Ruling 721

Chapter 721

Aery paled. She knew Helen was telling the truth. In the past, Helen would get incredibly angry whenever she made a mistake. However, throughout the process of bailing her out of jail, Helen remained calm. Arianne was Helen's daughter as well. However, Helen still abandoned Arianne previously. In short, Helen was a cold and cruel person. She began to feel frightened when she thought about all these things. She tentatively grabbed Helen's sleeves and said, "Mom… I was wrong. I won't do it again. I promise to listen to you from now on. Can you… Can you please plead with Mark darling to get dad out of jail as well? Dad is locked up because of me. Please, I'm begging you…"

Helen no longer felt anything when she thought about Jean. "It's not easy for me to save you, and you still want me to save your dad? Do you think I can do as I please? Do you think you can do as you please? I'm not so foolish as to bail your dad out of jail. It's going to be even more annoying to have another parasite pestering me. If you want a peaceful life, listen to me, go and study abroad. If you even have an inkling of disobeying me, then, don't appear in my life ever again."

Aery nodded repeatedly. "Fine… I'll listen to you. I'll certainly study hard. I'll be obedient. But… But can I ask for a chance to meet Mark darling before I leave?"

Helen said without any hesitation, "Impossible! He belongs to Arianne. Don't even think about meeting him. In fact, don't even hold any kind of fantasy about him! You shouldn't even have your eyes on him! Don't have any wishful thoughts about him! Get into the car and go home now!"

Aery looked at Tremont Tower through the car window. She found it hard to leave since the person she adored the most was in that tower. However, it seemed like they were living in two different worlds now. She knew if she did not play the part of Helen's obedient daughter, she would never be able to meet Mark again for the rest of her life. For this reason, she had no choice but to pretend to be an obedient daughter and a nice younger sister.

In Alejandro's manor.

Alejandro seemed to be thinking about something as he looked at the screen of his phone. He had, naturally, noticed she had blocked him on social media. He was certainly surprised at Tiffany's determination.

Lynn remained quiet as she stood beside him. She was depressed for a short while after she left the dessert shop. Suddenly, Alejandro's subordinates took the initiative to meet her before hiring her. She did not think it was a coincidence. There must be a plot lying in wait somewhere. She felt that the man next to her was rather dangerous. The things he had asked her to do were strange as well. It was true that he was the one who instructed her to send that message to Jackson. He even dictated the content of the message. There was only one reason why she put up with all these things and worked with him. Their goal was the same; he wanted Tiffany, and she wanted Jackson.

"Lynn, tell me… What's so attractive about Jackson? Why is Tiffany so loyal to him?" Alejandro asked out of the blue.

Lynn pulled herself together and replied, "Jackson comes from a good family. His appearance is exceptional as well. Moreover, he has a good character. In short, he's outstanding in many aspects. His only flaw is his lack of loyalty. However, even that changed the moment he began to date Tiffany. All the women who had been with him had also been loyal to him. Everyone is unique and attractive in their own way. Things like these are hard to explain."

Alejandro sneered. "All the women who had been with him… Does that include you? How pathetic! It's certainly pitiful to have an unrequited love. What do you think? How can we break the trust between them? Tiffany will never put up with betrayal. What about Jackson? What's his kryptonite?"

Lynn considered it for a short while before she said, “His self-esteem.” Then, she asked, “You seem to know Tiffany well… Do you know each other from before?”

Alejandro tilted his head and looked at her. His eyes were cold. “Don’t ask things you shouldn’t be asking. Just do the things you’re supposed to do.”

Lynn became nervous when he stared at her. She looked down anxiously and replied, “Alright!”

Chapter 722

It was New Year’s Eve. Tiffany was slightly nervous. Usually, they had a holiday that lasted for three days. She was supposed to return to the West family’s residence with Jackson, but Jackson seemed quite determined about not going home for New Year’s Eve and Easter.

When she got up early in the morning, she called Arianne, asking for help. “Dear, what should I do now? I want to return to the West family’s residence for New Year’s Eve. I want to go home and visit my mom as well, but Jackson pretended to be asleep. He doesn’t even want to wake up until now. I’m so stressed out. He’s still quarreling with his parents. It would be improper if I don’t visit them, but it would be awkward if I visit alone.”

Arianne was out of ideas as well. “You can either support your husband or ignore the awkwardness and return to the West family’s residence alone. I’m running out of ideas as well. After all, things like this won’t happen to me. However, your call reminded me that I have to call my grandma and ask about her later. Just have a talk with Jackson and come up with a solution.”

Tiffany was annoyed when she hung up the phone. She went to the bed and pulled the blanket aside. “Jackson, you better get up now. Today is New Year’s Eve. We have to visit your mom and my mom.”

Jackson looked at her blearily. “I don’t mind visiting your mom, but we’re not visiting my mom.”

She had expected this reply. She pinched his waist softly. “She’s your mom! Your biological mother! You better visit her at home. Are you planning not to see her for the rest of your life? You find it difficult to see your dad, but what about your mom? Do you hate her as well? What about when we get married in the future? They need to attend our wedding ceremony. What’s going through your mind? You better get up immediately. We’ll have lunch at your mom’s. Then, we’ll go to my mom’s at night. You can rest properly for the next two days. I know you’re busy with work at the end of the year, but my request isn’t big. If you’re unwilling, I’m really going to get angry!”

Jackson seemed unwilling to compromise. “I’ve already told you that we’re not going to visit my mom. Don’t force me. You can do anything you want except for that.”

In the end, Tiffany had no choice but to give up. Jackson was as stubborn as a mule in regard to that matter.

At the Tremont Estate.

When Arianne could not get through to her grandma on the phone, she felt slightly anxious. She ran to the study to talk to Mark. “I can’t seem to reach my grandma. The number’s dead. However, previously, I managed to reach her on that number. Did she change her number? Do you have her new phone number?”

Mark was stunned. “Maybe… I don’t know her new phone number either. I’m kind of busy right now. I’ll check for you later. Why did you decide to call her? Is anything the matter?”

She frowned, looking as though she was put in a difficult spot. “It’s New Year’s Eve. I should call her and ask about her health.”

Mark looked down. “Actually, if grandma doesn’t want you to contact her, maybe you should follow her wish. You know how she is. She definitely changed her number without telling me about it. Are you hungry? Go and grab a bite. By the way, you should send a message to your mom and ask about her as well. A while back, she came to the company to meet me, asking about you. She was afraid you might be unhappy so she didn’t try and meet you.”

Arianne’s expression changed the instant Mark mentioned Helen. “I’m going to get something to eat.”

Mark heaved a long sigh of relief after she went downstairs. He did not know how long he could hide her grandma’s death from her. He could give a simple excuse like that during New Year’s Eve, but what about Easter? He would have to wait until she had given birth to the baby, at least, before he broke the news to her. Now, the pressure of the incident was all on him. He became quite upset whenever he thought about that.

Chapter 723

Arianne was in the dining room downstairs, slightly hesitating as she looked for Helen’s number. She could not help the emotions that stirred in her when she heard Mark said Helen had asked about her. She felt family love when she was reunited with her grandma. Perhaps, that was the reason she was not as averse to Helen compared to before. In the end, she sent a message to Helen, wishing Helen a happy New Year’s Eve.

Helen was in a great mood after she received Arianne's message. After replying to Arianne's message, she returned to what she was doing before. At this moment, she was helping Aery pack her things. Aery would be going abroad today. Everything had been arranged and dealt with.

Before they left the house, Aery was still protesting. "Mom… Is it true that I'm not allowed to return home until I've graduated? Since I've agreed to leave, why won't you allow me to meet Mark darling? Why don't you visit Arianne? I'll just look at Mark darling from afar. Is that okay?"

Helen's expression worsened. "We've discussed this. It's impossible. I won't visit Arianne for this reason. It's impossible for you to meet Mark." She knew that she needed to be determined. Arianne was now pregnant. She must not let Aery approach Arianne even if pigs could fly.

Aery bit her lips. "Fine… I'll study hard when I'm abroad. I'll try to gain your approval. I'll… gain Arianne's forgiveness as well. After all, we're family. It's an indisputable fact that she's my sister. Although I dislike her, I don't want to lose you."

That was the first time Aery had said such words to Helen. For that reason, Helen's attitude softened as well. "It's good that you're sensible now. Arianne is pregnant. You better stay far away from her. After she gives birth to her baby, I'll consider letting you come home to visit them. You can treat her as your sister, but she might not do the same. Moreover, Mark can only be your brother-in-law. Don't think about other things. If you listen to me, you'll live an enjoyable life from now on. I can guarantee that."

Aery smiled and remained quiet. She would never be able to gain the things she wanted in her life. Her life was ruined long ago from all kinds of pain. How could she still enjoy her life? She was only obedient now so she could meet Mark again even if he would only remain as her brother-in-law.

At White Water Bay Villa.

Jackson stalled for time. It was ten o'clock in the morning, and they had not even left the house.

Tiffany could no longer hold back her anger. "Mr. West, my mom has cooked lunch for us. Why are you dallying? Are you looking for gold in the creek?"

Jackson looked into the mirror and slowly smoothed his hair. "I hope you don't have any ideas about bringing me to my mom's while we're on our way to visit your mom..."

Tiffany rolled her eyes. "You've made yourself very clear that you don't want to visit your mom. How am I going to force you? I told you that we're going to my mom's. Please hurry up. My mom has already called me a few times. Can you please be more serious?"

Jackson was relieved when he heard Tiffany's confirmation. "Fine. Let's go."

As soon as they entered the car, Jackson received a call. His phone was connected to the car via Bluetooth so Tiffany could see who was calling him. Although he did not save the number on his phone, she knew it was Lynn's phone number. She felt a wave of anger rising in her heart. She really wished she could kill him with her death stare. "What's this? Didn't you tell me you're not going to get in touch with her? I've already blocked Alejandro's number. Why didn't you do the same with her?"

Jackson canceled the call immediately. "I forgot. However, it's true that I have zero contact with her. I'll block her number later. Let's not argue during the holidays."

Soon after, Lynn called again. Tiffany answered the call this time around, but she remained silent. She was curious to see what kind of conversation would take place between him and Lynn.

Chapter 724

Jackson felt helpless. “Hello?”

Lynn’s voice sounded from the other end of the line. “Why aren’t you here yet?”

That question was strange. Tiffany was confused. Did they plan to have a clandestine meeting? She harshly pinched Jackson’s arm.

Jackson, who felt aggrieved, endured the pain. “Where? What are you talking about?”

Lynn replied naturally, “The family residence. I came to visit Mr. and Mrs. West. I thought you’re coming home today. Why aren’t you here at this hour?”

Jackson’s expression turned sour. “Why did you go there?”

At this moment, Lynn chatted with Summer in the background. It seemed like they had quite a good relationship. When she returned to the phone, she said, “It’s been such a long time since I last visited. Mrs. West was quite nice to me previously. It’s only right that I visit her. Will you be coming home?”

He said bluntly, “I’m not, and I won’t. I’m going to my mother-in-law’s house with Tiffie. I’ll hang up now if there’s nothing else.” Then, he hung up before Lynn could reply.

Tiffany was furious. “Did she deliberately do that to anger me? She acts like she’s your parents’ daughter-in-law. I’m their daughter-in-law, but I’m not even visiting them on New Year’s Eve. This is all your fault. You said you have zero contact with her, but what’s this? Don’t you still contact her? Not only did you bring her home before, but she even treats your family so well. You b*stard!”

Jackson was infuriated. “That’s in the past. She’s a pitiful orphan. My mom pitied her so I brought her home twice for New Year’s Eve. We didn’t go home often. Later, when I stopped contacting her, my mom had also forgotten about her. I don’t know what kind of trick she’s trying to pull here. We’re not going back to the house anyway so we don’t have to see her. She can do whatever she wants. Don’t vent your anger on me. You rarely get angry, but when you do, it’s terrible…”

Tiffany suppressed her anger and kept quiet. She was afraid she might lose her temper if the conversation continued.

On their way home, Jackson chose a lot of presents for Lilian. He tried his best to please Tiffany, but she only gave him the cold shoulder. He knew he had created a big trouble, but he did not expect Lynn to suddenly visit the family residence.

When they arrived at Lilian’s place, Tiffany hid her terrible mood. However, she appeared angry and unhappy again after the meal.

Jackson became desperate. “My dear, you can’t blame me for this. Should I call her and talk it over with her now? I’ll ask her to stop visiting my family residence, okay? I’ll even ask her to stop contacting me. Is that okay?”

Tiffany was still angry. “Sure. Make the call. Put it on speaker mode. I want to listen in!”

Jackson did not do anything he should feel guilty about so he did not hesitate. He called Lynn immediately.

When Lynn answered the phone, he heard happy and lively voices in the background before he could even speak. It seemed like Lynn was playing with Summer’s pet dog, Little Bean. “It’s so cute and smart. It seems to understand everything I said. Mrs. West, I adore it. Can I visit again? Am I disturbing you and Mr. West?”

He heard Summer’s reply through the phone. “You’re more than welcome to visit. You won’t disturb us. Jackson and Tiffie rarely come home. It’s good if you visit. It’s livelier with you around.”

Chapter 725

When Jackson saw the drastic change in Tiffany’s expression, Jackson braced himself and said, “Lynn, step aside. I need to talk to you.”

It gradually turned quiet on the other end of the line. Lynn seemed to have stepped aside. “What’s wrong? Why did you call me? Didn’t you say you’re not coming home?”

He said coldly, “Don’t visit my home anymore, and don’t approach my parents. On top of that, don’t contact me anymore.”

Lynn fell silent for about two seconds before she asked, “Why?”

He bluntly said, “It’s because I don’t want to have anything to do with you. Moreover, I don’t want to make my fiancée unhappy as well. Is that reason enough for you? We’ve stopped contacting each other quite a while ago, what you’re doing now is completely unnecessary.”

Suddenly, Lynn broke into laughter. “I’m not doing this because of you. I just feel Mrs. West is a nice person, and I want to spend time with her. Moreover, she has no problem with me and treats me like a daughter. If you don’t mind, I’ll treat you as my elder brother. Life is long, we might meet again in the future. Don’t be so cruel. As for Tiffany, what does it have to do with me if she’s unhappy? You didn’t even know who she was when we were dating…”

Tiffany was furious. She sneered as she said, “Lynn, you’re really shameless! You acted innocent and taciturn when you were in the dessert shop. Who knew you’re like this? Yes, you’ve dated him before. So what? You’re not the only one he had a relationship with. What do you have to be so smug about? You even shamelessly visit his home. Are you insane? How can you even brag about having dated him before? You need to get your head out of the clouds and snap back to reality.”

Lynn did not expect Jackson to put the call on speaker mode. It seemed like Tiffany had heard their entire conversation. Her voice turned cold as she said, “You don’t even want to come home to visit Mr. and Mrs. West. It’s fine if you don’t care about them, but how can you stop others from doing so?”

Tiffany was about to retort when Summer’s voice sounded from the other end of the line. “Are you talking to Tiffie and Jackson?”

Tiffany gripped the hem of her clothes tightly. Lynn truly knew how to plot against her by trying to sow discord in that manner. Now Summer was going to think Tiffany was an irrational daughter-in-law while Lynn was kind and sensible.

Lynn changed her tone immediately. Her tone was now gentle and soft. “It’s… Tiffany. She seems unhappy that I came to visit. But I’ve known Jackson for many years now, how is it possible for us to not have any contact? It’s fine. She probably misunderstood me. I don’t mind.”

Summer took over the phone. “Tiffie? Don’t worry about it. Lynnie has known Jackson for a long time. You’re not coming home, right? Go and enjoy yourselves. Don’t worry about us.” Then, she hung up.

Tiffany and Jackson looked at each other in anger and resignation. What was Lynn plotting now? She did not even try to put on a show with Jackson. However, it seemed like she was trying to get into his parents’ good books.

Chapter 726

Jackson tried to calm down. “That… I’ll explain things to my mom, and tell her not to have any contact with Lynn again. Don’t be angry. I didn’t expect this. I didn’t know she’s like this…”

Tiffany scowled. “I’m truly impressed by her. She’s such a manipulative b*tch. I admit I can’t compete with her. What is she thinking? Shouldn’t she be trying to sow discord between us instead of turning my mother-in-law against me? Moreover, it’s not like I’ll be living with my mother-in-law. It doesn’t seem like a very good scheme. What kind of trick is she trying to pull? If you’re a true gentleman, go and explain it to your mom face-to-face tonight. If you let me suffer anymore, I’ll never forgive you!”

Jackson was running out of ideas as well. He could only acquiesce to her wish. “Fine, I’ll go tonight. How about you? Are you coming with me?”

She gritted her teeth. “I don’t want to! What if Lynn is still there? What if I can’t hold myself back when I meet her? You know my temper. I don’t want to ruin my reputation and image in front of your mom. I don’t care! You have to resolve it. If not, I’ll make you suffer terribly for this! Send me to Ari’s!”

When they reached Tremont Estate, Jackson got out of the car as well. He went straight to the study to meet Mark. “I almost lost my mind. I just had a fight with her a while back. It seems like there’s going to be another crisis. You’ve no idea how frightening it is when women get angry. Let me tell you, don’t ever let Arianne stay with Tiffie alone. Arianne is so smart, and I can’t take the solutions she suggests to Tiffie. Please have some mercy on my soul!”

Mark smiled smugly. “That’s true. Ari’s indeed smarter than Tiffany. What happened this time around?”

Jackson was angry when he thought about Lynn. “It’s Lynn. She went to my family residence to visit my mom. She even called me, and Tiffie was right there when I received the call. They got into a spat. Now I need to return home to deal with it. I really brought trouble to myself by being nice to Lynn previously. If I knew this was going to happen, I wouldn’t have pitied her before.”

Mark raised his eyebrows. “Do you think she’s the only one who’s causing trouble? Do you know who’s her boss?”

Jackson finally regained his senses. “How could I forget? Lynn wasn’t like this in the past, she didn’t stir up trouble. As for Alejandro, what’s he trying to do? I didn’t have any contact with him before. If he wants to expand his business in the capital, it’s ridiculous for him to start with me. It would’ve been smarter for him to start with you. Maybe he’s not capable enough? The Smiths aren’t as influential as

the Tremonts after all. Although it's not easy to get rid of him, it's not difficult either. It seems like this matter isn't as simple as it seems…"

Mark shook his head. "It's not related to the business. After he came to the capital, all he did was acquire a bar and bought two plots of land. Other than that, he did nothing else. He won't be able to threaten us. I feel that he came for someone. You better be careful. Don't be caught unaware when your woman is taken away. I think it's best you investigate Alejandro's identity and background. Although we have some information about him, it doesn't hurt to do a thorough investigation."

Jackson tried his best to recall the facts. Tiffany told him that the first time she met Alejandro was when she went drinking alone at the bar. Alejandro gifted her a bottle of wine as the owner of the bar. He then took the initiative and helped her resolve her personal issue. After that, he had obtained her number in a natural manner, and he even invited her out for dinner. Later, he tried to ask her out so she blocked his number. He might have continued to pursue her if she did not decisively reject him. At this moment, he realized that Alejandro did, indeed, have his eyes on someone.

Although Alejandro was disabled for so many years, he came from a wealthy family with good family background. He was always surrounded by women. It was impossible for him to have any kind of fantasies toward Tiffany. There might be some underlying plots behind it.

On the other hand, Jackson was a normal person. He was so much better than Alejandro in various aspects. In fact, he was not afraid of Alejandro trying to snatch Tiffany away from him. He was only worried that Alejandro might use some cunning plots against him. After all, it was not easy to defend himself against attacks like that. "Fine. Fortunately, I came to see you today. I would've forgotten about that if it weren't for your reminder. I'll go home now. Please take care of her for me. Remember what I told you. Ask your woman to have some mercy on my soul."

Chapter 727

Mark waved his hand helplessly. "Go ahead. I can't be bothered about so many things."

When Jackson walked past the living room downstairs, he smiled as he said, “Arianne, have a nice chat with Tiffie. I’ll come and pick her up later.”

Tiffany appeared displeased. “Don’t you dare come pick me up if you can’t resolve this. I get angry whenever I see you!”

Arianne smiled, remaining silent. Soon after, she received a message from Jackson. “Help me coax her. Don’t suggest any ideas to her. I really can’t take it. I’m begging you.” It seemed like Jackson was traumatized by what happened previously when he fought with Tiffany. She did not expect Tiffany would take up her suggestion, immediately packing up her things and leave. It scared the hell out of Jackson.

…

At the West family’s residence.

Before Jackson entered the house, he could already hear distinct Summer’s laughter. It had been such a long time since his home was filled with such liveliness…

Lynn was still there. When they saw him, Summer smiled and greeted him. “Jackson, didn’t you say you won’t be coming home? Where’s Tiffie?”

He said calmly, “She’s spending some time with Arianne at Mark’s. Arianne’s pregnant, and she’s not that strong so she can’t simply go anywhere. Mom, please come with me. I’ve something to discuss with you.”

Summer glanced at Lynn.

Lynn held the pet dog, Little Bean, in her arms and smiled faintly. “It’s fine, Mrs. West. Go ahead.”

Jackson and Summer went to a room upstairs.

Jackson did not beat around the bush. “Mom, don’t let Lynn visit anymore. Both Tiffie and I feel uncomfortable with it. She’s not who she appears to be. There’s a lot of things that you’re not privy to. If you want our family to have peaceful days, please do as I said. Just act as though you’ve never met her.”

Summer raised her hand and tucked her hair behind her ear. “Do you think I’m a fool? Do you think I’m unaware of that? I know what happened the minute you stopped being with Lynn. I’ve investigated her. Moreover, I know you well. You won’t defecate where you eat. You won’t accept her no matter how hard she tries to force herself on you. You’ll only be disgusted by her.”

Jackson was slightly puzzled. “If you know about this, why are you allowing her to linger here? You even treat her like she’s your daughter. Do you want a daughter so badly? Why didn’t you give birth to one when you were young? There’s still time if you want to adopt one now. I won’t mind!”

Summer glared at him. “She suggested it casually so I simply said yes. It’s just a perfunctory answer. It’s annoying enough to have a son like you. Why would I go and adopt another child and bring trouble to myself? She visited us and brought us gifts. Naturally, I couldn’t just drive her away. Moreover… it

seemed like her visit caused such a great impact that you even came home when you were adamant you wouldn't. What do you think? Why didn't I ask her to leave but put on a show with her? You should really bring Tiffie home and have dinner with us. I think it's better that you don't come home if you're just going to come home alone."

It was an indisputable fact that wisdom came with age. Summer had planned everything well.

Jackson was relieved upon learning the truth. "Fine. Just assume I didn't come. I'll leave now so as to not further annoy you. About Lynn… Please resolve it properly. Don't have any further contact with her, please. You'll only bring me trouble. Understand?"

Summer sneered. "Is this how you speak to your mother? Why should I listen to you? Not only are you unwilling to visit me, but you're going to stop others from doing so?"

Jackson understood the underlying meaning in her words. He said through clenched teeth, "I'll bring Tiffie home and have meals with you occasionally as long as you make Lynn leave."

Summer patted his shoulder once before saying, "Deal. Occasionally sounds too vague. I'm sure it won't be troublesome if you come home once a month."

Chapter 728

When they returned to the living room downstairs, Summer suddenly said, "Lynnie, aren't you busy in the afternoon? Jackson is leaving now. I'll ask him to give you a ride."

Jackson did not expect Summer would get rid of Lynn for her convenience in such a way. Although he was incredibly reluctant, he still agreed to it. “Let’s go.”

Lynn was certainly more than willing to do so. “Then, I’ll take my leave now. Mrs. West. I’ll come and visit you and Mr. West next time.”

Summer saw them to the door. When she turned around, she saw Atticus standing at the foot of the stairs. “Is Jackson gone?”

She sighed. “Yes, he’s gone. When he came, you avoided him. But when he left, you asked me so much about him. I don’t even know how long you’re going to be like this. It’s exhausting seeing the two of you like this. Go and paint. I didn’t get to enjoy your love and care all these years. Sell more of your paintings so I can use your money when I go shopping. I’ll be happy at that time.”

Atticus smiled shyly. He was quite loyal and honest. “I’ll give you every penny I have. Even if you go shopping every day, you won’t be able to spend them all…”

Summer glared at him. Many years had passed, but he was still an unromantic man. It was almost impossible to find a romantic bone in him. It would never happen even if pigs could fly.

When Lynn got into the car, she took the passenger seat.

Upon seeing this, Jackson was quite annoyed, but he tried to endure it. After all, he was successful in getting rid of this annoying person. “What are you trying to do?”

Lynn tilted her head and looked at him. “What do you mean? You’re being too suspicious.”

He did not even bother with pretenses. “Did Alejandro tell you to do all these things? What’s his motive in approaching Tiffie? You better be honest with me.”

Lynn adjusted her body and sat comfortably. She even adjusted the seat. At that moment, she appeared relaxed and nonchalant. “Our relationship is different now. Why should I listen to you? I won’t gain anything by listening to you. I don’t want to be nice and obedient anymore. You must remember that you were the one who abandoned me.”

Jackson was speechless. “Abandoned you? Why would you use such a term? What are you thinking? If I knew it’d be like this after I helped you, I’d let you wander the streets back then!”

Finally, Lynn’s expression changed. Her face was pale as she smiled bitterly. “If you’re going to abandon me anyway, I’d prefer it if you didn’t help me in the first place. You thought you were being kind by giving me a glimpse of true happiness, but you’re also the one who sent me straight to hell. For you, you might just be lending a hand to a stray dog or cat. However, it’s different for me. You saved me. Do you know what that means? You don’t. You’ve lived a privileged life since you were born. How could you understand what someone who lives in the abyss feels? I wonder if you ever fall into the abyss like me, would you be with me again?”

It was clearly impossible to chat with someone like her. Jackson’s expression worsened. He stopped his car at the side of a junction when they were approaching the Tremont Estate. “Please get out of the car. I’m going to pick someone up now.”

Lynn looked out of the window. When she saw a silver sports car passing by, a scheme appeared in her mind. “Are you going to pick Tiffany up? Is she so special… to you? You’re able to accept her even though she had been raped before?”

Jackson turned around and glared at her. His eyes were brimming with fury. He seemed to struggle to hold himself back as he said, “Shut up! I don’t care how you learned about that, but you better take that to your grave!”

Chapter 729

Lynn chuckled softly. “I know another secret. Wanna hear about it?” She took advantage of Jackson’s momentary confusion and pounced on him, throwing her arms around his neck and kissing him. She was skilled in self-defense, she was not the average delicate and frail female.

Jackson was taken aback. However, he quickly regained his senses and began to struggle. Unfortunately, he could not break free from her hold.

In the silver sports car.

Tiffany’s face turned ashen. She was worried about Jackson so she decided to check on him at the West Residence. However, she saw his car at the intersection and this scene… From her point of view, she could see Jackson’s side profile with his back against her as he seemingly held Lynn. They were in the middle of a passionate kiss!

Jackson’s struggle only made it look like he was lost in his desire.

Tiffany was glad she had come alone. Arianne had volunteered to come with her, but Mark refused to let Arianne go. It was a good thing that Mark lent her his car. Otherwise, she would have rammed her car into Jackson's car.

"Can you f*cking stop?" Jackson finally managed to push Lynn away. He glared at her with burning rage. "Are you done? Lynn, let me tell you this right now. I don't care what you or Alejandro are planning, bring it on. Let's pretend we've never met. Get the f*ck away from me!"

Lynn concealed the hurt in her eyes as her lips carried an unyielding smirk. She got down from the car without another word. After all, she knew that she had achieved her objective.

By the time Jackson drove his car back to the Tremont Estate, Tiffany had already driven away. She looked lifeless as though her soul had been sucked out of her body. Her mind was filled with the scene she had just witnessed. She wondered how many women Jackson had been seeing behind her back, how many of them he had taken to bed… He had always been a womanizer, why did she believe him in the first place? The trust they had built was shattered.

Arianne was surprised when she saw Tiffany. She greeted her and asked, "Back so soon? I thought you're going to the West Residence?"

"Ari, do I not deserve to be the only one in a man's life?" Tiffany asked bitterly. "I'm already damaged goods so I don't have the right to demand anything, do I? I should just turn a blind eye. It should be fine as long as he continues pretending to love me … But… I should leave myself with some pride and dignity as well, right? I should leave with my head held high… Ari, what should I do?"

Arianne knew something was amiss as soon as she saw the look on Tiffany's face. "What on earth happened? What are you saying? Where's Jackson?"

Tiffany laughed despondently. “Ten minutes ago, he was kissing Lynn Brookes in his car. I saw it with my own eyes. Do you think that during our two-day fight over the weekend, he went straight into some other woman’s arms? Was that why he didn’t contact me? He kept saying he missed me when I returned and that he had been enduring it while I was gone. He was lying… He must have been lying… How could he possibly endure it if he really missed me? Didn’t Mark travel 2,000 kilometers from the capital to see you just because he missed you? His schedule was completely packed in my absence. He probably didn’t even have time to think of me. He and Lynn knew each other for a long time now. They’ve slept together before. It’s all the same, regardless if they’d done it once or twice… I’m the only idiot here, believing all his lies. Did you know, Ari? I trusted him. I once trusted him so much… Why’s he doing this to me?”

Chapter 730

Arianne pulled Tiffany into her arms. “Don’t… Tiffie… Just cry if you must. There has to be a misunderstanding. Jackson isn’t that kind of a man. I’m certain of that. Let’s have a calm discussion when he returns, okay?”

Tiffany pushed Arianne away, completely losing it. However, she did not use too much force. “What’s there to talk about? I saw it with my own eyes. Why must I give him the chance to lie to me and cover up his actions? I saw it with my own eyes. Why should I lie to myself and tell myself that it’s only a misunderstanding? Ari, I can tolerate many things, but this is the one thing I can’t accept. You know me… Didn’t I break up with Ethan because he indirectly admitted to having another woman on the side? Do you know how I felt at the time? My family went bankrupt, my father died, and I was cheated on. It felt like the sky had fallen on me… Jackson West was not the man who pulled me out from the abyss. He is not!”

After many years of friendship, Arianne was well aware of Tiffany’s temperament. This time, she knew that Tiffany had made up her mind. She was at a loss as to what to say at that moment. Tiffany was emotionally unstable now, and she was too afraid to approach her in case she accidentally hurt her child. “Tiffie! Calm down. Just sit down and wait for Jackson to return, okay?”

Tiffany numbly shook her head. “I don’t want to see him… I don’t want to see him…”

Arianne was afraid that something might happen to Tiffany if she ran out now. She quickly told her staff to get Mark. A pregnant woman like her was clearly in no position to deal with this matter.

Mark quickly arrived downstairs.

At that very moment, Jackson had arrived as well. His brows were furrowed, the thought of Lynn’s forced kiss thoroughly disgusted him. Therefore, he did not notice the state Tiffany was in.

Mark was afraid they would end up fighting so he stopped Jackson at the door. “Jackson… What did you do? Didn’t I tell you not to cross the line?”

Jackson was baffled. “What are you talking about?”

“A clever man acting the fool doesn’t look foolish at all,” Tiffany said in a trembling voice. “Anyone who isn’t a fool can see it. Finished so soon? Why don’t you press yourself up against Lynn a little longer? She’s pure enough to be with you, don’t pretend like you’re not interested!”

Jackson stiffened. He felt as though the blood in his veins was coursing backward. “You… You saw? It’s not what you think!”

Tiffany did not flip out like Arianne had expected. Instead, she was eerily calm. She said in a voice that was laden with resentment, “It’s not what I think? Then what is it? Are you going to say that you only kissed and didn’t do anything else? I think you just didn’t have the time to do it. Did anyone else sit next to you in your car in my absence?” She chuckled. “There’s no need for you to explain. I don’t want to hear any more of your lies. The engagement is off. It’s over.”

Tiffany knew there was no turning back now that she had said those words. She could remember every word that Jackson had once emphasized to her. He said that there were some words that should not be recklessly spoken. For example, a breakup.

He was the one who had used words and actions to convince her into letting down her defenses. He made her believe she deserved to be loved and gave her hope for the future. He also taught her not to brood over the past and renewed her confidence in herself. She had bought into it. She thought it was real and that she could do it. She thought she was different from the other women. She had once felt incredibly happy, even in her dreams, when she thought about how she caught the heart of the man that no woman could. It seemed like she had gotten complacent. Now, he had personally torn down the strong fortress they had built together. She would no longer believe in a single word he said.