Read Novel Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 511-520

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 511

So, how was Kayla pathetic?

Diana was clearly the pathetic one!

Kayla's eyes snapped wide open. With the garish scar across her face, she looked like a corpse, utterly devoid of her usual delicate beauty.

"You're pathetic because everything you have was taken from me," Diana said firmly. "Family background, parents, men... I don't care how good or bad they are. I was the one who never wanted them in the first place."

Before Diana was eighteen, she had fantasies about her parents and family.

After turning eighteen, she slowly learned to let go.

When she learned of James's deplorable actions, she realized she didn't need to learn how to let things go. Rather, doing so had become a natural thing.

She didn't want family members like that.

And then, there was Julian.

Yes, Diana acted as a substitute.

But so what?

There were many things in fate that couldn't be controlled, but Diana had never acted against her conscience, much less did she enjoy going against it!

"And you, you simply cant love."

Kayla had repeatedly used deceitful means to deceive Julian. Not to mention, she wore different masks in front of Kate and Lucy.

"I'm afraid you can't even tell which one is the real you, Kayla. You were born as a human, but you've always gone to great lengths to steal from others. Aren't you pathetic? Yes, Julian likes you. So much, that he even called you

his fiancee! But a man who shows no concern for the death of his own children is heartless. Why would I regret it if you two get together?"

Kayla listened, stunned.

"Did you just say Julian doesn't care about their deaths?!"

He went absolutely crazy about it, alright?!

Kayla could still remember vividly the day Julian ordered his men to force the drug down her throat despite her desperate pleas.

That day, Julian couldn't care less about their bond forged from childhood. He had permanently deprived Kayla of her ability to conceive, and so decisively at that. That was also the first time Kayla witnessed how cold and ruthless he could be.

Yet now, Diana claimed that he didn't care about their death?

Julian had kept this from Diana...

But why?

Was he afraid Diana would feel guilty if she knew? Or was he afraid Diana would find his punishment woefully insufficient?

Clearly, it was the former.

He was truly considerate of Diana's feelings.

The wounds on Kayla's face seemed to throb even more at this epiphany.

She could feel the deep agony all the way to her stomach; the terrible sensation was exactly the same as the day she had been force-fed the terrible drug. She slowly curled up, her eyes filled with burning jealousy as she glared at Diana.

However, Diana couldn't be bothered by the change in Kayla's gaze.

To Diana, none of Kayla's words would ever have anything of value.

With that, she took out some tape and sealed Kayla's mouth shut again.

"Don't mention your fiance to me. I don't want to hear it."

Diana leaned in close to Kayla, intentionally bringing a mirror with her to reflect their similar faces.

In the mirror, the scar on Kayla's face had turned terrifyingly pale, providing a stark ugly contrast against the rest of her features. Under the unrelenting assault of salt water, it even showed signs of festering, like a disgusting piece of rotten meat stuck to her face.

Diana, who was already more exquisite and stunning than Kayla in looks, appeared all the more captivating.

Unable to bear it any longer, Kayla desperately tried to turn her head, not wanting to look at her reflection anymore. Yet Diana forcefully held her head in place, forcing her to look into the mirror.

Kayla's nerves slowly began to crumble as she silently categorized their differences. The terrible physical pain aside, she could also feel excruciating anguish tearing at her soul.

Eventually, tears started to stream down her distorted face.

"Are you crying for yourself, or is it for my babies?"

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 512

Diana was completely unaffected by Kayla's tears, and her calmness was terrifying.

It was only now that Kayla remembered how Diana had survived a rather harsh environment her entire childhood.

Diana had been so young when she was abandoned by James. Later, Lucy intentionally caused the death of her foster parents, hoping to leave Diana without a single ounce of support.

But even though she was forced to fight with dogs for food just to survive, she had done it and succeeded.

This woman had gone through the most bitter days in one's life.

She wasn't a saint, nor was she an angel.

She was simply one who sought pure and raw revenge!

She hadn't taken action against Kayla before not because she refused to, but simply because she was biding her time for the perfect opportunity. However, the incident with the grave ultimately accelerated her revenge.

Diana in her current state was so intimidating that next to her, Kayla seemed like a pure and innocent angel.

Though Diana was never a good person, she never harbored malicious intent as Kayla did. It was to the extent that others often forgot that Diana wasn't a delicate flower in a greenhouse.

Kayla dared not answer.

She had no idea what Diana would do to her next. Perhaps Diana might even take her life! The more she thought about it, the deeper the fear in her heart intensified.

Coupled with the torture of Diana holding the mirror up just now, Kayla was close to passing out.

For the first time ever, remorse stained Kayla's gaze as she looked at Diana. As if receiving some form of consolation, Diana's suppressed emotions finally improved slightly.

It was her first time being able to do something for her poor babies, despite it being something small and significant.

And then...

She pulled out a knife.

Fear struck Kayla as she recalled the freezing chill of the blade as it pressed against her neck the other day. She immediately whimpered and shook her head violently at the sight of it, but Diana showed no intention of stopping.

Just then...

A loud knock echoed through the room.

It was urgent and forceful.

Diana immediately knew it wasn't Nina, as she had planned this out well. Nina was working late today, and Diana didn't want her friend to see this nasty side of her.

More importantly, she didn't want to involve Nina.

After receiving confirmation from Oliver some time ago, she deliberately asked for some gossip from Fanny and passed it on to Nina.

Nina should still be out somewhere staking out a celebrity to take some photos. There was no way she would come back.

Was it Vans?

And yet, the power behind those rapid knocks...

Diana clenched the knife tightly, and went to the peephole to look.

...It was Julian!

How had he discovered that Kayla was here with her...?!

Diana was confident that she had taken care of every detail perfectly. She had even chosen to turn off all the lights in the apartment. Logically, Julian shouldn't have been able to find out about this.

"Diana! Open the door!" Julian called out impatiently.

Never in his wildest dreams did he imagine that Oliver would take Kayla away only to bring her to Diana!

That b*stard!

Did Oliver have a clue how strange Diana had been acting lately? There was a real possibility that she might do something drastic like kill both Kayla and herself!

No, it was also his own fault. He had been negligent.

None of this would've happened if he hadn't given Kayla to Oliver.

"Diana! What have you done to Kayla?"

Julian desperately hoped that neither of them had come to harm.

Diana could be reckless when angry, but underneath it all, she was a kind soul. If she really did take Kayla's life, she wouldn't be able to stop condemning herself even if he helped her avoid all legal responsibilities.

He was certain she would be plagued with guilt for the rest of her life.

Moreover, they were sisters.

At the end of the day, they shared the same blood.

As time passed, it would become increasingly difficult for Diana not to collapse from the sheer regret of her actions against Kayla.

Julian couldn't allow Diana to have blood on her hands!

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 513

If Diana couldn't tolerate Kayla's existence in this world anymore, Julian would take action in her stead. However, under no circumstances would he ever hand the knife to Diana and let her do it with her own hands!

Diana could see how anxious Julian was through the peephole.

He would always be that way whenever Kayla was concerned.

It was quite interesting, wasn't it?

The man who once claimed that everything he felt for Kayla was simply out of obligation, and that the one he truly loved was Diana...

Would go all out to protect the woman he considered to be indebted to.

What was love, then?

In the end, it was only a hollow word from Julian's lips.

Diana shouldn't have taken it seriously in the first place.

She lowered her head at the thought, and sorrow flickered in her eyes.

Only a few seconds had passed, but Julian couldn't wait any longer. He had Noel bring the property management in charge of the apartment and pry open Diana's door.

He moved so quickly that Diana didn't have time to react.

"Kayla!"

Julian rushed in as soon as the door was unlocked.

Seeing that Kayla was still alive, the heavy feeling in his heart disappeared immediately. Then, he turned to look at Diana.

Diana couldn't decipher the look in his eyes because her own eyes had started to burn, and tears started rolling down her cheeks without stopping.

It was unfair.

It was truly unfair!

Every time she encountered this man, her chest would be filled with the same emotions.

She was only trying to seek justice for her babies, to demand a debt be paid. Yet, his actions as their father right now was truly unfair.

He didn't care about the cause or reason. He only cared about Kayla.

Already weak from not eating for two days straight after the grave-digging incident, Diana couldn't hold it any longer. She clutched the knife in her hand, tears flooding her eyes, and opened her mouth to say something to the man before her.

However, she fell into a dead faint before she could speak.

Julian turned pale with fright. He reached out and caught her in time, continuously calling her name, "Diana! Diana!"

Unfortunately, she couldn't hear any of it.

There was no longer any hope in her world, where her children's graves had been dug up and their ashes washed down by the rain.

Julian's appearance worked her up, causing her mental state to become even more fragile.

The fact she fainted wasn't surprising.

At the hospital, Vans reassured Julian, "As long as she finishes two bottles of these nutrient supplements, there shouldn't be any problem."

"What about Kayla?"

In the two days after Diana passed out, Julian hadn't gone to see how

Kayla was doing even once.

"She's fine," Vans said. The scar on her face, though... That'll be tough to heal."

"Give her money," Julian said. "Give her enough of it."

He would make amends for the trouble Diana had caused.

And he wanted to settle everything before Diana woke up.

"You should take a look," Vans said, knowing that Julian would never leave Diana's side. "At Kayla, I mean. Her voice is ruined, and now, it's her appearance. I don't think it's a problem you can solve with money alone."

If it weren't for the life-saving grace Julian had for Kayla, he definitely wouldn't have gone to her.

He also wanted to wait for Diana to wake up and ask her why she had acted so harshly and recklessly out of the blue.

Since the incident with the babies, Diana hadn't done anything to Kayla. But after all this time, she suddenly ignored her studio and insisted on taking action against Kayla.

He couldn't help but feel that there was something he was missing.

Julian glanced at Vans before he left. "Do you really not know what's going on?"

Vans shrugged. "I really don't."

Then, he flashed the ring on his hand to Julian. "Nina hasn't been talking to me lately, either."

"...Have you really decided to get engaged to the Smith family?"

"Even if I don't get engaged to the Smith family, there's still the Sullivan family, the Lorren family, and many more," Vans said, giving Julian a helpless smile. "You know better than anyone the rules in our circle. But...

You're the only one who has the right to choose, you know?"

Vans had never thought about confronting his family.

He knew he would never be able to come out on top.

Thus, the only thing he could do was obediently follow their lead.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 514

Julian sighed.

He had long known that Vans and Nina would eventually end up like this, but he hadn't expected it to happen so soon.

He sighed again. "If you really don't want to get engaged, I can help you."

"Don't be naive, Julian. You can help me once, but you cant help me forever," Vans said with a bitter smile, the helplessness in his voice evident. "I'm well aware of my situation. I'm not as capable as you. The best way for me is just quietly to follow along."

"That's a pity."

After all, this was Van's life, and his family was different from Julian's. Julian knew that everyone in this circle had their own difficulties and powerlessness, so he didn't push the matter any further.

"What is?"

"It's a pity I just rented the unit next door for you, hoping you could keep an eye on Diana. But..." There was a hint of disappointment in Julian's voice.

Vans was so angry that he wanted to raise his hand and hit Julian. "Things are already like this, and you're still thinking about the rent! What, are you actually unhappy about the little amount you have to pay?!"

What a man! He actually valued lust over friendship!

As their voices gradually faded away, Diana slowly opened her eyes.

She had barely caught the tail-end of their conversation.

Julian mentioned he had rented the unit next to hers for Vans to keep an eye on her...

To keep an eye on her for what?

Was he afraid she would harm Kayla?

Vans was dating Nina; despite that, he got engaged to another woman...

And he hadn't seemed to have any objections at all!

Nina was right. People in the upper circle were all the same!

Even though Vans had helped her so much, he was ultimately Julian's friend and one of Julian's men.

Yet, to Diana...

She had actually considered Vans to be a friend.

But... Not anymore!

As for Julian...

He was reluctant to let Kayla leave his sight even for even a second, huh?

Diana thought he might be by her side when she woke up...

But he wasn't.

Reality slapped her hard in the face once again.

The only one he was willing to stay by was Kayla.

Thinking about what Kayla had said just now, it made perfect sense.

Diana was also pathetic.

Julian had been shuffling back and forth in the hospital for the past six months. It seemed that ever since Kayla came back, people were constantly going in and out of the hospital by his side.

Every time, Diana would be affected.

She had suffered much to stay by his side.

Julian's brows were slightly furrowed, showing a hint of impatience that wasn't like his ordinary self. When Kayla looked up and saw him, her heart skipped a beat.

"Julian..."

She feared that Julian would find out about the grave-digging incident.

However, her heart fluttered when she remembered that his first concern when they were in the apartment was her safety.

She smiled at him, looking seemingly innocent and pure just like before; however, there was a touch of sadness in her eyes. She quickly hid the mirror in her hand under the blanket, revealing only half of her face to Julian. Her voice was creaky and hoarse, as if it hadn't been used for a long time.

"You're here."

Appearance, voice...

She had indeed lost a lot compared to before.

Julian felt a pang of sympathy for her, but he steeled himself as he asked," Have you interacted with Diana recently?"

Kayla's heart skipped a beat once more.

At the same time, she realized that Diana hadn't woken up yet and Julian still didn't know about the grave-digging incident.

With that thought in mind, her courage grew, and she shook her head. "No.

I don't know why she acted the way she did, either."

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 515

At this moment, it was better to say less and pretend to know nothing.

Julian sighed again. Nothing in his life had ever been difficult before; and yet, dealing with Diana and Kayla gave him a feeling of being at a dead end with no way out.

Despite that, he had to find a way out of this.

Otherwise, the three of them would be forever trapped in the same place.

"Kayla.' Julian sat down by the bed. "Does the wound on your face hurt?"

"It does."

With him showing concern like this, all the resentment Kayla had been holding in her heart for a long time finally burst out like a dam.

"But I don't blame Diana. I know the babies have always been a stumbling block in her heart."

Julian remained silent. After a while, he lowered his head and said, "I promised to treat your throat. To be honest, I wasn't inclined to find a doctor for you as of late, so you couldn't recover."

So, he knew that he hadn't been attentive.

For the first time in her life, Kayla felt a deep and agonizing pain in her heart.

The man in front of her was the one who caused it.

For the first time, she felt that perhaps she genuinely cared about Julian himself even if she still desired the position of Mrs. Fulcher.

In any case, she didn't want to lose the possibility of marrying Julian.

With that, she grabbed his sleeve.

Julian felt the movement. He didn't push her away, and instead quietly undid the cufflink so that Kayla was left with a bare button in her hand.

Kayla was left speechless at his actions.

Did he think she wanted his cufflink?!

She wanted to grab his wrist!

But Julian acted as if nothing was amiss and continued, 'Since Diana did that to your face, I bear some responsibility for that."

He should've explained the punishment he had imposed on Kayla to Diana, instead of backing down and causing Diana's resentment to grow to this extent.

"Diana was the one who did it, not you,' Kayla said.

She hated how Julian was speaking up for Diana, and immediately tightened her grip on the cuff.

"It has nothing to do with you."

That button was in the shape of a pentagram with sharp edges.

As it pierced into her skin, she also felt the same aching pain through her heart.

She had never felt so stifled before.

However, Julian wasn't finished. He ignored the look on her face and stared at the scar.

"How much money do you want?"

Kayla paused for a moment before realizing what he meant.

"You want to compensate me?"

"Yes," Julian said with a nod. "I mentioned it last time. Whatever you want, whether it's a car, house, or money... I'll give you anything."

Kayla let out a sigh of relief. She didn't intend to put on a show before him this time, but tears silently streamed down her face.

They landed on the gauze covering her wound, immediately seeping in and intensifying the pain.

"The way I feel right now is exactly the same as when Diana splashed salt water on my face."

"Kayla," Julian said warningly. He didn't like Kayla speaking ill of Diana. "I'm sure she has her reason for doing so.'

After experiencing so much, he could clearly see which sister was the kinder one.

Kayla nearly choked at his words.

"So you're saying I brought this upon myself?"

She didn't realize that her voice had become louder and slightly sharper.

Julian didn't move, but his gaze turned much colder.

It was only a slight change in the corner of his eyes, and he tilted his sharp chin forward. His gaze was on Kayla's eyelids, and they appeared increasingly indifferent.

Just like that, her courage wilted, and more tears flowed down her cheeks.

"Isn't it true?" Julian said, showing no sign of softening despite her pitiful tears. "There are some things I don't want to spell out clearly, but ultimately, it was you who harmed your own throat. As for your face...

Though Diana did play a part in some, you were the one who lashed out at her babies first."

Although Kayla wasn't the fatal cause of Diana's miscarriage, she was the primary reason.

In the end, Julian always had a bottom line in his heart.

"Considering your circumstances, you should be keeping your head low.

Why do you always fail to understand your own predicament?"

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 516

Julian's words were sharp, and his tone was cutting.

In fact, this was how he had always been. He was never one who minced his words.

Though his heart could be vulnerable at times, he would still deliver words that stung like thorns.

Moreover, the person he was facing now was Kayla and not Diana.

He was well aware of the difference.

Kayla's current predicament wasn't enough reason for him to show pity toward a woman.

Often, pity was an illusion of love.

He was certain of his love for Diana, so he wouldn't give Kayla any chance to misunderstand him or harbor any illusions that she still had a shot with him.

"I spared your life last time because I was repaying your favor from saving me."

Kayla looked at Julian, eyes wide with disbelief. Even her mouth was hanging open.

Despite having known Julian for so many years, it seemed he was becoming increasingly clear-headed about her.

Now, he didn't even care about her tears anymore.

Kayla had no choice but to admit that her presence in his heart was starting to diminish.

Thinking of this, she started to feel frightened about the grave-digging incident.

Alas, what's done was done. For now, she could only grit her teeth and deny everything, and never ever bring it up.

However, the guilt in her eyes betrayed her thoughts.

"Are you still hiding something from me?" Julian asked in an intimidating manner, forcing her to look up.

Kayla was startled. Tears threatened to fall from her eyes, but she was so frightened that she didn't dare let them fall.

"N-No. There's nothing. Nothing at all.*

A tear slipped out and seeped into the bandage, and the pain made her instinctively grimace.

"Hmm."

Julian knew he had been harsh with his words this time. As such, he averted his gaze to take the pressure off Kayla.

"Take care of yourself, and let me know whenever you decide on the compensation you want."

This was his final act of mercy.

"Also, I won't go to your apartment anymore."

The fact that Kayla lived downstairs from Diana had been exposed. It would surely upset Kayla if he were to go there again and meet Diana.

Julian would rather choose not to see her, secretly longing for her, than see Diana unhappy.

Kayla was truly heartbroken.

She couldn't understand how she and Julian had reached this point.

When she went abroad all those years ago, she had everything under control.

Even after returning to the country, she was full of spirit, eagerly waiting for Julian to divorce and then replace Diana to marry into the Fulcher family.

At that time, she hadn't thought much of Diana.

She even thought that Diana was merely a substitute.

She looked at the incomparable man before her and said, "I've said it before. I don't want the car, the house, or the money." She tightened the blanket, wanting to push further. "I just want to know, in your heart, did you fall in love with Diana or me first?"

"You," Julian replied without hesitation. "I fell in love with you."

Unbeknownst to him, Diana had just arrived outside the door. She had planned to knock and go in, but stepped back abruptly upon hearing these words.

Initially, she had come here to resolve things in person with Kayla and Julian.

After all, she had vented all the anger that she needed to.

Kayla's face was already disfigured, and Diana couldn't bring herself to kill her.

Moreover, when Oliver brought Kayla to her doorstep, he gave her a small box.

He had said that no matter how she treated Kayla, Julian wouldn't hold her accountable, as it was a lifesaving charm.

After waking up just now and opening the box, she saw that its content was a photo Oliver had shown her on her birthday.

But the difference now was there was a name behind it... Julian.

The boy was Julian.

She had never imagined that their encounter began so early.

Even more unimaginable was that Julian was the boy she actually saved back then!

Her determination to draw a clear line with Julian wavered once more.

Diana intended to tell him about their connection and see how Julian would react to Kayla if she clarified the grave-digging incident.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 517

Would the boy Diana once worked so hard to save turn out to be a man who couldn't spare a thought about his own flesh and blood?

And yet...

A bitter smile reached her lips.

Why on earth was she here in the first place?

Was she here to listen to Julian's heartfelt confession to Kayla?

Biased people would remain that way forever. There was no changing them.

Hadn't she seen enough of this in her own biological parents?

Why would Julian reassess everything between the three of them just because of an insignificant life-saving grace?

Her current mood was the same as when Nina dragged her to the balcony to watch Julian and Kayla.

It was terrible.

It was painful.

It hurt to the point she didn't want to look or think about it. At the same time, she also refused to communicate with Julian.

It was lucky she hadn't gone in yet.

If she had gone in and told Julian about the fact she had saved his life when they were younger, all she would've received in return was abject humiliation.

The promises and confessions he had made in the past were all just an act. Diana should forget about them all and hold no expectations of them, none whatsoever!

If she didn't, what awaited her would be scenes like today, where she was forced to witness Julian showing deep kindness and confessing to Kayla again.

As for this debt of gratitude...

Diana didn't want to use it to hold Julian hostage. And...she didn't want to face the moment Julian would undoubtedly disappoint her once more.

She would rather bury this secret deep in her heart.

If Julian wanted to hold her responsible for disfiguring Kayla, she would let him do so.

She was fearless now, and had nothing to lose. As long as she could vent her anger for her babies, that was enough comfort.

Besides, the grave-digging matter wasn't over yet.

She was going to visit the Winnington family, where James was.

However, she didn't expect that she wouldn't need to go over there in person. Instead, Kate brought James to the hospital.

It was unclear where they had received the news, but they had gotten the right room and was waiting outside Diana's ward.

No. To be precise, Kate was kneeling outside Diana's ward.

James, on the other hand, stood on his tiptoes, looking around the room from the doorway.

Diana found a trash bin and casually threw the photo of Julian as a child into it, then walked towards them with a cold face. 'Why are you here?'

"We're your parents,' James said with a smile, obviously trying to appease her. "We heard you fainted and came to visit you, of course."

"You came to...visit me. If so, is it necessary to kneel?"

When she heard this, Kate crawled on her knees towards Diana. She begged, "Diana! Forgive your father!"

Oh? So she also knew of the terrible thing James had done!

Diana took a step forward, raised her hand, and slapped James across the face.

This slap landed on James's face and struck Kate in the heart.

Like a madwoman, Kate jumped up with wide eyes and immediately pulled James behind her. She clenched her fist as she looked at Diana and screamed, "You uncultured thing! He's your father!"

Diana sneered, "Father? Cultured? Haha."

She glanced at Kate. "I don't have parents, remember? I came from the countryside. I don't know what a father is, let alone what cultured means!"

Now, she was determined to make James pay the price.

There was a time Diana tried everything to please them, but now...

Diana's attitude and words shook Kate. For a moment, Kate dared not meet Diana's piercing gaze.

"Kate," Diana said calmly, though her voice dripped with venomous sarcasm. "Do you have any idea what that man behind you has done to me?

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 518

"What? What are you talking about?" Kate continued looking at Diana, anger burning in her eyes, as if they were archenemies rather than mother and daughter.

Diana felt her heart grow increasingly colder at Kate's gaze. She gritted her teeth and was about to speak, but then she noticed a flicker of panic on James's face.

Suddenly, he raised his hand and slapped himself hard. A loud smack resounded in the hallway.

It was even stronger than the force of Diana's previous slap.

He looked at Diana with a face bearing the imprint of his palm.

"Diana, I'm so sorry. It was my fault. I shouldn't have..."

"Shouldn't have what?" Diana pressed, sharply and relentlessly.

"I...I shouldn't have dug up your children's gr-gra..."

James couldn't even bring himself to finish the sentence. His whole body was already trembling like the final leaf on a dry branch.

Instead, he dropped loudly to his knees and bowed continuously to Diana as he pleaded, "Please, I beg you... I beg you!"

This man, who always cared about his reputation, was now prostrating himself at the feet of his most despised daughter.

"Please forgive me. I was wrong. I'm sorry!"

Kate couldn't bear to see this and tried to pull him up. "Get up!"

She didn't understand!

"Even if you dug up the children's grave, what difference does it make? Those two children were stillborn! But you are Diana's father, a living person. How could she humiliate you like this?!"

James's heart pounded harder in his chest with each word Kate uttered.

He kept glancing behind Diana, and his panic grew stronger as her elegant figure drew closer.

He continued hitting his forehead against the ground, the dull sound echoing in the hallway over and over again.

The broken skin on his forehead from the repeated knocks broke Kate's heart. At the same time, she felt that doing this in front of everyone was embarrassing.

But no matter how she tried to pull James up, he refused to get up.

Instead, with a swift movement, he slapped Kate across the face.

"You damned woman! Shut up!"

James looked at Diana and saw how her face was turning colder by the second. He immediately knew that Kate's words had only served to fuel the fire that was already burning bright in Diana's heart.

The panic in his heart grew, and he could only intensify his bows to the younger woman. He even grabbed Kate and forced her to kneel together to apologize to Diana.

"Diana, your mother and I were foolish! Please, will you forgive us?"

Tears streamed down his face as he spoke, and he raised his palm to strike himself on the face, one slap after another.

It wasn't until his forehead and cheeks were completely covered in bruises that he stopped and looked at Diana with pleading eyes.

This was a hospital.

People were coming and going, and the commotion they caused became the center of attention.

Through bits and pieces of their conversation, some people concluded that Diana was heartless and cold, and they began to criticize her.

However, Diana stood in the center of the whirlpool, her expression unchanged.

With her arms crossed in a defensive and indifferent posture, she looked at the couple without any intention of letting them get up, only sneering," Forgive you?"

How easily he had said those words!

"Should I forgive my father for deliberately losing me when I was three years old? Or should I forgive my mother for knowing full well that my father was involved in my disappearance, yet still turned a blind eye to it?"

As soon as Diana finished speaking, the faces of James and Kate changed.

Especially Kate.

"Diana..."

She never imagined that Diana would know so much, let alone see through her indulgence of James.

After all these years, she had even forgotten that she had vaguely guessed that Diana's disappearance was no accident.

In the end, she chose to prioritize her position as James's wife and the man himself, thereby giving up her own daughter for her own ease.

Now that Diana had accused her in such a way, the secret she had suppressed deeply in her heart seemed to have been ripped out forcefully and displayed in the open.

"What nonsense are you talking about!"

At the end of the day, she was unwilling to admit her cruelty to her daughter.

Julian's Stand-In Wife chapter 519

When Diana saw Kate's reaction, her smile grew colder.

She didn't bother responding to Kate's words and continued, "Or perhaps you want me to forgive James for desecrating the grave of my children?"

"Or maybe you want me to forgive the coldness you showed when I came to claim my identity?"

"Or do you want me to forgive your intentions of marrying me off to that old man from the Pabian family?"

"Or maybe, you want me to forgive you for your choice between me and Kayla?"

Who were they to speak of asking for her forgiveness?!

"No! There's no need for that!"

The string of questions made James's head spin like a vortex.

"As long as you're happy, it doesn't matter if you forgive us or not! But I hope you wont be angry anymore. It's not worth harming your health because of parents like us!"

James's attitude was completely different than usual.

Diana studied him for a while, but she couldn't figure out the ulterior motives behind his change of heart.

After a short pause, Diana asked," Really...? You don't expect my forgiveness? You just want me to not get angry?"

James had a sense of foreboding, but when he thought of Julian, he forced a smile and nodded vigorously.

"Yes, of course! I made a big mistake! How could I expect forgiveness? As long as you're not angry, I'll do anything!"

Even though Diana had hurt Kayla, Julian hadn't pursued the matter.

Julian's stance couldn't be more apparent, and James was submitting to Diana right now purely for self-preservation.

That's why he was so compliant with Diana.

Yet at this moment, as he looked into Diana's eyes and felt the scars on his body, he suddenly felt that he might have thought too lightly of his daughter.

Despite that, things had come to this point. He could only steel himself and ask, "What do you want me to do?"

Diana fell silent for a moment. Finally, she said, "Nothing."

She smiled gently, as if she hadn't taken anything to heart. She looked majestic, like a fairy untouched by dust, but her every move carried a faint authority that could determine one's fate.

"If you crawl back to the Winnington residence from here, I won't be angry," she said.

James was speechless.

Kate, however, exclaimed furiously, "Diana!"

The Winnington family was, after all, a prestigious and influential family. James valued his reputation; if he really did as Diana requested, they would end up being a laughingstock of the capital!

Not only James, but the entire family would also be humiliated!

The head of their family, who had never liked James from the start, might even kick him out of the family!

If that were to happen, what would her years of perseverance and endurance amount to?!

Kate's heart tightened.

"You can't ask that of your father!"

"Let me reiterate once more. I have parents," Diana said, her gaze turning even colder. The same cold eyes swept across Kate with a hint of disdain." And you shouldn't casually claim to be my parents either."

"Besides, I didn't ask James to do anything. I'm just following his wishes to fulfill his desire for me not to get angry."

Hadn't James said it? As long as Diana didn't get angry, he would do anything.

Indeed, it was James himself who had brought it up.

However, he didn't expect Diana to devise such a malicious task.

A wave of fury crashed over him, and he wanted nothing more than to confront Diana. However, once again, he suppressed his anger and smiled.

He then took out his phone and showed it to Diana. "Look."

"What is it?"

"Call records."

James leaned closer to her and said, "After we dug the grave, I wanted to inform you right away. But you didn't answer my calls..."

Call records... Phone...

As he mentioned it, something flashed in Diana's mind. Her voice trembled as she said slowly, "On that rainy day when I called you, thinking something had happened to you, you were actually digging up the grave, weren't you?"

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James's eyes widened at Diana's words.

When he showed her his call records, he hadn't intended for this to happen!

He wanted Diana to see his good side, to know that he had once wanted to tip her off and that he had once felt guilty.

But he didn't expect Diana to be so heartless and associate it with their last conversation.

In other words, the one time Diana called with concern about him, he was in the midst of the despicable act of digging her children's graves...

James quickly snapped back to his senses and hurriedly explained to Diana, "That wasn't my intention! Everything that day was all Kayla's doing-"

"That day will be the last time I ever consider you my father from the bottom of my heart," Diana said with clenched fists.

Her nails dug into her palm painfully as she issued her final ultimatum to James, seemingly calm.

In reality, there were a thousand needles stabbing into her heart.

Upon hearing this, James's face turned pale instantly; his hand holding the phone trembled.

"D-Diana...!"

Kayla had already been disfigured, and it would be even more difficult for her to win Julian's heart.

As such, James held onto the hope of seeking Diana's forgiveness, even if he had to kneel before her.

But Diana...

She couldn't treat him like this!

If she treated him like this, how could he gain any benefits from the Fulcher family?

As soon as James thought about it, he became so anxious that his face turned red. Once more, he banged his forehead loudly on the ground.

"Diana, don't be angry! Why don't we have a proper conversation?"

"Yes, why don't we talk?" Diana squatted down, aligning her gaze with his.

Indeed, there was a trace of her in James's face.

After all, they had the same blood running in their veins. Alas, their relationship was even worse than that of strangers.

Diana took a deep breath, a smile tugging at the corners of her mouth. Yet there was no warmth in her eyes; only intense hatred.

"Crawl back," she said.

James froze.

"Diana, are you serious?"

"What a joke." Diana's eyes grew colder. "Why did you bring Kate here to stage this drama? Were you putting up airs and acting and pretending just to show off to me?

Her dainty eyes were clear, yet they carried a powerful sense of oppression.

James couldn't help but lower his head in fear.

Diana had struck a chord in his heart, and he couldn't or dare to answer.

"If you cant do it, stop being pretentious about it."

She wasn't a child who would follow along just because she was given a little treat.

James and Kate had hurt her heart deeply, and she had lost hope of any familial affection.

James still didn't answer, nor did he make any move.

Diana understood. "Although you refuse to do it today, there will come a day when I will make you do it."

She vowed to obliterate every last bit of James's dignity in Richburgh!

She wanted to turn the thing James cared most about into a resounding slap, hitting his face at every moment so that he would never forget it!

"Diana!" James looked at her in disbelief. "Are you trying to drive me to my grave?"

Her heart was even more ruthless than Kayla's!

He shouldn't have come here, deluding himself into begging for this girl's forgiveness.

This uncultured girl who grew up in the countryside didn't have a heart at all!

After speaking, he glanced behind Diana and noted that the noble figure he thought he had seen had long disappeared without a trace, as if he had never been here.

Perhaps he had overestimated Diana's position in Julian's heart.

Julian was a man, after all. It was easy enough for men to change their minds.

It was possible that Julian didn't have such deep feelings for Diana as Kayla had thought.

Thinking of this, James breathed a sigh of relief. He immediately got up and pulled Kate. "Let's go!"

Hah! Let's see what Diana could do to him after this!

But at this moment, Kate hesitated.

In fact, she hadn't figured out the reason behind James's actions today. At this moment, James's behavior coincided with her intentions.

"I've said it before. We didn't need to come here to plead with this girl. I shouldn't have even made those noodles for her!"

After she finished speaking, she glared at Diana and changed direction, pulling James along with her.