dress, and goosebumps appeared on her fair skin from the sudden exposure to the air.

He ran his lips along her lips, then kissed her neck, her shoulders...

Lina only found Hadwin Stephenson’s lips shockingly hot. He left kisses on her as if he was raining flames down on her.

‘What the hell is going on here? He’s unlike his usual self!’

“Hadwin... Hadwin... What happened to you?” shouted Lina as

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tried to break away from him, scared that his intense kisses would hurt the baby in her belly,
However, he seemed to turn a deaf ear and kept on
demanding When her hands tried to push him away, he easily clamped her wrists and twisted her hands
behind her.
Her body was forced closer to him.
His lips went even lower...
Even if Lina was stupid, she knew what might happen later.
She could do it if she were not pregnant, but she was now pregnant. Hadwin also seemed a little
different than usual.
However, all her struggles seemed so futile. If this went on...
Lina was so anxious that she cried out, "No, Hadwin. No... I'm
scared. I'm scared..."

Chapter 1964

Fat teardrops rolled down her cheeks, chin, neck... and into
her lips.
The salty hot tears seemed to instantly wake Hadwin Stephenson up from his impulsiveness.
His body instantly tensed as he panted to look up at her face full of tears. His hoarse voice was almost
squeezed out of his mouth. "Don't... come near me again. At least... not tonight! Otherwise... I don't
have the self-control not to touch you!"
Once he finished, he seemed to push her away with all his might and went upstairs.
Lina stood in place in a daze. She looked at the figure that quickly disappeared from her sight. It took a
while before she finally came to her senses.
Her body was still trembling instinctively, and his last gaze on her was full of lust as well as... restraint.
It was as if he was trying so hard not to touch her and hurt her!
'What happened to Hadwin? Why is this happening?' Lina had a vague idea in her heart.
His bedroom had been locked from the inside, presumably because he did not want to let her in.

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She could only knock on the door and ask, "Hadwin, are you okay? Shall I speak to the butler and have a
doctor examine you?"
What responded to her was silence. Sometime later, she heard a hoarse voice from inside. "I'm... fine. I
don't need... a doctor..."

He spoke every word with difficulty.

When Lina pursued the matter again, all he said was, "Stop... talking. You're making it... harder... for me to get through this!"

Lina did not speak again but quietly stayed at the door.

Hadwin Stephenson had no idea how he spent the night. It was as if he had been hollowed out. This was how his mother treated her own son!

When the sun shone down on him through the curtains, his eyelashes quivered slightly and he slowly opened his eyes.

He had not been in such a mess for so long.

He took a change of clothes and went into the bathroom, letting the warm water wash over him.

What happened yesterday played back in his mind.

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Yesterday... he almost lost control and hurt her and the baby in her belly!

However, a warm current seemed to surge through his body at the thought of her. His body still wanted her even though the drug should have worn off by now!

Ruthlessness flashed across Hadwin Stephenson's eyes as he thought of his mother.

It seemed that he had been so accommodating to his mother that she thought he could be pushed around.

He was no longer a child and his mother's pawn!

Hadwin Stephenson washed up, got changed, and opened the room door but was suddenly dumbfounded.

Chapter 1965

He saw Lina sleeping in his door, clutching her pregnancy pillow. She had a blanket under her and another one over her. However, the sound of him opening the door startled her. She opened her sleepy eyes and looked at him.

The way she rubbed her eyes reminded him of a cat cleaning its face, and there was something indescribably cute about it.

Then, he heard her exclaim, "Hadwin, are you okay now?"

As she spoke, she got to her feet and ran her hands over him. She even stood on tiptoes to feel the temperature of his forehead.

"I'm okay," said Hadwin Stephenson.

Lina found that the temperature of his forehead was indeed normal. The temperature of his body was no longer as hot as yesterday, and she let out a sigh of relief.

"Yesterday... Uh, did someone drug you?" Lina asked in a whisper.

Hadwin Stephenson narrowed his eyes slightly as he stared at Lina.

She blushed and said quickly, "I... It's just a guess. The way you

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Hadwin Stephenson had no idea whether to call Lina smart. Sometimes, she seemed painstakingly stupid, but she got it right this time.

He muttered, "Yes, someone set me up, but it won't happen again."

His face darkened as he spoke, and a cold gleam flashed across his eyes.

However, she was frightened by his coldness and instantly shut up. She thought of him like a hibernating beast. He would strike a fatal blow to anyone who crossed him and made an enemy of them.

"What's the matter?" He raised his eyebrows slightly, noticing her strange reaction.

"I just find you... a little scary just now," she mumbled.

His eyes glimmered a little. "Lina, I've always been a terrible man. Hurry back to Emerald City if you're scared!"

She said, "I'm not going back! You're only intimidating to others, not me. I have nothing to fear!"

She said it so matter-of-factly and confidently that it struck him.

"You're so arrogant. What makes you think I can't intimidate you?" he said with a sneer.

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"Why did you restrain yourself in front of me yesterday? You felt awful but still didn't want to hurt me. You'd rather lock yourself up in your room, she said.

He pressed his thin lips together tightly, his clear eyes stared

at him so intently that he felt flustered. It was worse than when he almost succumbed to the drug the night before.

It was as if her eyes had seen right through him.

He instantly looked away. "Lina, that's enough!"

She stood on her tiptoes and gently approached his ear. "Hadwin, you still love me, don't you?"

Her warm breath was in his ear, and his ears instantly reddened. He had no idea how to refute what she just said!

During breakfast, Lina took out the cake they had not eaten last night from the refrigerator and said somewhat awkwardly and expectantly, "I kept the cake in the

refrigerator. It may not taste as good as yesterday, but it

should be fine. Well... Why don't we try a slice? I'll remove the candles..."

Chapter 1966

"Don't remove them," he said as he took out a lighter and lit the digit candles that had been inserted into the cake the night before.

The candlelight flickered as Lina looked blankly at Hadwin Stephenson and asked, "Aren't... you going to make a wish?"

Then, she suddenly found it redundant once the words were out of her mouth. 'It's already past his birthday. What wish can he make?'

"Do wishes come true?" He fixed his eyes on her.

"Who knows?" she asked. 'Though... it's past his birthday!

His eyes fell on the cake. Every year for the past five years, all he had ever wished on his birthday was that he could be with her one day.

'Does this mean my wish has come true? How much better would it have been if she never wanted a clean break with me and tried to get rid of the baby?'

"Lina, do you think my wish will come true?" He croaked.

She froze for a moment before saying, "I... hope it'll come true."

"Don't remove them," he said as he took out a lighter and lit the digit candles that had been inserted into the cake the night before.

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would it have been if she never wanted a clean break with me and tried to get rid of the baby?'

"Lina, do you think my wish will come true?" He croaked.

She froze for a moment before saying, "I... hope it'll come true."

Lina stared blankly at him, guessing what kind of wish he would make.

When he opened his eyes and blew out the candles, he cut a slice of cake and began to eat it mouthful after mouthful.

Lina quickly cut a slice of cake as well and began eating.

Although the cake was kept overnight, it still tasted pretty good. Lina was eating when she suddenly heard Hadwin Stephenson's voice. "If I don't forgive you in a month, will you really return to Emerald City?"

Lina stopped eating the cake. Her expression turned gloomy, but she still looked up and forced a smile at Hadwin Stephenson.

She did not want to look sad while eating his birthday cake.

"Yes, I'll return to Emerald City and won't bother you again. If you want to acknowledge our child, you can come to Emerald City to see them at any time. If you don't, I won't tell them who their father is."

"What about your future? Are you going to live your life as a single mother?" he asked.

"Why do you make it sound so pathetic? I have my parents who'll live with me and our child. Besides... maybe I'll have a new family someday. Don't worry!" She laughed, deliberately making it sound light-hearted.

If it were so easy to fall in love with someone else, she would have gotten married in the past five years!

However, his face darkened as she spoke. "Lina, you're really carefree. You keep pestering me but you've already prepared a plan B for yourself, haven't you?"

1- Before she could explain, he interrupted her.

"Lina, you're still as heartless as back then. Are you going to mess up other people's feelings, let them fall madly in love with you, and then walk away?"

Lina blinked, stunned. 'Uh... I don't suppose he meant himself when he said 'other people', right?

'Is he saying that because... he's madly in love with me right now?'

Chapter 1967

Then she laughed at herself for overthinking. It was unknown whether he would forgive her, let alone be madly in love with her.

"I... I'm not walking away. I'm only leaving because you won't forgive me. After all, we have a one-month deal," Lina explained meekly.

For some reason, she felt guilty under his glare.

"We did agree on a month, but are you going to give up in a month? Can't you just keep trying? Or am I not worth it?" Hadwin Stephenson roared in one breath.

When he heard that she would find another man and form a new family, he was unspeakably annoyed. He could not imagine how he would feel when she built a family with another man and called another man her husband, while his child would call another man their father!

Lina was dumbfounded. 'Does he want... me to keep on pestering him?'

"I don't... know what you mean. Could you be a little more specific?" muttered Lina.

Hadwin Stephenson took a deep breath and glared at Lina.

She was shocked by what he said. 'For the rest of my life... I'm

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not allowed to leave? Does he mean...

Looking at her dumbfounded appearance, he reached out his arms as he approached her. Bending his head, he kissed her on the lips.

His lips still tasted of cake—sweet and delicious... Lina stared blankly at the face right in front of her, her mind almost turning blank.

When the kiss ended, Lina still had not come to her senses. She asked in a daze, "Why... Why did you kiss me?"

"Think of the answer yourself!" He snapped, ate the rest of the cake, and left the house!

Hadwin Stephenson rubbed his forehead once he got into

the car. No matter how he denied it and avoided it, his body's reaction and his emotions could not fool anyone.

'She's the only one who can affect my mood so easily. I can't let go of her.

'Who exactly am I punishing by not forgiving her?

'But... this time, she came from Emerald City and wants to get

back together with me. Is it because of the child, the guilt of having misunderstood me previously, or does she really love

me?

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'She keeps telling me that she loves me. Can I trust her?

'I'm afraid of losing her again! If I was forced to do it the first time, then did the second time happen because of all the misunderstandings or she just didn't love me enough? Was that why she could let me go so easily?

'Will there be a third time, then?

'She already misunderstood me this time. Life is so long. Will there be another misunderstanding? Or even if there's no misunderstanding, will we separate again because she doesn't love me enough?

'What will I do then?'

Hadwin Stephenson slowly closed his eyes. Once the car stopped, the driver at the front said, "Mr. Stephenson, we're here." Hadwin Stephenson opened his eyes again.

Outside the car was an impressive mansion. It was... the mansion where Emily Flowers lived!

Hadwin Stephenson walked out of the car. Several cars followed his. A row of strong bodyguards got out of the cars. and followed Hadwin Stephenson into the mansion.

Chapter 1968

Emily Flowers was on the phone with the mother of the Tang family's heiress, explaining last night's accident.

"Don't worry. Since it didn't work this time, there's always another chance. I hope your daughter will be my daughter-in-law. Yesterday was just a small accident..."

Before she could finish, she heard the butler's voice. "Young... Young Master, why did you bring so many people here? Did... Did something happen?"

Then, Hadwin Stephenson's cold voice sounded. "Get lost!"

Emily Flowers looked up and saw her son walking in with a group of his men. Her expression changed slightly, and she

said to Mrs. Tang on the other end of the line, "Excuse me,

Mrs. Tang. I have something to attend to. I'll talk to you later."

After ending the call, Emily Flowers looked at her son and said,

"Hadwin, what are your intentions for coming here with such a large group of people?"

Hadwin Stephenson walked to the couch and sat down. He

said to the men behind him, "Wait outside."

"Yes." The men filed out. Now, only Hadwin Stephenson, Emily Flowers, and the butler were left in the living room.

Emily Flowers gave the butler a look, and he left the living room as well.

Hadwin Stephenson looked indifferent. He casually took the newspaper Emily Flowers was reading earlier from the coffee table and looked through it.

Although one could read the news online now, Emily Flowers still maintained the habit of reading newspapers.

Compared to Hadwin Stephenson's indifference, Emily Flowers felt uneasy. Her son probably brought so many people here to question her about what had happened yesterday.

The older her son grew, the more unpredictable he became. At some point, she could no longer figure out what was on her

son's mind.

"Hadwin, you've asked everyone to leave. Is there something you want to tell me?" asked Emily Flowers when she already knew the answer.

Hadwin Stephenson seemed to say nonchalantly, "I do have to tell you something, Mom. I hope you can temporarily live

abroad and then come back after a few years."

"What?" Emily Flowers instantly stood up and stared at her son in front of her. "What did you say? Are you kicking me abroad?"

Hadwin Stephenson said indifferently.

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Emily Flowers narrowed her beautiful eyes that were adorned with delicate makeup. "What if I don't want to? I'm doing well here. I don't want to go abroad."

"If you won't do it, I'll have to have people stationed outside your mansion at all times. I'll have them removed whenever

you agree to move," said Hadwin Stephenson.

Emily Flowers immediately snapped. "Stationed? Are you trying to lock me up in this mansion? Like a prisoner?"

"Think of it however you want to, Mom," replied Hadwin Stephenson.

Chapter 1969

Emily Flowers was so angry that she trembled all over. Reaching out her hand in anger, she pointed at his face.

"Have... Have you forgotten who gave birth to you and raised you? Where would you be without me? Are you going to treat your own mother like this because you've grown up now?"

"I've always known that I was just a pawn to you. Even though I was a pawn back then, it doesn't mean I'm still your pawn. But you still think of me as a pawn, so I have no choice but to do this."

"What... What do you mean..." Guilt flashed across Emily Flowers's eyes.

"What do I mean? I thought you knew it perfectly well when I came in, or should I make myself clearer?" Hadwin Stephenson snorted coldly. "I never expected my own mother to drug me. It seems you still think of me as the same child you used to push around."

Emily Flowers said, "I'm doing this for your own good. What's wrong with the Tang family? Once the Stephenson family

marries the Tang family, the Stephenson family will be L City's

top richest family. What does Lina have? What can she give

you apart from making you into a joke? How does someone like her deserve to be the mistress of the Stephenson family?"

deserve the same?"

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"You..." Emily Flowers instantly blushed, raised her hand, and slapped Hadwin Stephenson in the face. "Is this how you speak to your mother?"

Hadwin Stephenson's expression remained unchanged. He merely took the slap. "If you weren't my mother, do you think you'd be able to stand in front of me safe and sound after drugging me?"

Facing her son's cold gaze, Emily Flowers suddenly felt a tingle in her scalp. She suddenly had a feeling that her son was indeed not her pawn anymore. She even... had a feeling that if she crossed her son's limits again, he would have no mercy on her even if she was his mother.

"Mom, you're going abroad whenever you come to your senses!" said Hadwin Stephenson as he got up and headed outside.

Emily Flowers suddenly shouted, "You're asking me to go abroad because of Lina and not because I drugged you, right? You're just retaliating against me for laying a hand on Lina, aren't you?"

Hadwin Stephenson paused, then continued walking. In just a moment, he had disappeared from Emily Flowers's sight, leaving her in the living room alone. She started smashing things out of anger.

When Hadwin Stephenson returned to the company, he saw Lina sitting in the lounge in front of his office, reading a pregnancy magazine in her hand.

"Hadwin!" Lina said with a smile and waved at Hadwin Stephenson.

Hadwin Stephenson rubbed his temple and said nothing as he headed toward his office. Lina also followed Hadwin Stephenson into the office.

Once they entered the office, Lina's hesitant look made Hadwin Stephenson raise his eyebrows slightly. "What's the matter? Do you have something to tell me?"

"Well... What did you mean by what you said when you ate the cake today?" She looked at him, her round eyes looking at him expectantly and nervously.

Hadwin Stephenson frowned slightly. "I told you this morning. Figure it out yourself."

"But I'm afraid I'll misunderstand! Uh, won't I fail you again if I get it wrong?" explained Lina.

Chapter 1970

She asked tentatively, "Well... Do you still love me? But you're just too embarrassed to forgive me so easily, so... you hope I'll continue pestering you a month later?"

Hadwin Stephenson glared at Lina. 'Does she have to talk about these things so frankly?'

Although... he was doing exactly what she said.

"Is it true?" She demanded to know.

He turned his back, only thinking that he would lose his restraint if she continued looking at him.

"Is it true or not?" She quickly walked around and continued to stare at his face, her hands pulling restlessly at one of his arms. "I didn't misunderstand, did I?"

He glared at her. The woman had always been able to drive him into a corner!

"... Yes!" He said gruffly and went straight back to his desk to look at the documents piled on it.

Lina's face was full of joy. 'He admitted it! It's really as I thought. He still has feelings for me, but I just hurt him too

deeply before.

are you going to forgive me? Two months? Three months? Or

six months? Isn't six months a little long? The baby will be born

by then.

"Hadwin, at least give me a time frame so I can prepare myself mentally.

"Why don't we have a forgiveness dinner on the day you forgive me? It'll serve as a day of commemoration to also remind us not to have any more misunderstandings."

She chattered as if she had come out of her shell.

Hadwin Stephenson was speechless. 'Forgiveness dinner... How did she come up with that? And she's even trying to bargain with me on when I'm going to forgive her!'

"By the way, Hadwin, I love you. I love you so much!" Lina widened her round eyes and looked intently at Hadwin Stephenson as she confessed her feelings to him.

Hadwin Stephenson instantly blushed!

"Hey, Hadwin, your face looks a little red..." Lina blinked and put her hands on Hadwin Stephenson's cheeks.

He should take her hands off him. She was distracting him from his work.

"Hey, your ears are turning red too!" As if discovering something after

new, her hands began to creep up his ears again.

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At that instant, Hadwin Stephenson felt blood rushing to his face. Even his ears turned red.

"You..." He glared at her. "Quit it," he said with a doting tone that even he could not describe.

Lina said with a smile, "I'm not messing around. I'm just happy. Hadwin, thank you for forgiving me."

Hadwin Stephenson pressed his lips together and said grudgingly, "I haven't forgiven you yet."

"But you'll forgive me sooner or later, won't you? Hadwin, I want to spend every day with you from now on!" Lina cupped her cheeks as she began to dream of a better future.

Hadwin Stephenson momentarily froze before saying, "Ask your parents if they're free tonight. I haven't even invited them

to dinner ever since they came."

Lina was delighted. She hurriedly answered on her parent's behalf, "They're free. They're free. I'll call my parents and tell them!" With that said, she began to call her parents.

Looking at Lina's reaction, Hadwin Stephenson could not help smiling. He found that the previous pressure in his chest was fading away.