

Ex Convict 971

Chapter 971

Stella, who was standing next to Brian, was stunned.

'Brian... didn't even hear what I said. He's only thinking about Grace.

'Even his blatant murderous intent and indifference right now is because of Grace!'

Stella had a hunch that if Elise Dean was still unwilling to say anything, Brian would really kill someone. He would kill for

Grace!

Grace! Why her?

'Brian thinks I'm the one who saved him when he was a child!

It's me he needs to care about, not Grace!'

Elise Dean trembled even more now, and the fear of death, almost enveloped her. It was not like she had not filmed a

chokehold scene before.

However, no matter how fierce the men who co-acted with

her looked and no matter how heavy-handed they were when they choked her, she had never felt such fear.

Those dark, cold phoenix eyes were staring at her without any hesitation. The hand on her neck was so tight that the man's fingers felt like steel. She could not break free no matter what.

- It was too overwhelming for her.

An intense fear welled up in Elise Dean's heart. 'If I had known that Grace knows Young Master Gu, then I...'

Finally, she felt the fingers on her neck loosen and heard the cold voice in her ears saying, "I'm giving you one last chance.

Where the hell is Grace?"

"I... I don't know. I've only mentioned her... to one of my fans... I don't know what happened after that..." stammered Elise

Dean.

"Where and when did you last see this fan? Man or woman?"

Brian asked coldly.

“Over... Over in the bathroom. About... 15 minutes ago. A man...”

The next moment, she felt the hand choking her neck loosen. suddenly. She immediately fell to the ground coughing, looking like a complete mess.

Without giving her another glance, Brian hastily took out his phone and ordered the people at the other end of the line,

“Find all the film studio’s surveillance footage. I need you to check all the footage in the last 30 minutes. Look for the man Elise Dean met and talked to 15 minutes ago in the bathroom.

in Section 3-B...”

When Brian finished, he stared at Elise Dean. “You’d better pray Grace is alright, or I’ll make your life a living hell!”

With that, he sprinted off in the direction of the film studio’s security room.

Stella hurriedly followed.

Elise Dean lay limp on the ground, her face shockingly pale.

She was a glorious actress, but now, everyone was looking at her with sympathy.

Everyone knew that even if Grace was fine, Elise Dean’s career. in the entertainment industry was over! Her years of hard

work were over in one night!

‘Who the hell is... Grace? Isn’t there a rumor that a woman named Stella might be the crown prince’s new girlfriend?’

‘But the crown prince didn’t even glance at Stella who was next to him and only cared about Grace’s safety!’”

Chapter 972

The entertainment industry had always been a place with overflowing gossip, so everyone started to speculate.

Chase Harper, who caused all this ruckus, was at a loss and still could not come to himself.

‘What... What on earth is Grace’s relationship with Brian?’

‘The way Brian looked was as if... the person he loves the most is in danger!’

‘Loves the most?’ Chase Harper was startled by the words that

came to his mind.

'Where did I get the idea? Don't they say that the crown prince of the entertainment industry often changes his girlfriends? They also say that he may seem affectionate, but he's in fact heartless.

'How could a man like that have a woman he loves the most?'

By the time Brian arrived at the film studio's security room, all the relevant surveillance footage was ready.

From the surveillance footage, they could see the actress Elise Dean talking to a man wearing a black T-shirt in front of the bathroom. They talked for about half a minute or so before the man left.

At the same time, Grace's figure appeared on the screen. One could see from the screen that the man in the black T-shirt had quickly followed after Grace and Chase Harper after leaving the bathroom.

'I knew it! This man is fishy!'

Brian's phoenix eyes stared closely at the screen when suddenly, Grace, Chase Harper, and the man in the black t-shirt walked out of the shot. There was no more footage!

"There are no security cameras in the front, so we don't know what happened, but a black car arrived at the scene about three minutes later and drove off immediately!" someone said while fast-forwarding to the scene he just mentioned.

Brian squinted at the car. "Talk to the Ministry of Transport. I want to know where this car ended up going! Call the police

too!"

'Could Grace be in this car?'

His heart started beating violently. 'What is this feeling?' He

did not even dare to imagine what would happen to her if the man had really attacked her and brought her into the car!

He dared not think of the consequences!

"Brian, is it true that Grace was kidnapped and brought away in a car?" Stella, who had followed Brian to the security room,

asked with mock concern..

However, Stella was secretly pleased.

'It's best if Grace was kidnapped. Better yet, I hope she gets killed so that I don't have to worry about Grace telling Brian

the truth.

'That way, I can keep my role as Brian's savior and stay with Brian fair and square.

'If not, it'll be fine even if Grace just gets raped or becomes disfigured. Brian won't want to look at Grace anymore!'

Brian pressed his thin lips together and did not answer Stella.

"Leave the matter to the police to investigate. The police will find a way. Brian, please calm down and drink some water." Stella thoughtfully poured a glass of water and passed it to

Brian.

"No, I can't." Brian refused.

Chapter 973

How could Stella give up? She wanted to show her thoughtfulness, so she practically forced the glass into Brian's hand.

However, Brian's hand shook so violently that most of the water in the glass spilled out.

Brian was stunned. He tried to hold the glass, but it shook even more.

It was not the glass that trembled but his hand!

Brian's eyes were fixed on his hand that was holding the cup.

He had never felt so flustered before. It was as if his body- was instinctively telling him he could not lose her no matter

what!

Chase Harper found Grace at the police station. At first, he thought Grace would have gotten hurt, but things were better than he thought. She was alive and kicking

"Sorry to have worried you. My phone got trampled on, so I couldn't call you. I don't remember your phone number either.

I finally called you by taking out my phone card and plugging it into another phone, but it took a little time," Grace said apologetically.

Chase Harper asked with confusion in his eyes, "What exactly happened?"

"While I was waiting for you, I realized a key point. All of a sudden, this guy came up to me with a spray can wanting to attack me, but fortunately... Uh, someone was able to tackle the guy just in time and bring him over to the station." Grace paused a little when she talked about the person helping her.

After all, she did not expect two men to burst out of the shadows and overwhelm him almost instantaneously. She was so shocked that she dropped her phone and crushed it with

her own foot.

'The two men...' She later learned from them that they were the people Jason had sent to protect her.

These days, she had been having a vague feeling that he had sent people to watch over her. Otherwise, he would not know her every move so clearly. It was not until then that she knew

for sure.

The two men quickly took the man to his car and were going to take him to the police station. She followed them as well.

She was going to call Chase Harper from the car, but after some time on the road, she realized that her phone was broken. After some delay, she finally called Chase Harper.

"It's great that you're alright. You should know that when the crown prince of the entertainment industry called Hart something knew that you were missing, he interrogated Elise Dean. It was like..."

Before Chase Harper could finish, a figure suddenly rushed into the police station. The figure rushed in so fast that it bumped into an aluminum alloy shelf nearby.

However, the man seemed to feel no pain. His eyes just stared at a thin figure not far away.

Those dark phoenix eyes seemed to want to imprint that figure into his mind and blood.

'It's her! There she is! She's fine! She's not missing!'

Brian felt as if he was relieved. The nerves that had been tense finally relaxed.

'She's here! She's here!'

"Haha... Hahaha..." He could not help laughing.

Then, his eyes met the almond-shaped eyes that were looking

his way after hearing his laughter.

It felt like a blow to the heart, and Brian could not help pressing his hand against his heart.

Chapter 974

His heart was pounding violently because of the look in her eyes. It was as if his body, heart, and blood were telling him how much she meant to him!

His heartbeat was so clear.

Step by step, he walked toward the figure. He just wanted to be closer to her. He just wanted to see those eyes clearer and let his figure reflect in those serene orbs.

Brian finally reached Grace, and the next moment, he stretched out his hands to grab the person in front of him.

Grace was shocked. She did not expect Brian to embrace her in public so suddenly. He was holding her so tightly that she

could not break free.

“Brian, let go of me,” bellowed Grace.

“I won’t let go. This time, I won’t let go!” he murmured, tightening his arms a little more. It was as if he was going to embed her into his body.

Only by holding her like this could the fear he felt earlier, slowly calm down, and his empty heart felt like it was being

filled up again.

All this time, he thought she looked just like what he imagined the little girl would look like when she grew up. He thought that since she was not the one he was looking for, he could easily treat her as a stranger and stop caring about her.

He thought that even if she did hit her head, bleed, and fall in front of him, he could remain indifferent.

However, it was not until that night at the banquet when he saw her thin figure standing for so long and the sight of her limping when she left that his heart began to throb.

Later, he saw her and Jason together again. He went to her office to look for her, and when he saw that she was in danger, he did not even think twice before rushing to her.

It was as if he did not want her to get hurt.

When he knew she was missing and saw on the surveillance footage that she had walked out of the shot without being seen again, he felt extreme fear because of someone else for

the first time.

At that moment, all he could think about was... ‘Nothing must happen to her. Please don’t let anything happen to her. If anything happens to her, what do I do?’

purpose in life was. If she no longer exists, then his existence, seemed meaningless too.

‘Admit it. Even if there are some things I don’t want to admit, I

still have to admit it!’ A voice kept saying in his heart.

This woman had unconsciously occupied his heart. He could

not get rid of her and desperately wanted her.

“Brian, let go. Let go of me...” Her voice rang in his ears again.

‘Let go? How could I let go again? I’ve let go again and again because of Jason. This time... I must follow my heart’s desires.

“Grace, I told you. I won’t let go, because...” His voice paused, then he said those three words-the three words he had never

said to anyone else, "I love you."

'Yes, I love her. I've fallen in love, so deeply in love!'

Grace was in a trance, thinking she had misheard him.

"What... What did you say?" she asked, surprised.

He repeated, "I love you! Therefore, as long as I live, I'll never let you go again." Instead of the usual coldness, his voice was full of deep yearning.

Chapter 975

'No way!'

"Brian, are you kidding me?" she asked.

"I... I'll never joke about things like this!" He looked up, taking her face in his hands while staring at her.

"Grace, I really am in love with you!"

Her eyes were wide with surprise and disbelief.

Also in disbelief was Stella who had followed Brian here.

Brian had heard from the road surveillance team that the car ended up in front of the police station and all the people on board had gotten down.

Without waiting for the phone call to end, he was already in a hurry to get to the police station.

She could not catch up with his ride and could only quickly take a taxi to the police station.

However, she did not expect to see such a scene upon her

arrival!

'Brian... said that he loves Grace! How could he love Grace? He should love me-Stella!

'There are a lot of people on the internet who think I'm his

girlfriend, and with a little more effort, I can get him to admit my status as his girlfriend publicly.

'However, now...'

Stella stared at Grace with jealousy in her eyes. She felt as if Grace was trying to take away her bright future.

'No, I can't just sit here and do nothing. I must stop her!'

Just as Stella was about to speak, a figure suddenly passed behind her, heading straight in the direction of Grace and

Brian.

Stella was stunned, then her pupils shrank. 'It's... It's Jason!'

Why was Jason here?

When Jason approached them, Brian seemed to notice something and raised his head to look at the man. Instantly, the two men's eyes met in mid-air.

Grace was facing Jason with her back to him, so she did not see him.

"Brian, I don't care whether you were joking. I—"

She had barely finished when he interrupted her. He lowered

his head with his lips close to her ear. He laid one hand on her shoulder and put his arm around her waist, forbidding her

to push him away. "Let me be very clear, Grace. I really am in love with you, so I won't let go anymore!"

He kept his gaze on Jason when he said this. He was telling her this as well as the other man!

In the past, he had repeatedly ignored the throbbing in his heart because of Jason and let her go countless times. However, he would not let go again this time!

Jason heard Brian's words, and his expression immediately changed. His whole body sent out a biting chill while his peach blossom eyes were full of anger. There was also... a faint hint of panic.

The next moment, he reached out and pulled the thin body out of Brian's arms.

Chapter 976

Grace was shocked, but then she found that it was Jason who was holding her in his arms.

"What... What are you doing here?" As soon as Grace said it,

she realized that she had asked a silly question. She came

to the police station with the two bodyguards he had sent to watch over her. They must have reported what happened to

him.

"You don't want to see me?" Jason raised his hand and immediately brushed it across the spot where Brian had touched her just now as if to cover Brian's trace.

As Grace stiffened, Jason raised his eyes and looked at Brian. "I told you, you can't touch her!"

Brian frowned slightly and raised his phoenix eyes slowly. "I must have her!"

This simple sentence was a sign of his determination.

"Impossible!" Jason said coldly.

Brian's thin lips parted slowly. "It may have been impossible before, but since you've broken up with her, then why is it

impossible?"

Looking at Grace, Brian said, "You don't need to give me an answer right away. Also, nothing I said today was meant as a joke. I can give you whatever Jason has to offer and the things

that he can't!"

That always delicate but indifferent face was now serious.

Grace suddenly felt like she was in a trance. It was as if she was looking at the same little boy saying to her in a childlike voice, "I'm not joking. I'll come looking for you. I'll bring you to have a lot of fun and eat a lot of delicious food. I'll be very nice.

to you!"

"That's enough!" Jason's low cry interrupted Grace's trance. Jason's face was dreadfully dark while his voice was cold when he said to Brian, "Brian, you'll never get the answer you want."

"Really?" Brian smirked. "Well, why don't we just wait and see?"

The two men confronted each other again.

The air around them became extremely tense.

Just then, the two bodyguards who watched over Grace had already finished giving their statements and came out of the room. When they saw Jason, they quickly stepped forward and

said, "Master Reed."

Jason pursed his thin lips, lowered his head again, and said to Grace who was in his arms, "Let's go."

"I..." Grace wanted to refuse to leave with Jason. As if he had read through her mind, he glanced faintly at Chase Harper who was standing nearby. "Do you want to leave with your former colleague?"

Grace stiffened. She did not want to involve Chase Harper in this.

She bit her lip a little and said to Chase Harper, "I gotta go now. I'll talk to Lawyer Carter about Baldwin's case and apply for the trial to be postponed. There's a good chance we can turn the tables."

"Oh, good..." Chase Harper said blankly. He was still a little shaken up.

After all, what was happening felt unreal to him.

'The crown prince of the entertainment industry confessed that he loves Grace and... The man who called her 'Sis' is different from the man I saw last time.'

He had the same face, but he was dressed differently. Besides, Brian had called the man 'Jason' while the two men who came

out of the interview room called him 'Master Reed'

A name loomed large in Chase Harper's mind.

Chapter 977

'However, is it possible?'

Could this man be... Jason?

'Is Master Reed, the man who rules Emerald City and who many are intimidated by, the 'younger brother' Grace mentioned?'

'However... I remember reading a magazine stating Jason is the only child of the Reed family. He doesn't have any brothers

or sisters.

'What's more, the way Jason looked at Grace and what he said to Brian just now was nothing a brother would do or say. Instead... It looks more like he's a man who loves Grace

deeply!

'Are Jason and Brian, the two men at the top of Emerald City, fighting over... Grace?'

Chase Harper felt that his brain was a little inadequate to process this.

Stella finally came over to Brian. She bit her lip and asked piteously, "Brian, have... Have you fallen in love with Grace?"

"Yes," Brian replied lightly. He knew about the feelings Stella had for him, but he just did not feel that way about her.

He could treat her as his savior but not a lover. Just like how she was unfamiliar to him the first time he saw her.

"Grace is messing around with Jason. They broke up, but they're still together. If you and-"

"Lifang!" Brian interrupted her. His phoenix eyes looked at her coldly as he said, "It's none of your business!"

Stella felt a pang in her heart while the rest of her words seemed to be stuck in her throat. She could not utter a word.

was not until Brian walked past her that she gritted her teeth and followed him out of the police station.

With difficulty, Stella caught up to Brian who was already near his car.

“Brian, I didn’t mean to interfere. I’m just a little scared!” Stella said piteously, her eyes watering a little. It was true. However, she was not a little scared but very scared.

“Scared?” Brian frowned.

“If you’re with Grace, then... Maybe you won’t be as good to me as you are now and have time for me. After all, I only helped you once when I was a child. I don’t mean much to you, but you... mean a lot... to me,” Stella said as she sobbed a little.

Brian sighed and said, “Lifang, you saved my life, and I’ll always remember that. No matter who I love, you don’t need to worry about anything. I’ll give you the kind of life you want. I can give you good resources if you really want to develop a career in the film industry. You don’t have to worry about anything.”

“Are you sure you won’t cast me aside?” asked Stella as she sniffled.

“I promised I’ll be good to you, so I will,” replied Brian.

A smile appeared on Stella’s face. She subconsciously reached out to grab Brian’s arm only to be avoided by him.

She dropped her hand as a look of embarrassment came over her face.

Chapter 978

“Lifang, I think we shouldn’t be too intimate with each other to avoid unnecessary speculation from outsiders,” said Brian.

Before this, he had still been unsure about what he wanted, so he allowed Lifang to mislead people into thinking she was his girlfriend.

Even though he knew what she was up to, he did not say anything. After all, she was his savior, and he would not mind.

if she wanted to use him to make a name for herself.

However... It was different now!

Since he now realized he loved Grace, he did not want Grace to misunderstand him.

Stella's face turned a little pale hearing that. She sulkily lowered her head and said, "In that case... I... I'll pay attention.

to that."

Her voice sounded a little pathetic. However, with her head lowered, her eyes were full of resentment. Her hands were slowly clutching her skirt.

'It's all because of Grace!

'Now, Brian is already distancing himself from me because of Grace! Not to mention the future!

'If Grace gets together with Brian, then maybe Grace will tell

Brian the truth.

'Brian will certainly believe Grace more!

'Then I'll lose everything I have now!'

Stella could not accept it when she thought of this!

Everyone in town thought she would marry into a rich and powerful family. She would be the town's laughing stock if she went back with her tail between her legs.

'No. No way! I will never allow myself to be a joke!

'I must find a way to prevent Grace from taking away everything I have now!'

The atmosphere in the Bentley was depressingly silent.

Jason only lowered his head and played with Grace's hands.

She had skinny hands with long and thin fingers. Some of her joints were slightly deformed. If one looked carefully, one could see some old scars on her fingers as well as on the back of her hands. There were also calluses.

Her hands were not pretty at all and were even uglier than most women's hands. One would know at first glance that she had done a great deal of heavy labor.

However, Jason stroked them carefully as if he was possessed. He refused to miss an inch of it.

It was as if they were the most beautiful hands in the world to him.

Grace wriggled her wrists uncomfortably and tried to pull her hand back. However, Jason grabbed her hands a little tighter.

A deep voice rang in the car. "What's the matter? Do you hate it when I touch your hand like this?"

She pursed her lips slightly. "It's inappropriate for our current relationship."

The touch of his hand would only disturb her more.

'I want to keep my distance from him and calm myself down. If he wants to play a brother and sister game, then we should just do what regular brothers and sisters do!"

"Inappropriate?" Jason suddenly chuckled. "I remember you taking the initiative to warm my hands when it was cold. Why didn't you find it inappropriate then?"

Chapter 979

'Warm his hands... Grace felt a rush of sadness. 'It was great back then. It was so great when I thought I had a family!

However, the better it was, the crueler it seemed.

He leaned toward her. The face that could turn a woman on so easily got closer to her. "Or is it because of Brian? Since he has confessed to you, now you can't stand my touch?"

His warm breath sprayed on her face as he spoke. His beautiful peach-blossom eyes were cold.

"It has nothing to do with Brian," said Grace.

"Really?" His eyes sparkled a little. "In that case, you don't love Brian either?"

"Does it matter whether I love him or not? Besides, we're not a couple. We're just brother and sister. So what even if I do fall for him?" She could not restrain herself and the words just blurted out.

His expression changed immediately, and the atmosphere in the car took a dip.

Grace only felt breathless. Jason's face slowly approached her cheek, rubbing it gently.

His voice was like a light feather that gently fluttered in her cochlea. "Are you going to fall for Brian?"

She immediately stiffened. The hair on her body stood on end, and she felt a chill running up her spine.

Somehow, she had a feeling that he was angry... No, it was more serious than anger. It was fury! He was furious.

Even though his voice and movements were so gentle, he was furious.

'If I say I've fallen for Brian, then maybe the consequence... would be too much for me to bear!'

"Hmm? Why aren't you talking? Are you going to fall for Brian?" he asked again. He needed to get an answer from her today.

With some difficulty, she opened her mouth. "I... I'm not falling for Brian." She had never wanted to fall for Brian. Even after she regained her memories, she just thought of him as a childhood playmate.

The pressure in the air seemed to relax suddenly.

A few moments later, his voice slowly rang in the car.

“Fortunately, you didn’t say you want to fall for Brian.

Otherwise...”

He looked up slowly. His bright eyes seemed to be covered with a veil, making it hard for people to see through him. “I

wouldn’t know what I’ll do to you...”

It was as if it would be the end of the world to him if she said

she would fall for Brian.

‘Thankfully, she didn’t say so...’

Grace felt a chill running through her. His words seemed more

like a warning than a reassurance.

She even wanted to question him.

‘What does he want from me? He doesn’t love me, but he also won’t allow me to love someone else! Am I just an emotionless doll that can be manipulated into whatever role he wants?’

‘Does he think that I could be a lover and a sister?’

“Your hands are so cold. Why don’t I warm them for you?” he muttered before lowering his head to start warming her

hands.

Just as she had taught him.

He was warming her hands attentively. He was so gentle and attentive as if she was a treasure he cherished.

Her hands were getting warmer, but Grace felt as though her body was getting colder and colder...

Chapter 980

“Jason, when is this going to end?” she asked in a whisper.

His hands paused for a moment. Then, he looked up at her and smiled like how he had smiled at her back in their rental house.

“Sis, there will never be an end between you and me!” he said.

He would never allow her to end their relationship!

So much had happened that Grace could not sleep. When she arrived at the law firm the next day, Lawyer Carter looked at Grace and asked, "Were you alright yesterday? Are you sure you're not hurt?"

She had called him yesterday when their call was suddenly cut off in the middle. When he dialed back, he could not get through, which made him worried for a while. He nearly called the police.

Fortunately, she called him later and told him what had happened. He was relieved to hear from her.

Grace said, "I'm fine. I'll check out the results of the police investigation later."

Lawyer Carter said, "It's alright. I went to the police station this morning. The man who attacked you yesterday is Elise Dean's fan. He hired people to carry out the two previous attacks. Based on what you told me yesterday, we had the police conduct a simulation and concluded that the person wearing the ruby ring was in the driver's seat."

Grace was delighted at the news. 'If it's like this, the chain of evidence that proves Elise Dean was the driver is even clearer!'

"Did the man who attacked me yesterday own up to attacking me twice?" she asked, a little confused.

"No. Someone reputedly sent an investigation report to the police station last night. It has detailed evidence that the man has been looking for people online to lay a hand on you," said Lawyer Carter.

Grace was stunned. "Who gave the police the investigation report?"

"The police didn't disclose this," said Lawyer Carter.

Grace looked down and thought about this. Usually, it was because the informant did not want their information to be

revealed, so the police kept it a secret.

Only Jason... knew that she had been attacked twice!

- The first time was near her rental house while the other time

was when she was kidnapped by two men.

Could it be Jason who gave the police the information?

"Because of the new findings, the court will delay the trial. We'll add Elise Dean as the new accused. The police have also reopened an investigation for the case, so it should be alright

this time," said Lawyer Carter.

Hearing that, a smile came over Grace's face. 'At last, there's hope for Baldwin's medical bill.'

"You've done a great job this time. You're good at finding the truth in the details." Lawyer Carter looked at Grace with sorry in his eyes. "Given your qualifications, it's a pity you're just a paralegal."

Grace smiled faintly. "I haven't given up on being a lawyer again. I took this job to regain experience."

She knew that her experience of being wronged would put off clients from hiring her to represent them.

After all, if a lawyer was wrongly convicted and failed to prove their innocence, people would naturally doubt their competence.