

Read Novel Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1121-1130

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1121

His voice was loud, and his eyes were severe.

"Daddy already liked you to begin with! He's biased toward you, so he naturally treats you differently from how he treats me and Mommy!"

Julian and Diana's faces changed at his words. The two of them wanted to open the door at the same time.

They moved simultaneously and ended up banging into each other, making them open the door a second too late.

That was when they heard Sean yell out loud, "Step aside!"

And then!

Bam!

Someone crashed on the floor.

Betty's cries pierced through the air.

She had fallen.

Sean was the one who pushed her.

Diana had never seen the twins fight so intensely since they were born. Her heart ached. At that moment, she forgot to pursue who was in the right or wrong.

Her heart ached for Betty who fell down, and for Sean who lost control over his emotions.

He had never acted like this before.

Sean was usually cold and unsmiling in his demeanor, but he would never yell so loudly at someone else. All the more he would never push his own sister.

"Quick... Open the door," Diana said, her hands trembling.

The first thing they saw when the door opened was Betty's bleeding forehead. Blood oozed from her forehead down her face, almost covering her eyes.

Why did Sean push her so hard?

Instead of feeling apologetic, Sean glared fiercely at Betty and yelled, "Who asked you to stay put when I told you to step aside? It's all your fault! You asked for it!"

"Sean Winnington!" Diana yelled.

How could he say that of his own sister?

Diana raised her hand, and slapped Sean. The sound rang across the apartment, and red finger marks appeared on Sean's face.

The skin on his face was too tender, and he was too young.

Diana's slap came too suddenly. He stepped back, almost losing his footing.

Diana's hands trembled even harder. Her entire face was trembling, too.

How did this happen...

How did this happen?

She hit Sean.

She hit Sean-her beloved, darling Sean, with her own hands!

He was but a child. What did he know?

But Betty was still crying and blood was still flowing down her forehead.

She forced herself to calm down and stop her hands from trembling. She drew closer to Betty, and tried to comfort her, "Betty, don't cry...Mommy...Mommy will bring you to the hospital..."

"I'm here." Julian carried Betty in his arms. "I'll bring her next door to Vans."

He was a doctor, and his house was medically well- equipped. He was also able to treat wounds.

Julian's heart ached as much as Diana's did.

It had been a beautiful morning.

How did things become like this?

Betty was still hurt.

Julian was in a rush to get her wound treated, but he was still worried about Sean. He could only encourage Diana, " Sean needs you. Calm down first and go comfort him."

Ultimately, Sean pushed Betty like this because he didn't trust Julian.

Julian really regretted picking up Cecilia's call. If he hadn't done so, he wouldn't have delayed opening the door for Sean, and the twins wouldn't have started fighting.

Still, there was no use regretting things now.

"Sean..." Diana muttered.

She was so upset, she felt like her heart was stabbed by knives.

She didn't dare to look back at Sean.

Her hand that slapped him was trembling badly.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1122

"Listen to me," Julian said, unable to stay any longer.

He had to quickly bring Betty to Vans.

He could only persuade Diana by saying, "Sean probably really wants you to find him, comfort him, and give him a hug."

Julian did think about going to comfort Sean.

However, Sean was already heavily guarded toward him. The boy would probably resist him even more. It was better for Diana to find Sean, and for Julian to take care of Betty's wound.

Diana knew that she should turn around right away, comfort Sean, and apologize to him. Yet, her feet were frozen to the ground.

Her hands were still trembling, and her mind went blank.

Even after Julian had left with Betty in his arms, she remained standing right there, not moving an inch.

Sean didn't cry at all.

Diana couldn't think. The moment she allowed herself to, her heart would break.

She wished she could slap herself ten times. No! Twenty, or even a hundred times!

She really shouldn't have hit her child.

How could she hit Sean...?

How could she...?

Her hands were still shaking.

A little hand reached out, and wrapped around hers like a vine wrapping around its favorite and most dependable wall.

It was Sean. "Mommy, I'm sorry."

At the end of the day, it took a two-year-old child whom she just slapped to bow his head and apologize to her.

Diana had never felt like such a failure of a mother!

Her heart broke completely.

She didn't even dare to move her hand, and simply let Sean hold her fingers.

"I shouldn't have pushed Betty."

The moment Sean saw the blood on Betty's forehead, he knew he had done wrong. Still, he had been worried about Diana.

“I heard you and Daddy fighting. You didn’t open the door for me. I was scared Daddy would bully you,” he said, exposing the fear that a child his age would have whenever it came to Diana and her safety.

“Mommy,” Sean added, sobbing.

His hand moved over Diana’s as he went on, “I was worried you’d end up hurt, just like how the Winningtons hurt you

before.”

His words were the straw that broke the camel’s back. Diana couldn’t hold herself back anymore, and started sobbing.

“I’m sorry, I’m so sorry...” she cried as she crouched low, hugging Sean tightly in her arms. She was worried about hurting him, and kept adjusting herself as she repeated, “I’m sorry...”

She didn’t know that what happened with Zachary had traumatized Sean so badly, aside from impacting Betty.

Sean stood right there in Diana’s arms, and said firmly, “If the door was still shut just now, I would’ve smashed it with a stool. I said that I’d protect you. And I will.”

His voice was strong and determined. It was akin to a hammer striking Diana on the head.

She couldn’t even cry out loud. She simply felt shock and regret, and dared not look Sean in the eye.

Did the slap hurt?

Diana wanted to take a closer look, but she didn’t dare to.

She wasn’t fit to have such a good child.

She wasn’t fit to have a child who tried so hard to draw close to her and tell her that he would do all he can to bravely protect her, despite getting slapped by her!

Julian’s Stand-In Wife chapter 1123

Tears started welling up in her eyes once more.

Sean noticed her expression, and added, "Mommy, don't cry. It doesn't hurt at all."

Diana looked at the little boy before her, her eyes now red with tears. To rein in her emotions and stop herself from collapsing, she had to say out loud, "You silly boy! Who said that you were smart? You're a silly boy through and through!"

How could a slap from his mommy not hurt?

And yet, this silly boy was only concerned about comforting her!

Diana had no idea how she could ever absolve the guilt in her heart. With trembling fingers, she sobbed, "Silly! Did you forget what Mommy told you? Just tell the truth if it hurts. Cry if you feel sad. There's no need to hold it back."

He was still so young.

These burdens were not his to bear.

"I'm really fine," Sean said, shaking his head. His expression turned solemn. "Betty is more hurt than I am."

As her brother, he really shouldn't have pushed her down, no matter how panicked he was at that time. All the more he shouldn't have yelled at her after hurting her.

"Let's go see how she is," he said.

"No." This time, Diana didn't let Sean have his way.

Sean didn't understand. "Why not?"

"Because Betty isn't the only one who matters. You matter, too," Diana said, not forgetting what Sean yelled just now.

That was the first time Sean looked so anxious in front of Betty.

His face was always so expressionless.

“You never forgot what happened with Zachary, did you? Last night, you insisted on not having Daddy be alone with Mommy because you were thinking of how Zachary hurt us, right?”

Sean hesitated for a moment before nodding. He mumbled, “Yes...”

Sean couldn’t forget the scene of Zachary hurting the three of them in the rented apartment. He couldn’t forget how Betty was so traumatized, she lost her ability to speak.

Sean hid his trauma very, very well. These days, he kept talking about protecting Mommy. Yet, Diana didn’t know where his insecurities came from.

Now, she finally understood.

“Zachary will apologize to Mommy,” Diana said solemnly to Sean, “so don’t worry about Mommy from now on. You’re still young. Mommy should be the one protecting you. If you don’t believe me, I’ll let you see it the moment Zachary comes to apologize to Mommy. It’ll definitely happen soon.”

Diana would become stronger for the sake of her children. She no longer wanted Sean to see her get hurt.

“As for what you said about Daddy being biased, I can promise you that Daddy loves you as much as Betty.”

In fact, she wanted to say that Daddy would feel very sad if he heard what Sean said.

Seeing Sean’s expression, though, Diana couldn’t blame him. She and Julian had been unqualified parents.

Diana had been too idealistic in thinking that their relationship wouldn’t affect the twins. And yet, the twins weren’t stupid. How could they not be affected?

The more Diana thought about it, the heavier her heart became.

“Come on,” she said, “Mommy will bring you to Mr. Stanley. He needs to take a look at your face, too.”

Diana never actually took a close look at her finger marks on Sean’s face, all the way till she handed Sean to Vans.

She didn't dare to look. She couldn't forgive herself for slapping Sean.

"Sean's fine," Nina said.

She had already heard about what happened from Julian, and she came over to comfort Diana after Vans was done patching Sean up.

"Betty's wound has been treated. Children's skin is thinner, and that makes their injury look more severe. Don't be so hard on yourself."

Diana smiled and nodded weakly, her face still ashen. She was about to say something when Julian appeared and said, "I really need to go to the Jarvises' residence right now."

Diana looked at him in disbelief, shock and disappointment flashing past her eyes. Her voice had grown hoarse from all the crying, so much that it shocked all who heard it.

"Must you leave right now, when the kids are like this?"

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1124

Under these circumstances, Julian really shouldn't leave.

But Cecilia was crying so hard over the phone, Julian was worried her condition might relapse. That would render all his hard work over the past few days useless.

"Diana," he said, trying to discuss things with her, yet not answering her directly.

Diana didn't care for it. She stared at him, clearly waiting for a clear answer.

"All of you are very important to me," Julian said, knowing that the twins weren't the only ones hurt and needed comfort.

Diana needed comforting, too.

He knew exactly how important the twins were to her.

Until now, she didn't dare to look at the mark she left on his face from the slap.

Rather than saying she was trying to make things difficult for Julian, it was more accurate to say that Diana was clinging to him as the only lifeline that could help her regain her sanity.

When it was needed, she could ask him to pay closer attention to the kids. She could then stand behind him and give herself time to adjust.

She was scared of facing Sean. Rather than abating, her guilt was getting stronger with time.

“But now, things with Cecilia are important for me to deal with, too,” Julian said. “I have to solve the problem there before I can return and focus on being with all of you.”

“Must you go?”

“I must.”

Diana took a deep breath. “Do you love me?”

No one there expected to hear that question from Diana.

Even Julian was stunned.

He glanced quickly at the twins and back at Diana before saying, “I do.”

His love was firm and unyielding.

His answer was determined and certain.

Diana nodded.

She was glad that Julian’s reply didn’t disappoint her and the twins.

Since Sean wasn’t trusting of Julian, she would help Sean build that trust.

Diana whispered, “Since you love me, I’ll love you too.”

She bravely declared her feelings for Julian, in hopes that it would drive away the deep insecurities Sean had been feeling recently.

She also hoped that...

It was a chance for redemption for herself. She looked at Julian, and said, "I'll go with you."

She added pleadingly, "Can I?"

Julian didn't expect Diana to raise such a request. At that moment, he could sense the vulnerability in her eyes. He could almost understand what Diana was feeling.

If he left, she didn't have the courage to stay behind and face the twins all by herself.

Julian turned to look at the twins, and patiently asked for their permission. "Mommy and I will head out to do something important. Can you stay at home with your godmother and Mr. Stanley?"

Sean nodded first. "Yes, we can."

By now, Betty had calmed down.

She even grabbed Sean's hand, refusing to leave his side. When she saw him nod, she nodded as well. "Sure."

Julian smiled, crouched, and held the twins' hands. He kissed the back of each of their hands, then turned to give Diana a hug.

"Let's go," he said.

The two of them left.

The driver had been waiting for them downstairs. The moment he saw them appear, he brisk-walked to the door

and opened it for them.

Julian didn't immediately bring Diana into the car. Instead, he stood outside and looked at her tenderly, asking in a low voice, "Do you really want to come with me?"

"Yes."

"But Cecilia..."

Diana shook her head. "It's alright, Julian."

Her voice was tender, pleading, and carried a trace of vulnerability.

"Please, let me come with you."

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1125

"Unless..."

She bit her lip and went on, "Unless you're going to the Jarvises' residence to maintain your engagement and relationship with Cecilia. In that case, I won't come along."

"Listen to what you're saying," Julian said, getting slightly annoyed. He told her honestly, "Something happened between Cecilia and Noel."

He told Diana everything that had been on his mind during this entire time.

He then held her hand and led her into the car, instructing the driver to head to the Jarvises' residence.

"Cecilia called me, asking me to come over and take Noel away from Mrs. Jarvis. Now that one night has passed, Noel has probably left the Jarvises. The main reason I'm heading there is to see how things between Cecilia and Noel are, and to call off the engagement."

If Cecilia refused to raise the matter, Julian would look for Mrs. Jarvis himself.

Either way...

"I'll call off his engagement today."

No matter the consequences, Julian was willing to face them all.

Finally having a clear idea of his intention brought a smile to Diana's face. "I was right to come with you this time."

She removed her shoes and curled herself up into a ball, placing her feet on the edge of the seat and hugging her arms around her knees. She glanced at Julian, then looked out of the window, biting her lips.

"I agree with you. We have to depend on ourselves if we want to call off the engagement."

It would only be passive of them to rely on others.

For example, no one could tell when Cecilia and Noel would be together and how long they would have to wait for that to happen.

If the engagement couldn't be called off, Julian would have to subject himself to Cecilia's whims and fancies. He wouldn't be able to be with Diana officially. The twins would also have to suffer because of their separation.

"Strictly speaking, it depends on me," Diana said determinedly. "Don't make an appearance later. I'll go speak with Cecilia."

She had to make things official between her and Julian today.

She didn't want the twins living in insecurity any further.

She would do her best to give them whatever she could.

The thought of Sean's tender yet firm voice saying that he wanted to protect her, of the hurt in his eyes because of her separation from Julian, his distrust toward Julian, and...

That slap she gave him... Everything stabbed her heart deeply.

And Betty...

She could have avoided getting hurt this time. Yet, she was pushed by Sean today.

Julian and the twins didn't blame Diana. Nina even comforted her.

Yet, this didn't mean that Diana could forgive herself.

Julian rejected Diana's suggestion at once. "I don't agree with that. Cecilia is very hostile toward you. You'll definitely get hurt if you go see her alone."

Julian's brows furrowed.

The feeling of having someone care and love for her was akin to a warm current flowing through Diana's veins. She nodded, and pushed Julian gently. "Don't be angry. I won't go, then."

But the moment the car stopped, Diana stepped out before Julian had the time to walk to her side of the car and open the door for her.

"Julian," she said, "your engagement with Cecilia started because of me. Even Cecilia's condition and our terrible current situation, and the twins..."

When she mentioned the twins, Diana almost couldn't go on.

She paused for a while before continuing, "But thankfully, you never really intended on getting married to another woman. Thank you for always giving me a chance. You, like the twins, always give in to me."

The more Diana said, the more uneasy Julian felt.

"Diana, what are you doing?"

He strode toward her.

Diana stepped back, and hurriedly made her way to the Jarvises' residence. She headed right to Cecilia's room, then turned back to flash him a bright smile that was laced with sorrow.

"I'm the one who started all these, so I should be the one to end it."

The moment she said that, the door shut with a bang.

Julian was locked out of the room.

Diana and Cecilia were left alone in the room, staring at each other.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1126-Cecilia looked up, a mocking smile on her face. "Diana Winnington? Why are you here? Where's Julian?"

"He's right outside the door," Diana said, while checking that the door had indeed been locked.

Julian was unable to enter from outside.

With that, she inched nearer to Cecilia and made clear her intentions. “Today, I come here representing Julian to call off your engagement with him.”

Diana’s words deepened the smile on Cecilia’s face.

However, the smile didn’t reach her eyes. She grabbed a pillow next to her and flung it to Diana.

“You have no shame! What right do you have to speak to me like this? The last time I dragged you around in Collina Villa, I should have pressed your head down in the toilet and taught you a good lesson!”

The pillow hit Diana right in her face. It then landed on the floor with a dull thud.

Yet, Diana didn’t even blink. “Yes, you really should have done that.”

That would have awakened her from her stupor.

How could she...

How could she hit her child today?

How could she allow Betty to get hurt?

Diana’s voice was light, but it sounded like a challenge in Cecilia’s ears.

Smack!

Enraged, Cecilia charged forward and gave Diana a tight slap on her face.

Diana smiled.

“Hit me a few more times,” she said as she looked at Cecilia. “If hitting me can help vent your anger, you can do that. I won’t retaliate.”

Diana’s words further infuriated Cecilia, who felt as if she had fallen into Diana’s trap. “Do you want me to hit you so you can cancel my engagement with Julian?”

“No,” Diana said, shaking her head.

She came looking for Cecilia not just to call off the engagement, but also to make herself feel better. The only person in this world who could make her feel the same pain she inflicted on Sean was Cecilia-and the latter did so with great speed and eagerness.

Before Diana could explain herself, Cecilia shoved her aside. "Go away!"

Diana's expression wasn't right. It unnerved Cecilia.

She pushed Diana away, and marched to the door. "I want to see Julian. I don't want to talk to a madwoman like you."

Diana grabbed the door handle, refusing to let Cecilia open the door.

"What do you want to see Julian for? Could you call off the engagement by finding him?" she asked bluntly.

"How could it be that easy?" Cecilia glared at her.

She didn't know why, but somehow, seeing Diana made her heart burn with anger. It was as if Diana was destined to be her punching bag. After all, Diana's one-sided effort in pairing her with Julian had resulted in their situation today.

Yes!

Diana owed it to Cecilia. Thus, Cecilia could do anything she wanted with Diana!

Cecilia drew closer to Diana and leaned into her ear, a smug smile spreading across her face.

"Seeing how much you want me to call off my engagement with Julian, I don't want that so badly anymore."

"What about Noel? What are you and Noel going to do?" Diana shot back.

"You know about me and Noel?"

Cecilia was stunned for a moment, and her ears turned red. She was still a little girl at heart.

Diana had been too hasty in trying to get Julian and Cecilia together.

The apologetic expression on her face was genuine as she explained, "The looks exchanged between a man and woman in love with each other is very different from that between an ordinary man and woman. I paid close attention to how you and Noel interacted with each other at Collina Villa."

Diana tried to persuade Cecilia. "Julian's no longer the man you fancy. Why can't you just let him go?"

"Because I'm crazy," Cecilia said bluntly.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1127-Cecilia glared at Diana, her face filled with mockery and contempt.

"You probably know that best. After all, I became crazy because of you! My mom proposed the engagement because she was worried it'd be difficult for a madwoman like me to get married."

That was it.

Everything that happened was indeed because of Diana.

Diana sighed. "Then why did you call Julian over this time?"

"Didn't Julian tell you?"

Diana shook her head. "He didn't."

Upon hearing Diana's reply, Cecilia felt slightly better. She finally felt like she could raise her head before Diana.

"Nothing much. Just that Noel didn't accept my confession of love for him," Cecilia said, going all out. "I told Julian that if he wants me to ask my mom to call off the engagement, he can only do so after I get together with Noel."

But now, Noel refused to accept her confession.

Cecilia had no choice but to call Julian for help. She knew that Julian would surely agree to it, in return for her calling off the engagement.

"Do you think Noel likes you?" Diana asked, looking intently at Cecilia.

Instead of replying to her, Cecilia asked her back, "What do you think?"

“He does,” Diana affirmed, “but he won’t accept your confession, because he doesn’t dare to.”

“Not because I’m crazy...?”

“Of course not,” Diana said. She finally understood why Cecilia slapped her on sight.

Cecilia thought that Noel didn’t accept her because of her mental illness. She felt inferior.

Such a thing often happened to people who had feelings for another.

Diana suddenly sympathized Cecilia. Her eyes turned tender and compassionate, and she seized the chance to say, ‘You just want to be with the man you love, that’s all. That’s just like me. I want that for myself, too.

But getting Julian involved is just going to make things messier.

To Noel, Julian is superior to him in every way.

To Noel, he’s not fit for you.

All the more he can’t understand why you like him instead of Julian, since he’s a man inferior to Julian in every single way.”

Cecilia’s face turn red with anger when she heard Diana insult Noel, and sprang toward Diana. “Diana Winnington!”

“I’m just explaining to you what Noel thinks,” Diana said.

This time, she didn’t let Cecilia hit her. She dodged Cecilia’s attack, and went on, “I’m not saying that Noel really is inferior to Julian. Everyone has their own strengths and flaws. Although I love Julian, I don’t think he’s perfect.”

Cecilia agreed with her. “Forget being perfect! He can’t compare to even a single finger on Noel’s hand!”

Cecilia’s angry outburst almost made Diana laugh. Her mood had improved by leaps and bounds. “I just want to confirm that you really no longer love Julian, and that you genuinely want to be with Noel.”

That way, Diana could help Cecilia be with Noel with a clear conscience. In turn, she could restore their family's relationship to normalcy with a clear conscience.

Diana made her intentions clear. 'Til help you. As long as you give me a chance, I'll persuade Noel and give him the courage to face up to his own feelings. But after I do so, I'll also raise my request to Mrs. Jarvis to call off your engagement with Julian today."

Cecilia was rather surprised at Diana's suggestion. "I don't need to tell my mom to call off the engagement?"

"No need," Diana said with a smile. "I'll solve the problem that I caused myself."

"Then, Noel..." Cecilia paused for a moment before continuing, "Will he really accept my confession and be with me?"

"I can't guarantee that, but I will definitely persuade him to face up to his own feelings and his heart. It'll be more effective than Julian," Diana said honestly.

Cecilia stayed silent for a while.

She was thinking over Diana's words. She had to admit, Diana was right.

Even so, Cecilia had other plans in mind.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 1128-Cecilia contemplated Diana's words once more.

She had to admit it-Diana was right.

Noel's loyalty and admiration for Julian were indeed something Cecilia couldn't comprehend.

In the end, she nodded. "Alright. If you can help me persuade Noel, I promise you that you can talk to my mom about canceling the engagement between Julian and me."

Cecilia had been eager to push this task to someone else. Now that Diana had taken the initiative to bear the brunt of her mother's anger, she wasn't sure whether to consider Diana clever or foolish.

“But I have one condition.”

“What is it?”

“Bring your face closer to mine.”

As Diana approached Cecilia, a stinging pain burst on her cheek.

Smack!

“The condition is that you let me slap you a few times so I can vent my frustration!”

With that said, Cecilia slapped Diana again.

Then another one.

Smack!

And a third one.

Yet Diana remained standing, unmoved.

She had anticipated this.

She knew coming to meet Cecilia alone today wouldn't end well for her. Despite that, she still came.

On one hand, she wanted to dissolve Cecilia and Julian's engagement. She wanted to give the twins a complete family, and shield them from the influence of her and Julian's long-term separation and conflicts.

On the other hand, she wanted to take this opportunity to punish herself using Cecilia's hands.

To punish herself for not being a qualified mother today.

“You're really out of your mind. You're not even trying to dodge,” Cecilia said, incredulous at Diana's action.

After a moment, she seemed to lose interest. “Well, as long as this problem can be resolved, we'll consider everything between us settled.”

As for whether Cecilia would lead a happy life in the future or not... Would she continue to suffer from her illness, bearing the stigma of mental illness for the rest of her life?

From now on, none of that would be Diana's concern.

Instead, that might be for the best. It could be considered an unexpected gain.

Diana thought that from now on, she wouldn't have to dwell on how absurd it was for her to meddle in Cecilia and Julian's relationship in the first place.

After their agreement, Diana finally let go of the doorknob in her hand and opened the door to walk out.

Julian had been waiting impatiently outside the door for quite a while. If Diana hadn't come out, he couldn't guarantee he wouldn't have knocked down the door.

Yet when Diana came out, he didn't just want to knock down the door-no, he wanted to turn the entire Jarvis family upside down!

"Your face..."

Julian's eyes turned red as he stared at the awful marks on Diana's face. He felt like he did after slapping Diana- wanting to touch, but not daring to. Even taking a closer look filled him with fear.

Inside, he was filled with endless regret. Why had he hesitated? He should have just torn the door down! He shouldn't have given Diana and Cecilia a chance to be alone!

Diana glanced at Julian; she noticed he had reached for Cecilia, and seemed on the verge of throwing Cecilia right out of the second floor.

Diana hurriedly took his hand and explained, "I did this to myself. It has nothing to do with Ms. Jarvis."

Cecilia sighed in relief after hearing this.

From Julian's gaze earlier, it looked like he wanted to tear her to pieces. She had never experienced such a frightening situation. When Julian's piercing glare locked onto her, she almost burst into tears.

He looked so indifferent, as if he was looking at a dead person. Thankfully, Diana had pulled him back from his extreme state.

Her voice was gentle, firm, and even a bit teasing as she said, “Ms. Jarvis was frightened once when I was hitting myself. And now, you’re frightening her.”

Julian finally let go of his grip on Cecilia’s collar, but he was still furious. “Why would you do this to yourself?”

Diana shook her head.

“You know I did something wrong to Sean. I needed a chance to vent.”

Then, she smiled.

“It’s fine now. Ms. Jarvis and I have reached an agreement. Wait for me in the car. I’m sure I can do something about the engagement.”

Julian’s Stand-In Wife chapter 1129-Diana still needed to go meet Mrs. Jarvis—Sue Chimmery.

Julian, of course, was wholly unwilling.

“No way.”

Earlier, Diana had wanted to see Cecilia alone. When she came out, she ended up looking like this. Julian couldn’t bear the thought of Diana meeting Sue.

“Relax,” Diana reassured him, aware of his concerns. She urged Julian in the direction of the parked car. “I won’t hurt myself again. I’m not so foolish as to indulge in self-torture.”

In reality, she just wanted to make amends for her guilt while negotiating with Cecilia. Her goal had been achieved. Continuing to harm herself would only make the children notice, and she couldn’t do that to them.

“Give me some time with Sue,” Diana persuaded Julian once more. “I don’t want to see you at Cecilia’s beck and call anymore.”

She tugged at a corner of his clothes, and continued, “Let’s resolve everything that needs to be resolved today, alright?”

Julian's face remained tense. He still didn't want to relent. At this point, he no longer believed Diana's words.

But then, she hugged him. "Julian, trust me this once, okay?"

She nestled against his chest, listening to the rhythmic beating of his strong heart. She continued softly, "If you don't let me deal with what I've caused in the first place, I'll carry this burden forever."

Her words showed that she still blamed herself.

Julian understood Diana. He finally gave in, and said, "You're perfect, except that you're too stubborn."

She chuckled.

Julian continued, "But with me around, you could have entrusted everything to me."

Yet, she insisted on taking the blame upon herself.

Hearing him say this, Diana knew Julian had relented. He was afraid that if he didn't agree, she would hurt herself again.

"Thank you," she tiptoed, and gently kissed him on the cheek. Then she turned to leave, intending to find Sue.

Just as Diana turned around, Julian suddenly pulled her back. With his long limbs, his reach was far. Although he was still sitting in the car, she was almost pulled onto his lap.

He locked his deep, mesmerizing eyes onto her bright ones, and growled, "If you come out with new injuries, I won't spare the Jarvises!"

It wasn't like he couldn't see that the injuries on her face weren't self-inflicted. However, they were something Diana had willingly endured.

He understood that, and it kept him from making Cecilia pay. If he had done anything, Diana would have felt even more guilty.

At the same time, he couldn't bear to see Diana hurt again.

Fortunately, she agreed.

Diana nodded gently. “Don’t worry, I’ll make sure to settle everything without any harm.”

The palm print on her face would also become her weapon in this negotiation.

When Sue saw Diana, she froze for a moment. “The injuries on your face...”

“Ms. Jarvis did it,” Diana replied.

Sue’s expression changed slightly, and there seemed to be some disbelief in her eyes. In an instant, however, she returned to her usual self—though her tone was laced with politeness.

“Ms. Winnington, please have a seat.”

Diana hadn’t guessed wrong. The Jarvis family valued their reputation very highly. They were quite different from the Winningtons.

The Winningtons were driven by profit, lacked a humane touch, and were capable of doing heinous things like abandoning their own daughter in an amusement park. Diana’s biological mother, Kate, also turned a blind eye to everything.

The Jarvises were different. They couldn’t bear it, even if their own daughter had harmed someone else. They were a family that placed great importance on etiquette.

Diana had sensed this from the very first time she saw Sue and the rest of the Jarvises pick up Cecilia from her studio.

With a good start to the negotiation, Diana smiled and got straight to the point.

“I came here today to request the Jarvis family to dissolve the engagement between Ms. Jarvis and Julian.”

Julian’s Stand-In Wife chapter 1130-Upon hearing this, Sue’s recently relaxed expression turned sour once more.

“Diana Winnington!”

“This is Ms. Jarvis’s and Julian’s shared wish,” Diana continued, explaining her purpose without being influenced by Sue’s attitude. “Please, grant us this.”

“Grant?” Sue nearly crushed the teacup in her hand. “You and Julian Fulcher are going too far!”

As she spoke, she slammed the teacup onto the table and hurled it toward Diana.

Fortunately, Diana was prepared. She leaned to the side, and the teacup barely grazed past her ear.

Diana remained unharmed, but her gaze suddenly became sharp. “Mrs. Jarvis.”

Since Sue wasn’t willing to have a civil conversation, Diana had no choice but to say the words she didn’t want to say, forcing Sue to compromise.

Although the Jarvis family wasn’t on the same level as the Fulcher family, they were still a well-known, prestigious family in Richburgh. When they purchased the Northern City Manor in Richburgh, it caused quite a stir. Over the years, they had seen, used, and experienced much more than the average person.

This was the first time Sue had felt such a fierce and intimidating gaze from a young woman.

Sue leaned back slightly in her chair, but her spine involuntarily straightened. She spoke with a dignified tone. After all, she was the experienced lady of the Jarvis family.

“What is it?”

Her voice was neither loud nor soft, but it carried authority.

Diana smiled, the sharpness of her gaze undiminished.” Don’t you understand by now? The fact that I’m here means you only have one option-agree to cancel the engagement.”

Diana was being too audacious!

“Who do you think you are? How dare you speak to me that way?” Sue pounded the table. In a fit of anger, her face even turned slightly red.

“I am Julian’s beloved,” Diana stated firmly, “and someone who understands Cecilia’s feelings.”

She sighed, her words carrying weight.

“Though I’m much younger than you, I’m also a mother. I have a daughter. I can empathize with what you’ve planned for Cecilia. We all want the best for our children, but Julian isn’t the right fit for her.”

Sue was taken aback by her words, and asked instinctively, “Why?”

“Because the person he loves is me, and he will only love me in this life,” Diana replied, smiling gently.

Diana and Julian were more committed than ever, but this resolve stung Sue deeply. She felt wronged for her daughter. Perhaps Diana’s arrogance had pushed Cecilia to the breaking point and made Cecilia attack her in the first place!

“You’re just his former wife! Yet, you have the nerve to say such things,” Sue said, looking at Diana with a mocking expression. “If Julian loves you so much, why did he divorce you? Why did he let you leave him for three years, pregnant with his children?”

“We had some misunderstandings before,” Diana replied earnestly. “As for the reasons behind my disappearance for those three years, it was to save Julian’s life.”

She then explained her deal with Kiki sincerely.

“Do you really think, under these circumstances, that Julian would marry Cecilia? Besides, you know that Ms. Jarvis’s current affection lies with Noel Carter.”

Sue listened, and the mockery in her smile deepened. She had overestimated Diana. What could a young woman like her do? Diana was all talk.

But Sue was determined to teach Diana some manners on behalf of her daughter, who was supposed to marry Julian.

So she said patiently to Diana, “Are you implying that if I don’t agree to cancel the engagement, it’ll end up breaking two couples in love?”

Diana nodded.

Sue's smile grew even more pronounced, and she tapped her fingers on the table twice.

"So what if I break them up? What can you do? Julian is the prospective son-in-law chosen by the Jarvis family, alongside my husband and me. As for Noel... Well, we Jarvises won't acknowledge him!"

"Fortunately, Noel knows his place," Sue went on. She thought of her conversation with him last night, and felt somewhat relieved.

"He knows he's not worthy of Cecilia. In this regard, he's a lot better than you."