

Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It #Chapter 140: Yara Lockwood Claims to Be the Young Master's Guardian? - Read Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It Chapter 140: Yara Lockwood Claims to Be the Young Master's Guardian?

Nathaniel Sloan picked up his phone. Looking at the unchanged screen, he furrowed his brows slightly.

"Nathaniel, you're back."

Rose Lowell flashed a fawning smile, her words clearly trying to play matchmaker. "The doctor said Noelle needs to get more sun, and the weather happens to be lovely right now. Nathaniel, why don't you take Noelle out for a walk?"

Nathaniel gave her a lukewarm glance. "The hospital provides caretakers."

Rose's expression stiffened.

How could those lowly hospital caretakers possibly be worthy of serving Noelle?

"Nathaniel, you can't say that. Noelle... Noelle is still sick..."

Nathaniel lifted his eyelids slightly. "I am not a doctor."

Rose's face paled. She opened her mouth but didn't dare say another word.

"Mom, it's okay." Noelle Lockwood feigned a gentle demeanor. "I'm already more than satisfied that Nathaniel could come see me. He's so busy, I couldn't possibly delay his work."

She turned back to him, masking her sorrow with a strong, brave smile. "Nathaniel, if you have things to do, go ahead. I'll be fine on my own."

Anyone who saw her pitiful state would feel a pang of sympathy. Yet, Nathaniel didn't spare her a single glance, turning and leaving without a shred of hesitation.

The doctor standing nearby felt truly aggrieved on Noelle's behalf. "Miss Noelle, engaged couples need to spend time together. You're currently ill, how could Mr. Sloan just..."

Noelle shook her head gently. "It doesn't matter. Like you said, doctor, we're engaged. I have to be considerate of Nathaniel."

The doctor frowned. "Does Mr. Sloan really have something so urgent that he doesn't even have time to accompany his sick fiancée?"

Noelle's cheeks flushed. She said shyly, "Nathaniel's work has always been demanding, but I'm used to it. It's fine. As long as he's doing well, I'm happy."

The doctor sighed. Miss Noelle was truly gentle and kind. Little did she know, if a man couldn't even be bothered to accompany his partner when she was sick, it only proved

he didn't care enough!

If it was genuinely for work, that was one thing, but he feared it was something else.

"Miss Noelle, whoever marries you will be the luckiest man alive!" the doctor flattered.

"Let me help you out for a walk."

Noelle smiled softly, accepting the praise. "Thank you, Dr. Walsh."

Later, at another wing of the hospital.

Estelle Lockwood rushed Christian to the nearest doctor. After an examination, the doctor reassured her, "He's fine. He just got too emotionally worked up."

The pediatrician gave Estelle a sympathetic look. "Parents always get too nervous. I'll prescribe some medicine to soothe his nerves."

Estelle breathed a sigh of relief. She had indeed been far too tense. Although she specialized in psychology, the medical fields were interconnected; she knew how to make basic diagnoses herself. But whenever it involved Christian, all her rationality flew out the window.

"Is your name Yara?" the doctor asked, suddenly surprised as he flipped through some files. "During that parent-child event at Crestfall Kindergarten a while back, the final paternity test was done at our hospital. I remember you."

Estelle froze.

That paternity test. Zachery had wanted to tell her the results at the end, but before he could finish, Chapman had interrupted him.

But that wasn't a big deal, was it?

The doctor spoke before she could ask. "You and your son are indeed biologically related. There's no doubt about that, however..."

The doctor frowned slightly. "When the kindergarten semester first started, we conducted medical checkups for every student. The Zachery Lockwood who did the paternity test with you and the Zachery Lockwood from the start of the term are not the same person. However, they must be biological brothers."

Estelle was completely stunned. What? What did he mean the two Zacherys weren't the same person? What did he mean Zachery had a brother?

The doctor was about to get up and fetch the files when, right at that moment, a shrill female voice rang out from behind her.

"Yara?!"

Rose scowled in disgust. With one hand on her hip and the other pointing fiercely at Estelle's nose, she snapped, "Why are you here? Noelle is already sick, and you still won't let her off, will you?!"

The news that the famous superstar Noelle Lockwood was at this hospital had already spread like wildfire. Seeing Noelle's mother pointing and screaming at another woman, the surrounding crowd instinctively looked over.

Estelle replied nonchalantly, "Do you own this hospital?"

Rose was furious. "How dare you twist the truth! You chased Nathaniel here, didn't you? You found out Nathaniel was visiting Noelle and got jealous, so you stalked him all the way here!"

"Can you have some shame as the mistress? Our Noelle and Nathaniel are a match made in heaven. If it weren't for you, they would have been married ages ago!"

"Noelle is sick! What is a mistress like you doing at her door? Are you trying to provoke Noelle into an early grave?!"

"What's going on? Mrs. Lockwood, who did you say this is?" As they spoke, Dr. Walsh supported Noelle as they walked over to Rose's side.

Rose let out a vicious snort. "Who else could it be but a certain shameless little tramp! She called Nathaniel first thing this morning, which is why he completely disregarded his sick fiancée..."

Stopping abruptly, Rose feigned a look of having slipped up. "I didn't say anything!"

Dr. Walsh had already caught on, his anger flaring. "What? Mr. Sloan didn't leave for company business, but for this mistress?! Miss Lockwood, you were actually covering for this mistress just now? I truly believed Mr. Sloan was just so busy he didn't have time for his sick fiancée. Turns out he went to keep his mistress company!"

Noelle looked helpless, shaking her head desperately. "No, Dr. Walsh, please don't say that. Yara was just acting on impulse, she didn't mean to..."

"Enough, Miss Noelle. You are simply too kind!" Dr. Walsh sighed heavily. "That's why this mistress dares to boldly show up and force your hand. She knows you have a heart condition and is still acting this arrogant. Isn't she just trying to trigger a fatal attack?!"

Estelle narrowed her eyes. How could this hospital let just anyone become a doctor?

Dr. Walsh hadn't bothered to lower his voice. Coupled with Rose's previous remarks, the bystanders immediately connected the dots. A mistress had come right to the hospital to aggravate the sick, legitimate fiancée?

"I heard Noelle Lockwood almost had a heart attack last night. She's already this sick, what kind of evil intentions does this mistress have?"

"This is honestly the first time I've ever seen such an arrogant mistress!"

"Miss Lockwood is still sick in bed, yet Mr. Sloan got called away by a single phone call from his mistress. My God, she's so pitiful!"

"I heard this mistress has a lot of tricks up her sleeve. She's got Young Mr. Sloan so brainwashed he doesn't even recognize his own biological mother..."

"Oh, I remember now! The kid Yara brought in earlier, isn't that Young Mr. Sloan? She even claimed to be the young master's guardian!"

"Wow! She must be absolutely crazy to climb the social ladder!"

Noelle stumbled back half a step, tears suddenly spilling from her eyes. "Yara..."

Her frail appearance made the crowd's hearts ache for her even more.

Estelle let out a mocking sneer. Noelle was a superstar for a reason. In just a few short

sentences, she had completely twisted the truth. She was such a habitual liar that she could spout falsehoods without even blushing.

"ARGH!" The more Rose thought about it, the angrier she got. If Yara hadn't meddled, Noelle and Nathaniel would probably be married by now!

Seeing Noelle's tears, blood rushed to Rose's head. Without a second thought, she lunged forward and swung her hand to slap Estelle across the face. "You bitch, I'll teach you to seduce my daughter's husband—"

However, in the very next second, someone clamped down on her wrist with a vice-like grip!

Nathaniel stood protectively in front of Estelle. He had caught Rose's hand mid-swing and twisted it fiercely.

"AH—AHHH!" Rose instantly squealed like a slaughtered pig.

Tip: You can use left, right, A and D keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It #Chapter 141: "I was already married seven years ago. - Read Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It Chapter 141: "I was already married seven years ago.

Silence fell over the surroundings. Estelle Lockwood turned her head instinctively, her thoughts scattering for a second. Nathaniel Sloan?!

"Who do you think you are? How dare you stop me from teaching this mistress a lesson! Let me—"

Rose Lowell hurled abuse, but upon seeing who had intervened, it was as if an invisible hand had clamped around her throat. She swallowed the rest of her words forcefully.

Nathaniel Sloan lowered his cold eyes slightly. "Is this Mrs. Lockwood's upbringing?"

Rose's face flushed a deep crimson. The pain in her wrist made her grit her teeth, her features twisting into a fierce grimace.

"Nathaniel." Noelle Lockwood's expression shifted slightly, tears welling in her eyes. "My mom was just a little too impulsive just now. I apologize to Yara. Could you let go of my mom first, please?"

Nathaniel released his grip. His gaze, heavy with oppression, swept slowly over Noelle. "Impulsive?"

He wasn't deaf to the slurs Rose had just spewed. How could they have the audacity to blame such physical aggression on being merely "impulsive"?

Noelle bit her lip, her eyes rimmed red. She wore an expression of forced restraint, looking as though she had suffered some monumental injustice.

"I'm sorry, I'm truly sorry... My mom was just worried that my body wouldn't be able to

handle the shock. So, seeing Yara, she inevitably got a little too agitated."

Estelle's gaze flickered. Noelle's words carried a heavy implication. What did it mean that seeing her would make her mother worry about Noelle's health? She was simply playing the innocent victim to tell everyone that Yara's presence upset her and worsened her condition. With just a few simple words, her manipulative act was on full display.

Estelle was just about to speak when Nathaniel flatly retorted, "Your ward is over ten floors away from here. If you know your body can't handle the shock, why did you go out of your way to shove yourself in her face?"

Noelle's expression stiffened. Tears instantly sprang to her eyes, leaving her on the verge of weeping. "Nathaniel, I didn't mean it like that, I just..."

She choked on a sob at this point, forcing out a frail smile as she turned to look at Estelle. "Yara, I didn't expect you to be here just now. I haven't even had the chance to say hello."

The crowd was entirely stunned! Just how shameless was this Yara for the rightful partner to act so subserviently toward a mistress like her?

Estelle's eyes rippled with amusement, one eyebrow raised slightly. She knew exactly what Noelle was trying to do. It was nothing more than her usual trick—acting utterly humble so onlookers would think Estelle was the unreasonable one. Since Noelle insisted on branding her with the label of a homewrecking mistress, it would be a shame not to live up to the insults she was taking.

Estelle smoothed her hair, speaking lightly. "Well, it's not too late to say hello now. Go on."

The smile on Noelle's face was struggling to hold on. She was mocking Yara! Didn't this bitch hear the sarcasm? How could she have the nerve to accept it!

"Yara, you really know how to joke..."

"It's not really that I love making jokes." Estelle remained completely unfazed. "After all, Miss Lockwood crossed two inpatient buildings and came all the way to the pediatrics department just to say hello to me, despite being sick. It would be utterly unreasonable not to let you give your greeting."

She paused, casting a meaningful look. "Mr. Sloan, wouldn't you agree?"

Nathaniel nodded apathetically. "If that's the case, then give her your greeting."

Noelle's expression froze. Her face turned pale as she looked at Estelle unwillingly. With so many people present, Nathaniel actually refused to give her any dignity!

"Mr. Sloan, isn't this a bit too much?" Someone nearby couldn't stand watching any longer.

Yara was acting so outrageously. They originally thought Mr. Sloan had stepped in to protect Miss Noelle, but to their surprise, he was actually defending the mistress right in front of his fiancée! Meanwhile, Noelle hadn't done anything wrong, yet she was forced to endure such humiliation. She was still sick, and even after seeing her partner

protect the mistress, she couldn't say a word and could only weep in silence.

The person who spoke couldn't help but frown. "Mr. Sloan, your own fiancée is being provoked by a mistress, yet you're actually taking the mistress's side. What kind of logic is that? Miss Noelle loves you so much. Do you think it's fair to treat her this way?"

Another voice from the crowd began to sneer at Estelle. "She's pretty enough, but who would've thought she'd have such a venomous heart? If I were the real partner, I'd die of anger!"

"Exactly! Being sick and getting provoked by a mistress... it's suffocating just thinking about it..."

Noelle's gaze shifted slightly, her complexion improving a little as a flicker of gratification flashed through her eyes. Yes, this was exactly it. It would be best if they cursed Yara so much that she'd never dare step out of her house or show her face in public! After all, this was exactly how Estelle had been verbally abused into a mental breakdown in the past, wasn't it?

The mere thought brought Noelle immense pleasure. Back then, even if Estelle had married Nathaniel, what good did it do? No one recognized her status. Whenever she came looking for Nathaniel, she would be chased out and labeled as the mistress, while Noelle, on the other hand, would forever hold the title of Nathaniel Sloan's fiancée. Curse her! The harsher these people cursed her, the better!

"Miss Noelle, don't be afraid. We all support you! You absolutely cannot show a mistress any mercy. Otherwise, if she's provoking you now, what will you do later when she gets pregnant and shows up at your door to force you out?"

"Mr. Sloan, Noelle has been by your side for so many years. As her fiancé, you need to take some responsibility!"

Rose also chimed in with a timely reminder. "Nathaniel, Noelle saved your life back then, after all..."

Noelle exchanged a glance with Rose, adopting an appearance of total frailty. No matter what, she was Nathaniel's lifesaver. With things pushed to this point, Nathaniel would have to acknowledge it whether he wanted to or not!

Thinking of this, Noelle smiled shyly. "Thank you all for your kindness. I believe Nathaniel will eventually figure things out. Nathaniel, let's..."

"Noelle Lockwood." Nathaniel suddenly cut her off, narrowing his eyes. "It turns out the title of my 'fiancée' is so incredibly useful. But... are you?"

An overwhelming silence descended upon the hospital corridor. The crowd seemed entirely unable to comprehend the meaning behind his words.

Rose was the first to react. Her expression shifted sharply as her eyes darted around. "Na-Nathaniel, what are you talking about? How could Noelle not be your fiancée? Back then... back then, your parents had already agreed to it! Are you abandoning Noelle for this woman? Oh, my poor daughter!"

Noelle couldn't hold it in any longer. She covered her lips and burst into heart-wrenching

sobs.

Only then did the onlookers realize what was happening. Oh my god! It turned out that to protect Yara, Nathaniel was actually willing to lie and draw a clean line with the fiancée who had accompanied him for so many years.

Seeing Noelle cry, Dr. Walsh's heart ached terribly. He gritted his teeth and roared in anger. "Mr. Sloan, you would actually deny your relationship with Miss Noelle for this mistress? Everyone knows that Miss Noelle bore you a son, and you two have been engaged for seven years! She's been by your side for seven years, and you're abandoning her for a mistress. Do you even have a conscience?!"

Nathaniel's eyes instantly darkened!

Estelle couldn't help but laugh. Engaged to Nathaniel seven years ago? The whole world knew that Noelle was Nathaniel's fiancée, but no one knew that seven years ago was the day she herself married Nathaniel!

Dr. Walsh spoke with impassioned fury, but upon meeting Estelle's eyes, he grew even more enraged. "You still have the nerve to laugh?! This is all because of you! Why don't you just die, you wretched mistress! Mr. Sloan, good women like Miss Noelle are rare these days, you just..."

"Noelle Lockwood, I gave you a chance." Nathaniel tapped his fingertips lightly, interrupting with a calm voice and a placid expression. "Others might not know, but you, Miss Lockwood, shouldn't be ignorant of this."

He paused, then suddenly parted his lips, uttering a sentence that shocked absolutely everyone present!

"I was already married seven years ago."

Tip: You can use left, right, A and D keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It #Chapter 142: Noelle Lockwood, You Are Not Christian's Biological Mother - Read Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It Chapter 142: Noelle Lockwood, You Are Not Christian's Biological Mother

"Wait, what?"

Dr. Walsh's passionate speech instantly caught in his throat. Unable to swallow or spit it out, his entire face turned bright red.

The few righteous patients' family members who were indignant a moment ago also froze, looking at each other in dismay.

What did Mr. Sloan mean? He was already married seven years ago? Then... then what was Noelle Lockwood?

Estelle Lockwood subconsciously turned around, the surprise in her eyes no less than anyone else's.

Nathaniel Sloan actually announced in public that he was married?! She had thought that this time, just like many times before, Nathaniel would worry about Noelle's health and protect her reputation, choosing to remain silent and letting Estelle bear the infamy once again.

But now, he had publicly announced his marriage!

A wave of sourness washed over Estelle's heart. It couldn't be called joy; she couldn't even distinguish her emotions at this moment. If only these words had come a little earlier...

Noelle could hardly maintain her smile. Rose Lowell looked panicked, raising her voice to cover up her guilty conscience.

"Nathaniel, what nonsense are you spouting! Even if you don't like Noelle, you can't act like this! Noelle has been by your side for so many years. Even if you don't appreciate her contributions, you should at least acknowledge her hard work! And you... you actually used marriage as an excuse. What does that make our Noelle!"

Rose desperately tried to stop Nathaniel, but he remained utterly unmoving.

Rose wanted to use past affection to smooth things over again?

"It seems Ms. Lowell's memory isn't very good. You've actually forgotten the fact that you were present on the day I got married," Nathaniel said unhurriedly. "I still have the wedding video. Has Ms. Lowell recalled it yet?"

Rose's expression drastically changed. The wedding video?! At that wedding, she had attended as Estelle's mother! If it was released, wouldn't that be pushing Noelle into a fire pit!

Rose instantly lost her previous aggressiveness, awkwardly forcing a fawning smile. "N-No need for that, Nathaniel. It's been so long..."

Nathaniel ignored Rose's expression, which was twisted into something hideous because of her forced smile. "Since both of you know I'm married, who gave you the confidence to think I would abandon my own wife to play the role of an 'engaged couple' with Noelle Lockwood?"

The entire room fell silent. Mr. Sloan was viciously slapping Noelle and Rose in the face!

Just now, Rose had claimed that Yara Lockwood was a shameless mistress for intervening. But Nathaniel was married. Wasn't the one who constantly marketed herself as the fiancée of a married man the real mistress?

Who was nobler than whom!

"I'm sorry, Nathaniel, I'm sorry, I didn't mean it that way." Noelle's eyes brimmed with tears. "I didn't want to steal my sister's place. I had no delusions of marrying you. It's just... just that Christian is growing up, and I wanted to give him a complete family..."

She hinted, "After all, I am Christian's mother. Whenever he was bullied in the past, how could I bear it..."

Rose reacted quickly. "Yes, yes! Noelle didn't do it on purpose! How could you scold Noelle for intervening in someone else's marriage? She did it all for the child!"

The crowd suddenly fell silent. That was true. No matter what, there was a child between them. Perhaps Noelle had truly made a mistake for the sake of the child?

Noelle lowered her eyes. She wasn't worried that Nathaniel would deny her claims at all. After all, the fire incident had just passed, and she had released a lot of information. Now, many people online knew about Estelle's suicide five years ago, which had implicated the entire hospital.

If it were made public now that Christian was Estelle's son, Christian Sloan would also suffer verbal abuse, and Nathaniel absolutely couldn't bear that!

Nathaniel's eyes were icy. He couldn't help but think of his conversation with Christian.

Christian had said that although he was only five, he wasn't ignorant. He knew good from evil and right from wrong. Christian was close to Estelle and played so well with Zachery and Mia. Nathaniel had no doubt that Christian had known the truth long ago.

The reason he had hidden the truth and claimed Noelle was Christian's mother—aside from Laura Jennings taking matters into her own hands and intervening—was indeed out of a desire to protect Christian. But now, his son stood firmly by his biological mother's side. Christian chose to protect Estelle.

So what did Nathaniel have left to hesitate about? Some things should be made clear once and for all.

"For the child?" At this moment, Estelle suddenly spoke up. She sat to the side, resting her chin on one hand, looking amused. "I didn't expect Miss Lockwood to love children so much."

Noelle bit her lip, her eyes filled with tears. "Yara, you have children yourself. You know that us mothers always hope our children can grow up healthy and happy."

Estelle's smile deepened. How touching. Unfortunately, she just loved making things difficult for others.

Sitting in her chair with her legs crossed, Estelle unhurriedly took out her phone and waved it. "Is that so? Then Miss Lockwood, I suggest you call the police. Someone impersonated you to answer a call."

Noelle didn't react for a moment. What did she mean—

The next second, an audio recording abruptly started playing!

"Noelle, where is Nathaniel? Put him on the phone. Christian is waiting for him!"

"Yara, Nathaniel is taking care of me. You want to interrupt my alone time with Nathaniel? How cheap can you be? Even if it's a matter of life or death for Christian, it can wait on the side."

"Children can always be born again, but the one he loves the most is only me. Do you think Nathaniel will soften his heart just because Christian is sick?"

"Yara, what do you and Christian Sloan even count as in Nathaniel's heart? He wouldn't

even bat an eye if you both died. I am the most important one!"

Then, the child's rapid, ragged breathing could be heard on the phone.

Noelle mocked, "Quite a convincing act," and hung up.

The air was so quiet it seemed to have frozen. Estelle put her phone away and flashed an unhurried smile. "Since Miss Lockwood said you care about Christian the most, the person who answered the phone definitely couldn't be you, right? Do you want me to call the police for you?"

Noelle's face turned drastically pale, her lips whitening, and cold sweat rolled down her forehead! Seeing her like this, how could anyone not understand?

"Is this what Noelle Lockwood is really like behind closed doors? She doesn't care whether her son lives or dies at all, yet she actually tried to use him to tie down Mr. Sloan!"

"Is Young Mr. Sloan really her biological son?"

"How could there be such a malicious mother! Her child was sick and she didn't care at all, even saying it didn't matter if he died?"

"No wonder Mr. Sloan looks down on her! It's so tragic that the young master is stuck with a mother like this..."

Nathaniel's eyes were completely frosted over. Estelle had called him?! And this call—the very first call made after Christian fell ill—had been answered by Noelle, who then deleted the call log!

"No, Nathaniel, it's not like that. Listen to me..."

Noelle realized she was in deep trouble. She never expected Yara to record the phone call! What should she do now? Right, right, she just had to deny it to the death. She'd say... she'd say it was Yara's deliberate setup. She hadn't thought that much at the time. She didn't know Christian was actually sick!

"Nathaniel, I'm Christian's mother! How could my heart not ache for him? I just misunderstood. If I had known, I definitely wouldn't have said those things..."

Rose also stammered, "Nathaniel, you've seen with your own eyes how good Noelle has been to Christian all these years. Actually... actually, our Noelle loves Christian very much. What biological mother doesn't love her own son? This... this is all because Yara is driving a wedge between you..."

"Enough!"

For the first time, Nathaniel had the urge to make Noelle disappear forever. Losing his patience, he coldly cut them off. Ice burst from his eyes as he enunciated every word, "Noelle Lockwood, you know very well whether Christian is your son or not!

"Or, let me rephrase—

"Noelle Lockwood, you are not Christian's biological mother at all!"

Tip: You can use left, right, A and D keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It #Chapter 143: The Misunderstanding Resolved, Estelle and Christian Acknowledge Each Other as Mother and Son - Read Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It Chapter 143: The Misunderstanding Resolved, Estelle and Christian Acknowledge Each Other as Mother and Son

Estelle's head snapped up!

Noelle... wasn't Christian's biological mother? Then who did Nathaniel have Christian with?!

Considering Christian's age, along with the almost uncontrollable affection she felt when she first laid eyes on him, the answer was practically screaming at her. But Estelle didn't dare to guess, didn't dare to gamble. She was afraid that the greater the hope, the more devastating the disappointment.

As Nathaniel's words fell, everyone was shocked and instantly perked up their ears. High-society gossip was always a crowd-pleaser, especially when it involved a top-tier powerhouse like the Sloan Group. Relying on her status as Nathaniel's fiancée and Young Mr. Sloan's biological mother, Noelle had been throwing her weight around and acting like a tyrant in the entertainment industry all these years. Even when she stole someone else's resources, her fans would jump out in her defense. "Our Noelle has a prestigious status. What could she possibly want that she doesn't already have? Why would she need to steal from you?"

But Nathaniel had just proven that the fiancée claim was a total fabrication. And now... even the title of Young Mr. Sloan's biological mother was fake?!

A chill ran down Noelle's spine, her body stiffening. She let out an awkward laugh, still deceiving herself. "Nathaniel, what are you talking about? How could I not be Christian's mother? I know you're mad at me, but you can't do this. Besides, a lot of people knew I was pregnant back then."

Dr. Walsh, always soft on the ladies, spoke up with righteous indignation, utterly convinced of his own reasoning.

"That's right, Mr. Sloan. Miss Noelle was pregnant and even came to our hospital for checkups. Mrs. Sloan accompanied her the whole time!

"If the child Miss Noelle was carrying wasn't the Sloan family's, then why would Mrs. Sloan be so concerned?

"Mr. Sloan, you're actually trying to separate Miss Noelle and Young Mr. Sloan for the sake of some shady woman!"

The bystanders also remembered. Back when Noelle was pregnant, Mrs. Sloan, Laura Jennings, had accompanied her to several events. Whenever she had a hospital checkup, Mrs. Sloan was there the entire time, showing the utmost concern for her well-being. When people guessed that Noelle was pregnant with Nathaniel's child, she had merely smiled shyly in tacit agreement.

The Sloan family placed so much importance on the child in Noelle's womb... how could Christian not be her son? If he wasn't, then where did he come from? The pregnant woman the Sloan family cared about most back then was Noelle; no one had heard of them caring for anyone else!

Noelle slowly breathed a sigh of relief, putting on a gentle smile.

"Nathaniel, Christian is still in the hospital. Let's not talk about this in front of the child, okay?"

"I know that over the years, I haven't been very attentive to him because I was busy with my career. Yara was more responsible than I was. But blood ties can't be severed. I'm Christian's biological..."

Nathaniel lifted his cold eyelids slightly, his voice indifferent. "Six years ago, you and Laura Jennings went on an overseas trip for two months."

Noelle's expression instantly froze, the words catching in her throat. She didn't even have time to process Nathaniel calling Laura Jennings by her full name. A bad premonition surged up. Six years ago... six years ago, she...

She thought, "No, I can't let Nathaniel say it!"

But it was too late to stop him. Nathaniel continued in a mild tone. "Christian wasn't born premature. His mother carried him for a full ten months, and his birthday is in April."

In other words, when Christian's mother conceived him, it was June. But... hadn't Noelle also claimed to be pregnant in June?

Only Noelle and Rose Lowell turned deathly pale, shaking their heads frantically. Noelle's face underwent a drastic change. Realizing what Nathaniel was about to say, she turned as white as a sheet. Throwing all care for her image to the wind, she lunged forward. "No, Nathaniel, no!!"

But it was too late.

Nathaniel's tone remained calm. "That June, you and Laura Jennings were still in the USA. And I..." The man turned his head. At an angle unseen by the others, his light gray eyes paused on Estelle for a second. "...was holding an acquisition ceremony for an entertainment company." He nonchalantly added, "Which is a fact known to everyone."

The people around them nodded. Indeed, the acquisition ceremony was broadcast live. Back then, quite a few fans claimed it was proof of Nathaniel's love for Noelle. But the two of them weren't even together at the time. They were separated by the Pacific Ocean... Under those circumstances, how could the child Noelle was carrying be Nathaniel's!

Estelle's gaze flickered, as if weighing the truth of Nathaniel's words.

"That's not true, Nathaniel!!" Noelle sobbed, tears raining down her face as she stammered. "I came back to the country to see you! I... how could I have stayed abroad for two months? It was when I came back that I got pregnant with your child..."

Nathaniel's expression was icy. "That would indeed be a good excuse, but unfortunately, you had absolutely no way of returning to the country at that time."

Noelle's small face was covered in tears. She shook her head helplessly. "Nathaniel, what are you saying? I don't understand..."

"Then I'll make it clearer." Nathaniel had lost his patience.

He had once given Noelle the utmost respect and promised to keep her secret out of consideration for the fact that she had saved his life. After all, if this matter were made public, her reputation would be utterly destroyed. However, it was precisely because he had agreed to Noelle's request that Estelle spent the past five years believing her child was dead, suffering immensely under the assumption that her husband had cheated on her.

Nathaniel's voice was cold. He no longer hesitated.

"While abroad, you committed a theft that caused a luxury goods company in the USA to lose seven hundred million. Because the amount was so astronomical, you couldn't pay it back immediately. Therefore..."

"Therefore, before Laura Jennings embezzled public funds from the Sloan Group to pay off your debt, you were detained in the USA.

"Noelle, under those circumstances, you're claiming you made a special trip back to the country and got pregnant with my child?"

The color drained from Noelle's face at a visible rate. She stumbled two steps backward. Everyone was dumbfounded. For a moment, they didn't know which was more shocking: Noelle stealing seven hundred million worth of goods, or Laura Jennings embezzling public funds. But one thing was for certain. With a seven hundred million bill yet to be paid, there was no way Noelle could have returned to the country! And if she couldn't return, how could she possibly have gotten pregnant with Nathaniel's child?

Estelle pressed her lips tightly together, a stormy sea of emotions raging in her chest. Back then, Laura Jennings had been smug, and Noelle had been arrogant. Everyone had told her, "So what if you married Nathaniel? Your child is destined to be unwelcome. Look at Noelle—the child she's carrying is the true heir of the Sloan family, the only child the Sloan family will ever acknowledge!"

It had caused her agonizing pain, self-doubt, and absolute despair. But as it turned out... as it turned out...

Nathaniel's firm voice echoed in her ears. "Christian's biological mother is my wife, and it can only be her!"

With that said, under the watchful eyes of the crowd, he extended his hand toward

Estelle.

Noelle trembled all over, swaying unsteadily as waves of dizziness washed over her. "Nathaniel!!!"

Estelle was stunned for two seconds. Before she could react, Nathaniel pulled her aside.

"Estelle." Nathaniel didn't hesitate to cut to the chase, calling her name and tearing down the final layer of pretense. He called her Estelle, not Yara. Nathaniel knew exactly who the woman in front of him was.

Estelle's eyes abruptly darted up. She was just about to speak when she caught sight of Christian out of the corner of her eye. She immediately tried to pull her hand back, but Nathaniel gripped it even tighter.

She felt a bit dazed, yet also worried. She thought, "Was Christian here the whole time? Did he hear what Noelle said? How much did he hear? Will he be heartbroken?"

"Mommy!"

None of her fears materialized, however. The next moment, the little boy happily threw himself into her arms. "Mommy, this is wonderful!"

Tip: You can use left, right, A and D keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It #Chapter 144: "Then, Miss Lockwood, Can You Give Me a Chance? - Read Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It Chapter 144: "Then, Miss Lockwood, Can You Give Me a Chance?"

Estelle Lockwood was knocked back a step, instinctively reaching out to catch Christian.

"Christian, what... what did you call me?"

The truth came so suddenly that she couldn't process it for a moment. It was as if a massive windfall had dropped right into her lap—a mix of ecstatic joy and sheer disbelief. Without a doubt, Estelle adored Christian. And knowing that her eldest son hadn't died in that fire, her overwhelming excitement and joy far outweighed any lingering worries.

But... the moment she saw Christian, she still didn't know how to speak up. She hadn't been there for him all these years. Would he even accept her as his mother?

To her surprise, Christian threw himself at her with unbridled joy!

"Mommy! I called you Mommy!"

Christian obediently rubbed his cheek against Estelle's neck, throwing his arms around her. With bright, sparkling eyes, he repeated, "Mommy."

It took Estelle several seconds to regain her senses. She stared at him blankly.
"Christian, did you know all along?"

Just then, the pediatrician from earlier hurried over.

He remembered Yara Lockwood because the Zachery at the start of the kindergarten semester and the Zachery during the medical checkup were clearly not the same child. At first, he suspected the kindergarten had made a mistake and had specifically gone to ask about it. The kindergarten replied that there was no mistake; the person who registered was indeed named Zachery Lockwood. In that case, someone must have been impersonating him.

Sensing something amiss, the doctor flipped through the files. He soon discovered that the child who called himself Zachery Lockwood—the one who had taken the DNA test with Yara—had a medical profile identical to Christian Sloan's! The doctor wasn't a fool. A little thought made it clear that there was only one possibility for this situation—Christian Sloan and Yara Lockwood were biological mother and son!

Of course, he had to inform her of this immediately, so he rushed over. As soon as he arrived, he saw Christian affectionately clinging to Yara.

The doctor suddenly understood and said with relief, "Miss Yara, it seems you already know. No wonder, no wonder. No wonder you took such good care of Young Mr. Sloan!"

The thoughts in Estelle's mind connected into a clear line. So, Christian had known since back then. She couldn't describe the feeling in her heart. Christian nestled obediently in her arms, filling her embrace as if he were filling the void of the past five years. Nathaniel's gaze was full of tenderness, but he didn't speak, not wanting to disturb them.

Meanwhile.

After Nathaniel led Estelle away by the hand, an awkward atmosphere instantly descended upon the entire corridor.

Noelle Lockwood slumped onto the floor, her face pale, her mind completely blank. She thought frantically, "Nathaniel said it out loud... He actually said it... Ahhhh! How will others look at me now?!"

"I knew it! How could a real mother be so cruel to her son? She even told him to 'come find me when you're dead' when the poor kid was sick!"

"But since Noelle was so terrible to Young Mr. Sloan, why didn't the Sloan family ever clarify things to the public? They let her act so arrogantly for so long!"

"I get it now..." someone suddenly realized. "It must be because Laura Jennings couldn't bear to let her go! After all, Laura always treated Noelle as her own daughter-in-law!"

"That's very possible!"

"Laura must be crazy... treating her own biological grandson like that."

"And Noelle even stole things! Seven hundred million! How did she have the nerve?"

"Laura embezzled company funds, and Noelle committed theft. Those two might as well be biological mother and daughter!"

Noelle covered her ears, feeling a freezing chill run through her entire body as if she had plunged into an ice cellar. She had always been treated like the moon among the stars. Yet now, this bunch of bitches was pointing fingers and cursing right at her face!

She... she had just stolen a little something, and she had returned it later! As for Laura, the funds she embezzled belonged to the Sloan family, but the Sloans hadn't even pursued it. That matter was already in the past, so why did Nathaniel have to bring it up? Why?!

What was she going to do now? Noelle couldn't even fathom what would happen to her once this scandal was exposed to the public.

Rose Lowell was burning with panic and anger. Without thinking, she threatened, "All of you, shut up! No one is allowed to speak a word of what happened today, or you'll bear the consequences!"

"Going against Noelle means going against the Lockwood family and the Sloan family! If you're not afraid of death, go ahead and run your mouths!"

The crowd was indignant, gritting their teeth in resentment. But it was the truth. Who would dare offend wealthy, powerful families like theirs?

Later, Nathaniel and Estelle took Christian back to Imperial Crest.

Along the way, she was still in a daze. Christian was her son... the son she had lost for five years. He hadn't died five years ago after all. Christian was alive, and the child Noelle carried wasn't Nathaniel's. The knot that had lingered in Estelle's heart seemed to have unraveled, yet at the same time, it felt as though it had tangled even deeper.

If Nathaniel didn't love Noelle, if he had never cheated, and if he had never abandoned her child... then why had they been separated for five years? If it were all Nathaniel's fault, she could have sought revenge and vented her anger on him. But now, who was she supposed to demand compensation from for her five years of displacement and wandering?

Christian quietly slipped upstairs, leaving the space to the two of them. In an instant, the entire living room fell silent.

There was no one else in Imperial Crest. Nathaniel's gaze fell lightly on her face. "Why aren't you speaking?"

Estelle's dark eyes revealed her profound confusion. They were misty, looking as if she were holding back tears.

Nathaniel's heart suddenly tightened.

Five years ago, Estelle's eyes had been soft, carrying the most innocent and pure love. Five years later, her gaze was resolute, bearing the resilient strength of someone who had weathered storms. But it had never looked like this—lost, carrying an indescribable sorrow. It was as if she were searching for an answer—an answer that was the very reason she kept living. She had searched for five years, only to find that... she had been wrong from the very beginning.

Nathaniel slowly lowered his eyes. "Estelle, look at me."

Estelle looked up blankly. She had just been pondering, who was in the wrong?

Nathaniel answered her unspoken question, "It wasn't your fault."

Estelle couldn't react in time.

Looking directly into her eyes, Nathaniel said, "First of all, it was the Lockwood family's fault. They lost you, found you again, but refused to treat you well.

"Then it was Noelle's fault. Her jealousy led her to scheme against you, making you suffer so many grievances."

He slowly closed his eyes before continuing. "But ultimately, it was my fault."

Estelle was stunned. A proud, heaven-favored son like Nathaniel—a powerful helmsman holding immense authority—had actually dropped to one knee and gently admitted that he was at fault.

She instinctively asked, "Where did you go wrong?"

At first glance, it sounded like she was picking a fight. But Nathaniel offered a faint smile. It seemed as though he was trying to comfort her, or perhaps simply coaxing her. "I've done far too many things wrong. How about you take your time and listen to me?"

Estelle pressed her lips tightly together. She didn't know how to face him right now. "I don't want to listen."

Nathaniel paused for a moment. "Then, Miss Lockwood, could you give me a chance?"

Estelle was puzzled. "A chance for what?"

Nathaniel chuckled softly. "A chance to turn over a new leaf."

Tip: You can use left, right, A and D keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It #Chapter 145: Confined in His Arms - Read Mommy, Daddy Has Already Regretted It Chapter 145: Confined in His Arms

Estelle Lockwood felt a bit bewildered. Nathaniel Sloan had just said he wanted to turn over a new leaf. The man's fingertips pressed against her jaw, brushing past her lips—whether intentionally or not. From his angle, Nathaniel could see every slight shift in Estelle's expression. He knew he was being unreasonable. Just because he asked her for a chance didn't mean she had to give it to him. But when she refused, he simply gathered her entirely into his arms. With one hand pressing against her lips and the other circling her waist, he left her with no room to escape.

Sensing Nathaniel's burning gaze, Estelle instinctively looked up. Yet, the moment their eyes met, the man averted his gaze. She understood him too well; he only avoided eye contact when he was unable to control his emotions. She wondered if he was actually afraid.

As Estelle pondered, she unconsciously zoned out. Her distraction must have been too obvious, as Nathaniel's fingertips gently traced her lips. It tickled, bringing with it a uniquely intimate atmosphere.

"If I hadn't found out, when were you planning to tell me? Or were you going to keep it a secret for the rest of your life?" he asked, referring to her identity as Yara Lockwood.

Upon confirming that Yara was indeed Estelle, a sharp pain had pierced Nathaniel's heart as a clear realization washed over him. It wasn't that Estelle was dead; she just didn't want him anymore. So, after finding out the truth, he had been pressing her for answers while carefully keeping himself within a safe distance. He was terrified she would run away again.

Estelle snapped back to reality. She struggled a couple of times but found she couldn't break free. "Is there any reason why I'm obligated to tell you?"

The room seemed to plunge into a sudden silence, the air growing thick and stagnant. This man, usually so powerful and unflappable, now looked slightly pale. It was as if he could no longer find any excuses, forcing him to lower his boundaries again and again, using himself as a bargaining chip. He seemed to fear that once Estelle reclaimed her identity and they tore through this veil of secrecy, she would no longer need to hide. And without the need for a disguise, she wouldn't have to stay at Imperial Crest and deal with him anymore. Then... the worst-case scenario in Nathaniel's mind was that she would leave. It didn't matter if some things couldn't be cleared up today, but he absolutely had to make her stay.

Thus, Nathaniel spoke. "No, there isn't."

Estelle pursed her lips, unable to pinpoint the feeling in her heart. It felt strange, tinged with a faint sourness.

"But—" the very next moment, Nathaniel spoke again. He gently pressed her lips. "Back then, I felt both love and guilt toward you. Miss Lockwood, a man in this state is the easiest to use. I'll do whatever you want me to do. My power, my wealth—they're all yours for the taking. Stay by my side, and you can do whatever you please."

Estelle had seen many sides of Nathaniel: aloof, noble, nonchalant, and confident. But she had never seen him lower himself to such an extent. She processed his words for a moment, then raised an eyebrow, translating it into layman's terms. "Is Mr. Sloan saying... I should treat you like an ATM?"

Nathaniel remained noncommittal. "If you wish, of course you can."

Estelle felt a lump in her throat.

Nathaniel's long eyelashes drooped slightly, concealing the emotions in his eyes.

"According to our agreement, I am still Miss Lockwood's servant. The contract hasn't expired yet. Wouldn't it be a huge loss for you to leave now?"

Only then did Estelle remember the "agreement" she had signed with Nathaniel on her first day back in the country. Nathaniel had volunteered to be her servant and driver, attending to her transportation and daily meals.

Estelle pursed her lips. Nathaniel seemed to be acting subservient now, but perhaps

because this man was so used to having everything under his control, even with such a humble posture, Estelle still felt imprisoned by him, with nowhere to run. Feeling a bit rebellious, she declared, "The agreement is void."

Nathaniel slowly shook his head. "That won't do."

Estelle glared at him. "Why not? Besides, that agreement doesn't benefit you at all. You wouldn't lose anything if it's voided."

Nathaniel chuckled softly. "I am not afraid of taking a loss. I am a businessman. Although Miss Lockwood considers this a losing deal, I cannot allow my business partner to actually suffer a loss. Otherwise, there wouldn't be a next collaboration."

"Moreover..." Nathaniel's face was unmistakably aloof, and his voice was deep, devoid of any hint of intimacy. Yet, as he leaned in to whisper in her ear, it made her ears burn red. "Moreover, I don't feel like I'm taking a loss at all."

For a moment, Estelle didn't know what to say. Nathaniel hadn't seemed to do anything wrong, but every "right" thing he did was just another layer of pain inflicted upon her. She couldn't help but feel a little lost. Did she still want to get revenge?

"Don't force yourself to swallow your grievances." Nathaniel knew exactly what the current situation was. Estelle had grievances and dissatisfaction that needed to be vented, but it wasn't just about venting. What she needed most, perhaps, was someone's unreserved love.

Estelle glanced at him again. "You'll agree to whatever I say?"

"Of course."

Estelle didn't mince her words. "What if I ask you to help me take down the Lockwood family?"

Nathaniel nodded. "My actions today have already severed all my ties with the Lockwood family." He paused, his tone coaxing. "Stay by my side. However I treated you in the past, you can treat me the exact same way now. Noelle Lockwood is jealous of you, and the Lockwood family despises you. But without lifting a finger, you can have everything Noelle can never obtain. Isn't that wonderful?"

Estelle pondered this carefully. It was a very tempting offer. She absolutely loved the idea of Noelle seething with hatred but being completely powerless against her.

"Furthermore," Nathaniel enticed, "Mrs. Sloan used to cook and care for me, yet I failed to cherish it. Now, I am willing to do everything for you, and Miss Lockwood is free to take me for granted. Let me taste the very same grievances you once endured."

Estelle raised an eyebrow. "Are you telling me not to cherish you?"

Nathaniel gently pressed her hand against his cheek. "Yes."

But there was one thing he didn't say aloud—the prerequisite for all of this was that Estelle stayed by his side. As long as she stayed by his side, everything would be fine.

Estelle also thought it was a good idea. She had only just reunited with Christian; if she left now, what would happen to him? But to willingly stay by Nathaniel's side... what would be her justification? Nathaniel's words just now perfectly resolved her dilemma.

Estelle didn't hold back. Her eyes sparkled as she flashed a bright, fox-like smile and parted her red lips. "Is Mr. Sloan trying to remarry me?"

Nathaniel's Adam's apple bobbed. "...Of course," he said hoarsely.

"Oh..." Estelle seemed to have taken control of the situation once again. "Then how about this? In a rare fit of generosity, I'll give you a three-month trial period. During this time, Mr. Sloan can be my..."

She thought for a moment before coming up with the perfect term. "...You can be my secret lover! Are you willing, Mr. Sloan?"

Tip: You can use left, right, A and D keyboard keys to browse between chapters.