

The Divorce Prescription 1081-1090

Chapter 1081

Jonah didn't even glance at Melody again. "Take her away."

With that, the police took Melody away.

Olivia felt no sympathy for her. In her eyes, Melody was just getting what she deserved.

Olivia turned to Hailey and said, "Hailey, now that Melody's arrested, this is finally over."

Jonah nodded. "I'll have Pilsner Group's legal team file charges. Melody will never see the light of day again."

Then, he placed his hand gently on Hailey's belly. "Hailey, are you okay?"

Hailey smiled softly. "I'm fine. The baby's doing great too."

Jonah said, "You know how I was against this plan at first. You're almost seven months along. I didn't want you or the baby to get hurt."

The whole setup was Hailey's idea. Jonah had been hesitant from the start because it was too dangerous. Who knew what a twisted person like Melody might do? All he wanted was for Hailey and the baby to be safe.

But Hailey insisted, and Jonah had no choice but to support her. Together with Olivia, they played their parts perfectly and got Melody arrested.

Hailey smiled. "Melody came after me. What goes around comes around. I had to handle her myself. Olivia, thanks for everything this time."

Olivia squeezed Hailey's hand. "No, thank you. You helped me see who Melody really was. Otherwise, I might have been fooled into working for her."

Jonah said, "Alright, that's done with. Now it's time to focus on our own things." Hailey looked at him. "Our things? What things?"

Olivia stifled a laugh. "Hailey, your belly's growing every day. Of course, Mr. Pilsner wants to plan your wedding as soon as possible."

Jonah wrapped his arm around Hailey's shoulder and pulled her close. "Hailey, it's time for us to get married."

Hailey felt her heart surge with warmth. "Okay."

Hailey spent a few days resting at home, recharging her energy. Meanwhile, Jonah busied himself with wedding preparations.

That day, Jonah didn't go to the office. He held Hailey and said, wedding's coming up soon want to get your nails done

you

Hailey held out her hand. Her fingers were slender and delicate.

She usually didn't bother with manicures, but a wedding was a big deal. Of course

she wanted to look perfect.

"Sure. Let's go today," she said.

Jonah grabbed the car keys. "Alright, I'll drive you."

Half an hour later, they arrived at a nail salon. The nail artist asked, "Ms. Hailey, do you have a style in mind?"

Hailey asked, "Do you have any recommendations?"

"Of course." The nail artist pulled out a photo book, showing off different designs.

Hailey glanced at Jonah. "Mr. Pilsner, which one do you like?"

Jonah pointed to a pink design. "How about this one?"

Hailey smiled. "Perfect. Let's do that."

The nail artist nodded. "Ms. Hailey, this pink, diamond-studded design is adorable and suits you perfectly. You have such a bright and bubbly charm."

Another nail artist chimed in, "They say when you love someone, you love everything about them. Since Mr. Pilsner

loves you, he likes

type just like you."

Hailey looked at Jonah. He raised a brow but didn't deny it.

She felt her heart melt. It was true. Jonah loved everything about her. Every choice

he made carried a trace of her.

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Jonah and Hailey had been together since they were young. And now, they were finally getting married. Everything felt perfectly complete.

Two hours later, the nail artist said, "Ms. Hailey, your nails are all done. If there's anything you don't like, we can fix it."

Hailey shook her head. "No, I love them. No need to fix anything."

She turned to Jonah. "Mr. Pilsner, what do you think?"

Jonah, who had been quietly sitting on the couch reading the paper all this time, stood up at her words and came over. He took her hands gently in his and said, "They look beautiful."

Hailey smiled. "I think so too."

Suddenly, something was slipped onto her finger. As she looked down, she saw a sparkling diamond ring.

Jonah had slipped it onto her finger.

Hailey blinked. "Mr. Pilsner, what are you doing?"

Jonah slowly dropped to one knee. "Hailey, I want to propose to you."

"But you already proposed before!"

At that moment, the curtains were drawn back, revealing a room filled with flowers and twinkling lights.

With a loud pop, streamers flew, and a crowd of people stepped forward.

Hailey's parents, Aileen, Justin, Celine, Adam, Olivia, and all their closest family and friends were all there.

Everyone had gathered together.

Jonah looked at Hailey. "Hailey, I know I've proposed before, but that wasn't enough. I want to do it properly in front of everyone."

Tears welled in Hailey's eyes.

Jonah continued, "Hailey, this is our seventh year together. Thank you for coming into my life and bringing color to my dark world. You're the warmth I've been reaching for all this time love you. I want to build a family with you a home with mom, a dad, and children I want us to be happy forever. Hailey, will you marry me?"

Hailey's parents were moved, urging her, "Hailey, say yes!"

Celine and Adam smiled warmly. "Hailey, marry him!"

Aileen and Justin were the happiest of all. Aileen grinned. "I finally have a sister-in- law!"

To Aileen, Hailey wasn't just a sister-in-law-she was family that cared for her like a mother when she lost her entire family.

As Justin looked at Hailey and

Jonah his heart was full of sincere blessings. Only he knew how deeply they had loved each other

throughout their journey.

If they hadn't loved each other fiercely, they never would've come this far.

Everyone cheered in unison, "Marry him! Marry him! Marry him!"

Jonah gazed deep into Hailey's eyes. "Hailey, will you be my wife?"

Tears slipped down Hailey's cheeks. So this whole manicure outing had been a ruse. Jonah had gathered everyone to give her a grand proposal.

Through her happy tears, she smiled and whispered, "I do."

The crowd erupted, "Kiss her! Kiss her! Kiss her!"

Jonah stood and cupped Hailey's face in his hands before saying

the

sincerely "Hailey feeting you is best thing that's ever happened to me. I love you, now and forever."

He leaned in and kissed her deeply.

Hailey wrapped her arms around him and thought to herself, "Jonah, I love you too, now and forever."

Chapter 1083



Jonah and Hailey had finally reached their happily ever after.

Celine couldn't hold back her tears. Her best friend had at last married the one she truly loved.

Celine's eyes filled with tears as she clapped enthusiastically.

Suddenly, a hand reached out, offering her a piece of tissue.

Looking down, she saw five slender fingers wrapped in a crisp white shirt sleeve. On the wrist, a sleek luxury watch gleamed. The hand held the tissue out to her.

Celine looked up and saw Adam.

He had been standing beside her, and when he saw her tear up, he handed her a tissue.

In fact, Celine and Adam hadn't seen each other for several days. Adam was poisoned with Heartstring Venom. If he got too close to Celine, he would suffer unbearable pain.

Because of that, Adam and Carly were planning to get married.

Their wedding had been in the works for a long time, but even as Jonah and Hailey were about to tie the knot, Adam and Carly's wedding still wasn't ready.

It was only today, when Jonah proposed to Hailey, that Celine got to meet Adam.

Since Adam handed her the tissue, Celine reached out to take it.

"Thank you," she said politely, like she would to a stranger.

However, she couldn't pull the tissue away because Adam held onto it.

He offered the tissue but didn't let go. What was he trying to do?

Celine's long lashes fluttered as she looked up with a hint of surprise.

When she met his gaze, she looked a bit confused, and her tear-filled eyes only made her more endearing.

Adam's thin lips curved into a smile.

What was he smiling about?

Celine felt like he was messing with her. She tugged harder at the tissue, but Adam grabbed her fingers firmly.

Their

Stouched. The fine,
rainy texture and subtle
through Celine's. She was starti
Her face flushed bright red at once.

bet

Everyone was watching Jonah and Hailey, and here Adam was, messing with her. Celine quickly pulled her hand away. Forget it. She didn't want the tissue anymore.

Just then, Aileen glanced at her and asked curiously, "Celine, why is your face so red?"

Celine stammered, "I-It's just warm in here."

Aileen frowned. "But it's already fall, and it got colder today. I don't think it's warm at all."

Then, Aileen looked at Adam. "Mr. Alvarez, do you feel warm?"

Adam was wearing a
custom-tailored black suit today,
looking handsome and sharp. Every
time he showed up, he was
the
center of attention without ever trying. Content Belongs

He shrugged and smiled. "I don't feel warm either."

Celine didn't know what to say.

Aileen didn't know what was going on, but he did. The reason her face was red was because of him!

And now he was playing along?

How annoying!

Celine shot Adam a sharp glare.

The smile in his eyes deepened, soft and full of affection.

Aileen was young and had never been in a relationship, so she didn't understand much. But now, she slowly began to sense the subtle

Smistry between the two of them.

She suddenly covered her mouth and chuckled. Celine asked, "Aileen, what are you laughing at?"

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Aileen grinned and said, "Celine, I feel like a total third wheel right now. I'm just going to give you two some space."

She stepped back without waiting for a response.

Celine was left speechless.

Deep down, she felt a pang of sadness. Jonah and Hailey were finally getting married, but she and Adam were stuck. There might not even be a future between them at all.

She turned and walked away.

As Celine wandered into a quiet corridor, a low, pleasant voice called out behind her, "Celine."

She stopped and turned around to see Adam catching up to her.

He had come after her.

"Celine." Adam stepped forward.

She instinctively took a few steps back. "Don't come so close! We need to keep our distance."

Because of the Heartstring Venom inside him, the closer he got, the more pain he would feel.

Adam was the type who wouldn't cry out even when he was in pain. Since he stayed silent, Celine had no way of knowing just how much he was hurting, so all she could do was stay farther away from him.

Seeing her retreat, Adam froze in place.

There were only a few steps between them, yet they couldn't close that gap.

Celine asked, "Adam, did you want to talk about something?"

Adam hesitated. "No, I just wanted to see you."

Celine felt her heart melt. "I—"

Before she could say anything else, a familiar voice interrupted, "Adam, what are you doing here?"

Celine looked up and saw Carly approaching.

Carly had shown up unexpectedly.

Jonah had only invited close family and friends to his proposal to Hailey, yet Carly had somehow managed to show up so quickly. It was clear she had been tracking Adam's whereabouts.

Carly hooked her arm through Adam's. "Adam, why didn't you tell me you were coming here? I was looking all over for you."

Adam's gaze shifted from Celine's face to Carly's. "You need me for something?"

Carly smiled. "Of course. We're

almost married. Come with me to try on my wedding dress tomorrow. Ms. Warwick just finished making it, and I want you to be the first to see me in it."

Linking arms with Adam, Carly deliberately said those intimate words loud enough

for Celine to hear.

Adam said nothing.

Carly then turned to Celine as if she had just noticed the latter was there. "Oh, hey, Celine. You're here to Do you want to come with us

tomorrow?" Content belong

Celine's gaze grew cold. "I have plans tomorrow."

Without another word, she turned and walked away.

Carly was practically buzzing with glee. She couldn't even hide her smile. She loved getting under Celine's skin and watching her crack.

She whispered to Adam, "Why did she just walk off like that?"

Adam pulled his arm free from Carly's grip. "Carly, you know exactly why we're getting married."

Carly froze.

Adam's eyes burned cold with scorn. "So stop acting. I'm afraid if you keep this up, you might actually start to believe your own lies."

With that, he left her standing there.

Furious, Carly stomped her foot and huffed, vowing that one day she would make Adam fall in love with her.

...

Celine stepped outside, needing some fresh air.

Carly had definitely pissed her off, but the main issue was that she was feeling a bit nauseous due to her pregnancy.

She rested her hand on her rounded

belly. She was three months along

now. Because she was carrying

twins, her stomach was already noticeably bigger. fo

But like Hailey, she wore loose clothing, so no one could tell.

Celine took a deep breath and prepared to head home when suddenly a hand shot out and grabbed her arm.

Chapter 1085



Celine was startled. Who was it?

As she turned around, Adam's handsome face filled her vision.

He had chased after her again.

Immediately, she tried to pull her arm back. "Adam, what are you doing? Let go."

Adam frowned. "I'm not letting go."

Celine shouted, "Let me go! Ah!"

Without warning, Adam lifted her onto his shoulder.

She panicked. She was pregnant, after all. Struggling fiercely, she yelled, "Don't carry me like that! Let me go, Adam!"

Noticing her resistance, Adam quickly adjusted how he was carrying her. He cradled her in his arms and brought her to his luxury car. After opening the back door, he gently settled her inside.

Celine tried to get out, but Adam climbed in after her and grabbed her firmly. "Celine, stop it."

She paused, then looked at him. "Adam, you're the one who should stop this." With a strong pull, he drew her into his arms. "Celine, it's okay. I'm not in pain."

He said he wasn't in pain. How could that be?

Celine knew he was lying. The pain from the Heartstring Venom was beyond human endurance. It was pure torture.

Anne had learned this witchcraft from Yoruzen, and Celine hadn't found a way to break the venom in such a short time.

Falling back into his embrace, she caught that crisp orchid scent on him. The smell was both familiar and strangely distant.

She placed a hand against his chest. "Adam, nothing is more important than your life. I want you to take care of yourself—"

Before Celine could finish, Adam pressed his lips to hers, sealing her unfinished words inside that kiss.

Celine's eyes widened. "Ada—"

As she tried to speak, Adam deepened the kiss with fierce determination.

His breath overwhelmed her senses. She wanted to pull away, but there was nowhere to run.

Celine felt her body go weak. While she could keep her mind clear, her

bodinctive reactions w

completely beyond her control.

She still loved Adam's touch. She loved being close to him.

They already had a daughter together. Adam knew exactly how she'd react.

He slipped his arms around her waist and lifted her to sit on his lap

Still kissing her, he reached for the buttons of her blouse.

Celine jolted, and her clarity returned. She quickly grabbed

in an

his hand "Adam what

"Adam what are you

Are you crazy? don't want

it!"

Are you crazy bedel

Adam looked at her flushed face and her beautiful eyes, which glimmered with a hint

of desire. "Are you sure?"

"Yes!"

"But your body says otherwise."

Adam kept undoing her buttons.

Celine said firmly, "Adam, let go. We're in a car. What exactly do you think you're doing?"

Adam asked, "Celine, don't you miss me? Answer me."

Did she miss him?

Celine knew that he meant "miss" in a physical sense. Her face flushed even deeper. "I don't!"

"But I do! Celine, I miss you so much."

Adam lifted her by the waist and pressed her down against him.

Celine's hands gripped his suit tightly, tugging the smooth fabric into wrinkles. "Adam, let me go!"

"I'm not letting go," he murmured before he kissed her again.

Soon, a knocking sound echoed. Celine turned to see Carly standing outside the car.

Carly had come after Adam and was now tapping on his car window.

"Adam, Carly's here," Celine said.

Adam didn't even look at Carly. "Don't mind her."

"But she's just outside."

"She can't see anything from outside. If she wants to knock, let her knock."

Carly had indeed followed Adam. She couldn't stand his coldness toward her. When she chased after him, she spotted his car and immediately tapped on the window.

Even after knocking for a while, there was still no response.

Carly knew Adam was inside. The only explanation was that he was deliberately ignoring her.

She pulled out her phone and dialed Adam's number.

Inside the car, Adam's phone rang.

Celine immediately pushed him away. "Adam, Carly's calling you. Answer it."

"I don't want to answer," he said.

"If you don't, she'll keep calling."

Celine knew Carly well. If Adam didn't answer, Carly would keep calling nonstop.

After a while of no response, Carly began to suspect something.

She wondered what Adam was doing alone in the car. He wasn't answering and hadn't driven away. What exactly was going on?

Carly suddenly thought of Celine. Was Adam with Celine?

Carly quickly found Celine's number in her contacts and called it.

Celine's phone immediately rang inside the car.

Celine wasn't surprised at all. She pulled out her phone. "If you don't answer, Carly will just call me."

As Adam looked at Celine's flushed face from their kiss, he felt nothing but annoyance for Carly. "I'll have someone deal with her."

"Adam, you're poisoned with the Heartstring Venom. You can deal with Carly this time, but what about next time? Let's not meet again," Celine said calmly.

Adam pressed his lips into a thin, hard line.

"Have someone deal with Carly first, then I'll get out of the car. Don't let her see us together," Celine said.

Adam chuckled softly.

"What's so funny?" Celine asked.

"Why can't we let Carly see us together? She's outside, isn't she? I'll show her right now."

As he spoke, he reached out and rolled down the car window.

Celine felt her heart sink. She hadn't expected Adam to be so reckless as to roll down the window right in front of her without even giving her chance to stop him.

Celine quickly crouched down and hid in the corner, curling up by Adam's legs. She looked up at him with a sharp glare.

Adam looked at Celine, and suddenly his mood lifted. It almost felt like they were having an affair.

The window rolled down completely, and Carly smiled sweetly at the sight of Adam. "Adam, why aren't you answering my calls?"

Adam glanced at her briefly. "What is it?"

Carly asked, "Can I get in the car?"

Carly wanted to get in?

Celine reached out and grabbed Adam's pants, shaking her head. She didn't want Carly in the car.

She was curled up by his legs, her gaze pleading. The sparkle in them made it impossible for Adam to resist. His throat tightened.

"No," he retorted.

Carly's smile froze. "Adam, we're about to get married. Why are you being so cold to me? Do you

remember when we were datingnet

We had our happy times together! You wanted! me so much back then. My biggest regret now is not giving myself to you then."

Chapter 1087

Celine stayed tucked in the corner. Her lashes fluttered at Carly's words, and she looked up at Adam.

He lowered his eyes and looked at her with an intensity that was impossible to ignore.

Their eyes met.

"Adam? Adam, are you listening to me?" Carly called out.

Adam's voice was cool as he replied, "I've forgotten about the past. Don't bring it up again."

"Okay, then let's talk about now. How about I come over tonight?"

As Carly said that, she straightened up. She was dressed in a designer dress today. She had trained as a dancer, so her movements were naturally graceful, and her features were equally delicate.

"You and Celine are over. Don't you miss me?"

Carly had dated Adam before, so she knew him well. Adam was a man with normal desires, and strong ones at that.

Feeling awkward, Celine honestly didn't want to hear any of this.

Even though Adam had decided to marry Carly, hearing this stuff with her own ears was hard for her to swallow.

Adam's face was unreadable. "I'm busy tonight. I have to work."

Carly looked disappointed. Adam rejected her again. She tried to hold on.

"Adam, I

He interrupted, saying, "Carly, I already agreed to marry you. Don't cling to me so much. It annoys me."

"I get it, Adam. I'll leave now."

With that, Carly turned and walked away.

Adam rolled up the window. As he glanced down at the figure curled by his legs, he smirked. "Carly's gone. You can get up now."

Celine sat up and reached for the door. "Bye, then."

But just as her hand touched the door, Adam's hand caught her waist and pulled her back.

She tumbled onto his lap and into his arms.

Adam looked at her. "What's wrong? Are you mad?"

It would've been fine if he hadn't said

anything, but once he did, Celine

couldn't keep a straight face. Still,

refused to admit it

mad." .

not

"You're not mad? Little liar."

Celine met his gaze. "I told you, I'm not mad. What right do I have to be?"

Adam held her close. "Nothing happened between Carly and me."

Celine scoffed. "That's only because she didn't want to. Otherwise, you two would've already done it."

The jealousy in her words surprised her.

Adam chuckled.

Celine glared at him. "I hit the nail on the head, didn't I? Now you're using laughter to cover it up?"

He raised a brow. "What is there for me to hide? Carly and I dated."

"Yeah, and you even asked to sleep with her, but she said no."

Celine and Adam already had a daughter together, so she knew his desires were

intense. When he wanted to be intimate, he couldn't hold back.

Adam was the classic powerful CEO type with wealth, status, and influence. Women were ne

necessary

part of his life, and he was picky. He had to genuinely like them

If he didn't, even one glance felt like too much.

Such a man was irresistibly alluring.

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Adam's smile didn't waver as he hugged Celine tighter. "Celine, I thought Carly as you back then. Besides, she wanted to give herself to me, but I didn't agree."

Celine didn't buy it. "I don't believe you."

Adam cupped her cheek. "You look so cute when you're jealous."

Celine snapped back, "Who's jealous? Let go of—"

Adam pulled her closer and kissed her.

She couldn't push him away. Still annoyed, she bit his lip hard.

Adam winced in pain. "Are you a puppy? Why are you so into biting?"

"If you don't let go, I'll bite you again," Celine warned.

Chapter 1088

Adam shifted his position and pulled Celine onto his lap to straddle him. "I'm not scared of pain. If you want to bite me, then bite me."

He kissed her again.

Celine felt her whole body go weak. The moment he started unbuttoning her clothes, she pushed him back. "No!"

Adam looked at her with a deep, heated stare. "Don't say no to me."

Celine was worried. "Your body..."

"If you're that worried, then stop wasting time. I've been wanting this for a long time."

Celine hit his chest. "So you came looking for me just for this?"

"Yes. Is there a problem?" he asked.

She tried to hit him again, but he caught her in another kiss.

Then, Celine suddenly remembered she was pregnant. She knew being three months along meant it was safe, but she still worried he might get too rough.

She pressed a hand on his shoulder. "Wait."

Adam kissed the tip of her nose. His voice was low and rough as he asked, "What now?"

"Don't be too rough," she replied.

Adam smirked. "Since when did you get this delicate?"

"If you don't agree, then forget it."

"Okay, I promise. I'll say yes to anything right now. Celine, kiss me."

He waited for her to respond.

Celine wrapped her arms around his neck and kissed him.

Celine didn't know how much time had passed when she finally collapsed against his chest, covered in a light sheen of sweat. Adam's shirt was rumpled, and his breathing was still unsteady.

Neither of them spoke. That quiet embrace after their passionate moment felt more precious than anything else.

After a while, Celine said, "I need to go."

Adam kissed her forehead. "I'll take you home."

She refused. "No need for that. We've already been together for a long time tonight. I really need to go."

Adam pulled her close. "Celine, I want to take you home and fall asleep with you in my arms."

Her chest tightened. As long as the Heartstring Venom in Adam wasn't cured, there was no chance for them.

The happiness they just shared now brought just as much pain.

Celine pushed him away and bent down to grab her clothes.

But

herm was faster. He picked up

her clothes first and gently helped her get dressed He brushed her hair aw

from her neck and zipped her

dress up carefully.

fo

Celine felt a small discomfort in her stomach and instinctively placed a hand on her slightly rounded belly.

Adam pressed close from behind her. "What's wrong with your stomach?" She didn't want him to know she was pregnant, so she shook her head fast. "Nothing."

"Then why are you holding your stomach?"

Adam placed his hand on her belly and gently rubbed it a couple of times before saying, "Celine, Kol gained some weight havent you?"

She had felt touched at first, since it was technically his and the twins' first contact.

But that warm feeling died the moment he asked that snapped her head toward him el:

"You're the one who gained weight!"

Adam laughed while still touching her stomach. "I'm serious. You've got a bit more here."

He even pinched the soft spot on her belly.

"Stop that! What are you doing?" Celine smacked his hand away.

Adam pulled her into his arms and buried his face against her neck. "Celine, come home with me."

Chapter 1089

Adam still wanted to take Celine home.

Celine reached out and wrapped her arms around him.

He tightened his embrace, as if he wanted to crush her into his very bones and never let her go again.

However, they had to part. She couldn't go home with him.

He might throw caution to the wind and come to her, but she couldn't watch him spiral down like that.

Celine said, "Adam, I'm leaving."

She let go of him, opened the car door, and left.

"Celine!" Adam called after her as he climbed out of the car.

But Celine didn't stop. She kept walking without looking back.

Adam lowered his gaze and leaned wearily against the car. He took out a cigarette and lit it.

Just then, Leo walked over. "Mr. Alvarez, where should we go now?"

Instead of answering, Adam took a slow drag from his cigarette and exhaled.

On her way home, Celine received a call from Bella.

Bella's voice was soft and sweet as she called out, "Mommy."

Celine was very grateful to Grace for taking care of Bella during this time. Grace doted on Bella, and the two got along so well, which gave Celine and Adam some much-needed space.

Hearing Bella's voice made Celine's heart melt. "Bella, do you miss me?"

Bella nodded. "I miss you and Daddy, but Grandma said you two are busy, so I'm being a good girl."

Such good genes and such a sweet daughter. This was one of the reasons Celine was willing to have twins.

Celine smiled. "Oh, sweetie. What are you doing now?"

"I already took a bath. Grandma is telling me a bedtime story, and I'm getting ready for bed."

"Alright. Goodnight, Bella."

Just then, Grace's voice came through the phone. "Celine."

"Yes, Mrs. Alvarez."

Since Celine and Adam weren't married yet she still addressed.

Grace

as Mrs. Alvarez, even though they were connected ella.

Grace said, "Don't worry, Celine. I'll take care of Bella."

"Thank you, Mrs. Alvarez."

"Celine, make sure you're getting enough rest. How's the baby?"

Bella cheered happily. "I'm going to be a sister!"

Celine smiled. "The baby's fine. I'm a doctor, so don't worry."

"That's good to hear."

Grace actually wanted to say

something more, but after a

moment

hesitation she! held

back. "Celine, get some rest, alright

Celine smiled. "I will."

When they hung up the phone, Celine had already arrived at her villa and noticed a Maybach parked in front.

Who could it be?

She walked up and was surprised to see a familiar figure.

"Nathan!" she called out.

Nathan turned around and smiled when he saw her. "Celine, it's been so long."

Adam's good friend, Nathan, had actually returned from overseas.

Back then, Nathan had no idea that Celine and Adam were married. He had always liked Celine.

After she got together with Adam, Nathan went abroad. Later, Celine heard that he had entered into a family-arranged marriage.

But he was suddenly back now.

Celine was genuinely surprised. "Nathan, why are you back so suddenly?"

Nathan wore a khaki trench coat, looking refined and handsome. He smiled. "What, you don't welcome me?"

Celine didn't have many friends, and Nathan was one of the few.

Nathan and Adam both came from powerful families. While Adam embodied the cold, domineering CEO type, Nathan had always had the refinement of an heir from a prestigious family

Chapter 1090

Celine smiled sincerely. "Nathan, welcome home."

"Thanks," he said.

"I heard you got married. Is your wife not coming back with you this time?"

Celine had always been curious about Michelle Landon. Rumor had it she was a textbook society heiress.

Nathan let out a short laugh. "Celine, do you have to poke where it hurts? There's nothing between me and my wife."

"You two could still fall for each other later," Celine suggested lightly.

Nathan could only give a helpless smile. "Have you eaten? Let me take you to dinner."

"Tonight's on me. You're just back in the country. Let me welcome you properly," Celine said.

Nathan walked ahead and pulled the car door open for her like a gentleman. "After you."

At that moment, Adam was still leaning against his car, smoking, not planning to leave.

Leo answered a call. "Okay, got it."

He then looked over. "Mr. Alvarez, we just received word. Nathan is back."

The movement of Adam's hand stilled. He looked up. "He's back? And he didn't tell me?"

As close as they were, Nathan returning without informing him made no sense.

"Mr. Alvarez, there's one more thing," Leo said, hesitating.

Adam frowned, noticing Leo's hesitation. "Just say it. By the way, where did Nathan go?"

"Mr. Lynch went to see Ms. Tate!" Leo said.

What? Adam's tall, sharp frame went rigid. He knew Nathan well. He knew exactly how Nathan felt about Celine. Two best friends fell for the same woman, and the first thing Nathan did after landing was look for her.

"Where are they now?" Adam asked.

"They're having dinner at a restaurant," Leo said.

Adam said nothing, but the

temperature around him seemed to drop to freezing. Lee was so scared that he actually held his breath.

Things between him and Celine were already strained. Nathan showing up now felt

like someone slipping in to take his place.

"Mr. Alvarez..."

Before Leo could say another word, Adam had already flicked away his cigarette and pulled the car door open.

"Mr. Alvarez, your body..." Leo reached out anxiously.

Adam took out a small bottle of pills. "I have painkillers."

With that, he said nothing else and drove off.

...

Celine and Nathan arrived at the restaurant and settled into a private room.

"How have you been?" Nathan asked.

"I've been good," Celine said with a faint smile.

"I heard things ended between you and Adam. He's already preparing to leave. Hampton. And you're saving you've been good?" Nathan replied.

Celine's hand paused slightly around her spoon. "You already knew about that?"

"Of course. News like that travels. Even overseas!" Nathan said.

There wasn't much Celine could say to that.

Nathan added, "Since you and Adam are done, does that mean I finally have a chance?"

Celine's long lashes trembled. She couldn't believe he was really saying that. She felt awkward.

"Mr. Lynch, you haven't met my daughter, Bella, have you?"

"I'd love to. I'm sure she'll like me. I'm very patient!" Nathan replied.

Celine had hoped bringing up Bella would scare him off, but Nathan only doubled down. Apparently stepping in as a stepfather didn't bother him at all. She had no idea how to respond now.

Just then, the door to the private room swung open, and Adam walked in.

"What are you two talking about?"