

## Midnight 1281

### Chapter 1281

Kenneth couldn't shake off the despair he felt in the hospital, and Lane couldn't forget the shame the world had thrown his way for so long. All thanks to Everett!

Kicked out like a stray dog, without even a sliver of a chance to turn things around, firmly under Everett's heel.

How could he rid himself of this hatred unless Everett met his demise?

"That would be for the best."

Kenneth could finally let go.

No more rummaging through the house for some antidote.

By the sounds of it, Lane's hiding spot was well concealed.

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The past few days, the media had been both busy and thrilled.

The CEO of Lopez Corporation had been in the hospital for nearly a week and, with no news leaking out, it only spelled out that the situation was dire!

"Rumors have it that Mr. Everett Lopez is also involved in a gruesome murder case, having been to the police station for questioning before. Whether this is related to his current critical condition remains unknown!" "Everett, so young, might leave this world, leaving us questioning the future of Lopez Corporation. Can the business legend continue?"

Outside, reporters faced the cameras, spinning all sorts of speculations and guesses.

Dorothy, dressed as a nurse and masked, sneaked a peek outside.

Quite the spectacle, indeed!

But upon her return, she was noticeably downcast.

After Everett wrapped up some project details, closing his laptop, he noticed his lady sitting silently by the bed for quite some time.

He stood, striding over with long steps and gently touched the top of her head.

"What's wrong? Didn't you go down to check out the commotion? Did someone say something to you?"

Dorothy shook her head, "It's not that."

"Are you missing Abigail and Langston? I'll have Kevin bring them over, no worries! This will even make the outside world more convinced of my demise, wanting to see my son and daughter one last time."

"..." Dorothy seemed conflicted,

sighing after a while, "Everett, don't you think that making such a big fuss, with all the media speculation about you, if you really stage your death, they will report on it! But after everything... it's like you're playing the media."

Those people, sharp and not easily fooled, could bring negative attention to Lopez Corporation!

Seeing her worry so much about him, Everett couldn't help but smile wryly, lifting her chin to meet his gaze.

"My darling girl, worrying so much for me?"

"I'm just stating the facts."

"My bad, I should've explained in more detail when the time comes, you just need to cry, Kevin will be on it, and you, Jeffrey, will just handle the grieving. Say nothing, and my 'death' will remain mere media speculation."

Dorothy paused, "...I didn't realize that was an option."

"Can you be happy now? No more sighs." Everett pulled her into his embrace, deepening his voice, "Even if I truly lost Lopez Corporation, trading it for the antidote, I would: I'm only trying to minimize losses within what's feasible, without considering whether I should or shouldn't."

The antidote was non-negotiable.

"Lopez Corporation is your life's work; I don't want you to lose it because of me..."

"The company is my life's work, yes, but you, you are my life." His lips curved, kissing her forehead, then trailing down to her lips, "Which do you think is more important?"

Chapter 1282

"...I can't help but feel guilty."

Dorothy was getting better, but human nature, formed over so many years, isn't so easily cast aside.

Watching Everett cause such a ruckus, risking the company's reputation for this antidote, weighed heavily on her.

"Dorothy, stop worrying and just stay with me."

He wanted her, and nothing else.

"Okay."

In a moment of passion, Everett leaned down and kissed her tenderly.

Dorothy wrapped her arms around his waist, tilting her head back to meet his intense kiss.

Right in the midst of their embrace...

The hospital room door suddenly swung open!

"I thought I'd drop by to see them today, had to dress up in disguise and all-ugh!" Jeffrey finished speaking, he and Karen froze in place.

It wasn't anything too risqué, but still, stumbling upon such an intimate moment was rare.

"Cough, I didn't see anything, carry on, carry on!"

Karen was the first to recover, pulling Jeffrey to leave.

Dorothy, face flushed, pushed Everett away, "Hey, you guys don't have to leave!"

If they just turned around and left, it would seem as though she and Everett were about to do something scandalous under broad daylight...

"It's fine, we're all friends here, no harm in seeing!" Jeffrey was surprisingly chill about it, pulling his wife in and chuckling, "Come on, we've all been there, right?"

Everett knew what his friend was like. His handsome face remained calm as he glanced over, as if he wasn't the protagonist of that deeply passionate kiss moments ago. "Something up?"

"Just missed you, man," Jeffrey said

with a grin, pulling up a chair and sitting down. Even Karen trying to keep him in check couldn't hide his laid-back demeanor, "Also, thought I'd update you on Lane's movements."

Everett didn't move away from Dorothy, his slender fingers playing with a strand of her hair, "You didn't get too close, did you?"

"Nope! I just drew a circle around

him. As long as he stayed inside, my

guys wouldn't get closer. Didn't

wanna spook him, you know?" Jeffrey raised an eyebrow, quite pleased with himself, "Am I smart or what? Come on, praise me.

Even Karen couldn't help but glare at him.

The media outside thought the room was a scene of frantic medical intervention, but inside, the atmosphere was entirely different.

"Since the incident, Lane's just been

pacing around the area, even went back to where he offed Quincy. All tracked through his location, didn't send anyone to follow."

"Right, don't spook him."

The climax of their plan was about to unfold, and they couldn't afford any mistakes.

While the men talked, Dorothy pulled Karen aside.

"Are you sure you should be out and about? What did the doctor say?"

"Should I just stay cooped up at home every day? Don't worry, it's fine! The doctor said it's good for me to get out, get some fresh air."

Dorothy frowned slightly, "But this is a hospital! The doctor meant for you to walk in the park, not in a place crawling with germs."

"Don't worry! After everything I've been through unscathed, this baby is meant to be mine."

Karen smiled and raised an eyebrow, "By the way, about Kenneth—"

It slipped out before she could stop herself.

Luckily, she caught herself midway.

"Kenneth? What about him?"

Chapter 1283

Karen was on the verge of spilling the beans to Dorothy about Kenneth going AWOL ever since he got wind of Lane's predicament. But then, she bit her tongue, remembering Dorothy's strong-willed nature. She knew Dorothy would insist that Kenneth play a part in rescuing Lane. At this point, Karen thought, why hold back? It was a matter of life and death, and if someone could lend a hand, they should, without fussing over whether or not they ought to.

"It's nothing, really. Kenneth's been asking about your plans, wanting to stay in the loop," Karen fibbed, trying to downplay her concerns.

Dorothy's eyes fell. "Try to keep my name out of your conversations with him, will you? The more he dwells on the past, the longer it'll take for him to move on. I want him to find his own path, his own happiness, sooner rather than later."

"Kenneth's no child! Trust me, when it's time for him to let go, he will. And he'll forget all about this," Karen said, more to reassure herself than Dorothy.

After all, if something brings joy, why stand in the way? That's what relationships are for, right? If Kenneth finds happiness in helping Dorothy, that's his choice. His life, his rules.

"I just think... the less I feature in his world, the better. Maybe then he can start to move on from me."

Karen threw her hands up in resignation.

"Good luck with that! I bet my last dollar, Kenneth will never love another girl as passionately and steadfastly as he loved you. The impact you've made is indelible." Dorothy was silent.

"What you need to focus on now is securing that antidote from Lane. Once you're out of danger, Kenneth will naturally step back from your life," Karen ventured, sighing at the thought of Kenneth. "He's not the type to linger or sabotage your happiness. Just knowing you're happy is enough for him, even if it's without him."

Dorothy never doubted that, and it was precisely Kenneth's selflessness that made her heart ache with guilt.

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With Kenneth around, Lane's living

conditions and mood improved significantly. His days were filled with casual strolls near his hideout and keeping an eye on the news for any updates on Everett.

"When do you think Everett will kick the bucket?" Lane pondered aloud one sunny afternoon, lounging comfortably at his doorstep.

Kenneth limped over, joining the conversation. "Wish I knew. What's your take?"

"Give it a month, tops. Heck, he might already be gone for all we know. They're keeping it hush-hush to prevent a meltdown at the Lopez Corporation," Lane theorized

Kenneth frowned, "How will we find out in time?"

"Don't sweat it News like this can't stay buried. If Everett's really dead, the shareholders will be the first to panic. Think about it, Eldorria City's been buzzing with his hospital visits, missed board meetings, and rampant rumors. The investors will demand answers."

"Ah..."

Lane raised an eyebrow. "Never been in charge of a company, huh? Figures."

"Nope, can't say I have," Kenneth admitted, taking a seat beside Lane.

After a pause, Lane turned to Kenneth, "I'm inviting you to my wedding with Dorothy."

Chapter 1284

Lane's words hit Kenneth like a curveball, leaving him completely unprepared.

So, his initial reaction was to freeze in shock.

It was this very reaction that tipped Lane off.

He did it on purpose.

"You still have feelings for Dorothy, don't you?"

The look in Kenneth's eyes a moment ago was all the evidence Lane needed.

If Kenneth had truly moved on from Dorothy as he claimed, his expression wouldn't have been so complicated.

Kenneth wanted to deny it, but it was clear that Lane wouldn't have asked if he didn't already know the answer. Lying would be pointless.

Of course, Kenneth didn't give a straight answer, just a wry smile. "Hard to say if it's what you'd call 'having feelings.'"

"So, we're not going to end up rivals, are we?" Lane asked, though his voice carried a chilling undertone despite his smile. "No, I told you I have a girlfriend."

"You also mentioned she's upset with you because of Dorothy." Lane clapped him on the shoulder, his grin widening. "Regardless of what you think, it's none of my business! But you've seen how persistent I am about Dorothy. You can't compete with me, so don't overestimate yourself."

Kenneth paused for a moment, then looked away. "Yeah, you're definitely persistent."

But in this, he was only second to Everett.

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Night fell.

The entire hospital was under lockdown, making it eerily quiet.

In the hospital room, Everett was dealing with work while on the phone with Kevin.

"The shareholders have been crowding the office, asking about your condition. But don't worry, haven't said a word! Just gave them vague replies about you feeling unwell."

"Good, I can rest easy with you handling things."

"Mr. Lopez, how much longer do we need?"

Everett knew what Kevin was asking. Glancing at the woman asleep on the bed, he spoke in a low voice, I want to speed up our plans, but the more critical it gets, the more we can't rush."

They couldn't let Lane think that right after they took out Quincy, Everett would be "gone" too! That would make their scheme too obvious.

"Understood! The task you gave me yesterday is also completed. Once there's any movement here at the hospital, he'll immediately stir up the media and start spreading the news about your... uh, situation." Kevin trailed off awkwardly, unable to bring himself to say the word

"death."

"I have no taboos, you can speak freely." Everett's lips curled slightly, his eyes filled with tenderness. "As long as it gets us the antidote."

After all, if anything happened to Dorothy, it would be no different than death for him.

After hanging up, Everett returned to the bed and gently embraced her.

Feeling his presence, Dorothy opened her eyes sleepily, "Are you done with work?"

"Yeah." Everett stroked her hair softly. "Did you need me for something?"

Otherwise, she would have already changed into her pajamas by now.

"Yes!" Dorothy immediately perked up, hopping out of bed to grab a black bag. "We've been stuck in this hospital for days. I thought we could sneak out for a walk tonight!" Everett had indeed been trapped in the hospital for several days, not stepping out even once for the sake of their plan.

He couldn't risk any slip-ups.

But if Dorothy suggested something, Everett could never say no.

He nodded gently, "Okay."

"Just to be safe, change into these clothes!"

Dorothy then pulled out the school uniform they had bought earlier.

Chapter 1285

I never thought I'd come in handy for something else at a crucial moment.

Everett reached out to take it.

He could never rain on Dorothy's parade. Whenever he faced her, rejection was simply not in his vocabulary.

"Where do you wanna go?"

"Havenbrook City." Dorothy wasn't naive; she had thought this through!

Roaming around Eldorria City was risky business!

She couldn't let Everett's meticulously planned operations go to waste just because she felt like having a little fun.

So, leaving Eldorria City and donning a disguise should do the trick.

"Heading back to school?"

Everett hit the nail on the head.

Dorothy nodded, "Remember that diner we used to go to? The owner's still rooting for us to end up together! Imagine, you and I haven't been in the same frame ever since. I wanna tell her that our connection hasn't been severed." That place was also a testament to Everett and Dorothy's relationship.

"Alright."

Dorothy walked over and held his hand, "Imagine her surprise when we walk in hand in hand."

"Not really."

"Why not?"

A smile played on Everett's lips, "Because she knows what's in my heart. Winning you back was only a matter of time."

He clasped Dorothy's hand, his voice deep, "Once this is all over, let's get married."

"Deal! You better throw me a grand wedding, this time, no regrets."

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The whole antidote situation had been weighing heavily on both Everett and Dorothy's hearts, even though they tried their best not to show it. Everett was worried, ridden with guilt.

Dorothy, on the other hand, was more concerned about him feeling that way.

Seeing how things were about to come to a head, whether for better or worse, their mood for this outing was distinctly different. "Everett."

Dorothy glanced at him as he drove.

"Hmm?"

"Do you ever feel like we're eloping?"

She watched the night scenery through the car window, the two of them sneaking out and rushing towards Havenbrook City, it did feel a bit like eloping.

Hearing her lighthearted tone, Everett's lips curved into an indulgent smile, his eyes filled with affection.

"So, is this the kind of eloping where our parents disapprove, or... where your husband disapproves?"

Dorothy paused before catching his drift.

"This is the kind my ex-husband disapproves of."

"Well, your ex-husband approves now."

Dorothy laughed at his jest, humming a tune and gazing out at the night, as if all the weight had lifted off her shoulders in that moment!

Suddenly, she spoke.

"Everett, if our plan doesn't work out, and despite all our efforts, we can't get the antidote, could you take some time off work? Just drive me around, keep going forward.

He immediately frowned, his lips pressed tightly, about to speak.

Dorothy quickly cut him off, "I said, if!"

"I don't like entertaining such ifs."

"Just promise me, okay?" Her smile was genuine, not forced, "You've been trapped because of me for so long, I don't like seeing you so

constrained! I miss the etho

was decisive and shone brightly in the business world."

Dorothy went on for a while, but Everett didn't bite.

Finally, she sighed, "I know you've done your best, and I know you love me. That's enough."

"Not enough." His voice was soft, "You also need to know, whether in life or death, I'll be with you." So, he had to succeed.

Chapter 1286

The drama kicked off with a hearse from the local funeral home rolling into the hospital...

As soon as the press caught wind of it, they swarmed the hospital like bees to honey!

"Is Mr. Everett Lopez really dead?"

"Why has a funeral home vehicle arrived? Who are they here for?"

"Why is Lopez Corporation keeping everything under wraps?"

The executives at Lopez Corporation remained tight-lipped, refusing to answer any questions, and barred the media from entering the hospital.

The news channels were abuzz with speculations about the CEO of Lopez Corporation, airing the story repeatedly.

It seemed they were determined to make sure everyone in Eldorria City, if not the entire country, knew something major was going down at Lopez Corporation. Especially when Dorothy appeared at the hospital entrance clad in black, the media pounced on her like vultures -

"Please, just answer our questions!"

"Can you give us something?"

"What's really happening to the CEO of Lopez Corporation?"

Some of the male reporters even shouted, "Is Everett dead?"

"We all saw the hearse!"

"Right! We've been camped out here for ages, someone owes us some answers!"

The crowd was getting restless, ready to barge in.

Watching this unfold on TV, Lane couldn't help but smirk.



"Everett, dead."

Kenneth, glued to the screen, simply nodded in agreement.

Before Lane could continue, Dorothy appeared on TV, walking out of the hospital holding a child's hand. Despite her sunglasses, it was evident she had been crying.

Lane immediately stood up from his chair!

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"See, I told you he was dead! Dorothy's in tears, it must be true!"

As he finished speaking, Kenneth suddenly said, "Good, then I'm leaving."

"Leaving?" Lane was taken aback. "And go where?"

"I came to see if Everett was truly dead. Now that he is, my wish is fulfilled."

Kenneth got up to leave, but Lane quickly grabbed him.

"Now that you know where I am, you think you can just leave?"

"Don't worry, my only issue was with Everett, not you. I won't tell anyone about you."

"That's not good enough!" Lane was firm, but seeing Kenneth's furrowed brow, he tried to soften his tone, "Listen, with Everett and Quincy gone, it's chaos out there. After

spending these past few der net

together, I think we're on the same side. Don't make this difficult for me."

"You don't have to worry about me talking."

"How can I not worry?"

This was a matter of life and death!

Just the situation with Quincy alone could be enough to seal his fate.

"What do you want then?" Kenneth's tone was always steady, showing little emotion.

"Nothing much, just wait until this storm blows over, then you can leave!" Lane slapped his shoulder, "As long as you don't compete with me for Dorothy, I won't make things hard for you."

"...I don't see any point in staying, you're always on guard, thinking I'm after Dorothy." "Can you honestly say you don't have the slightest feelings for Dorothy?"

Chapter 1287

Kenneth pursed his lips, a hint of frustration in his voice, "Look, I admire her, okay? She's dedicated to her job and happens to be easy on the eyes. It's only natural I'd take a liking to her, right?" Lane snapped his fingers, his mood evidently upbeat. "The woman I've got my eye on? She's top-notch! As long as we're not at odds, who's to say we can't be pals?"

"I'm not exactly jumping at the chance to be your buddy," Kenneth replied, causing Lane's previously cheerful expression to darken in an instant.

"So, you're set on leaving?"

Hearing this, Kenneth feigned a troubled sigh, "My folks will start worrying. I've been off the radar for too long!"

To alleviate any concerns, Kenneth had intentionally left all means of communication behind.

"Fair point." Lane's focus had been on Everett for so long, this issue hadn't crossed his mind. "How about you use my phone to check in with your family?"

"Relax, once Everett's funeral wraps up, I'll get in touch with Dorothy. Then, you'll be free to go."

Lane wasn't keen on letting his makeshift hostage slip away.

With Everett gone, a weight had been lifted off his shoulders.

But Quincy's case was still wide open, and investigations could lead their way!

Kenneth was too valuable a pawn for Lane to willingly give up.

"Fine," he said, seemingly with great reluctance, before taking Lane's phone.

However, it was clear Lane had no intention of letting the phone out of his sight, forcing Kenneth to make the call right there and then.

Kenneth was unfazed, dialing Karen's number directly.

After two rings, the call connected.

"Hello?"

"It's me, Kenneth," he said, keeping it brief.

Upon hearing his voice, Karen immediately responded, "Where have you been? Why haven't you contacted your parents? They're worried sick!" Lane cast a puzzled look at Kenneth, wondering why he didn't call his parents directly.

But Kenneth quickly provided an answer, "I need a bit more time before I can head back. Telling them now would only upset them since I can't come home immediately."

"Oh, how much longer will you be? Are you alright, safe?"

"I'm safe, just... wanted to take some time off to look for a job, clear my head, you know?"

After Kenneth's explanation, there was a brief silence from Karen before she suddenly said, "Did you know? Everett's dead! But the news has been kept under wraps; the outside world doesn't have a clue! Dorothy's devastated, maybe you should come back, offer some comfort? Who knows, you guys might..."

"Seriously, dead?"

"Dead serious. I saw it with my own eyes. The poor guy died a terrible death. The doctors said it was poisoning, but they couldn't find an antidote!" Karen sighed, "And somehow, Dorothy's fainted twice out of grief! The symptoms are eerily similar to Everett's."

Lane, who had been eavesdropping, immediately furrowed his brows.

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Kenneth glanced at him before responding to Karen, "Take good care of her. I'll call back when I get the chance." "Alright!"

The call ended, and Lane's mood shifted from elation to anxiety in a heartbeat.

"This is bad, Dorothy's probably going to have an episode too! I need to figure out how to get her some of that antidote!"

"But how are you going to get out now?" Kenneth raised an eyebrow, feigning calm, "Is the antidote... nearby?"

Chapter 1288

Lane's expression, initially marked by anxiety, suddenly took on a more guarded edge.

The topic of the antidote was a touchy one. The slightest hint that it was being discussed, and Lane's nerves would jump into high alert.

"Stop looking at me like that. If you don't trust me, just let me go," Kenneth said, his voice tinged with a hint of frustration.

That was the real reason Kenneth had offered to leave earlier.

The decision to stay had to come from Lane, not forced by his own insistence. Knowing Lane's tendency to overthink, he knew it would only raise more suspicions.

"You're overthinking it. I just suddenly forgot where I put the antidote," Lane said, though his trust in Kenneth remained shaky. "Don't worry about it. I've got plans to marry Dorothy, and I won't let anything happen to her." "That's your business. I've achieved what I came for," Kenneth replied, careful not to let any emotion show on his face.

Playing a role in such a high-stakes drama wasn't something that came around often in life! He wasn't sure about his acting skills, so he did his best to hide his weaknesses.

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If Kevin hadn't secured the area around Bay Residence in advance, the neighborhood might have been compromised by now.

During the day, Dorothy had to act heartbroken and distraught without revealing the reason.

By night, she had to return to Bay Residence to deal with a certain man...

"Have you ever been this free since you started working?" Everett asked, genuinely turning off his computer and phone to make himself unreachable to anyone but Dorothy. "Yeah." At that moment, his hand started to wander over her slender waist, becoming increasingly bold. "Suddenly, being 'dead' feels pretty comfortable."

Waking up each day to cook

porridge and breakfast for Dorothy,

taking baths, reading books, and then exercising with her sounded like a good life.

"Everett, hands!" Dorothy felt his boldness increasing and tried to put on a stern face. "We already went at it until the early hours last night. Not today!"

While he seemed to have energy to spare, she still had to maintain her nerve-wracking act!

"You need to present a frail image to the outside world," Everett quickly retorted, pinning her down before she could protest further. Dorothy tried to push him away but couldn't escape his grasp!

In that moment, she was both

annoyed and powerless against him! In these situations, he always held the upper hand, never giving her a chance to say no.

Everett leaned down, kissing her fiercely and urgently, not at all like someone who had been satisfied just the night before.

"Be gentle," Dorothy pleaded, her resistance quickly turning into submission under his touch.

Everett, seemingly with too much free time, decided to carry her off to the bathroom for more!

Dorothy panicked. "No, no, today your father's flight arrives in Eldorria City, and I have to pick him up..."

Jonathan Lopez was unaware that his son's death was just a ruse, adding to Dorothy's challenges for the day.

With this in mind, Everett eased up, sparing her further.

"If my father says anything you don't want to hear, just ignore it. Once this is all over, I'll talk to him," he reassured her.

He was worried about Dorothy feeling wronged.

"All of this is for the antidote. I won't take it personally," she replied.

## Chapter 1289

Back in the day, with Everett's mom gone, Dorothy wasn't keen on holding grudges anymore. Life's too short to be stuck in the past, torturing herself over things that can't be changed.

After what could only be described as a half-satisfying tumble between the sheets - at least for Everett, Dorothy was utterly spent.

"We've got three more hours before we land. Get some sleep; I'll wake you up when it's time," Everett whispered, gently stroking her hair, his gaze lingering on her face, reluctant to look away.

"Mhm," she murmured, already on the brink of sleep from exhaustion. No sooner had she spoken than she drifted off, using Everett's arm as a pillow.

Everett, with one hand free, grabbed his phone and shot a message to Kevin.

"Pick up Dorothy from the airport later. Keep an eye on my dad; if he goes off the rails, step in."

He knew his father would likely unleash his fury on Dorothy once he "learned" of his only son's "death." But this charade was necessary, to convince Lane beyond doubt that no one was left to vie for Dorothy's affection. Soon enough, Kevin replied, "Understood, Mr. Lopez."

Despite all the precautions, Everett couldn't shake off the worry. He couldn't bear the thought of Dorothy facing any hardship.

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Ever since Karen received that call from Kenneth, there had been radio silence. Initially, she naively thought Kenneth had another way to secure the antidote for Dorothy. But she hadn't expected Kenneth to have sided with Lane, the very man who had mercilessly killed Quincy! How could Karen not worry?

Jeffrey, noticing his wife's distraction, pressed her until she spilled the beans.

"Kenneth told me not to tell anyone ahead of time, especially not Dorothy, not even you. He said if he called, I was to immediately claim Everett was dead but keep it under wraps."

Reflecting on it, Karen realized Lane must have been listening in when Kenneth made that call!

"Why would Kenneth go rogue without telling us?" Jeffrey was equally alarmed.

Karen had only heard second-hand accounts of Quincy's gruesome death, but Jeffrey had witnessed it firsthand. Having such a madman close by spelled danger every passing minute. "He wanted to get the antidote for Dorothy!"

"But-"

"Jeffrey, you don't understand Kenneth's feelings for Dorothy," Karen sighed. "Everett loves her dearly, but Kenneth's affection is just as deep. Knowing the poison could be fatal, Kenneth would gladly trade his life for hers."

"So, what do we do now? Should I contact Everett, see if he can think of a way to rescue Kenneth first?"

Karen pondered for a moment

before shaking her head. "Kenneth's

already by Lane's side. If he

suddenly leaves or gets rescued

by

our people, it'll only alarm Lane

Plus... I'm not sure if Kenneth has

another plan in mind by being there."

All he had said was that he'd secure the antidote, no matter what.

Jeffrey frowned, not fully processing the situation, and blurted out, "Kenneth isn't planning to use the antidote to coerce Dorothy into being with him, is he?"

Karen's gaze turned sharp as she glared at him. "If Kenneth were that kind of person, he's had countless opportunities to pressure Dorothy."

Chapter 1290

During the years without Everett, Kenneth had been living abroad with Langston. Given the gratitude owed, Kenneth could easily have coerced Dorothy into agreeing to be his girlfriend. He knew she would at least give it some thought if he asked. But he refrained from doing so, simply

because he didn't want to put Dorothy in a difficult position. Such a man, Karen believed, would never use an antidote as leverage.

"Honey, don't be mad, I was just saying!"

"Even just saying isn't okay! Kenneth's love for Dorothy is pure, and now he's willing to put himself in danger for her. You can't talk like that!"

Jeffrey quickly nodded, realizing his mistake.

"I shouldn't have said that, sigh!"

Whether it was Everett or Kenneth, both were hopelessly romantic! They just hoped for a happy ending for everyone.

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The airport was bustling, even in the evening. Jonathan's flight arrived on time at Eldorria City.

Waiting outside for the pick-up, Dorothy glanced at her wristwatch and then spoke to Kevin, who was driving, "We should go in now; he'll be out soon." "Alright."

Kevin nodded, got out of the car, and even opened the door for Dorothy, who smiled helplessly, "After all this time, I'm still not used to being waited on. You don't have to do it anymore." "It's just a habit."

As a secretary, opening doors was second nature to him.

Walking in with Kevin, there was still some time before the plane would taxi to the gate.

While waiting, Dorothy suddenly tapped Kevin's shoulder and whispered, "Kevin, did Everett tell you anything before coming here?"

Upon hearing this, Kevin was initially taken aback, then smiled, "Mr. Lopez didn't mention anything."

"You don't have to hide it from me. I know him well enough to know he must have given you instructions." Dorothy understood Everett's nature; he was always one to plan ahead. "Mr. Lopez is just worried about you."

"I know." Dorothy smiled warmly, "That's why want to tell you, no matter what his father says or does, don't tell Everett. Not a word! If he asks, just say nothing happened, that his father was just grieving."

Kevin was momentarily stunned, "You two..."

"He worries about me, so I don't want him to worry! With the antidote situation, Everett has been losing sleep, tossing and turning all night He thinks I'm asleep, but I notice every move he makes! Now that we're close to resolving this, I don't want to stir up any trouble. You understand?"

He nodded, "I get it."

"Just do as I say, it'll be alright, and no one else will know."

If Everett's father ended up insulting or even physically assaulting her and Everett found out, it would inevitably lead to a dispute between father and son. At this point, Dorothy sincerely wished to avoid such a scenario!

All she wanted was to secure the antidote smoothly, so Everett could finally relax. For Dorothy, obtaining the antidote wasn't just about saving lives anymore; it was about easing Everett's burdened heart.