

## Heiress's Revenge 221

### Chapter 221

Bella's long eyelashes fluttered. She felt goosebumps on her fair skin.

"How do you know I wear size 36 shoes?"

Justin looked calm and dignified. "I was just guessing because your feet look very small."

Bella's small feet curled up slightly in embarrassment under her house slippers. She sneered. "Men are real perverts."

Justin was speechless

He knew better than to tell the truth.

The reason he knew Bella's shoe size was because he carefully explored everything that she had left behind in Tideview Manor, like his personal treasure hunt.

Thus, he knew that she liked to collect snacks at home like a little hamster. Chocolate accounted for the majority of those snacks.

Her usual perfume was Serge Lutens' La Fille de Berlin. He had vaguely smelled it before but thought that the strong scent did not suit her. Now it seemed that he was totally wrong. This strong and romantic scent was created just for her.

Justin learned that she wore size 36 shoes because she had a few pairs of white sneakers stacked neatly on the shoe rack, as if she would come home at any time.

That day, she said disappointedly that he never understood her.

So, he wanted to get to know her again this way.

During the two-hour drive, they barely communicated with each other.

The Ferrari drove into Tideview Manor and stopped in front of the main door.

Justin unbuckled his seat belt first before he leaned toward Bella.

Slap!

Bella knew that he would try something again, so she suddenly blocked his arm and glared at him. " You don't need to do this. I can unbuckle myself."

As a result, Justin took advantage of her momentary daze, stretched his long arm across her flat belly, and unbuckled her seatbelt quickly.

"You're welcome."

Bella narrowed her beautiful eyes and thought, 'How could he move so fast?! I didn't even have time to react!'

Earlier, she had heard from Drew that it took him ten seconds to assemble a pistol in the military academy, but Justin only needed eight seconds. His speed was astonishing.

It would be so easy to fool her.

As soon as Justin and Bella walked into Tideview Manor, the news spread among the servants at the speed of light.

"OMG! Am I seeing things? Did Mr. Salvador bring back the young madam?!"

“It really is the young madam! OMG! She’s so beautiful! How could Mr. Salvador divorce such a pretty wife?”

“What should I call her now? Young Madam, or Ms. Brown? Oh, no…”

“Ms. Brown, I guess. If Ms. Gold finds out that we called someone else ‘young madam’, she’ll make our lives difficult when she moves in here.”

“You’re right. Ms. Gold is a jealous woman. She’s not as amiable as Ms. Brown.”

The maids’ gossip drifted into Justin’s ears. His eyes were slightly gloomy as he glanced at Bella, who was beside him.

If he could hear the maids, Bella could too. But she turned a deaf ear to them and looked so indifferent that Justin felt even more uncomfortable.

“Where are my things?”

“It’s still in the same place in your room.”

“You knew I would come to pick it up today. Why didn’t you sort it out in advance? Are you that lazy?”

Bella frowned and murmured.

“Those are your precious things, so I don’t dare to touch them.” Justin stared at her.

Men really did not appreciate what they had.

In the past, Justin did not take Bella seriously when she was obedient and in love with him. Now that

she pushed him away and insulted him, he wanted to get to know her more.

Bella did not want to have more eye contact with him, so she looked away. "Then what should I do now? Should I go up and get it? Or do you want to send someone to pack it up and send it down to me?"

At this time, Justin's phone rang.

Only then did Justin remember that he had an important conference call. He said apologetically, "I need to answer the phone first. I'll be back later."

"Whatever."

After the man left in a hurry, Bella took a deep breath and relaxed her tense nerves.

She felt suffocated during their journey here.

When she was his wife, she tried every possible means to create opportunities to be alone with him, but this ruthless man would always neglect her.

Now, he personally drove to Hatchbay to pick her up, bought high heels for her, and helped her fasten her seat belt. He was as attentive and considerate as a husband should be.

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Bella just felt weird and awkward, as if a million little ants were crawling along her ankles and up her calves.

This belated tenderness was sour, like expired milk.

Bella took out her phone and called Steven. "Steve, I'm at Tideview Manor in Savrow. Come and pick me up now."

"What?!" Steven was shocked. "Why are you there?!"

"Sigh, it's a long story. Come here first. I'll tell you about it later."

After hanging up the phone, Bella walked straight upstairs.

She did not want to stay in this house for too long, so she wanted to pack up her costumes and leave as soon as Steven arrived.

The room she used to stay in was not too far from Carrie's room. She asked the servant about Carrie's whereabouts and thought of going over to see her.

As soon as Bella walked to the door of Carrie's room, she heard Bethany's shrill voice coming from inside.

"You little bitch! What on earth did you and Mr. Hoffman do at Grandpa's birthday party that day?! Tell me now!"

"Nothing... Really..." Carrie's crying voice broke Bella's heart.

“Bullshit!”

Bethany became even angrier, thinking that Carrie was lying to her. “How could you have done nothing with him after getting drugged? Where did the red marks on his neck come from?! Did he get bitten by a dog?!”

“I don’t know! I don’t remember. I really don’t remember... Ah!”

Shatter—!

Suddenly, a vase shattered on the floor.

Bella’s eyes turned red with anger. She clenched her fists tightly and kicked open the door, startling the furious Bethany.

“You again?!”

As soon as Bethany returned to her senses, she felt something flying in front of her eyes.

In the next second, something hit her in the face.

“Ah!”

Soon after, another slipper came flying toward Bethany’s face again.

Bethany’s nose was swollen. She was seeing stars, and there were shoe prints on her forehead. She

looked ridiculous.

Bethany covered her forehead and pointed at Bella’s face. She was so furious that she was speechless.

“Did you drink toilet water? You have such a foul mouth.” Bella crossed her arms in front of her chest, tilted her head, and flashed a stunning and threatening smile.

“Annie...” Carrie huddled in the corner and shivered.

Seeing Bella, Carrie was so excited that her lips trembled slightly and tears streamed down her face.

“Bella Thompson! You crazy bitch!”

Bethany was infuriated. She gritted her teeth, and her face was numb and painful from the impact. The soles of these slippers were more lethal than a slap. “Don’t think that you’re so great just because you’re a Thompson! As a Salvador, I’m not inferior to you! I won’t let you get away with hitting me today!”

“Then you’d better keep your word. Otherwise, I’m afraid I wouldn’t have a reason to beat you up.”

Bella did not take Bethany seriously. Her beautiful eyes were cold and mocking. “If you’re so great, you wouldn’t just hide here and bully your sister. If I didn’t know you were Shannon’s daughter, I would’ve thought you were raised by a bitch.”

Bethany took a while to react. Then she rushed toward Bella and yelled, “How dare you call me a son of a bitch?! I’ll fucking rip you apart!”

Bella only shook her head in disgust when she saw Bethany showing her true colors and claws.

She did not want to touch Bethany for fear of getting rabies because Bethany was like a rabid beast.

Just as Bethany’s claws were about to touch Bella, a strong arm suddenly grabbed Bethany’s wrist.

“Ow! It hurts!” Bethany suddenly felt severe pain and bent forward.

Bella felt Justin's strong presence behind her and looked back in shock.

Coincidentally, Justin was also looking at her.

Their eyes met.

Bella thought she saw a hint of concern in his beautiful eyes, but she doubted her vision. She must have been mistaken.

She would rather believe in magic than believe that this bastard would care about her.

"Did she hurt you?" Justin lowered his cold eyes to look at Bella. His tone was filled with unprecedented concern.

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Bella was stunned for a moment. She said coldly, "I'm fine, but Carrie might be hurt."

Justin's dark pupils suddenly shrank. He tightened his grip on Bethany's wrist.

"Ahhh! Justin, Justin, please let go! It hurts... You're hurting me!" Bethany was in so much pain that her forehead was covered in cold sweat, and she was about to cry.

Justin pursed his thin lips. Then he suddenly let go of Bethany.

Bethany staggered back several steps due to the force and fell to the floor, looking wretched.

“Justin! This woman threw her slippers at me first! Look, there’s still a shoe print on my face! This is the evidence!”

Bethany cried and pounded the floor with her fists. “This woman came to our house to beat your sister! How can you side with her without knowing the full situation?!”

Unexpectedly, Justin did not even look at her. Instead, he asked Bella in a deep voice, “Are you really okay?”

Bella rolled her eyes and did not bother responding.

She walked over to Carrie, kneeled in front of her, and stroked her soft hair.

“Annie!” Carrie threw herself into Bella’s arms, sobbing.

She did not cry when Bethany beat her, but the moment she saw Anna, she felt so aggrieved that she could no longer hold back her tears.

“Don’t cry. As long as I’m here, I won’t let anyone bully you, Carrie. I’ll take care of you from now on.” Bella’s heart ached as she comforted Carrie. She glared at Bethany fiercely.

Bethany was really vicious, like an evil stepmother.

Justin’s cold heart trembled slightly when he saw Bella and Carrie hugging each other.

He liked seeing how close they were, and he greedily hoped that he could see such a scene more often.

“Bethany, you’d better mark my words.”

Bella’s gaze pierced Bethany’s eyes like a sword. “From now on, Carrie will be under my care. Don’t think that I’m unaware of what happens at Tideview Manor when I’m not around. I don’t care about

anything else, but if you dare touch a hair on Carrie's head, don't blame me for being ruthless. I won't hold back against you."

Bethany's eyes trembled, and her heart shuddered in fear. She looked up with her tear-stained face, which was covered in ruined makeup, and turned to Justin for help.

"Justin..."

"Did you hear what Ms. Thompson said?" Justin asked coldly. His eyes were still on Bella.

Bethany slumped to the floor in despair. She finally understood.

There was no way this bastard could help her. He had never considered her his sister from the beginning.

At this moment, Bethany had no choice but to give in.

"Apologize to Carrie immediately." Justin's tone was cold and stern.

Bethany bit her lip and refused to open her mouth.

"Bethany!"

"Forget it. An insincere apology means nothing."

Bella's eyes were stern, and her clear voice was filled with derision. "She's doing well as long as she doesn't pounce and bite someone."

Bethany wiped the shoe marks on her forehead and returned to her room angrily.

“Bella! I won’t let you go!”

Bethany’s eyes were red. She was breathing heavily. Only then did she wonder why Bella showed up at her house.

Did Justin bring her back? What did he mean by this? Did he want to remarry his ex-wife? No way in hell!

## Chapter 224

Though Rosalind was evil, she came from a poor family and looked sickly. Thus, Bethany thought that she could easily defeat Rosalind with brute force if necessary.

However, Bethany could not defeat Bella. That woman came from a prominent family and knew martial arts. If Bella reconciled with Justin, Bethany would become Bella’s punching bag in the future.

Thinking of this, Bethany secretly hatched a plan.

As they said, the enemy of her enemy was her friend. So, why not work together with Rosalind and sit back to watch Bella and Rosalind fight to the death?

After making up her mind, Bethany dialed Rosalind’s phone number.

“Rose! Justin brought Bella home, and the two of them looked so intimate. I’m afraid your position in Justin’s heart is gone now.”

Justin ordered the servants to come over and clean up Carrie’s room while Bella kept hugging and comforting Carrie.

“Carrie, don’t be scared. I’m right here.”

“Annie!”

Carrie was already 20 years old, but she had a form of autism that made her behavior seem a bit childish. She clutched Bella’s clothes tightly and stubbornly insisted. “Annie, please don’t leave. Can you please stay here? I really miss you...”

Bella felt a little embarrassed that she had not told Carrie about her true identity. Her back stiffened awkwardly.

Justin quietly watched their interaction and took a step forward, wanting to get closer to Bella.

“Mr. Salvador.”

However, Bella seemed to have eyes behind her back. She suddenly spoke in a cold voice, “I know you’re busy and that you hate this family. But you watched Carrie grow up. She has always respected you as a brother. If you still have a trace of kindness in your heart, please don’t turn a blind eye to Bethany bullying Carrie next time! If I find out that Bethany is bullying Carrie again, I will sue her for intentional assault.”

Justin was startled. He pursed his thin lips tightly.

He was usually too busy with work, so he spent very little time at home.

Justin did not know that Bethany was so cruel to her biological sister. The sisterly affection Bethany had for Carrie was just for show in front of their grandfather.

“I swear to you that this kind of thing will never happen again,” Justin said loudly.

“Why are you swearing to me? I’m not the one who got hurt.”

Justin was criticized again, but he was used to it by now.

Bella comforted Carrie for a while before she and Justin went to the room where she had stayed by herself for three years.

She walked to the bedroom and opened the closet. Everything that belonged to Anna was neatly arranged inside.

Bella thought of how much heart and soul she had poured into preparing these gifts for Justin. She thought of the lonely nights she spent doing handicrafts and how he had always neglected her when she brought these gifts to him. He would not even spare her a glance.

She was the only one carrying their relationship. Her heart was filled with sadness, and her red lips curled into a self-deprecating smile.

In the past, she was infatuated with this man.

Now, she only felt disgusted by him.

“Do you have a box? I came in a hurry and didn’t prepare anything. Please lend me a box so I can pack my clothes...”

Before she could finish her sentence, Bella felt his arm go over her head.

She raised her eyes in surprise and saw his fingers pressing on the cabinet door.

The delicate cufflinks on his suit flickered with a dark light. Bella shuddered and hunched her shoulders. She widened her eyes and asked, “Justin, what do you mean?”

Justin parted his thin lips and called out her name in a husky voice. “Bella.”

His deep and alluring voice seemed to trigger her nerves like a surge of electricity.

“If you want to take your things away, just answer my question. Why did you marry me back then?”

Chapter 225

Bella said, “You’ll never give up, huh?”

Her hand on the cabinet door clenched into a fist. She took a deep breath, and her eyes turned red with anger. “I have said everything I should say. I can’t do anything if you don’t believe me.”

“Have we met somewhere a long time ago?”

Justin was eager for an answer. He leaned closer to her, almost covering her beautiful back with his body. “Bella, answer me. Have we met a long time ago?”

Bella’s heart suddenly clenched. Her red lips instantly lost color. “You’re thinking too much. The time Grandpa introduced us and proposed that we get married was the first time we met. Before that, we

had never seen each other before.”

She was afraid that Justin would find out that she was the little girl he saved 13 years ago.

Since they were already divorced, Bella thought that her 13 years of love and pursuit only made her look more pitiful and embarrassed.

Bella wanted to save her dignity. She really did not want this bastard to know that she had been in love with him for 13 years.

It was embarrassing.

There was a trace of disappointment in Justin’s eyes. He always thought that there was more truth

behind it.

“Let me go. I need to get my things and leave.” Bella’s voice was trembling. She pulled open the cabinet door.

“Bella, you...”

“Stop asking! That’s enough!”

Bella suddenly seemed overly sensitive. Her voice was sharp as she said, “Justin, we’re divorced. Do you understand what the word divorce means?! Why are you insisting on digging up the past? So what if I was infatuated with you once? I don’t love you anymore. Now when I see you and these gifts I prepared for you, I just feel sick!”

‘Infatuated with me.’ Justin heard nothing else but these words, which echoed repeatedly in his mind.

He took a deep breath, held her smooth shoulders, and suddenly turned her body around so that she was facing him.

Justin was shocked to find her eyes were teary and red.

“You can cry if you want.” Justin’s voice was stiff, but his eyes were a little softer than before.

“Hah! Cry?! Can’t you see that I’m furious? Divorcing you brings me such joy that I wake up laughing in my sleep! Why the hell would I cry?”

Bella’s beautiful eyes were as cold as ice. Her chest heaved angrily. “From the moment I signed the

divorce papers, I told myself that I would never shed a tear for you again.”

The last sentence struck Justin’s heart like a hammer.

Just as he was about to say something, there was a sudden knock on the door.

“Mr. Salvador, are you in there?”

The butler said respectfully, “Ms. Gold is here. She’s waiting for you downstairs...”

Bella’s eyes suddenly turned dark.

Justin’s face also became grim.

Downstairs, Rosalind was waiting anxiously.

The servants hid in the shadows and gossiped among themselves.

Everyone knew that Justin’s ex-wife was also there at the moment. If Rosalind bumped into her, would inevitably lead to another blood bath.

“Justin!”

When Rosalind saw Justin coming downstairs with an expressionless face, she rushed toward him and hugged him tightly around the waist.

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Justin instinctively wanted to push her away, but she hugged him so tightly as if he were her life raft that she had to hang onto to keep from drowning.

“Justin... I miss you so much... I really miss you!”

Rosalind smelled the familiar cedar scent on Justin’s body and started crying. “I’m sorry... I know my mistake. I just went astray because I was angry. Justin, you know exactly what kind of person I am. We

grew up together!”

At this point, Rosalind could not think of any good solutions except playing the emotional card.

She wanted to do as Shannon said and give Justin some space during this time so that his anger would subside.

However, when she learned that Bella had gone to Tideview Manor, Rosalind could no longer sit still. Thus, she ran to see Justin in a panic.

“Rose.”

Justin’s tone was no longer as gentle as before. “I told you that we should take a break from seeing each other. You should leave.”

Chapter 226

“Why?!” Rosalind asked with tears streaming down her face.

Shannon taught Shannon to act pitiful and weak because most men were susceptible to this trick.

“Yeah, why?”

Suddenly, a crisp and pleasant voice came from upstairs.

Everyone looked up to see Bella carrying a suitcase down the stairs with ease. She raised her delicate chin slightly and walked downstairs steadily.

Compared to the crying Rosalind, Bella looked so regal and upright.

Rosalind hugged Justin tightly. A cold glint flashed in her eyes, piercing Bella's smiling face.

The servants were excited to watch the drama unfold.

Justin's eyes darkened slightly. He put his hands on Rosalind's shoulders, looking like he was about to push her away.

However, Bella only saw how intimate they were.

Bella thought, 'Hah! No wonder Justin wanted me to come over in person to pick up my things. If I didn't come, I would miss out on their show of love.'

At this moment, Bella just wanted to go home immediately, burn the clothes she was wearing, and cleanse her body.

Bella thought that everything Justin touched was filthy.

"Ms. Gold is your fiancée. She came all the way to see you, so why are you kicking her out? Tsk, tsk! You're so cruel."

Bella looked at Rosalind with a smile. “Ms. Gold, please don’t misunderstand us. I’m just here to get my things. I’m leaving now, so please continue. Time always feels short when one is in love.”

Justin felt a lump in his throat. His handsome face turned pale, and his chest burned with frustration.

Rosalind looked at Bella with hatred. She had made such a fool of herself at Nigel’s birthday banquet, so she did not dare confront Bella again at this time.

“Oh, by the way, I don’t want any of the things I left here, especially the gifts I prepared for Mr. Salvador back then. Could you please dispose of that trash when you move in later? I heard it’s unlucky to keep an ex’s things around because it might affect the couple’s relationship.”

Bella

gave a simple explanation, picked up the box, and walked briskly past them.

Rosalind was dumbfounded, and so were the servants.

Justin’s ex-wife was not at all jealous of his fiancée. Instead, she looked delighted. This showed what

a magnanimous person Justin’s ex-wife was.

Seeing Bella walk out of the villa, Justin could not bear it any longer and pushed Rosalind away. Then he chased after Bella with quick strides.

“Ah! Justin!”

Justin’s forceful push made Rosalind stagger back and fall miserably on the coffee table. The cups and plates were smashed on the floor, cutting her hands. Her skirt was also ripped.

At the same time, Bethany, who was hiding upstairs, witnessed this scene. She was so angry that she gritted her teeth and stomped her feet.

Bella carried the box and walked out of the door wearing her home slippers.

“Bella! Wait!” Justin called out to her anxiously in a deep voice.

However, Bella ignored him and did not stop.

“Mr. Salvador, I bought the young madam’s shoes!”

At this time, Ian came back sweating profusely and carrying a bag of luxury goods in his hand.

Justin caught up to Bella in a few strides, grabbed the bag from Ian, and blocked Bella’s path.

“Here.” He handed her the shoes.

Bella lowered her eyes and took it, passing by him without a word.

Justin’s eyes darkened a little. His anxious heart slowly settled down.

This was the first time she received something from him. As such, he felt an unprecedented sense of accomplishment in his heart.

However, what happened next shocked him to the core.

Justin watched helplessly as Bella swung the bag without aiming and accurately threw the shoes worth tens of thousands of dollars into the trash can.

Ian felt as if someone had strangled his neck. He could not even breathe.

He clearly saw what happened from the corner of his eye.

Justin looked devastated, as if his heart was trampled on.

## Chapter 227

Outside Tideview Manor, Steven was pacing back and forth anxiously. He was worried about Bella.

When he saw Bella walking out with a box, Steven ran over to help her.

“Ms. Bella, did that jerk, Justin, do anything to you?!”

Bella frowned and said, “Don’t call him a jerk. It’ll be embarrassing if you get used to it and blurt it out in public in the future, especially in formal settings.”

“Okay,” Steven responded dully.

“That jerk won’t dare do anything to me. If he does, I’ll castrate him!” Bella cracked her knuckles.

Steven could not help but laugh. That was when he noticed that she was only wearing home slippers. He asked, “Why are you wearing slippers?”

“I came out in a hurry and forgot to change into shoes.”

In fact, there were several pairs of white sneakers that belonged to her at the entrance. She could simply wear them before leaving.

However, Bella stubbornly chose not to do so. That way, she could express her resistance and disgust toward Justin and her life over the past three years.

Those shoes belonged to Anna Brown. They were neatly placed and looked like they would be disposed of at any time.

The shoes that belonged to Bella Thompson were high-quality, luxurious, and flamboyant stilettos. There was no way she would wear old white sneakers again.

She would never go back to her domesticated life.

“Let’s go to KS World Hotel.”

The Bugatti engine roared as Bella sped away.

At this moment, Justin stood upstairs in front of the window of the room where Bella had stayed before. He looked in the direction of Bella’s car and felt his heart burning. His eyes darkened.

Back at the hotel, Bella remained aloof. She took the exclusive elevator to the general manager’s office with Steven.

As soon as they entered the corridor, they were startled to see Ryan standing lazily against the wall. He was wearing a black shirt and black pants.

“Ryan? How did you get up here?!” Bella quickly walked up to him. Her beautiful eyes widened in surprise.

“I climbed up the stairs.” Ryan smirked.

Ryan was panting heavily and had a thin layer of sweat on his forehead. His black suit was draped on his muscular forearm, and the top few buttons of his shirt were undone, revealing his sexy collarbone.

Steven looked at this unrestrained man with disgust and secretly cursed him for being a man-slut.

Steven thought, 'Does he think that Bella will take another look at him if he shows off his pecs? She's not so shallow!'

As a result, Ryan seemed to be able to read minds. Instead of buttoning up his shirt, he even pulled his collar down and smiled slyly at Steven.

"Are the administrative secretaries and security guards not doing their jobs? How can someone get into my office so easily without my permission and without an appointment?" Bella's expression suddenly became stern.

Ryan's heart trembled. He had wanted to sneak up to surprise her, but Bella did not seem happy about

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"I'll take care of it right away." Steven glared at the flirtatious man in front of him.

"Don't! It has nothing to do with them. I ran up here secretly."

Ryan quickly put on a bright and flattering smile and grabbed Bella's arm. "They stopped me from coming upstairs, so I had no choice but to do this. Don't blame them. You can blame me if you want!"

"Deduct the administrative secretary's salary this month and find out who is in charge of security today. Fire those guards immediately."

Bella gave the order and pulled her arm out of Ryan's grip. She then walked toward her office indifferently.

"Yes, Miss." Steven was delighted to see Ryan being left behind.

“Anna... No, wait. Ms. Thompson!”

Only then did Ryan realize that he was in trouble. He chased after Bella and acted like a helpless child who had made a mistake. “I’m sorry. It’s my fault. What should I do for you to calm down? I’ll do anything for you. Just say the word, and I’m at your disposal!”

“Ryan.”

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Bella said coldly, “Come in. I have something to ask you.’

Ryan’s charming eyes sparkled as if he had been pardoned. He followed Bella into the office excitedly.

On the other hand, Steven was asked to stand guard outside the door. He could not come in without orders.

## Chapter 228

Steven, the lapdog, was suddenly asked to be a guard dog, so he felt aggrieved.

After the door was closed, Bella walked straight to the sofa and sat down. Her beautiful legs were so fair that they were glowing. She rested her left arm on the armrest of the sofa and placed her right arm casually on her lap. She looked elegant and powerful. Ryan was overwhelmed by the sight.

His Adam’s apple bobbed, and his eyes widened. Bella had such a strong and noble presence.

Ryan loved her even more.

“Hehe... I knew that you wouldn’t kick me out, especially with our special relationship.”

Ryan squinted his charming eyes. Just as he was about to get closer, Bella suddenly said in a cold voice, "Ryan, did you think I was joking when I told you that I was not interested?"

Ryan suddenly stopped. He looked stunned.

"In the past, Anna Brown might have shown you some respect. After all, you had helped her. But Bella Thompson doesn't have so much patience to deal with your antics."

Bella's eyes were estranged, as if they had never met before. Ryan shivered.

How could he be willing to give up so quickly? He took two steps forward, but Bella glared at him with sharp eyes, forcing him to freeze on the spot and shudder in fear.

"Although you're Wyatt Thompson's daughter, you're still Anna Brown! How could a name change wipe out our friendship?"

"The moment Justin and I finalized the divorce, Anna Brown died and ceased to exist."

Bella pursed her lips and said, "Neither you nor Justin are qualified to be in my life. Mr. Hoffman, you're a romantic, so please save your heart for someone else. Don't get hung up over me, because I will never fall in love with you."

"Did I do something wrong? Tell me what I did wrong, and I will correct it!" Ryan was so anxious that his eyes turned red.

"There's one more thing I should remind you of, Mr. Hoffman."

Bella's eyes turned gloomy. "Don't think that I'm unaware of what you did to Carrie at Grandpa Nigel's birthday party."

Ryan's face turned pale instantly. His blood felt stagnant as he replayed the events of that night.

He held Carrie's bare shoulders in the bushes that night. Her delicate and pinkish skin teased his desires, and Carrie's inexperienced and passionate kiss ignited his desires.

If Carrie were not Justin's sister, and if Ryan had not loved Bella, he would have gone along with it.

Ryan was not a celibate person to begin with. Thus, he went along with his instincts.

"How you fool around with other women is none of my business, but I care about Carrie like a sister. She's an innocent and inexperienced girl, so I won't allow anyone to hurt her."

"No, Bella, you misunderstood!"

Ryan did not know how to explain it. He was so anxious that his black shirt was soaked with sweat. "She was drugged that night. I just..."

"Did you want to 'help' her?"

Ryan's throat was blocked. What Bella thought of him became worse.

"We were at the Salvadors' villa at the time. If something happened to Carrie, you could have informed the Salvador family. You didn't have to sacrifice yourself to 'help' her."

Bella laughed. Her eyes were filled with contempt. "Since you've done it, why don't you even have the courage to admit what you did?".

"I'm so wronged in this! She took the initiative to kiss and hug me! I didn't do anything!" Ryan's eyes were full of despair, but he could not defend himself in front of Bella.

Bella waved her hand and lost her patience. "Ryan, Carrie is different from us. She's fragile and pitiful. You are used to being casual with women, so what you think is harmless may have completely ruined Carrie."

Ryan's body slumped in defeat. He realized that it was useless, no matter how hard he tried to explain himself.

That was because Bella had already labeled him as a scumbag.

Although he was indeed a scumbag, he did not want Bella to see him that way.

Perhaps it was useless to change his old ways. As soon as he turned over a new leaf, Bella accused him of something despicable.

"I still have work to do, so please leave. Also, if you show up at my office without making an appointment again, I will get security to kick you out. Steve, send Mr. Hoffman off!"

"Bella!"

Ryan was so anxious that he was about to explode. He strode in front of her, hoping to fight for the last chance to love her before she kicked him out.

The moment his body approached Bella's, Ryan heard a "swoosh".

Bella pointed a gorgeous and discreet butterfly knife at the base of his throat

Chapter 229

Ryan's face turned pale in an instant.

He did not realize when Bella had taken out the knife. Before he could react, the knife was already on

his neck.

The butterfly knife was infamous for being an insidious and extremely lethal weapon. It was the most dangerous and flashy weapon that could be used with a quick twitch of a finger.

Bella used this thing on Ryan. How cruel!

“Stop pestering me, Ryan.”

Bella narrowed her eyes slightly and patted his cheek gently with the sharp blade. I won't choose you even if you were the last man on earth.”

“But if there are only two men left in the world, who will you choose between me and Justin?” Ryan

asked in a trembling voice. His heartbeat was still pounding with fear.

Bella sneered. “I still won't choose you.”

Ryan had always been arrogant and dignified. At this moment, his heart and ego instantly shattered into a million pieces.

Suddenly, the office door opened.

“Bella, what are you doing?” Asher stood at the door, looking astonished.

Bella's eyes narrowed as she put away the butterfly knife. Then she smiled sweetly at her brother.” Ash, why didn't you tell me that you were coming?”

Her expression changed faster than Ryan could blink.

Ryan stood up stiffly, took a deep look at Bella, and left with reddened eyes filled with despair.

Asher glanced at him and could see how defeated this arrogant prince was. Asher frowned and did not know if he should laugh or cry.

In all of Savrow, Bella was the only woman who could make Ryan Hoffman look so defeated.

“Ash!”

Bella happily threw her arms around Asher’s neck. “How are you? Has your wound healed?”

“What do you think? I don’t even have to wrap it in gauze anymore.”

Asher lifted his little sister off the ground and spun her around like when they were children. “It’s just a superficial wound. Your brother is not that weak.”

Right. Even Wyatt would be shocked if he knew about what Asher used to do.

Who would have thought that the kind and gentle man in front of her was actually the boss of the

largest underground mob in Orealms, who also controlled the gangs in Hatchbay, Savrow, and the surrounding regions?

Later, something happened that made Asher resign from his position as the mob boss. He turned over a new leaf and no longer got involved in mob affairs from then on. Instead, Asher turned to God and started to preach morality, completely drawing a line with his dark past.

Even Bella could not figure out how a man who had never killed anyone, bullied the weak, smoked, or drank could become a mob boss.

Bella was convinced that there must be a deep secret under her eldest brother’s gentle smile.

“What happened between you and Mr. Hoffman?”

Asher chuckled helplessly. “Ryan Hoffman is sincere with you, regardless of how he treats others. Even if you don’t want to give him a chance, you shouldn’t slap his face with a knife. A man needs dignity. Not to mention, he’s the future heir of the Hoffman family.”

“If I didn’t do this, he would have kept pestering me.”

Bella pinched her nose bridge tiredly. “Men usually like to act cool when chasing gifts, but Ryan is really persistent and shameless. If I hadn’t shown him my knife, he wouldn’t have given up and would have continued to pester me. Anyway, now that I’m back to being Bella Thompson, I don’t want to get involved with any of Justin’s friends. I know I’ve gone a bit overboard this time, but I can’t help it. It’s better to rip out the Band-Aid.”

“Sometimes I think it would be great if Anna Brown and Bella Thompson could merge into one.” Asher sighed lightly.

“Hmph! That’s not possible because I’ve killed that persona.”

Bella felt a little tired after talking to Asher for a while, so she lay on Asher’s lap.

Asher smiled slightly. His long and beautiful fingers massaged Bella’s temples gently.

“Ash, did you come over because you have information?” Bella closed and rested her eyes with a look of enjoyment on her face.

“You’re the smartest among us, so you must have guessed it.”

“Have you thought of some way to deal with the Salvador family?” Bella asked in a lazy voice.

“If you’re not bothered to deal with Ms. Gold, I can help you deal with her.” Asher always had a smile on his face, so it was difficult to distinguish his real emotions.

“No, leave Rosalind to me. I’d regret not dealing with her myself if you did it for me.” Bella’s eyes narrowed into two lines like a cat’s eyes, filled with a cold glint.

Rosalind dared to mess with Bella, so Bella wanted her to suffer.

## Chapter 230

Asher’s gentle eyes squinted in a smile as he handed a file to Bella.

“What’s this?”

Bella took it with doubt and browsed through the file. Suddenly, she looked revitalized.

“Salvador Corporation won the new Baxim project, and Gregory handed it over to Shannon. The project is estimated to be worth tens of billions of dollars, with a huge profit. There are a lot of shady dealings involved, and it’s an opportunity to expand one’s network in Savrow. More importantly, Shannon is relying on this project to move up the corporate ladder and compete with Justin. Although she was an actress before, she was very ambitious. She relied on Gregory’s favor and wanted to gain control over Salvador Corporation.”

“Gain control of Salvador Corporation? Haha! How does she even dare to think about it? Isn’t she afraid she won’t be able to swallow it?”

Bella looked at the information with gleaming eyes. “Grandpa has developed Salvador Corporation to where it is today. Even if Justin isn’t capable of leading the company, it’s not Shannon’s turn to call the shots.”

“You should study this information tonight. Gregory and Shannon have an appointment with Mayor Solloway at 1:00 p.m. the day after tomorrow. They will be meeting at the Salvadors’ golf course in the western suburbs of Savrow. They are probably going to promote the Baxim project.”

Asher put his arms around Bella's shoulders, looking like he was entrusted with a heavy responsibility. "Bella, it's up to you to avenge me."

"Pft! I know what you're doing."

Bella tilted her head and leaned against Asher's broad shoulders. "You know that I won't let them get away with what they did to you, so you did the groundwork. That way, I can take my revenge. You're treating me like a child, handing me freebies!"

"Bella, don't expose my thoughts like that!" Asher pinched her cheek.

"Ash, I'm all grown up now. I'm 24 years old and have been married and divorced once."

Bella turned to look at him seriously. "You guys have sacrificed too much for me. Let me protect you guys from now on, so you can live your carefree lives. I'll take responsibility over KS Group!"

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Rosalind, who had been humiliated by Justin during the day, called Shannon when she got home. She cried and poured out her sorrows.

"Serves you right!"

Shannon was so furious that she yelled, "I asked you to hold it in and not to contact Justin while he's

still mad at you. But you didn't listen to me! Now that he rejected you, who can you blame but yourself? It's your fault! What's the use of crying now?"

"But that bitch Bella came to the house! Justin brought her back to Tideview Manor!"

Rosalind burst into tears. "She's riding over my head. How can I just hold it in?"

“You have to, even if you can’t. I understood everything Justin said that day. Why didn’t it get through to your thick skull? If you want to be his wife, you have to be smart about it. All you do is get jealous, cry, and make a fuss. You’ve wasted all my hard work grooming you!”

Shannon said in a sinister voice, “Your goal is to become the wife of Salvador Corporation’s

president, not play in a romantic drama with Justin! As long as you can achieve your goal, it doesn’t matter even if Bella Thompson shits on your head!”

“But....”

“That’s enough! I will make arrangements for you. Right now, I’m busy securing a spot on the board of directors, so don’t disturb me.”

After saying that, Shannon hung up.

Rosalind collapsed on the bed and almost crushed her phone.

At this time, she received another call.

It was an unknown number.

Rosalind wiped away her tears and answered angrily. “Who is it?”

“Ashley, we haven’t kept in touch for a long time. How are you doing in Savrow?”

Rosalind heard a man’s playful voice.

“It’s you?” Rosalind asked as her face turned as pale as paper.

Ashley was the name she used when she was studying in Meridan.

After she returned to Justin, Rosalind cut off all her social ties in Meridan. She deleted her social media accounts and changed her email address and phone number, just to completely draw a line with her past. Back then, she used to be a social butterfly who liked to sleep around.

Rosalind did not expect this man to find her.

“I really miss you, babe. Why don’t you come and meet me? Do you want to come, or should I go over to you?”

The man had a threatening tone.

Rosalind’s cold sweat soaked her silk skirt. She felt as if someone had strangled her neck, making it

difficult for her to breathe.

“Where are you? I’ll go see you!”