

REMARRIED AFTER I SECRETLY DIVORCED THE CEO

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She couldn't even fulfill her final wish.

Just thinking about it, she couldn't bring herself to forgive her two older brothers.

Anyone who knew the truth would say they were her brothers-those who didn't might think they were her enemies, coming to settle old scores. Newest update provided by Find-Novel.net

"Alright, Monday, got it. I'll go with you and pay my respects to your mother."

After hanging up, Autumn sniffled and looked up, only to see Keith handing her a tissue.

Their eyes met.

Autumn murmured a thank-you and hastily wiped away the tears at the corner of her eyes.

Keith checked his watch, then said, “Your aunt will be coming over soon to take care of you. Don’t worry, she doesn’t know about your condition.”

At the mention of her aunt coming, Autumn’s heart skipped.

She instinctively wanted to say it wasn’t necessary.

But when she turned around, her aunt was already at the door—with her uncle and Zack behind her.

Was the notice a bit too last-minute?

Lily’s eyes were red.

The moment she saw Autumn, she rushed over and started checking her all over.

Tearfully, she asked, “Autumn, why didn’t you tell us things were so bad at your in-laws’ place?

“I only heard it from Keith-how much you’ve suffered, and that you’re already divorced.

“You always put on a brave face when you call, never tell us anything bad. You carry everything on your own. Why are you so stubborn?”

If they’d known Julian was so unreliable, they never would’ve agreed to the marriage.

She still remembered how, back when they got married, Julian had made such grand promises in front of them.

He said he’d love Autumn for a lifetime.

But how long did that last?

He cheated.

And not just with anyone, but with the sister Autumn couldn’t stand the most.

Just thinking about it was suffocating.

Henry walked in and tried to comfort her. “Autumn, were you afraid we’d disapprove of the divorce, so you

didn't tell us?

"It's okay. You didn't do anything wrong. It was that scumbag Julian who cheated first. You don't have to feel guilty about anything.

"I really didn't expect it-Susan broke up your parents' marriage back then, and now her daughter has wrecked your marriage."

At this, Henry paused, then spoke with deep frustration, "And your two older brothers must be blind. They can't tell right from wrong anymore, and they've completely forgotten who gave birth to them.

"Autumn, you've had such a hard life. Come stay at our place. Let us take care of you.

"We're not wealthy, but we can more than afford to support you. Your room has always been kept for you. You're welcome home anytime."

When he first heard all of this, Richard had nearly stormed over to the Lewis residence to confront them.

It was infuriating!

Susan and her daughter were mistresses yet somehow acted like they had nothing to be ashamed of.

They were bold and unapologetic.

The Lewis family must be completely blind, unable to see everything Autumn had done for them, and still chose to believe that shameless pair without question.

One day, they'd regret it.

Zack's eyes were slightly red as he walked up to Autumn, gently ruffled her hair, and said warmly, "Dad's right. We've kept your room just the way it was. Whenever you're ready to come back, just tell us.

"We'll even prepare a surprise for you. Our little princess deserves the very best the world has to offer."

Ever since he was little, he had dreamed of having a younger sister-someone cute and sweet.

After Autumn's parents divorced, Autumn was still very young, gentle and lovable.

The moment he saw her, he adored her.

He treated her like his real sister, always thinking of her first when there was something delicious or fun to share.

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Autumn's eyes turned red with emotion.

She didn't know how to put her gratitude into words.

She had a thousand things she wanted to say, but none of them came out.

In the end, it turned into a hug.

Autumn hugged her aunt tightly, and the redness in her eyes grew even more noticeable.

Her aunt's eyes were also rimmed with tears.

She patted Autumn's back and gently comforted her, "Good girl, I know you've suffered. Once you're discharged, come home with us."

“The Lewis family might be blind and heartless, but we see everything clearly. That mother and daughter are no good. Be careful around her when you go back.”

She used to think Susan had only driven Autumn’s mother away to climb the social ladder.

But now it was clear-what she wanted wasn’t just Autumn’s mother’s life, but Autumn’s too.

They weren’t the least bit ashamed of being mistresses.

In fact, they wore it like a badge of honor.

The daughter hadn’t even officially taken her place, yet the two of them were already parading around like they

owned the world.

It was disgraceful-completely shameless.

Autumn nodded. “I understand, Aunt. I’m really lucky to have you. Discover more novels at [FindN\(\)vel.net](http://FindN()vel.net)

The reason she hadn't told them about the divorce was partly because she didn't want them to worry, and partly because she was afraid they'd try to persuade her to work things out.

They were the only ones in the world who truly cared for her.

She didn't want to burden them with everything.

After chatting with Autumn a little longer, the doctor came in for rounds and asked a few basic questions.

Zack, still uneasy, followed the doctor outside.

Out in the hallway, he asked, "Doctor, how's my sister doing?"

The doctor glanced at Keith standing behind Zack, then replied, "Just a regular cold. She can be discharged after two days of observation."

Autumn, still worried, had walked to the doorway.

She was afraid the doctor might mention her cancer diagnosis.

But after hearing his response, the heavy weight on her chest finally lifted.

Keith turned around and looked at Autumn standing by the door.

With his long strides, he walked over to her. “You really don’t trust me that much?”

Autumn had a strong sense of self-protection.

She looked tough, but inside she was fragile.

After being ignored for so long, she had grown thorns all over.

And those thorns, while guarding her, were also hurting her.

She acted like she was easygoing with everyone, but in truth, she didn’t fully trust anyone.

Having her thoughts called out like that, Autumn felt embarrassed. She quickly lowered her head, fingers twisting uneasily.

Zack returned after speaking with the doctor and saw Autumn still standing at the door.

He reminded her, “You’ve still got a cold. Go lie down for a bit. We’re heading to work, my mom will stay and take care of you.”

Over the next two days, her aunt took meticulous care of her, tending to every little detail.

Autumn felt the joy of being surrounded by family again.

After work, Zack and Henry would bring her treats and little gifts, treating her like a child.

On the day of her discharge, not wanting them to find out about her condition, Autumn turned down her aunt’s offer and promised that next time something happened, she would definitely tell them.

Her aunt didn’t press her-just gently reminded her, “Autumn, the day after tomorrow is your mom’s third death anniversary. Did you inform your two brothers?”

“Now that you’re divorced from Julian, he doesn’t need to come. But those two brothers-they were your

mom’s sons.

“They didn’t show up the past two years, but this year’s a big one. It can’t be overlooked.”

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At the mention of the two Lewis brothers, Lily could only sigh.

It was as if they'd already forgotten who brought them into this world.

Autumn lowered her gaze, biting her lip. "I've spoken to Hector, but judging by his attitude, he's probably forgotten all about it.

"But I'll remind them again. Whether they show up or not-it's entirely up to them." The source of this content is find*~novel.net

Thinking of everything those two had done, disappointment washed over her.

If they didn't come this time, then that was it-they'd be strangers from now on.

She wouldn't hold back anymore.

Lily sighed and gently stroked her hair.

"I honestly don't know what kind of spell Susan and her daughter cast to make those two lose all sense of right and wrong.

"Autumn, if they don't come, what will you do?"

When even your closest family could treat you this way, it wasn't hard to imagine just how much she'd endured.

And with Julian's betrayal on top of that, Lily couldn't fathom how Autumn had managed to survive these past few months.

Just thinking about it was suffocating.

Autumn pressed her lips together. "It's alright, Aunt. I've made it this far, haven't I? I won't let any of this break

"Back when Mom and I moved out of the Lewis house, we got through some really hard times. I promised her I'd

live well for both of us.

"I've never forgotten that promise. That marriage felt like a cage, and that's why I left. But I don't regret it."

Lily took her hand, gently squeezing it. "If anything ever happens, call us. Don't think you're being a bother. We'll always have your back."

She'd seen everything Autumn had gone through-felt it in her heart-but there was only so much she could do.

Autumn had always held onto her family with everything she had.

No amount of persuasion could change that.

So, for her to come to terms with it on her own this time truly surprised them.

And seeing her finally recognize Julian for who he was and walk away from that pain gave them hope.

They believed that things would only get better from here.

Lily had Zack drive Autumn home.

She filled her fridge with groceries, made her a warm, comforting meal, and only then felt at ease enough to leave.

As Autumn stared at the food on the table, her tears quietly began to fall.

This was what it felt like to have a real family.

She used to cling so tightly to her brothers, but in the end, she'd placed her trust in the wrong people.

Only her uncle's family truly cared for her and treated her like a princess.

After finishing her meal, she felt a heaviness in her body and went to lie down for a nap.

Ever since the cancer diagnosis, her body had only gotten weaker.

In the past, a cold or fever would go away with a bit of medicine.

But now, even after the fever subsided, the exhaustion lingered and weighed her down.

Autumn was woken by the sound of her phone ringing.

She squinted, fumbled for her phone on the nightstand, and answered the call.

Grace's impatient voice came through the line. "The divorce certificate is ready. Send me your current address, I'll mail it over."

"Alright."

Autumn hung up and quickly sent her address over.

Any trace of drowsiness vanished instantly.

Now that the certificate was finalized, it meant she was officially single again.

She no longer had to hold back around Julian.

It was genuinely good news—so exciting she could hardly contain it.

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The local courier was fast,

By five o'clock, Autumn had already received the divorce certificate.

The moment she laid eyes on the divorce paper, a wave of relief washed over her.

She was free. It was finally over.

For a second, her mind wandered back to the day she and Julian had registered their marriage.

Her face back then had been glowing with happiness.

Her heart had been full of dreams for the future, wrapped tightly in the sweet illusions Julian had spun for her year after year.

Truthfully, she had always known he was tangled up with other women.

Every now and then, she'd even get taunting messages meant to provoke her.

But because she loved him, she kept compromising.

Even when it was his fault, she forgave him over and over again, afraid of losing him.

They used to say the one who was loved held all the power—and Julian had proven that all too well over the past few years.

Now, the relationship that had suffocated her for so long was finally coming to an end.

There were no real regrets, just a lingering sadness.

Even getting divorced had required trickery just to get his signature on the papers.

She wondered whether Julian would feel any remorse when he saw the certificate.

But that no longer had anything to do with her.

She no longer held the slightest attachment to him.

From now on, if they crossed paths again, they'd be strangers and that was exactly how she wanted it.

With that in mind, Autumn called Selena.

The call rang for a while before it connected.

As soon as it did, Derek Quinn's furious voice came through. "Selena, you actually pushed Sophie? Apologize to her right now!" Read full story at find.***novel.net

Selena let out a cold snort. "You cheated on me with her, and now you want me to apologize? Keep dreaming."

Autumn asked with concern, "Selena, what's going on over there?"

Before Selena could answer, Derek's angry voice came through again. "If you don't apologize today, we're done!"

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"Fine by me. I'm done putting up with this," Selena snapped, then turned and walked away.

Autumn heard soft sobs and couldn't help asking gently, "Selena, are you okay?"

She truly hadn't expected that after going through a divorce with Julian, Selena would be going through the same kind of heartbreak.

They really were friends bound by misfortune.

On the other end, Selena wiped away her tears and said casually, "It's not a big deal. Just a breakup. Don't worry, I'm not going to die from it."

She had only stayed at the small company because of Derek, choosing to stand by him and help him build it from

scratch.

But like most couples, they could weather hardship together-just not success.

Her family had strongly opposed their relationship, and she'd fought with them because of it.

In truth, she was the heiress of the Long family in Northhaven, but for the sake of Derek's startup, she'd hidden her identity and willingly worked as a low-level accountant.

Over the years, she had quietly pulled strings behind the scenes to bring him clients and help his business grow.

Afraid Derek would feel emasculated or resentful, she'd never told him the truth.

Yet somehow, he still managed to believe all the success was entirely his own doing.

Autumn let out a sigh. "What's really going on between you and Derek?"

At the mention of his name, Selena instantly deflated.

Her voice lost all energy. "His first love came back, and now he finds fault with everything I do. It's like I don't even exist anymore.

"Autumn, why is love always so damn hard for us? There's always a third party in the way. These homewreckers are just shameless."

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"I just want to get out of this mess as soon as possible. Break up, quit my job-I want to cut all ties with them. I just want to go home... sob..."

At that point, Selena's voice began to tremble. "Autumn, I need to learn from you. Cut the crap and walk away from this garbage man for good.

"He clawed his way to the top and dumped the one who helped him get there. Derek actually thinks it was all thanks to his own talent that those CEOs started recognizing him.

"Please. If it weren't for me pulling strings through my family's connections, he would've lost everything and been left in his underwear."

She blamed herself for falling for someone like that.

Back home, she was the cherished little princess of the Long family-when had she ever suffered like this?

She'd used her family's network to help Derek grow his business, and now he truly believed he was some hotshot.

He was shameless, absolutely ridiculous.

Two weeks ago, Derek brought his first love into the company and made her his assistant, keeping her close by wherever he went.

He even moved that homewrecker into the very apartment he and Selena had planned to live in after their wedding.

What was most shameless of all?

As the actual girlfriend, she wasn't even allowed to complain.

Otherwise, she was the unreasonable one.

She took a few days to calm herself, then handed in her resignation.

What she didn't expect was that Derek approved it right away and even broke up with her today.

It had all gone smoother than she imagined.

Good.

At least there was no dragging it out or making things uglier than they had to be.

Thank God they hadn't been living together.

She could walk away clean, without leaving behind a single trace.

Autumn comforted her, "Men like that don't deserve mercy. The more you indulge them, the more disgusting they get.

"Selena, I've got some good news too. I got the divorce certificate today. It's officially over between me and

Julian." For more chapters visit fndnovel.net

Selena was even more thrilled than Autumn.

"That's amazing. You should've done it a long time ago. I'm always behind you.

"I'm cutting things off clean on my side too. The sooner I get away from that jerk, the sooner I can breathe again.

"Autumn, let's go out tonight. Let's have a drink!"

Autumn had wanted to say that it took illness and heartbreak for her to finally wake up, but when the words reached her lips, she swallowed them back.

If it hadn't been for the diagnosis-mid-stage stomach cancer-she probably wouldn't have woken up so quickly.

Sometimes, she really envied Selena.

With her family's love and support, she'd surely bounce back in no time.

She wasn't so lucky.

The so-called family she had only ever judged her from their own self-righteous perspective, constantly pointing fingers and blaming her.

Family like that wasn't worth having.

“Alright,” Autumn agreed.

She hadn’t planned on going out-given her condition, she wasn’t supposed to drink.

But she knew Selena was in a bad place and needed someone with her.

She could always join her and toast with tea instead.

They arranged to meet at Royal Crest Lounge, one of the venues owned by the Long family.

The place was private and low-key, and everyone there knew Selena.

A single phone call was all it took.

Autumn had just stepped through the entrance when she unexpectedly ran into Julian and his group.

Julian frowned subtly the moment he saw her, while Ryan and Grant exchanged a look of surprise.

Autumn showing up at Royal Crest?

That was a shock.

She always popped up like a ghost-no matter where they went, they’d somehow run into her.

If she said it wasn’t on purpose, even she probably wouldn’t believe herself.

Luna clung tightly to Julian’s arm, blinking innocently as she looked up at him. “Julian, do you know this

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When Autumn appeared, Luna froze for a moment, then quickly regained her composure.

She had always wanted to confirm one thing-just how much Autumn still mattered to Julian.

She wanted to humiliate her, force her to back off, so she’d stop clinging to Julian like a stubborn leech that wouldn’t let go.

Even knowing Julian no longer loved her, Autumn still resorted to these pathetic tricks.

She was so manipulative.

Julian gave Autumn a single glance before parting his lips and saying, "I know her."

Ryan quickly added, "She used to work at Julian's company. They've only met a few times."

Seeing Luna frown, he was quick to explain, which thankfully softened her expression a little.

Luna replied nonchalantly, "Oh, how rude of her. Let's go, we can't keep Professor Shaw waiting."

No matter what Autumn did now, she couldn't win Julian's heart back.

It simply wasn't hers anymore.

Luna had nothing but disdain for her petty tricks.

Without the Lewis family present, she didn't even bother to glance in Autumn's direction.

So, what if Autumn had ruined her first attempt to become Edwin's apprentice?

Julian and her brother would still help her find another opportunity.

She believed that, with her own ability, Edwin would eventually recognize her and make an exception.

Autumn's lips curled into a cold, mocking smile.

The mistress daring to criticize the lawful wife.

How shameless.

After Julian and Luna left, Ryan stepped in front of Autumn.

"Autumn, Julian invested a hundred million into Professor Shaw's lab just to get him here for dinner.

"Please don't go over there and disrupt it. If you ruin this meeting, all that money goes up in smoke.

"You know how Julian is. He'll be furious. Why put yourself in a situation that'll make everyone uncomfortable, right?"

He thought he'd put it gently enough.

Hopefully, Autumn would understand and not cause a scene here because all it would do was push Julian even further away.

It wouldn't change a thing.

Grant also tried to reason with Autumn. “You’re not part of this circle, so of course you don’t understand how hard it is to survive in it.

“If you don’t have real ability, you won’t last long here. And Miss Lewis just happens to have the talent for it.

“Julian values talent. Plus, the Carter Group and the Lewis family have important business ties.

“What they have is just playing along with the situation, nothing more. Don’t take it too seriously.”

Even though he didn’t think there was any need to explain this much to Autumn, he still did, hoping she wouldn’t cause a scene at a time like this.

If she acted out now, it would only embarrass everyone.

There was nothing to gain from it.

Autumn just found it all ridiculous.

Playing along? Did that mean ending up in bed too?

But none of it mattered to her anymore.

They were already divorced-why should she care about her ex-husband’s business?

She nodded slightly, showing she understood.

“Are you finished? If you are, kindly move aside. The private room I booked is just behind you.”

With that, she didn’t even bother looking at their expressions.

She walked right past them and headed to her room.

Ryan was speechless.

So, after all that performance, she hadn’t taken them seriously at all?

Why did this feel a little awkward?

He turned to Grant. “Grant, what do you think Autumn meant by that? Isn’t Royal Crest members-only? Julian had to pull strings just to get a reservation.”

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“What kind of pull does Autumn even have, to get into this place and still act like she’s above everyone else?”

“Doesn’t she worry that pulling something like this will make us speak badly of her in front of Julian?”

Grant glanced at Autumn’s back and said lazily, “She’s probably just trying to get our attention so she can show off in front of Julian.

“But honestly, I think she’s leveled up quite a bit lately. No matter where Julian goes, she somehow shows up

too.

“I don’t know what kind of tricks she’s using to pull that off.” Chapters first released on find●novel.net

At that, Ryan couldn’t hold back the sarcasm curling at the corner of his lips.

“Whatever tricks she’s using, it doesn’t matter. Julian’s definitely not interested anymore. He’s all about Luna

“He’s throwing around money like crazy just to help her become Professor Shaw’s student. That’s real love.”

Grant nodded in full agreement.

With her family’s backing and Julian’s generous support, it was almost impossible for her not to succeed.

Autumn had no idea they were talking behind her back.

After stepping into the private room, Selena arrived shortly after.

As she sat down, she grumbled in frustration, “Guess who I ran into on the way here? That scumbag and his little tramp, strutting around like they owned the place!

“You have no idea how disgusting they looked. I nearly threw up everything I ate for breakfast.

“Luna was actually clinging to Julian right there in the hallway. It was revolting. I almost ran over and ripped them both apart.”

When she first saw them, her instinct had been to charge forward, but a server had stepped in to stop her.

And in that split second, her head finally cleared.

Thank God for that server.

Otherwise, she really might've torn them apart.

If she had caused a scene, it would've fallen on Autumn to clean up the mess.

Now that the divorce was final, it was better to let things end cleanly.

With that thought, Selena finally began to calm down.

At least nothing irreversible had happened.

Autumn calmly stood up and poured her a glass of water.

"I already have the divorce certificate. I'm way past caring about any of that."

Selena took the glass and sipped it.

"Good. That's exactly how it should be. Let that scumbag and his little tramp stay locked together forever. The world's better off without them."

Just then, a server came over, and Selena immediately ordered several dishes and a few bottles of good liquor.

With a generous wave of her hand, she declared, "Autumn, we're not going home sober tonight!"

Autumn looked a little hesitant and said to her, "I just got discharged from the hospital for a cold. I can't drink for now. I'll toast with tea and keep you company that way!"

"And don't drink too much either, okay? If you end up so drunk you can't find your way home, I won't be able to carry you."

Hearing that, Selena reached over and held Autumn's hand, giving her a once-over with concern.

When she spotted the needle mark on her arm, her heart ached.

She bit her lip and said, "Autumn, you were hospitalized? Why didn't you tell me? You've gotten so thin-I'll order something light for you."

Before Autumn could respond, Selena told the server to remove some of the alcohol and replace it with lighter dishes.

The food came quickly.

Selena popped open a bottle, filled her glass to the brim, and downed it in one go.

Then another.

And another before going for the third one.

She was in a foul mood today, and drinking was the only way to drown it out.

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Selena drank as she cursed, “That scumbag Derek-I went through so much with him, and in the end, I still couldn’t compete with one coy word from his precious first love.

“Autumn, don’t you think all men are the same trash? Julian was like that, and so is Derek.

“I begged my brother to help with his project. My brother warned me that he wasn’t a good guy. I didn’t believe him. I thought he was just being biased. But now? I believe it.”

She downed another shot of hard liquor, choking as the burn brought tears to her eyes.

“He’s got too much pride. I never told him what I did behind the scenes, just so he wouldn’t feel like he was living off me.

“And now that the company’s taken off, he really thinks he’s something. Isn’t that just hilarious?

“That bastard-can’t stay loyal to one woman while chasing after another. Men like him deserve to be locked up and left to rot.”

Thinking of all she'd given over the years, it felt like a cruel joke.

Her heart bled from the betrayal.

Autumn reached out to take the glass from her, but Selena dodged it.

"Autumn, let me drink. I really can't take it anymore. I just want to run over there and tear those two apart.

"Who would've thought that the man who once treated me like a queen would end up falling for the same old first-love cliché?"

The more she talked, the more heartbroken she became.

Her tears spilled like pearls from a broken strand.

Autumn reached out to comfort her, her own eyes misting over. "I get how you feel. But Selena, you're lucky— you have a family who loves you.

"Unlike me. My family turned against me thanks to Luna and her mother. They treat me like an enemy. And yet, I'm still standing, aren't I?"

“Why don’t you come work with me? Let’s build something amazing together. Who needs men? We’ll get rich ourselves!”

Thinking back on her own past, Autumn felt a deep sadness, but none of it mattered anymore.

Let it all drift away with the wind.

Selena squinted, tipped her head back for another drink, then slumped over the table, mumbling, “Sure... let’s get rich together.”

With that, her eyes fluttered shut, and she quickly passed out.

Autumn called a server to watch over Selena while she got up to use the restroom.

As she passed a private room with the door slightly ajar, she overheard a voice from inside. UPDATE FROM FindNovel.net

“Professor Shaw, I’ll take your advice seriously. I hope you’ll consider being my mentor and continue to guide

me.”

“Professor, my little sister has always been top of her class since she was a child. She’s outstanding in every way. I hope you’ll give it some thought.”

“As long as you’re willing to take Luna in as your student, we’re prepared to invest even more into your lab.”

At that moment, all Autumn felt was bitter irony.

When she wanted to return to her career, they tried everything to stop her.

But now that Luna wanted to become an apprentice, they were doing everything possible-throwing money at the problem just to buy her a spot.

This was the difference between love and indifference.

How utterly laughable.

Back in the private room, Autumn gave Selena’s brother, Bowen Long, a call. “Bowen, can you come pick up Selena? She had too much to drink at Royal Crest.”

Bowen answered with a quick “Got it,” and hung up.

He arrived in less than ten minutes.

When he walked in and saw Selena passed out at the table, he glanced at the empty bottles scattered around.

A flash of pain crossed his eyes as he looked at Autumn and asked, “What happened to her? Why did she drink so much?”

He remembered his sister could usually hold her liquor pretty well.

She wasn’t the type to black out easily.

Something must have happened to upset her enough to drown herself in alcohol here.

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Autumn let out a sigh and explained everything that had happened to Bowen.

Bowen slammed his hand on the table in anger. “That bastard Derek-I told her from the beginning he was no good, but Selena wouldn’t listen.

“She even cut ties with the family for him, and now look at her-this is what she gets?

“I’m not letting that jerk off the hook. Everything he gained from Selena, I’ll make sure he pays back with interest.”

Anyone who dared to betray Bowen’s sister was going to pay.

The Long family wouldn't let it slide.

A man who trampled on someone's genuine love deserved to choke on a thousand needles to make up pain he caused.

Afterward, Bowen dropped Autumn off at her place.

Autumn glanced at Selena, fast asleep in the backseat, then turned to Bowen.

"She's been through a lot lately. Take care of her when you get back, okay?"

Bowen nodded. "I will."

Only after watching their car pull away did Autumn turn and head upstairs.

By the time she got home, it was already nine. For original chapters go to find [N]ovel.net

She poured herself a big glass of water, then headed for a shower.

The next day was the weekend, and she slept in.

Just as she finished making a pot of oatmeal, there was a knock at the door.

Setting down the oatmeal, she walked over to open it and found Keith standing there.

He wore a fitted black loungewear set that outlined his tall frame, his features sharp and striking.

for the

For a moment, she wondered if it was just her imagination, but Keith seemed far more approachable today, the usual edge in his demeanor softened.

Autumn froze for a second, then smiled and greeted him. "Senior, are you off today too? I just made some oatmeal-want to join me?"

She'd made extra on purpose, planning to spend the day at home writing and living off the oatmeal.

She'd only extended the offer out of politeness, assuming Keith would brush it off and say he'd already eaten.

But to her surprise, Keith's lips curved faintly. "Sure, I haven't had breakfast yet.

He had actually heard her moving around earlier and was going to ask her out for breakfast anyway.

Now that she'd already made some, he didn't mind joining her.

After Keith came in, Autumn brought out a steaming bowl of oatmeal from the kitchen.

The oatmeal smelled warm and fragrant.

In no time, Keith had finished the entire bowl.

In contrast, Autumn ate slowly, taking small bites.

After a few spoonfuls, she lost her appetite and set the spoon down, ready to clear the dishes.

But before she could react, the bowl in front of her was taken away.

Keith had picked it up and began eating from it.

Autumn couldn't help but remind him, "I already ate from that bowl."

"Yeah," Keith replied simply, as he quickly finished the rest of the oatmeal.

He knew she had eaten from it, yet he still finished it—wasn't he bothered by that?

While Autumn was overthinking, Keith had already finished and stood up.

He took the bowl from her hands and headed into the kitchen to wash the dishes.

She stood frozen in place, stunned.

The heir to the Sinclair family was actually doing the dishes-how unbelievable.

Her thoughts drifted to Julian.

In all the years she'd known him, he had never even stepped into the kitchen.

Even when Autumn had made meals for him, Julian would act like it was unnecessary-after all, they had a maid. Why should she bother?

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The phone on the table suddenly rang.

Autumn glanced at the screen-it was a call from Jason.

She slid her finger to answer, and his formal, businesslike voice came through the line.

"Miss Lewis, we've confirmed the court hearing for tomorrow at ten a.m. We hope you can arrive on time."

Autumn stood frozen for several seconds.

Even after the call ended, she still hadn't recovered from the shock.

Tomorrow was her mother's three-year death anniversary, and Julian had chosen that exact day to take her to

court.

He'd probably forgotten about it altogether.

She didn't even know what words could describe what she was feeling anymore.

Keith walked out of the kitchen just as she was finishing the call.

He strode over, his sharp gaze fixed on her.

"Your ex-husband is suing you? And he picked your mother's death anniversary to do it?"

Autumn stared at the darkened phone screen and nodded weakly. "Yeah... sorry you had to see this."

She could barely stay on her feet.

She had to grip the table to keep from collapsing.

Her whole body trembled from anger.

How could Julian treat her like this?

Didn't he believe in karma? That one day it would all come back to him?

She hated letting Keith see her at such a low point, but right now she didn't care anymore. Content originally comes from FindNovel.net

She felt like a balloon that had completely deflated-slumped into a chair, her mind blank, not knowing what to do next.

Keith pulled out the chair next to her and sat down. "Do you need help?"

Autumn steadied herself and then shook her head. "No. You're already busy, I shouldn't trouble you with everything."

She thought that if something could be handled on her own, she shouldn't lean on anyone else.

She had relied on Julian too much in the past, and that had only led to deeper wounds.

There was nothing left from that relationship except scars and sickness.

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Keith's dark eyes rested heavily on her, lips pressed into a tight line.

He didn't say a word, but the pressure he gave off was impossible to ignore.

Autumn clutched the hem of her shirt, feeling a chill run down her spine as a wave of cold intensity seemed to

rush at her.

She didn't understand-she hadn't asked Keith for help, so why did he look so upset?

"Autumn."

His voice came from above, low and restrained. "Why is your ex-husband suing you?"

There was a tension in the air, like the calm before a storm-it made it hard to sit still.

Autumn pressed her lips together, finding it difficult to speak, but eventually she still told him the truth.

For some reason, by the time she got to the end, her eyes had turned red.

Or maybe it was because every time he appeared, she inexplicably felt safe enough to lower her guard and show him the most vulnerable side of herself.

A flicker of complex emotion passed through Keith's dark eyes. "Just focus on what you need to do tomorrow. Leave the rest to me."

Those words alone soothed the restless anxiety in her heart.

Autumn looked at him with gratitude. "Thank you, Senior"

"Mm."

Keith raised his wrist to glance at his watch. "I've got a meeting coming up. I'll head out first."

She watched as he left, then quickly got herself ready and went out as well.

She headed to her uncle's house to help her aunt prepare the offerings for the next day.

Time passed quickly, and soon it was the day of the memorial.

Autumn got up early. Her mood was heavy, and she looked visibly drained.

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