

## My Mute Bride Chapter 61-70

My Mute Bride Chapter 61-For several days in a row, Rachel didn't see Justin. On the contrary, Janice came every day, bringing prepared meals with her.

Sorry to trouble you.

Rachel felt very embarrassed about it. Then, Janice opened the lunchboxes and put them on the table, saying, "I was entrusted by others to be faithful to you. Besides, I also have a favor to ask of you."

Rachel's eyebrows knitted slightly at that.

If you're asking about James, I really don't know much about it. Other than my father, who was close to him, Amber was too, so maybe you should ask her.

"No, we'll alert them if I ask her. Oh yeah, you should not mention this matter to your family either. It's for your own good."

Rachel nodded a little to show that she understood, but she was still puzzled.

You guys suspect that James killed someone, right? Who did he kill?

"The sales agent of a pharmaceutical company."

Why?

"Our initial hypothesis is that it was due to business competition, and James was just a henchman who was instructed to do so."

Rachel's heart stuttered at that. Did this mean that Hudson Pharmaceuticals was involved? What about Dad?

Aren't you afraid of alerting them by telling me this?

"You won't." Janice looked at her, her gaze calm. "James is Jefferey's tool. Aren't you also suspecting that your mother's death is related to Jefferey? And don't you already plan to leave Riverdale? By the way, Hans asked me to bring word, saying that your grandma's situation has been arranged. As long as you're ready, you can leave Riverdale at any time."

Hearing these words, Rachel had her face suddenly become tense, and her fingers clutching the silverware trembled slightly.

She had to leave because she could never hide the fake prescription from Justin.

It was late in the evening when the roar of planes crossed over the Riverdale airport. After the van picked up the people from the terminal building, it drove down the airport highway.

“Mr. Burton, it’s still necessary for you to personally come. This time, the contract for Brentwood New City has finally been signed, so the engineering team can go ahead and carry out tasks with confidence.” Holding the contract in his hand, Frankie couldn’t hold back his joy.

Justin said, “Don’t take it lightly. They might jump the gun.”

“You mean Jason Burton—”

“He has suffered a loss this time. I’m afraid the marriage between Tina and the Hindenburgs will have to be ahead of the agenda.”

“Don’t worry, the things you asked me to prepare have been ready for a long time.”

Justin nodded slightly.

“Mr. Burton, I believe you must be tired after these few days. Let’s send you home to rest later.”

“No, we’ll go to the hospital.”

Hearing the crisp reply, Frankie felt his heart thump faster. Somehow, he inexplicably felt worried for Rachel.

It was already dark when Julian took Rachel’s examination report and knocked on the door to enter the ward. When he came in, Rachel was leaning on the bed, looking at the moonlight outside the window.

“Do you want to go out for a walk?” Julian’s voice pulled Rachel’s thoughts back. Then, she froze for a moment and turned her head back.

Putting his hands in the pockets of his white coat, Julian showed her a warm smile. "It should be boring for you to stay in the ward all the time, right? The rosebuds are blooming outside, so I'll take you out to have a look."

Rachel hesitated for a moment but nodded. She didn't tell Julian that she was leaving Riverdale, so she still had to thank him for taking care of her these days.

The hospital's courtyard wall was filled with rose vines of all colors at this moment as Julian helped Rachel walk toward the small pavilion. "Your health indicators are already normal, but the injury of your foot has yet to heal, so it's not convenient for you to walk around. Therefore, I still recommend you stay in the hospital for two more days for observation before being discharged; it's safer that way."

It's better for me to be discharged from the hospital as soon as possible.

"Why are you in such a hurry? Do you have something to do?"

Nothing. I'm just bored staying in the hospital.

Julian nodded to show that he understood.

By the way, thank you for taking care of me this time, and thank you for helping to hide this from my grandma.

"It's fine. However, do you still plan to keep the matter of your marriage to my brother hidden from her?"

Rachel thought for a moment. There should be no need for that in the future.

Hearing that, Julian froze. "Are you planning to tell her?"

Rachel was about to answer when her gaze suddenly withdrew for a moment, and her hand trembled before she reflexively pulled it out of Julian's hand.

"What's wrong?" Confused, Julian followed Rachel's gaze only to see Justin coming toward them.

"Justin? When did you come?"

Justin had been here for a while. When he didn't see Rachel in the ward, he looked through the window and saw the scene of Julian holding Rachel as they went for a walk downstairs.

"I just arrived." With that said, he fixed his gaze on Rachel and continued, "Are you so seriously injured? Why don't I have someone get you a wheelchair so that you can go out easily."

Hearing that, Rachel turned pale, and she bit her lip.

Julian's gaze settled on his brother, and he said, "Justin, Rachel's foot is injured."

The weather was hot, and despite Julian's repeated instructions to be careful, Rachel's burns still became infected and had to be wrapped up in gauze, and now, with gauze wrapped around her feet and her wearing large slippers that didn't fit her feet, she was having a hard time walking.

Justin's eyebrows knitted slightly, and his gaze fell on the injured foot. "How did you get it infected?"

It's nothing; it's almost healed.

Rachel wasn't willing to explain further.

"It's wounded again, even though the old wounds are not yet healed. Therefore, she still needs more rest. Justin, if you are too busy with your work, you don't need to come to the hospital so often. I am here to take care of her."

Due to the medicine, Julian had been wary of Justin. Thus, he was about to support Rachel to go back to the ward when Justin stopped them with a dark look. "Wait."

Rachel's shoulders trembled when she felt Justin's tug on her arm. Then, she looked up at him with shock and fear.

Instantly, Julian's face changed. "She's already hurt in such a manner; what else do you want? Don't go overboard!"

"Dr. Peters, you're too dedicated to your patient." Justin gave him a sideways glance and picked up Rachel in front of him. "But you seem to have forgotten that she is my legal wife."

At that, Rachel's mind went blank as she looked up and saw the slightly green stubble on the man's sharp chin. The outline of his whole face was extraordinarily cold and angular when illuminated by the moonlight. Suddenly, the summer breeze blew, blowing the roses in the courtyard and making the petals fall on the ground. After that, large dark clouds in the distant sky crept in, as if there was a big storm coming.

At this moment, the corridor was full of people staring at them, so Rachel struggled to get down.

"You'd better not move."

A deep, cold voice rang in her ears as she did so.

"But if you really want to sit in a wheelchair, I don't mind either."

Rachel shivered as she used one hand to clutch the corner of her hospital gown tightly. The faint smell of tobacco that came from the man's body was familiar, yet struck fear into her heart.

Later, Justin put her back on the hospital bed and swept a glance at her. "How did your foot get hurt?"

Rachel clutched the sheets, her face pale.

I accidentally burned it.

"You did this to yourself?"

Seeing that she didn't speak again, Justin frowned before pouring a cup of water. On seeing Rachel's fearful expression, his frown deepened, and he handed over the cup. "Have some warm water."

Hearing that, Rachel revealed a stunned look of disbelief.

My Mute Bride Chapter 62-"I've taken the prescription to have it analyzed. If this prescription is true, I'll let bygones be bygones." As Justin's voice fell, Rachel felt flustered.

Then, Justin glanced around the ward, where there were a few piles of fruits and flowers. "Someone came to see you?"

Rachel's heart thudded, and she tried to suppress her anxiety. My friends came by.

Justin didn't seem to think much about it as he replied, "Since you're injured, stay in the hospital for two more days, and go back when you've recuperated fully."

No need. I can be discharged tomorrow.

"Tomorrow?" Justin looked at her gauze-covered foot and said firmly, "No."

I still have to go back to work at the library.

"You don't have to worry about that; your leave is already approved."

At that, Rachel looked stunned, as Justin seemed to be different from his usual self today.

As they were talking, the sound of a door opening came from outside. "Justin, when did you arrive?"

The voice of Amber interrupted the conversation between the two people. As soon as Rachel heard her voice, her foot hurt reflexively.

Frowning, Justin questioned unhappily, "Why didn't you knock on the door?"

Amber put out her tongue at him and smiled intimately at him. "I forgot. After all, I got too excited to hear that you're here. You've been away for work for so long and didn't even pick up the phone."

Justin answered indifferently, "I was busy."

"I understand; work is important."

Amber stood in the doorway for a while, then suddenly looked at Rachel before warning her, "Rachel, you need to rest more since you are injured. Why are you still running around? Others in the hospital are talking about you."

Rachel pursed her lips and did not say a word. No wonder Amber came so quickly.

"Is there something wrong?" Justin looked at Amber.

“Can’t I look for you even when nothing is wrong?” Amber instantly turned around and pulled out a chair to sit.

“Actually, I’ve received Tina’s invitation yesterday. She’s going to be engaged at the end of this month. Justin, since you don’t have a female partner and I don’t have a male partner either, why don’t we go together?”

Hearing these words, Rachel looked upset, and she silently clenched her fists. She was very self-aware, but it was too awful of Amber to say this in front of her.

Justin glanced at her and replied, “Let Julian accompany you.”

“Why?”

“I have a female partner, so I can’t accompany you.”

Amber’s face changed, and she said sharply, “How is that possible? Who is it? Why didn’t I know about this?”

A trace of impatience surfaced on Justin’s face. Looking at Amber, he said, “Don’t you remember the engagement party of my family? Is it hard to guess who my female partner is?”

“You mean…” Amber’s face stiffened, and she subconsciously looked at Rachel. Justin actually wants to bring Rachel to attend the party?

Rachel was also surprised as she looked at them in disbelief.

Gritting her teeth, Amber still said obstinately, “She’s injured. I don’t think she can go.”

“There is no hurry. The engagement party is at the end of the month, so there is still time.”

Hearing that, Amber felt speechless. Seeing that Justin looked cold and unwilling to entertain her anymore, she suddenly thought of something and said to Rachel, “Did you tell Justin something? You got injured because you were careless and didn’t hold the cup properly. You can’t accuse me of that!”

Rachel frowned. For a moment, she didn’t know whether Amber was stupid or what. Justin’s face changed as he looked at Amber and questioned, “Her injury is related to you?”

Shocked, Amber panicked. “No, I don’t mean that. Justin, it has nothing to do with me. They wronged me! That woman even twisted my arm. I—”

“That’s enough!” Justin frowned coldly.

Seeing his expression, Amber felt despair filling her. “Justin, don’t misunderstand me. I’ll explain to you another time.”

With that, Amber glared at Rachel and then quickly left. As the door of the ward closed with a click, the room returned to silence. Whenever Justin and Rachel were alone together, they always felt that the room was extra quiet. She couldn’t talk, and she did things carefully and cautiously, as if she was always trying to make herself invisible.

“Was your injury caused by Amber?”

Rachel clutched the sheets and did not say anything; she had no intention of provoking a disagreement between them.

“You’re both daughters of the Hudson Family. Even if you are the illegitimate one, you don’t have to be so submissive.”

Looking at her unresponsive appearance, Justin coldly barked, “Did you hear what I said?”

Rachel trembled in fear and looked at Justin in trepidation.

“Your weakness and incompetence are a disgrace to me!”

When Rachel saw Justin’s irritated look, she suddenly felt that this man was not as unfeeling as outsiders said. Perhaps he just didn’t want to hurt her.

If you want, I can leave your family, and you can marry Amber.

Justin’s expression sank as he fixed his gaze on her.

It wasn’t me that you wanted to marry initially either, and you know that it was my father’s arrangement for me to stay by your side. So, instead of suspecting me of harming you all the time like this, why don’t you let me go?

“What makes you think I will let you go?”



I'm no use to you. No matter if you want to deal with the Hudson Family or do something else, Amber is more suitable than me.

Rachel was calm as she gestured with her pair of fair and slender hands. She still had a glimmer of expectation that Justin would let her go since she had no value to him, so she could leave Riverdale with her grandmother openly.

"What kind of place do you think my family is? You can come and go whenever you want?" Justin's hands pressed hard on the sheets as his tall figure enveloped Rachel in it. At that, her shoulders jerked, and she backed up reflexively.

"Let you go? Let you go so that you can remind Jefferey that I'm looking for the Hudson Family's remedy?"

I won't do that! Rachel hurriedly shook her head.

"I don't believe it." Justin stared at her coldly and continued, "I've only ever believed in things I can control in my own hands or dead people."

Taken aback, Rachel froze on the spot, unable to move.

"You'd better stay here and not make a fool of yourself. It's not for you to say which one among you is more valuable."

With that, Justin straightened up and left, banging the door as he went. As the cold wind blew across Rachel's face, she shivered. Clenching her fists, she looked in the direction of the door, her brows furrowing.

How could she forget that for Justin, she was simply a plaything in his palm and a pawn against the Hudson Family? Even if she was an unwanted child, it was impossible for him to discard her like that.

Outside the corridor, Justin looked angry. Frankie had been waiting there and spoke when he saw Justin. "Mr. Burton. Just now, Miss Amber came out crying. Is she—"

Before he could finish, Justin glanced at the door and interrupted, "Book a restaurant tomorrow and invite her out for dinner."

Frankie froze for a moment, but he did not dare to ask more. "Yes, sir."

My Mute Bride Chapter 63—"My mother is not at home today, so you can take a good rest for a day," he urged as he helped her back to her room. "Even if you are recuperating at home, you should rest well. Don't move around as your injury will take at least three to five days to fully heal."

She nodded. Thank you.

Then, Julian glanced at a figure hiding by the door before he deliberately raised his voice and added, "Some servants in the family have stayed here for a long time and have thus forgotten their identity. Although I am not the head of this house, I still have the power to dismiss servants."

The shadow at the door shifted for a moment before it was Mrs. Duncan who walked out. She sheepishly answered, "Young Master Peters, I just care about Ra—I just care about Mrs. Burton and wanted to see whether there is anything I can help with."

Julian snorted coldly. "Is that so? You're not here to spy on us?"

At that, Mrs. Duncan's face paled.

He warned, "I'm going back to work in the afternoon, so you better serve her well. If anything happens to her, my brother won't let you off the hook."

She hurriedly nodded, not daring to say anything more.

When he left, she stood in the doorway and looked at Rachel before speaking in an odd way, "Mrs. Burton, what do you want to eat tonight? I'll have the kitchen prepare it."

Rachel shook her head. I don't have much appetite. Don't mind me; just close the door for me.

"You need to eat a little. I'll have the kitchen prepare something light for you."

Mrs. Duncan's uncharacteristic manner left Rachel feeling puzzled, but Rachel thought that her behavior was a result of Julian's words just now. So, Rachel didn't think much about it.

"Please rest first and I will send up the food tonight."

Once Mrs. Duncan left, Rachel carefully got out of bed and opened her suitcase. Then, she placed the small wooden box that her mother left her into

the canvas bag she usually took with her. Rachel did not intend to bring many things with her when she left Riverdale as a little savings and her mother's items would be enough.

At night, Rachel ate some food before she felt tired. Then, she pulled the covers over her and went to sleep. At this time, the sound of an engine roared in the courtyard. It wasn't long before Amber helped Justin into the living room.

"Oh, Amber, what's wrong with Justin? Has he been drinking?" Sue exclaimed and went forward to help.

"Madam Parham, Justin seems to be drunk. I'll send him up to rest." Amber had a concerned look.

"Miss Amber, you drank a lot too. Are you alright?" Mrs. Duncan wanted to lend a hand, but Sue's glance had stopped her from doing so.

Then, Sue instructed, "Mrs. Duncan, go and search for some hangover remedy and send it up later. Amber, you should send Justin to his room. It's the second room on your left on the second floor. Don't enter the wrong room."

Amber nodded as she met Sue's gaze, trying to suppress her excitement that even her hands that were supporting Justin trembled. Sue smiled meaningfully and added, "Amber, please take good care of Justin."

"I will, Madam Parham."

After she placed Justin on the bed, Amber carefully probed him. "Justin, are you okay?"

However, Justin remained unresponsive as he lay on the bed.

Upon seeing that, she carefully removed a white paper bag from her purse before she turned her back on him to pour the substance from the bag into a cup of water by the bed. "Justin, drink some water. You'll feel better."

As he was knocked out from the alcohol, he did not react as she poured half the cup of water down his throat. After she placed the cup aside, she then climbed onto him and pulled off his shirt.

At that instance, the man's wheat-colored chest was completely exposed in front of her while his cold and handsome face was like the embodiment of desire such that she couldn't help but want to leap on him.

While Amber kneeled on his body, she began to remove her own clothes.

In his state of drunkenness, the man suddenly opened his eyes. A startled Amber paled with fear as she stammered, "Y-You're not drunk..."

In the next second, the man's gaze drifted up before he fiercely rolled the woman over and pressed her down. As his alcoholic breath came toward her, she looked into his handsome and drunk face. Suddenly, she came back to her senses and calmed down. After drinking so much tonight, how could he still be sober? Not to mention, she had given him that packet of pills!

While the man ripped her clothes, she immediately went all in. Moving around to circle the man's neck with her arms, she called out to him in a soft voice, "Justin..."

At this time in the living room on the first floor, Sue listened to the commotion coming from upstairs and she couldn't hide a smug smile. She waved her hand toward Mrs. Duncan before she said, "There's no need to send it."

Mrs. Duncan understood and placed the hangover remedy aside.

"By the way, that mute—"

"Don't worry, I've included a sufficient amount of sleeping pills in the food given to her earlier. She won't wake up tonight, so she definitely won't ruin anything."

"That's great then. This is such a golden chance, so she must not ruin it. She's just a useless mute, so how can she even begin to fight for a place in the family? Dream on," Sue snarkily replied.

She knew that Justin had invited Amber out for dinner, so she guessed that they would be intimate later at night. After all, she had confidence in Amber's wiles and tricks. All Sue needed to do was to go with the flow and take care of that mute for them.

“Madam, isn’t it a bit too risky for us to do this?” Mrs. Duncan looked concerned. “If outsiders know about this, isn’t this bad for the reputation of the Burton Family?”

Sue laughed. “Who will spread this around? Amber?”

Mrs. Duncan looked startled. “Young Master Justin will blame us for this, though.”

“What does this have to do with us? Amber was the one who brought him back and we can’t control what they do later, right? Don’t think so much about it. We didn’t do anything.” After saying this, Sue yawned and went toward the bedroom. “I’ll get a good night’s sleep tonight.”

It was already late at night, so Rachel was in a deep sleep and having a dream. Suddenly, she vaguely felt like someone had pulled her up as the cold breeze snaked into her pajamas, making her shiver and subconsciously stretch out with her hands to pull the quilt up. However, before her hand could even reach the quilt, she was pressed down and something entered her body in the next second.

“Ahhh!”

The déjà vu feeling invaded all Rachel’s limbs, causing her to cry out in pain and shock. Then, she was jolted awake from her dream and when she opened her eyes, she saw the man who was riding on her body.

Justin! How could he be here!

Cold sweat instantly broke out from Rachel’s back at that sight. She wanted to scream, but she couldn’t as she desperately tried to escape this nightmare. This must be a nightmare.

With bloodshot eyes, Justin looked like a beast that had escaped its cage and was nearly ripping her apart. No matter how she struggled, he had her in his grip. Next, the sweat slid down the scars on the man’s face and landed on her face as it mixed with her tears.

My Mute Bride Chapter 64-The next day.

“Madam! Madam, come upstairs and take a look!”

The inside of the room was dim and the curtains were drawn tight.

Rachel was woken up by the shouts outside the room. With a bang, the door of the room opened from outside. She cowered in fear before the pain on her feet forced her to open her eyes.

Sue stood at the door and with just a glance, she saw Rachel with her bare shoulders and the room was messy. She immediately became upset and scolded, "What the hell is going on?"

The room still smelled of lovemaking while the floor was scattered with women's intimate clothing. On top of that, there was blood on the sheets mixed with unknown stains too. It was not difficult to imagine what had happened in this room last night.

However, Rachel was bewildered. What happened last night? The soreness all over her body was reminding her of last night's memory. She was deep asleep when Justin suddenly barged in and tore her clothes. No matter how much she had struggled, he pounced and wrestled with her like a wild animal. As she shuddered violently, she did not dare to believe the scene before her.

"Madam, Miss Amber is still in Young Master Justin's room." Mrs. Duncan's voice came from behind Sue.

Sue glared at Rachel. "Hurry up and wear your clothes! Are you planning to show your body for the whole family to see? What a shameless thing!" With these words, Sue and Mrs. Duncan left in a hurry.

Rachel's mind went blank as her ears buzzed.

On the other hand, Amber woke up alone from Justin's bed in the master bedroom. She was unclothed while the large room was empty, save for herself.

"Amber." Sue hurriedly entered.

"Madam Parham!" As soon as Amber saw Sue, she immediately jumped into Sue's arms and cried.

"What's wrong with you?"

"I don't know, Madam Parham. Why am I here? Isn't this Justin's room? My clothes... Me and Justin..." Amber burst into tears.

Sue looked around the messy bed before she revealed a puzzled look.

"Amber, don't cry first. What happened last night?"

"I don't know; I don't remember anything!" Amber's eyes were red and tears were falling from them. "If my father knows about it, he will kill me!"

Was Amber trying to blackmail the Burton Family? As she was a sly old fox herself, Sue looked slightly contemptuous as she glanced at Mrs. Duncan.

Mrs. Duncan immediately understood and added, "Miss Amber, don't cry first. Young Master Justin went out early in the morning and he seemed to be sleeping in Mrs. Burton's room last night."

At these words, Amber's tears stopped abruptly and she looked at Mrs. Duncan incredulously.

Sue comforted Amber by patting her shoulder. "It's okay, Amber; if you can't remember it, you can slowly think about it. Go and wash up first while I'll have someone send you a set of clean clothes." After saying this, Sue waved her hand and brought Mrs. Duncan away with her.

As soon as the door closed, Sue's expression sank. "Useless fellow. She literally allowed the chance to slip away herself."

Mrs. Duncan asked, "Then, about what happened last night..."

"We won't bother with it. Let her figure it out herself." A furious Sue coldly added, "That mute ended up benefiting from it!"

Inside the room, Amber's face was gloomy. Did Justin actually sleep in Rachel's room last night?

It was noon at the headquarters of Burton Group when Justin ended his call in exasperation after he noted the number of missed calls on his phone. After a while, Frankie came in a hurry. "President Burton, Miss Amber called again. She said she wants to see you."

"Tell her that I'm not available."

"Yes, sir." Frankie nodded.

Justin had an ugly expression earlier this morning.

“Were there any other calls besides hers?”

Frankie was taken aback. “No.”

Justin’s eyebrows instantly knotted together before he threw the phone onto the table in impatience.

It was out of necessity when he used that woman to vent his desire. Last night, he wasn’t drunk at all, but he wanted to see what kind of tricks Amber had up her sleeves. However, he didn’t expect her to be so bold as to dare to drug him. However, when he woke up early in the morning and saw Rachel’s tear-stained face beside him, he suddenly felt indescribable guilt in his heart and hurriedly fled.

“Mr. Burton, if you have no other orders, I’ll take my leave first.” Frankie’s voice pulled back Justin’s thoughts.

Justin frowned and answered, “Wait. Go and find a geomancy master who can read my fortune to come to my office.”

“Huh?” Frankie froze for a moment, looking incredulous. A geomancy master who can tell one’s fortune? “President Burton, what do you want to do? I thought you didn’t believe in that.”

“Just do as you’re told.”

Frankie nodded. “Yes, I’m going.”

Justin acted in an extremely irritated manner today and several heads of departments were scolded early in the morning. Thus, it was better to talk less and just focus on work.

...

It had rained all afternoon in Riverdale and the drizzle only stopped in the evening. Mrs. Duncan knocked on the door with dinner again with a shifty look. “Mrs. Burton, dinner is ready.”

Just put it on the table, thanks.



“I don’t care when you eat the food, but I have to watch you take this medicine.”

Medicine?

Since Rachel was taken aback, she looked up and saw the box of medicine in Mrs. Duncan’s hands. Then, she noticed the label ‘morning after pills’ on it. She felt a stabbing pain in her heart for no reason, which caused her face to pale at once. If Justin didn’t want her to get pregnant, why did he treat her that way last night?

She remembered all that happened last night. In fact, compared to their wedding night, he even gave her the illusion of being gentle last night. However, at this moment, the pills told her that it was really just a mirage.

As Mrs. Duncan thought that Rachel was unwilling to take the pills, she said, “Mrs. Burton, this is not me giving you a hard time, so don’t make it difficult for me.”

Give it to me. Rachel stretched her hand out.

After she watched Rachel finishing her medicine, Mrs. Duncan was relieved and added contemptuously, “Remember to eat your food.”

Rachel did not respond as she held the cup with a gloomy face. Perhaps the pills had dissolved too quickly as she felt a burst of bitterness in her throat.

Then, the phone on the table lit up for a moment before a text message from Hans popped out. ‘How is it going? You’re discharged from the hospital and returned to the Burton Family, right?’

Rachel collected her thoughts and quickly replied with two words. ‘I’m fine.’

Then, Hans asked, ‘Grandma’s side has been arranged for. How much luggage do you have? Do you need my help?’

‘Not much; I have nothing to take with me.’

Rachel glanced at the canvas bag hanging by the door. Only her mother’s belongings and her bank card were in the bag and she needed to leave Riverdale with as little as possible, so she didn’t plan to take anything else with her to avoid alerting others to her plan.

'Okay, when you're ready to go, let me know.'

As she typed on the phone, the door opened from behind her. When she looked up, she met the gaze from a pair of narrow and cold eyes and her hands trembled. With a plop, the phone fell with a loud sound in the quiet room.

A frowning Justin looked at the floor and asked, "What are you doing?"

My Mute Bride Chapter 65-The phone on the ground was still displaying the WhatsApp screen and the light coming from the screen was piercing her eyes.

Before she could come back to her senses, Justin's long legs had already stopped in front of her before he slowly bent down.

Rachel's face immediately pale as her heart started to race.

Right when she was about to take her phone, the screen suddenly dimmed before it blinked to lock itself.

"Check whether it's still working."

As she stared at the phone that he handed her, she gingerly took it. It should be fine.

"Have you eaten yet?"

Justin's gaze landed on the table and he wasn't suspicious at all.

The dishes that Mrs. Duncan sent over were still releasing steam.

When Rachel calmed down, she placed her phone on the table with the screen facing downward and she acted like nothing happened.

Why did you return much earlier today?

Justin frowned. "What? Do you want me to come back later?"

Rachel was taken aback. That's not what I meant.

While gazing at her, he threw a document file on the table. "Take a look at this."

The black file landed on the table with a silent thud.

After she hesitantly opened the document file, Rachel's pupils constricted when she read the content of the document before her frail shoulders started trembling.

There was a sealed rune paper in a plastic bag on the first page. It was exactly the same as the one she saw in Jefferey's darkroom with detailed explanations next to the rune paper.

"Those in geomancy said that this is used to subdue vengeful souls and it has a ritual along with it. It's not easy to carry out the ritual unless you have murdered someone or caused someone's death."

Rachel's head abruptly shot up before she looked at Justin in disbelief.

"Don't give me that look. I don't believe in this, but I still find it weird that Jefferey keeps items like this in his darkroom, so I had someone investigate it to see whether we can get something. It seems like he's probably involved in your mother's death at this rate."

At this moment, Rachel's hand that grasped the document tightened to the point where the joints of her fingers turned pale.

Although she couldn't understand what the rune had meant, she knew that it wasn't a good omen when she saw her mother's tomb being chained by four crippled men in red.

Why did you help me to investigate this?

"Since we had a deal where you help me to look for the medication formula, I can assist in investigating the mystery behind your mother's death."

Her eyes darkened.

To be honest, she didn't want Justin to help her out with this.

This man was too manipulative. Even if he really wanted to lend her a helping hand to investigate her mother's death, he might end up using it as a leverage to coerce her in the future.

There wouldn't be any good ending if she were to make a deal with the demon, but she had no choice but to follow along with it.

Thank you.

Rachel felt anxious as she looked at Justin and noticed that he hadn't left.

Is there anything else?

At the same time, he was staring at the woman in front of him intently as he couldn't seem to forget about what happened yesterday night.

He had been like this for the entire day.

At first, Justin concluded that it was due to the effects of the alcohol combined with the drug that Amber gave him yesterday, but he could feel his body getting heated up the moment he saw Rachel again.

"Did you know that Amber drugged me after sending me home yesterday night?"

Upon hearing that, Rachel looked stunned before she quickly shook her head. I didn't know.

"Is that so? Are you sure that Jefferey didn't ask Amber to seduce me since he couldn't rely on you to do so?"

Amber? That's impossible. If he wanted to do that, he wouldn't have asked me to replace her as your bride.

Upon hearing that, the man's narrowed eyes became cold.

Are you sure you were drugged yesterday night?

Justin looked at her. "Why do you sound disappointed?"

At that, Rachel was taken aback before her face flushed red. That's not what I meant.

"What do you mean then?"

She took a step back instinctively. When her back was closely pressed against the back of the chair, the strap of her night gown suddenly slid off her shoulder, revealing her pale shoulder. In the meanwhile, the other thin strap of her night gown rested on her collarbone and looked like it might snap anytime soon.

His pupils constricted, causing her to anxiously pull up her strap.

“What are you trying to cover when I’ve already seen everything?”

Upon hearing that, Rachel became so embarrassed that she wanted to disappear. Still, she couldn’t help but think about what happened last night before her face blushed even more.

As he watched the woman in front of him bit her lips and sucked in her cheeks, Justin’s frown deepened.

A while later, she gasped loudly when he dragged her to the bed.

She could feel her mind becoming blank the moment her nightgown was peeled off.

...

As the sky darkened, the Burton Family’s summer villa was illuminated by yellow lights.

Tina’s outfit was in a mess as she lay on the couch while wearing her green spectacles. The television in front of her was currently playing a foreign romance movie while she was surrounded by bottles of alcohol on the ground.

‘Clang!’ The loud noise of beer bottles clashing into each other rang from the entrance of the door.

“Who said that you are allowed to drink a lot? What if someone else sees you like this?”

Jason was standing in the living room and the moment he saw her looking like she was in a mess, he was pissed off. “Don’t forget that you’re getting engaged at the end of the month!”

However, she didn’t spare him any glances before she chuckled coldly. “Don’t worry, I won’t forget about that. I’ll marry into the Hindenburg Family as you wish and help you with your business.”

“What are you talking about? Isn’t this arrangement for your own good? Noah Hindenburg is young and successful. Everyone in Riverdale will be envious of your marriage!” Upon noticing that Tina couldn’t be bothered by what he had

said, Jason dropped the topic. However, his expression turned serious. “I’m here to discuss something with you.”

“What is it? I’m listening.”

“Do not interfere with anything related to Justin.”

When she heard those words, Tina burst into laughter with an obnoxious expression.

“Are you even listening to what I’m saying?!” Jason raised his voice. “He has removed all of the men whom I’ve arranged for the project in Brentwood New City. Although he’s considered young among your generation, his connection runs deep. Try not to offend him, do you hear me?”

“Alright,” she answered nonchalantly before pulling her blanket. “I’m going to rest now. If you still want to lecture me, you can continue to do so!”

“You—”

His eyes widened in anger and he couldn’t be bothered to talk to Tina any longer when he saw her slumped state. If it weren’t for the engagement at the end of the month, he would have asked her to kneel for a few more days.

“You better behave yourself for the rest of the month! If not, that kid’s not going to make it back alive!”

The sound of the door slamming shut echoed throughout the room.

After a long while, Tina suddenly rose from the couch before she took the whiskey bottle next to her and took a huge gulp from it. Then, she aimed the bottle at the television screen in front of her.

“What a bunch of useless losers! Why can’t I offend him? So what if I do it? He can try to kill me if he can!”

The sound of the ringing phone on the table finally reached her ears after a series of crashing noises.

However, her gaze darkened upon seeing the caller ID.

My Mute Bride Chapter 66-Although it was already midnight, the bars along Riverdale’s Vista Road were still brightly illuminated by the streetlights.

“Why did you ask me out so late at night?”

Tina toyed with the wine glass on the table as she dragged her sharp nails along the surface of the glass.

Then, Amber explained, “Remember when you wanted me to investigate Henry’s current location? I managed to get it two days ago.”

Tina’s expression changed at that moment and she was becoming agitated. “Why didn’t you tell me earlier? Where is he now?”

“He’s at a factory situated in the north of Africa. That’s probably the furthest foreign factory under the Burton Group. Your father had transferred him there to be a coolie.”

“Send me his exact address.”

“I’m afraid doing that would be useless.” Amber frowned with a conflicted expression.

“What’s wrong?”

Then, she opened the gallery in her phone before she pushed her phone slowly toward Tina’s direction.

Under the illuminating bar lights, the dazzling phone display showed the image of a foreign death certificate with Henry’s name printed on it.

It was at this moment when Tina’s pupils constricted before she snatched the phone in disbelief.

“Two days ago, my men returned with the news that Henry was robbed on his way to purchase supplies and by the time those from the Burton Group found him, he was already gone..”

“That’s impossible,” Tina mumbled as her face paled. Then, she quickly contacted someone and asked with a cold voice, “Hugh, where is Henry right now?”

“I don’t want to listen to your excuses! If you don’t tell me where he is now, I’ll make sure that you won’t be working in Burton Group from tomorrow onward!”

After she heard something from the other end of the call, her gaze slowly dimmed.

She suddenly threw the phone aside in anger, which resulted in a loud crash and causing Amber to shriek before she stared at Tina in fear.

A second later, tears started to fall from Tina's eyes.

A while later, Amber composed herself before she tried to console Tina. "Tina, you have to stay strong because it's impossible for the dead to be resurrected. I feel like I'm also partly responsible for this as I shouldn't have invited you over for my father's birthday party. If I hadn't done that, Rachel wouldn't have discovered the truth and the subsequent events wouldn't have..."

Tina's eyes were red. "Rachel..."

She repeatedly mumbled Rachel's name as she continued downing shots after shots of whiskey.

An eye for an eye, Tina swore to exact revenge on those who caused Henry's death.

...

The morning sunlight pierced through the curtains the next morning.

Rachel woke up from her dream and she opened her eyes to see the repetitive patterns of the ceiling. It took her a while to recover from her daze when she heard the sound of water running down the drain in the bathroom.

A while later, she quickly closed her eyes and turned around when she heard the bathroom door opening.

The sound of soft footsteps was approaching closer toward her before the other person sat by the bedside.

"Still tired from yesterday?"

Justin's simple words had caused Rachel's eyelids to twitch before her face flushed. After she forced herself to open her eyes, she cautiously wrapped the blanket around her before she sat up.



Then, he commented nonchalantly, “I was still wondering how long you’re going to keep up the act.”

His hair was still wet as water droplets continued to drip onto his tanned chest before it fell into his towel.

As she recalled what had happened yesterday night, Rachel lost all courage to look at the man.

After wearing his shirt, Justin looked at her before he sneered, “I can’t believe you are unable to even fake being asleep. What was Jefferey thinking when he sent you over?”

With that, he rose to his feet and prepared to leave. However, a hand reached out from the blanket and grabbed hold of him.

When he turned around to see the woman, he noticed that most of her flushed face was hidden under the blanket as she stared at him with teary eyes.

A frowning Justin stared at her from above before he asked, “Do you want me to accompany you?”

Rachel immediately quickly shook her head before her slender finger cautiously pointed at his shirt.

Your shirt button’s wrong.

He was taken aback and looked down to see that two of his buttons had been wrongly buttoned, making him look disheveled.

A while later, his deep voice rang out in the room. “Do it for me.”

A stunned Rachel had no choice but to extend her bare arms and grab her blanket with one hand while she used another hand to undo the buttons on Justin’s shirt amidst his pressurizing gaze.

As he stared at her exposed bare shoulder, his dark pupils slowly constricted. “Are you taking your sweet time so that you can try to seduce me?”

Rachel paused and quickly shook her head.

I’m not.

“You’re not what?”

She followed the direction of Justin’s gaze and looked down before gasping and tightening her hold on the blanket. At this moment, her pale face went as red as a tomato before she quickly hid her face underneath the blanket.

Justin didn’t know why, but his mood brightened when he saw Rachel being so anxious.

After he buttoned his shirt again, he got up and left.

“It’s still early. You should continue sleeping if you’re still tired.”

Justin’s magnetic low voice along with a slight hint of gentleness echoed through the room.

By the time Rachel came back to her senses, he had already left. It seems like this is the first time Justin has actually spoken to me with so much calm. Is he worried about me?

She was confused.

Buzz—

The sound of the vibrating phone rang out from the side of the bed.

When Rachel saw Hans’ text messages on her phone, she quickly returned to her senses.

...

In the library, he was walking past rows and rows of bookshelves while pushing his cart, helping her to place books on the higher parts of the shelves. “Is your leg better now?”

Rachel nodded. It’s almost healed.

“How’s the packing?”

I’m almost done since I don’t have much to pack in the first place and I can leave anytime I want to. I’m just worried about Grandma.

As Nancy's condition was unstable, she might not be able to withstand the long distance travel.

Upon hearing that, Hans suggested, "I can help you with that. I have a friend who works in a private hospital and he can help you out. If you send your grandma to the hospital earlier, they can help to make your identity anonymous."

However, Rachel looked hesitant. That might not be possible. If I send Grandma over, it would be hard for me to keep it a secret. Moreover, Justin might be able to trace everything to you, so you'll be dragged into this as well.

"I'm fine with it."

No. She shook her head with determination and rejected Hans' suggestion.

Although she was fine with him helping her out with small issues, she couldn't risk having him involved in her plans.

Knowing that Rachel was a stubborn person, Hans argued, "According to what you've said, Burton Group is extremely powerful, so Justin will be able to track you down no matter where you try to escape to. If you were to bring Nancy along with you, it would be impossible for you to even leave. I swear to God—Justin will get his karma one day."

Upon hearing Hans cursing Justin, Rachel suddenly frowned.

She didn't agree with his comments about Justin. Although Justin was a fearful man, he did help her out on several occasions in the past.

"Rachel, what are you thinking about?"

I have an idea. She snapped out of her trance.

"What is it?"

He mentioned that besides those whom he can control, he only trusts those who are dead.

Hans was stunned.

As long as I'm dead, he won't try to look for me or make things difficult for Grandma.

Rachel placed the book in her hand onto the bookshelf with a calm and determined look in her eyes.

My Mute Bride Chapter 67-While Rachel was in the midst of her conversation with Hans, she felt her phone vibrating in her pocket.

Upon reading the message that she had received, she looked stunned.

“What’s wrong?”

Nothing. It’s just a spam message. Don’t you still need to provide legal aid? Go on with it, then.

Hans took a look at his watch. “Alright. We shall leave it at that for now. I’ll talk to Janice if you want to continue with your plan so that she can get someone in the system to help you out.”

After he left, she unlocked her phone again and frowned as she stared at the text.

It was a message from Justin.

‘Don’t go anywhere after work. I’ll come and pick you up.’

If it weren’t for his saved caller ID, Rachel would have had a hard time believing that this was something Justin would say.

‘I have a meeting at noon, which means I’ll get off later than usual today. So, I don’t want to bother you.’

Still, she didn’t receive any reply after sending him that text.

As Rachel was still busy with her work, she didn’t think much about it and kept her phone in her pocket.

At noon, Sandy, the library’s director, went to Rachel’s department to get a few helping hands.

“We do not have enough manpower, so I’ll need one person from your department to help attend to the guests during the meeting for these two days.”

Upon hearing that, everyone in the office looked down. It seemed like none of them wanted to do something that wasn't beneficial to them.

Why would someone want to attend to guests when they could just stay at the back and scroll their phone?

"Rachel should be the one." Suddenly, an ill-intentioned voice rang out from the corner.

A stunned Rachel looked up from her laptop.

"We are all super tired from rearranging the archives, but Rachel took a two month holiday and probably had rested well, so I think that it would be fair to get her to do it. Don't you think so as well, Rachel?"

However, Sandy frowned and interrupted before Rachel could say anything, "Adelyn, if you don't want to take the job, you don't have to make others your sacrificial lamb."

The woman who was by the corner answered with a voice that wavered, "I was just kidding."

Sandy glared at her before deciding, "Is this a suitable time to crack a joke? I've decided—you'll be the one then. Follow me."

Upon hearing that, Adelyn's expression changed.

Moments after Sandy left with Adelyn, everyone in the office looked at each other before they started to gossip.

"Didn't I mention before that Rachel has someone backing her up? Look at Miss Patterson's attitude earlier. She was obviously shielding Rachel."

"Nah. I feel like Adelyn asked for it since she shouldn't have assigned someone else to do the job that she didn't want."

"I mean, Rachel took so many days off this month and she even took sick leave for a few days after returning from her wedding leave. I heard that her husband actually contacted the manager and personally informed him about it."

"Seriously?"

“Why would I lie to you?”

Some of their gossip had reached Rachel’s ears, which caused her to frown instinctively. Still, she maintained her composure and continued her work to bookmark the overdue books that hadn’t been returned on her laptop.

Nonetheless, just because she avoided trouble didn’t mean that it wouldn’t look for her.

“Rachel.” Olivia, who was sitting right in front of Rachel, knocked at the partition between them. “It’s been a while since you got married, but we still haven’t met your husband. What does he look like? Who is he? When are you letting us meet him?”

When she recalled Justin’s face, Rachel felt her heart tightening.

He’s just an ordinary man. There’s not much about him.

“That’s impossible. Your husband has sent his secretary over to provide us with your wedding sweets after your return from your wedding leave. He even contacted the manager for your sick leave and the manager immediately gave you a month off.”

As she was aware about this, Rachel looked shocked when she heard Olivia’s words. Did Justin contact the manager to take a month of sick leave for me?

Well, he overreacted. I’m fine anyway. Aren’t I at work now?

“Still, we all want to meet him, Rachel.”

Nevertheless, Rachel knew that none of these people cared about her wellbeing after her marriage. Instead, most of them just wanted to see her making a fool out of herself.

Still, this conversation would never end if she refused to let them meet Justin.

He’s coming over to pick me up from work later tonight.

“Is that so? That’s so sweet!” Everyone in the office sounded jealous.

“He even picks you up from work!”

Rachel lightly added, You guys can meet him by then.

“Sure! We will just observe him from afar to satisfy our curiosity.”

Still, her facial expression was nonchalant and devoid of any emotions.

While the others were still gossiping, the landline on Rachel’s table rang.

“Hello? This is the file management department.”

“Rachel, I need you to come and help at the meeting room. We don’t have enough manpower right now.”

It was an internal call from the vice manager of the library.

“Miss Patterson has asked someone else to help out, though. Do you guys still need more help?”

“Oh, that’s being responsible for giving out drinks for the guests. We still need someone to serve the executives at the front row, which you’re most suited for.”

A slightly confused Rachel still agreed in the end.

It had been a while since the meeting had started and when she entered the room with a jug of water, Mr. Ronin, who was the manager, only informed that the person whom Rachel would serve was seated in the first row.

Among the midst of men in suits in the meeting room, there was a woman in a royal blue working suit who was on her feet. She had a slender body with perfect makeup and she was now currently seated in the first row of the room.

Miss Patterson pointed at that woman. “That’s the person in charge of the charity donation by the company this time.”

As the man sitting next to that woman was extremely tall, most of her figure had been blocked by him. So, Rachel was unable to see the woman well even after looking in the direction that Sandy pointed at.

“Just serve them water as you go along.”

Alright.

Rachel quickly went over with a jug of water.

As the attendees were having a short break from the meeting, the entire area was noisy as everyone discussed the new building expansion.

At the same time, she had bent down to refill the glasses of everyone in the first row before she finally reached the woman in the royal blue suit. Right when Rachel was about to refill the woman's drink, her familiar voice rang, "What a coincidence. We ran into each other again."

Rachel was shocked as she looked up to meet the woman's gaze.

It was at that moment when the atmosphere became tense.

Who else could act so obnoxious if it wasn't for Tina?

Why is she here?

Rachel felt pity toward Tina after learning from Justin that Henry had passed away. She couldn't help but wonder whether Tina was aware of the news yet.

"Is it that hard to refill my drink? Do I have to do it myself?"

Tina's voice caused Rachel to return to her senses.

I'll do it.

Rachel refilled Tina's drink before giving Tina a look that indicated that she was leaving.

However, Tina suddenly smirked and pushed the glass of beverage that Rachel had just refilled right in front of her while no one noticed.

"Hey!"

The document on the table was immediately almost drenched, which caused the planning department's executive to gasp as he stood up abruptly. "Hey, what are you doing?!"

Rachel couldn't believe that Tina would frame her blatantly right in front of everyone.

"Did you do that on purpose?" She glared at Rachel coldly with hatred in her eyes. "I can't believe that the professional qualities of an employee in City



Council Library would be worse than that of the workers in our frozen warehouse!”

Rachel’s expression froze.

My Mute Bride Chapter 68-Everyone’s gaze immediately landed on her while some of those in charge of the meeting had already headed over with some tissues to help clean up the mess.

“I’m sorry. I’m so sorry.”

“Look at this! All of our materials are soiled now.”

“Tomas, grab five fresh copies of the meeting materials.”

The spilled beverage continued to drip from the table to the ground, forcing all the executives at the first row to stand up. As a result, the scene quickly became chaotic.

When an anxious Rachel tried to grab more tissue papers from another helper to clean the table, she was stopped by Sandy. “Rachel, you can head back now. You’re not needed here anymore.”

“You can’t just let her off without getting her to apologize for causing the meeting to end up like this, can you? The library is really generous to allow someone with professional qualities such as hers to continue working here, huh? Is there even a need for an expansion at this rate?”

Although Tina’s voice wasn’t loud, her cold voice still echoed in the huge meeting room.

Rachel’s expression immediately changed before Sandy quickly came to her rescue. “Miss Burton, this is really a misunderstanding. She’s not doing it on purpose by not apologizing.”

“Can’t you let her speak for herself? Does she need others to help her explain herself?”

Sandy frowned. “Miss Burton, that’s because—”

Not wanting to cause any dilemma for Sandy, Rachel interrupted with a sign gesture. I’m sorry. I didn’t do it on purpose.

“This...” The planning department’s vice executive looked stunned. “She is...”

At this moment, everyone gave Rachel strange looks. Although it wasn’t her first time being stared at like this, it didn’t make her feel any better.

Sympathy as well as ill-intentioned looks were both humiliating for her.

“You can’t speak?” Tina gave her a side-eye before she intentionally added, “It’s my bad, then. Since everyone is raising awareness to be nicer to the disabled, my apologies to you.”

“Rachel, is it?” Tina continued her acting and glanced at Rachel’s work permit. “I’m sorry. You won’t blame me for this, won’t you?”

At this moment, a bitter smile appeared on Rachel’s face. It’s fine.

“It’s just a misunderstanding.” Sandy came to her rescue again.

After giving the crowd an apologetic nod, Rachel decided to turn and leave with clenched fists.

“Hang on,” Tina called out. “Miss Patterson, since we need to understand more about the library’s historical and cultural background, you should allow her to be in charge of providing us with guidance.”

A stunned Rachel gave Tina a shocked look before Sandy explained, “Miss Burton, Rachel has never been in charge of any foreign exchange work. Moreover, as you can see, she’s not really suitable for this job.”

“Is that so? From what I see, she’s quite suitable for it. Besides, since she has been working at the library for a long time, she should know her workplace’s historical background well, am I right?”

“Of course! No one else is better than Rachel in terms of how familiar she is with the library. She even won first place in the library’s historical quiz last year.”

Another woman’s voice rang out behind Sandy and it immediately attracted everyone’s attention.

Rachel felt her heart clenching up at that moment as her ears rang from that woman’s sharp voice. Then, she turned around to see Adelyn staring at her with a hostile look.

Sandy still wanted to defend Rachel, but the library manager shot Sandy a warning look. "Sure. Since this is someone whom Miss Burton has handpicked herself, it would be easier to communicate with each other in the future."

As Burton Group was the main donor of the library's reparation and expansion, even the executives of the planning department had to listen to Tina. Even though it was obvious that Tina was targeting Rachel, they didn't want to offend Burton Group because of an employee.

"Well, I'm looking forward to working together with you." Tina looked at Rachel with a cold glint in her eyes, causing Rachel to quiver a little.

When the meeting had finally ended, Rachel started to pack her stuff to leave the office.

Her intuition told her that Tina was up to no good after Tina selected her to be in charge of docking.

"Rachel!"

Rachel stopped in her tracks after one of her colleagues called out for her.

As she turned around, she saw Olivia, who was in the same department as her, running toward her with two more colleagues. Do you guys need anything?

"Rachel, have you forgotten that you were supposed to bring us to meet your husband after work?"

Rachel was stunned as she had completely forgotten about this.

Since I got off work late today, he won't be coming anymore, so I'm taking the subway home.

This was the excuse that she prepared beforehand.

"Huh? Why didn't you tell us about it earlier? We even waited for you for such a long time."

"Exactly! We wouldn't have wasted our time if you had told us earlier."

I'm sorry.

Suddenly, the sound of a car honking interrupted the others from complaining.

Rachel looked up to see a stationary black business car at the side of the road.

“Miss Hudson.” Frankie alighted from the front passenger seat before waving at her.

She was stunned.

Justin actually is here? I already texted him to tell him that he didn’t have to, though.

“Rachel, is that your husband?”

“Didn’t you say that he’s not coming?”

I didn’t know that he would be coming.

“That’s great. Let us meet him then!”

As she forced a smile, Rachel felt her throat becoming bitter.

I’ll ask whether he wants to see you guys.

She initially wanted to prevaricate them, but she was left with no choice at this moment.

“Miss Hudson.” Frankie quickly moved forward as he wanted to open the car door for her.

Hold on. Don’t open the car door yet.

Rachel motioned at the driver.

“What’s wrong?” Justin’s voice rang out next to her ear.

Rachel hesitated for a while before she asked cautiously, Those are my colleagues and they said that they want to meet you.

He frowned.

I’m sorry. You can just act like I never said it.

Then, she continued, Please wait for me for a bit, I'll get down and explain to them.

However, Justin reached out to grab her hand before she could get down from the car.

The moment Rachel felt his cold hand on her palm, she trembled before looking up in confusion.

However, he wasn't looking at her. Instead, he rolled the car window down.

"Are those your colleagues?" His deep voice echoed through the car.

As it was already evening, the scar on Justin's forehead made him look fierce under the streetlights, which caused Olivia and the other colleagues to shudder when they saw him. All of them looked like they had seen a ghost and none of them dared to move forward.

Rachel suddenly felt embarrassed and angry. Without waiting for Justin to say anything, she reached over him and pressed on the window button to roll the window up.

Let's go.

Upon noticing Rachel's gesture, Frankie gave Justin a hesitant look before Justin slightly nodded.

As the car drove toward the city, the view of the library slowly disappeared behind their backs.

When he observed that Rachel wasn't in a good mood, Justin asked, "What's wrong?"

However, she remained quiet for a long while.

I'm sorry. I didn't expect my colleagues to react like that.

"Are you angry on my behalf? It's not a bad thing to bring people fear."

As she paused for a moment, her confused gaze met Justin's dark gaze. He had a calm look that looked way more mature than someone of his age.

Why?

“If you are feared, others won’t try to provoke you and that will save you from a lot of trouble.”

Rachel was taken aback as she looked at Justin. With the progress of medical technology and the Burton Family’s financial resources, the scar on his face could be removed as long as he was willing to undergo the process.

So... What you’re saying is that you left the scar on purpose?

Justin then gave her a look and didn’t deny her words.

The car became quiet for a moment before Rachel summoned her courage and asked, Where did you get this scar?

Upon seeing her hand signals, the man’s gaze darkened. “Do you want to know?”

Rachel was shocked.

My Mute Bride Chapter 69-However, she shook her head after hesitating for a few seconds.

She didn’t want to know.

Her grandma had always told her that knowing many secrets wasn’t a good thing since she was young.

Still, Justin continued with his words, “It happened a long time ago.”

Rachel was slightly stunned.

His parents had passed away when he was a kid, so he had grown up with his aunt after that. It would have been fine if he came from a normal family, but he spent most of his life in the Burton Family where everyone was sly and cunning. She couldn’t fathom what he had endured while he was growing up.

Suddenly, she felt like he wasn’t as fearful as he was in the past and his scar wasn’t no longer intimidating.

Then, Justin asked, “I heard from your father that you were kidnapped as a child?”

Kidnapped?

Rachel froze for a moment before she cautiously shook her head. I don't remember much about my childhood. Why are you suddenly asking this?

"It's nothing."

He looked away before he closed his eyes while she looked deep in thought.

As to the matter of her kidnapping, Rachel had heard two completely different versions ever since she was young. According to Jefferey and the servants in the Hudson Family, she was kidnapped at birth and taken away before being stranded for eight years.

However, her grandmother had told Rachel that she had been living with her in the mountains since young.

It was impossible for her grandmother to kidnap her in the mountains, wasn't it?

Rachel suddenly thought of something.

The next day, she asked Janice to meet her at a cafe.

"One cup of latte and a cup of cappuccino, please."

"Alright. Please wait a minute."

As soon as the waiter left, Janice asked, "Hans has already told me about your plans to leave Riverdale. Have you thought things through?"

I can only leave.

"But, the risk of faking your own death is extremely high. It won't be worth it if something really happens to you."

I know, but there is no other way.

"Why exactly do you want to leave all of a sudden? Hans never said anything specifically on the phone."

Justin wants me to find a prescription for him, but I couldn't find it, so I gave him a fake one.

Rachel briefly explained to Janice about the prescription.

“Prescription?” Janice pondered. “Isn’t that considered a core secret of Hudson Pharmaceuticals?”

Yes. However, the core secret would be the dosage used since all of the ingredients in the herbal formula would be stated on the medicine box after all. What matters the most is the amount used.

“So, are you saying that even Jefferey doesn’t know the dosage?”

That’s what I’m thinking as well.

“That’s weird.” A puzzled look appeared on Janice’s face. “Since this is the Hudson Family’s core secret as well as an heirloom, how could he not know about it? Didn’t you say that the prescription is in his hands?”

Rachel looked fairly stunned.

“Think about it carefully. How did the prescription that you’ve seen look like?”

The paper is slightly yellowed and it looks like it’s generations old. It’s also written with traditional words.

Then, she thought for a moment again. Oh, the prescription is also written in a thin body with a brush.

“Are you sure that the exact dosage wasn’t stated?”

No. There weren’t even spaces for the dosage, so I’m sure that they didn’t fade over time either.

Nevertheless, Rachel couldn’t understand why Janice was suddenly concerned about the Hudson Family’s prescription. She signed in puzzlement, Why are you asking me this?

Janice immediately withdrew her serious gaze. “Hang on.”

While Rachel waited, she started to tap on her phone before she slowly pushed the device toward Rachel. “Look, do you know this person?”

The phone contained the personal information of a person with a black and white ID photo. It seemed like this file was created years ago.



The man in the file was in a military uniform. With extremely handsome features, he looked like he was in his early twenties.

Rachel shook her head in confusion. I don't know him.

She had never seen this man or this photo before.

Janice frowned. "This man is Lionel Hudson."

Rachel froze.

Lionel Hudson was Jefferey Hudson's older brother; in short, Lionel was also her uncle.

"You must have never met Lionel since he had already passed on when you were born. His death was suspected as a homicide and the police were investigating his case for a long time back then."

Rachel had heard about this case as the Hudson Family always talked about Lionel's cause of death every time his name was mentioned. Apparently, he went hiking with his fiancée and she ended up pushing him off the cliff.

Did they catch the perpetrator after that?

Janice shook her head. "The police had investigated this case for a few years, but they could never discover where that woman went. It was like she had vanished into thin air. Most importantly, the Hudson Family had done all they could to stop the police from pursuing the woman."

Why?

"You really don't know?" The way Janice looked at Rachel was odd.

I don't know.

"Lionel's fiancée, Selena Hudson, is also the adopted daughter of Old Mr. Hudson."

The Hudson Family had already lost a son and they refused to allow their family scandal to be publicized as they might not be able to suppress the news if the murderer was really Selena. The moment that the reporters were informed about this, the Hudson Family's reputation would be tarnished if the incest relationship had made the headlines.

Janice continued, "It was rumored that Selena was already pregnant when she escaped and for the child's sake, the Hudson Family only stopped pursuing after what happened. Back then, the Hudson Family was way more powerful than they currently are, so they managed to suppress the case until now."

Rachel looked helpless.

The Hudson Family indeed had lived a glorious life before Jefferey took over the Hudson Family.

I've never heard anyone mention Selena or the fact that my uncle had a child, though.

"Well, of course you never heard about it since they are both dead. After their attempt to track her for a few more years, the police finally found the bodies of Selena and her daughter."

Three sentences into the story later, three people had already died.

Rachel only felt a gust of wind from the back of her head. Why are you suddenly talking about this?

Janice gave Rachel a meaningful look. "It's because the police suspected Selena and her daughter to be the earliest kills of Gunny after tracing back to his case."

Gunny again?

Why would Gunny kill them?

"Gunny works under Jefferey. To put it bluntly. Jefferey wanted them dead."

Why?

"It's simple." Janice looked at Rachel before using her slender yet strong fingers to take the coffee that

the waiter brought over. Then, Janice took a sip from the mug with a calm demeanor.

Rachel gradually returned to her senses. Are you implying that it's for the prescription?

After all, this topic had started because of the prescription.

“Lionel and Jefferey were the only children of the Hudson Family back then. According to my understanding, Lionel had always been Old Mr. Hudson’s favorite, so the inheritor of Hudson Pharmaceuticals would have been Lionel if there were no accidents.”

Are you suspecting that Jefferey murdered Lionel because of the ancestral prescription?

“It’s highly likely.”

However, the prescription that I saw didn’t even have anything on it, not even the dosage.

Upon hearing that, Janice looked conflicted. “Rachel, have you ever thought about how this issue might be related to you?”

Rachel was taken aback. What do you mean?

“Selena and her daughter died twenty years ago and you were taken back to the Hudson Family by Jefferey at around the same time as well. Back then, he instructed for you to be taken care of, but he’s now using you without any qualms...”

You’re saying that my father did all of these because of the prescription...

Rachel felt her heart sink.

My Mute Bride Chapter 70-Rachel was confused because she had never met those people whose names Janice had just mentioned. While Rachel never thought that she had anything to do with them, she couldn’t explain why everything seemed to revolve around the prescription.

“Despite the lack of evidence to prove the connection between your return to the Hudson Family and those people’s deaths, I can’t help but think these two matters are somehow related, if we consider the timeline.” Janice then asked in a hushed tone, “Did Grandma talk to you about the prescription?”

Upon hearing Janice’s question, Rachel was stunned. When her grandma was still in the hospital, she had mentioned the prescription to Rachel, but her explanation was interrupted by other matters at that time,

No. Rachel gestured as a sign of denial.

Janice appeared to be disappointed. "It's alright. Let's not talk about it then. Anyway, I'll definitely help you to leave Riverdale. At the same time, you can be rest assured to know that I'll take care of the rest of the matters."

Thank you.

"You're welcome. Anyway, I have other matters to attend to, so I'll make a move first."

Rachel nodded as she watched Janice entering a jeep through the café window. Deep down in her heart, she felt sorry for lying to Janice although she didn't have a choice. After all, Rachel's grandma used to educate her about how words were capable of misleading people. Thus, she decided not to discuss something she wasn't sure about until she understood what was going on.

As soon as Rachel returned to the library, her colleague had informed her, "Rachel, Miss Patterson came earlier. She wants you to deliver these files to the person in charge of the engineering department in Burton Group."

Rachel was taken aback as she was reminded of her casual encounter with Tina at the meeting the day before. Alright, thank you.

It was later in the afternoon when Rachel arrived at Burton Group's lobby where she typed a few words on her phone to show it to a lady at the front desk. 'Hi, I'd like to meet Director Roland of the engineering department!

The receptionist gave her a strange look. "Do you have an appointment?"

'I'm from the City Council Library. I'm here to discuss the library's architectural history with Director Roland!

"Please give me a moment. I'll make a call right now to confirm your appointment."

Rachel nodded and stood aside to wait.

"Hello, Sandy. Someone from the City Council Library is here and it looks like she has an appointment with Director Roland... Oh, sure, I'll let her in then."

Upon hanging up the call, the receptionist turned to Rachel and said, "Alright, I've just confirmed your appointment. Please give me a moment."

'Thank you!

A few moments later, the elevator gave a short ring before someone in a pair of high heels walked out. "Nice to meet you. I'm Director Roland's secretary, Sandy Patterson. You must be Miss Hudson, right?"

Rachel responded with an affirmative gesture. Yes.

"Director Roland is still at the construction site and I'm just about to head there. Perhaps I could take you there with me?"

Rachel was stunned. If you're too busy, I can come another day.

"We're always busy in our line of work. Are you scared of going to the construction site?" Sandy knitted her eyebrows and elaborated, "Because I just received a phone call and was told that Director Roland has something rather urgent to talk to you about."

Okay then, is it far from here?

"Nope. It's not that far from here, actually. I'll drive." Sandy seemed like a nice person as she asked Rachel about the City Council Library while riding the elevator with her to the underground car park.

Soon, they hit the road as every single object outside the car window looked like they were traveling in the opposite direction at high speed. As the tall buildings in Riverdale City slowly disappeared from sight, the city view was then replaced by greenery and nature.

Meanwhile, Rachel was sitting on the front passenger seat when she took a look at her watch. Then,

she realized it was already 4 PM. We still haven't arrived there yet?

"We're almost there. This project site is the closest one to our company, in fact. The last project took us half a day for a round trip."

Upon hearing that, Rachel set her sights outside the window and wondered, We're about to arrive at the border between Riverdale and Southville. If we keep going, we'll soon find ourselves on the East Coast. After

another thirty minutes of driving, she leaned against her seat and yawned just when the car finally pulled over.

“Here we are.”

She exited the vehicle and followed Sandy when she heard the sound of tidal waves a close distance away. Oh my god! I can’t believe we’re now on the East Coast.

“This way, Miss Hudson.”

Thank you. Rachel gestured to express her gratitude and wrapped herself in her sweater before she made her way to the beach. Soon, upon the sight of a lady standing by the seaside, she froze in her tracks, as if her legs were rooted into the ground.

“We meet again, Rachel” Tina wore a dress in the color of light beige while the bodyguard who held the umbrella above their heads acknowledged Rachel with a smile. At the sight of them, Rachel suddenly had a bad feeling and subconsciously backed away.

“Here is the person whom you’ve been looking for, Miss Burton. Perhaps I’ll excuse myself then.”

“Please do.”

Rachel was left alone with Tina and her two bodyguards at that moment. Therefore, she gestured in a panicky manner and asked, What do you want?

“Relax. I just want to have a little chat with you. Look at how beautiful the sea view is.” Tina’s voice was accompanied by the sound of the rough waves, which sent chills down Rachel’s spine. “Did you know that Henry loved enjoying the sea view? In fact, he once told me that he wanted to buy a house by the

seaside and live with me there so that he could watch the sunrise every morning. It was because of this that proposed the project of building a seaside resort. This piece of land that we’re currently standing on will soon become that resort... Do you think there is a chance Henry can still see it?”

Rachel paused and expressed her thoughts with her hand gestures. He is in a better place now. May he rest in peace.

“He is dead!” Tina suddenly flipped and glared at Rachel like an angry beast. “You’re the reason why he is dead. Do you know how it feels to be dead?”

At that moment, Tina seemed like a lunatic who had just lost her mind as she had a sinister and scary look. An intimidated and frightened Rachel took a step backward as she scanned her surroundings, only to realize there was no one else by the beach.

“Restrain her!”

As soon as the two bodyguards heard those cold words, they quickly grabbed Rachel and manhandled her.

In the meantime, she violently shook her head while staring at Tina like she wanted to say something desperately. However, the voices she made were drowned by the howling sea breeze as she was taken to the seaside, leaving traces of her struggle behind her on the beach.

On the other hand, Tina followed behind them while the wind caused her hair to billow wildly in the air. “Rachel, we all have to be responsible for the mistakes we make. Did you know you took a life just because you snitched on us?”

Rachel shook her head, wishing she could just shout with her voice that it wasn’t her who snitched on Henry.

“I want to know how Henry felt before he died. I want to feel the way he did, so why don’t you tell me about it?!” Tina didn’t even bother to look at Rachel as she instructed the two bodyguards by simply moving her finger.

A second later, Rachel felt a violent force coming from behind her head, whereupon she was completely buried beneath the surface of the water. While the rough tidal waves kept hitting her in the face, her nostrils were also filled with the stench of the seawater. At the same time, she struggled with all her energy, feeling as if her limbs were about to snap, but even so, she couldn’t free herself from the two men’s strong grip.

After what felt like forever, the two bodyguards lifted her to the surface of the water. When the air she inhaled went down her throat, she couldn’t stop shaking and coughing violently, as if she was about to cough her lungs out. I didn’t do it! I didn’t snitch on you guys!

Just when Rachel thought Tina had retaliated enough, Tina raised her hands in the air and glared at Rachel to give her signal. Then, the sea water flooded into Rachel's nostrils once again. Although she could hear the sound of waves around her, she was being suffocated to the point where she no longer had the strength to fight back.