

Ex Convict 771

Chapter 771

"But I do," he said.

Her heart seemed to be instantly enveloped in something. Her nose suddenly felt sore, and even her eyes became misty.

It turned out there was somebody in this world who would feel hurt because of her injuries.

He would feel her pain.

Falling in love with him might have been the best choice she ever made.

He wrapped the towel around her body, carried her out of the bathtub, and helped her change into clean leisurewear. Then, he carried her out of the bathroom and treated her bruises.

"Just yell if it hurts," he said.

"Sure," she replied.

He treated her bruises gently as if he was dealing with a treasure of great importance-one that was even more important than his own life.

When he finally finished treating the ring of bruises around her wrist, he did not let go. Instead, he kept staring at the unfaded bruise around her wrist.

"Tell me. What did Brian say when he put you down and grabbed your hand?" His voice whispered out of his mouth, and

his deep eyes slowly looked up into her almond-shaped eyes.

Grace stiffened, feeling as though his eyes were trying to see right through her.

'Jason has always been insecure in this relationship. Even though I've explained it to him, does he still have doubts and

mind it?'

"Brian said luckily, I'm not," taking a deep breath, she answered him truthfully.

"Luckily you're not?" His eyes narrowed

slightly as if pondering the meaning of

this remark.

"Because... Didn't Brian always think I might be the one he was looking for? However, he found her now. It's... Stella.

Therefore, I think he meant to say that he

won't misunderstand me anymore. I'm

not the one he's looking for."

Grace spoke. Her heart was beating violently when she said these words.

What she said was true, but now that

she had recovered her lost childhood

memories, she felt guilty when she said

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His eyes were still fixed on her, and he

raised his hand to stroke her cheek.

"What about you? Do you regret it?"

The cold voice seemed to hammer every

word into the depths of her soul.

'Regret? Regret that Brian made a mistake? Regret that partners who went through a life or death incident together couldn't recognize each other in the

end?'

She probably regretted it, but she knew

what was most important to her.

"I have no regrets," she said.

"Is that so?" He lowered his eyes gently,

his lashes concealing the gloom that
flashed in his eyes.

'If there's no regret, why did... she
hesitate for so long?

'She and Brian...

He got up and put away the ointment.

"You're probably hungry. I'll get the servant to prepare some food."

Grace just realized she was hungry. It
was almost after eight o'clock at night
and she had not had anything to eat
since lunch.

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Perhaps Grace was really tired after a
hard day. After eating some food, she fell
into a deep slumber.

Jason sat on the edge of the bed, staring gloomily at her sleeping face.

She lay still as if she would not go
anywhere, could not go, and could only
remain in his sight.

She was right in front of him, but why did
he feel like he could not hold on to her?

'Today she said she won't regret it, but why... do I think she's regretting it? I don't
think she meant what she said!'

The scene of Brian carrying her on his
back was like a scene in a movie that
kept rewinding, replaying in front of his
eyes.

He had never been so afraid! It was as if
all he feared was coming true!

“Does Brian really mean nothing to you?” he murmured, his fingers softly touching her closed red lips.

It was naturally impossible for her, who was asleep, to give him an answer.

“Jason, even if you do fall in love with someone in the future, I don’t want you to fall too deeply or put your life in their hands.

“Jason, do you know what cowardice is? It’s when you hate someone, but you can’t even bear to hurt them in the end.

“Jason, don’t learn from me. Don’t be like me! It’s too painful and hard. You can’t even control your life...”

His father’s voice rang in his ears again and again.

‘Control... I’m supposed to control everything!

‘I’ve trapped her by my side and have her firmly in my hand, haven’t I?’

“Grace, did you betray me?” His voice rang again, but he did not know whether he was asking her or himself.

‘I’m not my father, and my fate will not be the same as his!’

Suddenly, he got up, went to his original room next door, and pulled open one of the drawers. There was a photo of her in a floral dress and the little silver bracelet he had taken from her grandmother’s mementos.

It was the same as the silver bracelet Brian had. They were originally a pair.

‘I’ve tried so hard to keep them from recognizing each other, but did it work? Or maybe it’s just... His eyes grew darker.

When Grace woke up the next day, it was already after ten in the morning. Jason was not in the room.

She pulled back the covers, got out of bed, and washed up. The bruises from yesterday were mostly painless today, and the bruises on her wrist had faded by now.

She looked at herself in the mirror. She had a deep sleep last night and felt very comfortable.

Perhaps it was because she had sorted out the doubts about her memory and let those matters go!

‘Today’s my birthday! Jason promised to make me a cake today!

Grace’s mood brightened again at the thought.

‘I’ll surely enjoy my birthday today. It’s my first birthday after getting out of prison.’

When they put on the candle, she would make her birthday wish. ‘I’ll wish him peace of mind and for him not to get hurt anymore. I’ll wish that I can grow old with him.’

After washing up, Grace changed into

Chapter 773

As she was still mourning her grandmother and it was the day after the 49th day of her grandmother’s death, she did not want to dress in bright colors.

However, she did apply a little foundation and put on light makeup.

Of course, with the dexterity of her fingers, she struggled to do so delicately.

She looked down at her fingers and smiled a little. Her fingers could not recover as before, but they were much better now.

‘Now, my hands have let Brian go. From now on, I’ll only be holding Jay’s hands!’

Standing up, Grace was about to leave the room when, out of the corner of her eye, she saw that the door connecting

the two bedrooms was open.

'Jason rarely goes back to his bedroom. It's become a habit that he sleeps with me in mine.'

Grace stepped forward, intending to close the door, but when she reached the door, she stepped into his bedroom.

"Jay?" she asked. She then saw that no one was in the room.

'He's not in the room. Is he making my cake in the kitchen downstairs?'

She remembered that he had said he would spend the day with her at home.

Grace was about to turn away when she caught a glimpse of a photo album on a low cabinet nearby.

The photo album was wide open right now, and it contained photos of Jason and his father when he was young!

'Is this... Jay's photo album?'

Grace could not help picking up the photo album. 'Speaking of which, I've never seen Jay's photo album!'

Grace leafed through the photo album, seeing photos of Jason as a child. He was either alone or with his father. There were no photos of his mother.

After going through more than half of the photo album, there were photos of him after the age of seven or eight. The way he dressed was obviously different from before. It was much better, but his eyes no longer had the ignorance of a child. He looked more mature than children of the same age.

'It must have been... when his father passed away and he had to return to the Reed family,' Grace thought to herself

and kept turning the pages. Looking at the photos, he grew taller and taller year by year. He went from being cute in his childhood to being handsome.

However, in most of these photos, he was

expressionless and was always alone.

She... did not even see a photo of him with his grandfather.

'Is it not in this photo album, or... have they never taken a photo together?'

Grace recalled the time Jason stood alone in front of his father's memorial tablet in the mourning hall, and her heart could not help aching again.

His father's death was probably a turning point in his life.

Photos of him before he was seven or eight years old showed a wide range of expressions on his face, from happily laughing to crying and pouting.

However, from then on, his expression had become increasingly monotonous.

Grace's gaze fell back on a photo of him that looked like he was around three or four years old. He was smiling broadly.

She could not help but take out her phone and take a picture of it, saving it on her phone.

'I hope that he'll always smile like that!'

Just as she was about to close the photo album, she suddenly noticed that the last page of the photo album was blank.

Chapter 774

'No... It's not exactly blank. On the last page, there's just a photo. A photo of me.'

It was a photo of her in a floral dress that he used to think looked good and got it for her.

To her surprise, the photo was kept in his photo album.

Then, she found a small silver bracelet
at the place where the photo album had
been.

She was so focused on the photo album that she neglected the bracelet.

‘This bracelet... Grace’s chest tightened suddenly. ‘I recall this being the bracelet Brian carried with him everywhere. Why is it with Jay?’

‘No, this bracelet... is Brian’s!’

Grace suddenly picked up the small silver bracelet. This one was just the same style and size as that one, but it was much more oxidized than that bracelet. The surface was a little darker, unlike that bracelet. Brian probably carried it around with him and often rubbed his fingers against it, so it was brighter.

Then this bracelet...

She suddenly thought of the jewelry box that her grandmother had left her.

‘I didn’t find the little bracelet that was supposed to be part of the pair. However, what if... this is the bracelet?’

‘Why... is it in Jay’s room?’

She suddenly felt uneasy. It was as if something she did not know had happened.

‘Only Jason can solve this mystery for her!’

Holding the small silver bracelet in her hand, Grace left the room and went downstairs. She had just reached the ground floor when she heard a commotion outside.

Grace rushed forward and only saw a woman who seemed to be desperately

trying to break in but was being blocked by several servants. Jason and Terrence were standing before the woman.

“Young Master Reed, sorry. I didn’t expect her to burst into here. I’ll take care of her!”

The woman who was being stopped by the servants... Grace now recognized her! It was... Dr. Leng! Dr. Leng, the one who was supposed to give her the hypnosis treatment.

Dr. Leng happened to be heading

in Grace’s direction right now. She immediately shouted at the sight of Grace, “Miss Cummins, tell Mr. Reed that

I didn’t hypnotize you!”

Grace froze instantly and felt as if something had exploded in her head.

‘Hypnosis? Jay?’

‘Why does Dr. Leng want me to tell Jason this? Does Jason know Dr. Leng? I’ve never said anything about hypnosis to Jay! All I’ve ever said... was a headache!’

The riddle was increasing one by one.

Grace stared blankly at the figure not far away. He turned around slowly as his handsome face looked at her gently with his usual smile. He said, “You’re up? I’ll get the servants to serve your breakfast.

Let’s get something to eat first.”

As he spoke, he moved forward and

touched the hair beside her cheeks

gently. He then ordered Terrence who

was behind him, “Take care of this.”

“Yes,” Terrence answered immediately as he trembled. He hurriedly got someone to bring Dr. Leng out of Reed Residence.

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Dr. Leng’s sudden disturbance was a surprise, and the most troublesome thing was that Miss Cummins had seen it.

‘I’m afraid Young Master Reed won’t let me off the hook so easily after this!’ Terrence shuddered involuntarily at the thought, then glanced back at the psychiatrist who had become silent.

'Did Dr. Leng suddenly create such a disturbance at Reed Residence because she's anxious? Anxious to prove she didn't hypnotize Grace for fear of losing

her job?

'Isn't that a bit too simplistic? I've only arranged for her to go abroad for a meeting and a vacation.

The look in Terrence's eyes changed as he thought of it. After all, being around Jason, he had seen so much that it was natural to understand one thing-there must be something wrong if things were going wrong.

'Maybe I need to do some more digging.'

In Reed Residence, Jason said to Grace with a smile, "Come on. Let's have breakfast first."

"Jason, what was that all about?" Instead of following him to the dining room, she stood where she was.

"Just like what you saw, one of the doctors you've seen came here and created a disturbance." He smiled as if he was saying an understatement. "I'll get you a good doctor and see what's the matter with your headache."

He once again tried to take her hand before walking toward the dining room.

However, her steps remained still.

"Do you know Dr. Leng? Do you know I went to see her about hypnosis?" she took a deep breath and asked her

innermost doubts.

corners of his mouth. "It's your birthday today. Do you have to ask that now?"

"Jason, I want to know what's going on!" she said. Her mind was racing as there were a lot of things related to her that

she had no idea about.

"Don't you think it's better not to know?"

he asked.

Something seemed to flash through her mind suddenly. She immediately widened her eyes and looked at him, saying, "When I went to the hospital the other day, the nurse said Dr. Leng had to go abroad suddenly. Was it you... who

did that?"

“Do you really want to know?” His eyelashes quivered a little. “What if I say yes? What are you going to do?”

“But why do you want...” She stopped short in the middle of her sentence, only feeling that the little silver bracelet in her hand had suddenly become heavy.

She was intelligent, and even if many things were not clear at first, they were now connected in her mind. She could

more or less make a general guess.

“Did you... take this bracelet from my grandmother’s mementos before handing them to me?” She held out her hand slowly. In the palm of her right

hand lay

oxidized.

He glanced faintly at the bracelet, a complicated glance passing through his eyes. ‘Are some things really impossible to avoid? I deliberately tried to sever all

ties between her and Brian.

‘However, as if unconsciously, the

severed ties are still connected.’

Just like this silver bracelet that would eventually return to her.

‘What about the ties between her and

Brian? Will they reconnect?’

His thin lips whispered these words,

“You’re right. I did hide the bracelet.”

Her heart sank immediately. His words seemed to confirm her suspicions further. “Do you also know about my amnesia?”

Chapter 776

“Yes.” His answer once again made her have mixed feelings!

“Why did you do that?”

“Why?” He suddenly raised his arms,

almost holding her carefully in his

embrace. “What about you? Why did you

want to go to a doctor to hypnotize you?

Do you want to restore the memory of you and Brian? Are you that attached to that memory? You've spent only a day together when you were little, and now you have me by your side."

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just talking about a common thing.

However, it sounded so frightening to

her.

'He even knows that... Brian and I only spent one day together! It's as if he knows everything and I'm the only one

who didn't!'

He seemed to feel her body going stiff

and held her tighter in his arms. His lips

were close to her ear as he continued

to whisper, "Don't seek for that memory again. Isn't it enough that you have me?"

'No. I don't have to restore that memory.

I've decided to bury it all and keep it as

little secret. "Brian and I..."

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However, she had just started talking when he interrupted.

"That's enough. Stop! I don't want to hear what's going on between you and

Brian!" He held her firmly in his arms, not

wanting to hear her saying things he did

not want to hear.

"Jason, listen... Listen to me..."

"As I said, I don't want to hear anything going on between you and Brian! I don't care what happened to you and him on

the hill yesterday. I can take it as nothing

has happened, but from now on, don't have any contact with him! Don't place him in your heart. Don't mention him,

think of him, or miss him!"

His arms seemed to want to embed her

completely into his body.

That was as far as he could go! He never thought he would concede so far for a woman!

His pride and dignity were being destroyed by her little by little, but he still wanted her!

'My body... hurts!'

Grace felt as though she was about to go out of breath as Jason hugged her.

However, what hurt her more was what he said.

"You don't believe me?" She tried her best to raise her chin in his arms as if desperately wanting to see the man in front of her who she loved most!

'Does he not believe... me when I explained it to him yesterday?

'Or does he simply not believe in my love?'

"Does it matter?" He lowered his head, and their eyes met.

His eyes were so deep that she could not see them clearly.

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She immediately felt her heart throb with pain. 'Was my explanation yesterday as well as my fears and resolutions not

important to him at all?'

"All right, let's call it a day," he said, taking her by the hand and leading her into the kitchen.

On a counter in the kitchen was a cake with most of the piping done.

“Does it look good? Your birthday cake will be ready in a little while. If you don’t want to eat breakfast, you can have

lunch with me later,” he said with a chuckle.

It was the same tone of voice and the

Chapter 777

It was as if their previous quarrel and doubts had never existed!

‘Is this what he means by calling it a day?’

Grace stared blankly at the half-done cake in front of her. Just earlier, she thought she would be full of joy when she saw the cake.

However, now she found her nose somewhat sore.

‘Call it a day... If we’re just going to call it a day, there’ll always be a misunderstanding between him and me.

‘I must make it clear no matter what!’

“Jason, Brian and I really-”

However, before she had finished speaking, his lips pressed hard against hers and silenced all her voice.

He sucked on her lips, ravishing all the sweetness in her mouth until he bit her upper lip with a punitive bite in the end.

“Haven’t I told you not to speak of the thing between you and him? I don’t care what happened between you two. I just want you to stay by my side from now on.”

Grace found her lips burning but felt somewhat cold.

‘So... he doesn’t care for my explanations and doesn’t believe me. Does he only

want me to stay with him?’

“Don’t you care even if I tell you

I’ve restored my memory and that I remember what happened to me and

Brian when we were children?” The words escaped her mouth just like that.

The next moment, the surrounding air seemed to have frozen all of a sudden.

His pupils constricted instantly. The expression on his face changed. “You...

remember?” There was a faint trill in his

voice.

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“Yes, I remember,” she said.

His face suddenly turned pale, and her face was reflected in his dark pupils.

It turned out she had already

remembered everything between

her and Brian. It was ridiculous that

everything he had done was just a futile

effort.

“Haha... Haha... Hahaha... You

remember!” Jason burst out laughing.

His laugh made her uneasy. Such laughter seemed to suppress something

or to vent something, giving people

mixed feelings.

“Jason, stop laughing,” shouted Grace.

His laugh stopped abruptly as his sexy thin lips curled up. It was not like when he laughed earlier, but the smile seemed

to be able to attract everyone. “Now

that you know you’re the one, when are you going to tell him? Or... are you

going to find him to relive your childhood

memories?”

“It’s not what you think. Yes, I fell off a cliff yesterday, and when he grabbed my

hand, I restored my memory, but I..."

"Is that... when you restored your

memory? Well, Grace, are you going to betray me for Brian?" His lips were smiling, but his eyes were staring at her gloomily.

She looked at him in shock. "You think I'd betray you?"

"I don't know, so you'll have to tell me!"

he said, his voice so cold.

Grace only felt as if her heart was getting heavier and heavier... Then, it kept falling!

"Jason, have you ever believed me?" She tried to widen her almond-shaped eyes to see every expression on his face!

Chapter 778

'If he believes me, he would believe what

I said to him in his father's mourning hall that day, that I'd never betray him!

'If he believes me, he'll believe that he's the one I love!"

'If he believes me, he wouldn't have

hidden Grandma's bracelet to

deliberately hide the truth.

'However... he doesn't believe me...!

Grace only felt as though she was now soaking in ice water.

Jason pursed his thin lips. He told himself

to trust her, but when he saw Brian

appearing with her on his back like that and when she went to the hospital again

and again to restore her memory without telling him, he did not know how much more he could trust her.

What a terrible feeling!

Her voice once again rang. "If you can't

even believe me, how are we going to proceed with our relationship? Brian--"

"That's enough! I told you to stop!" His hands seized her by the neck, choking her to cut off her voice.

"Does Brian believe you? So you can proceed with

Brian instead?"

'Brian, Brian... Is Brian like an imprint in

her heart that I can never erase?'

Even though he had tried again and

again to erase Brian from her heart, he

still failed.

Her thin neck was in his five fingers, and he could have snapped it with the slightest effort... However, his hand could not help shaking.

It was shaking so much...

If others had angered him, he would not hesitate to strike. However, when it was her, it was as if hurting her the slightest would make him feel pain!

"Jason, do you know what cowardice

is? It's when you hate someone, but you can't even bear to hurt them in the end."

His father's voice rang in his ear again!

'Yes, I can't bear it! I can't bear it!'

Even though she kept talking about Brian, he still did not want to hurt her!

He thought he was in charge of everything, but in the end, she was!

She was in charge of his joys and

sorrows, even his life and... future!

'If this goes on, will I follow in my father's footsteps?

'Since I can't cut her off from Brian, will

she go to Brian one day?

'I won't follow in my father's footsteps! Surely not!

'If loving someone is so painful, then I...

won't love them!'

The fingers around Grace's neck came loose, and Grace fell almost awkwardly

to the floor while coughing furiously. For

a moment, she only felt as if he had lost control of his temper.

“Jay...” she spoke in a slightly hoarse voice with some difficulty.

However, his voice that sounded at the next moment chilled her to the bone. She even wondered if she had heard him wrong!

“Let’s break up,” his cold voice said something that seemed to make her blood freeze.

“Break up?” Grace was stunned and looked up at the man in front of her.

“Yeah, I’m tired.” He looked at her calmly, completely different from earlier.

What remained in those eyes that once looked at her gently was now deep and bottomless darkness.

It was as if... his world had abandoned her completely and would not allow her to come any closer.

Chapter 779

“You’re... tired?” she muttered, merely repeating whatever he said.

“Yes, I’m tired, so our relationship is over!” he said.

‘It’s too tiring. If loving someone is so physically and mentally tiring, so insecure, and so uneasy, then I’d rather

not love at all.

‘If Brian will always have a place in her heart, I’d rather not have the rest!’

When his father died in front of his eyes, he vowed to never be like his father- losing his life for a woman who betrayed

him.

Not before, and not in the future!

Grace stood up almost stiffly. Although he was right in front of her, why did she feel so far away?

Last night, he was so intimate to her, and she had felt so happy, yet now... It was like a great irony.

'He's breaking up with me just

because he's tired? Then what does

our relationship mean to him? Has he

only seen it as a game the entire time? However, the difference is that I've

trapped myself in it!

"What if... I don't want to break up?"

Her dignity shattered when she was imprisoned. After being released from prison, he helped her piece together the dignity she had lost little by little.

Now, she said it with her broken dignity.

'I... love him! I don't want to give up just

like that. I want to try one last time!'

"I don't want to love you anymore," he

said in a very indifferent voice. Then,

he turned away and walked out of the

kitchen as if without a trace of nostalgia.

She was left alone, standing still in the

same spot.

The cold penetrated through her body. It was July, but she was cold as hell.

She thought she had found the person she could grow old with, but she did not expect that no matter how strong the feelings originally were, breaking up was so simple.

All

you needed was just one sentence.

He did not want to love her anymore, so he was going to do just that.

However, she was ridiculously stuck!

What was she to him?

The oaths and promises he once said
were still ringing in her ear, but looking
back now, it was so ridiculous!

She was still holding the small silver
bracelet in her hand.

She had not told him that he did not
need to hide the bracelet, because even
though she had recovered her memory,
she never intended to tell Brian the truth.

She only intended to keep that part of
her childhood forever in her memory.

She had made the choice only to give him more security, not to upset him.

However, these explanations seemed to

The oaths and promises he once said were still ringing in her ear, but looking
back now, it was so ridiculous!

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she never intended to tell Brian the truth.

She only intended to keep that part of her childhood forever in her memory.

She had made the choice only to give him more security, not to upset him.

However, these explanations seemed to

have become meaningless when he
mentioned the words 'break up'!

Grace looked bitterly at the small silver
bracelet in her hand, then turned her
head and looked at the unfinished cake

on the kitchen counter.

She remembered that he had said he
would only make cakes for one person in
his life.

'He was so gentle and so sweet...

'My nose feels so sore. I want to cry, I want to let off some steam, but...' She raised her hand and
touched the corners

of her eyes.

Chapter 780

The corners of her eyes were still dry!

'Now I can't even cry?'

Maybe some people in this world were
doomed to never receive love.

She fell in love with Jason despite
suffering the terrible experience of being dumped by Sean Stevens!
She and he were two worlds apart.

If she had not taken him home that night,
then there was no way they could have
crossed paths.

At the end of the day, it was she who
had provoked him in the first place and became the subject of a game in the
end. Now... it was just making her realize
who she was once again.

Step by step, Grace walked out of the
kitchen. Reed Residence was surprisingly
quiet right now. It was so quiet that she
could not even see the servants.

'However, it's fine. At least... it'll save me
a lot of embarrassment.'

She seemed to have used up all her strength when she finally returned to her bedroom.

Her mood was completely different from when she left earlier!

She walked up to the dressing mirror and murmured to the woman in the mirror, "It's just... back to square one."

The makeup on the face of the woman in the mirror was not ruined. She wore a white dress that made her look unusually pale against her comely face, and her almond-shaped eyes were thick with self-mockery and repressed bitterness.

"I'm just back to when I was alone, like when I first got out of jail.

"I just have to live alone and work hard on my own. Even if I have to live at the bottom of the social hierarchy, I have to struggle to survive.

"There's... nothing to be afraid of. I've experienced this before, haven't I?"

Grace said to herself. Then, she stood up, opened the wardrobe, and put on the clothes she had taken from the rental house.

She was glad she had not thrown these away. At least she could leave with her things and not owe him anything.

She folded the clothes she changed out of neatly and tidied up the room.

She had brought very little with her after surrendering the rental house. Later, when he bought the house she had lived

in before, she kept some of the things
that contained her memories in that
house into a box and brought it over.

Now, all her belongings were in one
large and one small suitcases.

Grace then put the bank cards and jewelry that Jason had given her as well
as the title deed to her old house on her dressing table.

As far as she was concerned, they had never really belonged to her.

“That’s it. Maybe I’ll just leave like this. It’s

the best ending for me!” she said to herself, but just as she was about to leave the room, she paused in
her steps. After a moment’s hesitation, she pushed open the door which connected the two bedrooms
and entered his room.

With the photo album still on the cabinet, Grace went forward, turned to the last page of the photo
album, and pulled out the photo of her in the floral dress.

Since they had broken up, this photo would no longer hold any meaning to him, so she might as well
take it back and save the photo from being thrown into a garbage can.

Grace then went back to her bedroom,
dragged her two pieces of luggage, and
looked around the room.

There were so many memories of her
and him in the room. It was as if his scent
was still in the air.

However... that man would probably
have nothing to do with her again.