

The Epic BD 181

Chapter 181 Ethan's Scheme (3)

Ethan's gaze turned cold as he cast a chilly glance at Bruce before shifting his attention back to Alice. Seeing her slightly furrowed brows, it was clear that she was becoming impatient. *Bruce is truly like a pesky fly: he's noisy, annoying, and disgusting. Also, he can't understand plain words either.*

Just then, his gaze landed on Alice's slightly pursed red lips, and his eyes darkened for a moment. Suddenly, he leaned closer to her and kissed her lightly on the lips. He had been wanting to do this for a long time and finally had the chance to do so, even if it was just a gentle kiss.

Alice's eyes widened abruptly as she stared at him, her astonishment evident and unmasked. *Did he just kiss me?*

When he met her astonished gaze, he secretly let out a breath and whispered, "Some people don't understand plain words, and I don't want to waste my breath. His words could be taken as an explanation for why he kissed her.

Meanwhile, she just looked at him, blinking. *Even if Bruce can't understand plain words, is this really necessary?* However, she had to admit that the kiss did indeed have an immediate effect.

At that moment, Bruce was completely stunned. His eyes widened in disbelief as he looked at Ethan and Alice. For a moment, he even doubted his own eyes, thinking that he might have been seeing things or mistaken something. *Did Mr. Knight just kiss Alice?* I thought *he* was a *quiet* guy who rarely showed interest *in* women. Why did he kiss her?

"Alice, you two... Do you know Mr. Knight?" Although he was not very clever, he realized Ethan and Alice might be acquainted. His mind was running at full capacity as he thought of ways to gain from the potential connection between those two.

"Mind your own business." Alice was truly annoyed with him at this moment. *Why is he everywhere? Because of him. Ethan just kissed me!* Apart from that night seven years ago, this was the first time she had been kissed. *Did that really happen with Ethan? We're about to divorce, and we'll soon become unrelated individuals. Did he just kiss me?! Whom am I supposed to reason with?!*

Bruce's face turned unpleasant after Alice chided him, but he dared not do anything, considering that Ethan had just kissed her.

At the same time, a smile played on Ethan's lips. *Little Fox always knows how to provoke others. She usually infuriates me, but now, it seems like she's quite gentle to me compared to Bruce.*

"You didn't sleep well last night. Do you want to rest for a while?" He ignored Bruce and kept looking at Alice with a very gentle expression.

Alice felt her heart pounding when Ethan looked at her with such eyes. *He seems strange today.*

When Bruce heard Ethan's words, his expression changed instantly. *How did he know that she hadn't slept well last night? Was she with him last night? Not only that, he's being so gentle and considerate to her. What is their relationship?*

At this thought, he narrowed his eyes. *Why does this idiot deserve such gentle treatment from Alice? Also, her attitude toward me has completely changed. Is it because she has set her sights on Mr. Knight that she no longer cares about me? If that's the case, I won't let her have her way.*

"Alice, fret not about my promise to marry you a few days ago. I won't go back on my word." He deliberately said this for Ethan to hear. Ethan's eyes narrowed slightly upon hearing that. He was well aware of what Bruce was referring to, for he had heard everything that night in Royale. Yet, since he long

1/3

suspected that Alice probably had another motive, he didn't bother asking her about it. Initially, he thought about letting this matter slide, but he didn't expect Bruce to bring it up again.

Meanwhile, Alice felt like she wanted to kill Bruce. *Can he be any more disgusting?*

Upon seeing his wife's anger, Ethan decided to appease her first. "Are you angry? Why don't I do something to make you feel better?"

"What do you have in mind?" With her mood not being the best at the moment, her eyebrows instinctively arched when she heard that.

"Since the plane has just taken off and isn't too high above the ground yet, why don't we throw him out?" Although his tone was gentle and his expression seemed affectionate, the words he spoke were far from tender.

At this moment, Bruce's face turned ugly. He thought his remark would upset both Ethan and Alice, but he didn't expect Ethan to coax his wife instead of getting angry at her.

Why is he treating Alice like this?

Meanwhile, Alice glanced briefly outside, then casually replied, "Seems a bit too high, though. It would be too easy for him to die from the fall."

"In that case, do you have any other ideas?" Ethan's expression remained gentle, and his tone was soft as he discussed with her.

"How about tying him to the airplane's landing gear?" Once she became ruthless, she was no less cunning than Ethan.

At her words, he couldn't help but smile. *Now, that's my girl. She's the best.*

"That's a good idea. Let's go with what you've suggested." He nodded earnestly and beckoned to one of the flight attendants.

“What can I do for you, Mr. Knight?” The flight attendant recognized Ethan and was quite familiar with him.

“This gentleman feels that the airplane cabin is too stuffy and wants to go out for some fresh air. Let’s fulfill his wish and tie him to the landing gear,” he instructed the flight attendant based on Alice’s earlier suggestion.

After being stunned for a moment, the flight attendant politely smiled and replied, “Alright.”

Alice had merely spoken without much thought. She only wanted to vent her frustration, so she didn’t expect Ethan to actually convey her words to the flight attendant, and she certainly didn’t anticipate the flight attendant agreeing to it.

Initially, Bruce hadn’t taken Ethan and Alice’s words seriously at all. However, when he saw the seriousness with which Ethan instructed the flight attendant and the flight attendant’s immediate compliance without hesitation, his complexion instantly turned unpleasant. Nonetheless, he still believed that Ethan was just trying to scare him. However, the next moment, the flight attendant turned directly to him, dropping the friendly expression she had while facing Ethan. She said sternly, “This way, sir.”

“What? What do you mean? I’m a VIP too! What do you want to do to me?” He looked at the flight attendant with horror in his eyes. *Are they being serious?*

“Since you’re our customer, we’re obliged to fulfill your request,” the flight attendant replied calmly without a trace of an oddity in her tone.

Chapter 182 My Wife (1)

“Since you’re our customer, we’re obliged to fulfill your request,” the flight attendant replied calmly without a trace of an oddity in their tone, seeming as though they were intent on fulfilling the request.

“That wasn’t my request! I didn’t ask for that. I didn’t say that!” Bruce’s expression became increasingly unpleasant, and his voice trembled noticeably, showing that he was genuinely scared at this moment. After all, he was frightened because of Ethan’s identity. He realized the flight attendant knew Ethan, so would they actually tie him to the outside of the plane under Ethan’s order?

“Take this gentleman away.” The flight attendant ignored his words and instructed at once.

“How dare you? This is illegal! I will sue you. I will sue all of you!” His face turned pale with fear, his voice trembled, and his attempt to display a show of force was clearly ineffective.

“Fine, you can sue us after the plane lands.” The flight attendant remained fearless and dominant. “Now, take him out.”

“This is insane! You’re all insane! How dare you...” He desperately huddled in his seat, but several airline staff members approached and unbuckled his seatbelt.

As they approached him, Bruce panicked. He no longer dared to put on a show and turned to Ethan, dropping to his knees with a loud *thud*. "Spare me, Mr. Knight, spare me. I was wrong." In truth, he still didn't know what he had done wrong, but no matter what, he decided to apologize first.

However, Ethan didn't even spare a glance at him. Instead, he kept his gaze fixed on Alice. "Are you thirsty? Do you want something to drink? Or are you hungry? Do you want anything to eat?"

Bruce might not have been successful in business, but he was quick-witted at times. When he noticed Ethan's attitude, his eyes flickered, and he shouted once again, "Alice, please save me..."

"Alice? Do you think you can call her by her name?" Ethan finally turned his gaze toward Bruce, but his eyes were glacial. "Take him away."

"Spare me, Mr. Knight! I won't dare to do it anymore. I promise!" Bruce was truly terrified and at a loss for what to do.

"What is it that you won't dare to do?" Ethan glanced at him with slightly narrowed eyes.

Bruce was quite quick to react to this situation. As he glanced at Alice and recalled everything from moments ago, he quickly said, "I won't dare do anything to Ali... to Miss Woland again, and I won't speak improperly to her."

"Take him away." Ethan was relatively satisfied with this response. His expression softened visibly, and his voice was no longer as cold.

"Mr. Knight, I've already made my promise. Please spare me." Bruce was dumbfounded, for he didn't expect that even after begging like this, Ethan still wouldn't let him off.

The flight attendant found Bruce's shouts too loud and decided to cover his mouth. Then, she thought for a moment and gave another instruction, saying, "Blindfold him. That way, he won't get scared when he sees it."

By now, Bruce was trembling all over. Since his mouth was covered, he couldn't make a sound and could only struggle desperately. However, two people held him firmly, and there was no way he could break free. Just like that, he was forcibly taken away.

Alice's eyebrows were slightly arched, but she didn't say anything or show any other reaction.

When Ethan noticed this, he couldn't help but smile again. He leaned closer to her ear and deliberately asked, "You're not even a little worried about him, are you?"

She simply glanced at him and couldn't be bothered to respond. Although the Knight Family held immense power, based on her understanding of Ethan, she knew he was not someone who would abuse his authority. He wouldn't tie Bruce to the outside of the plane, considering the harm it would cause not only to Bruce but also to the airline staff. She guessed that the flight attendant had taken Bruce away and locked him somewhere on the plane.

Of course, even if Ethan did tie Bruce to the outside of the plane, she would not worry about him at all; she would only applaud the act. With Bruce gone, no one could disgust her anymore, which improved her mood.

Noticing her faint smile, he paused for a moment before letting out a laugh. "I've noticed that you're quite

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"Heartless?" Alice cast a fleeting glance at him, feeling indifferent. She had never concealed anything in front of him since she didn't need to make him like her.

However, he chuckled lightly. "It's good. I like it." He liked her personality.

At his words, she was momentarily surprised, and her lips twitched slightly. "It doesn't matter whether you like it or not."

We shouldn't have had any connections in the first place, and everything is going to end soon. What does it matter if he likes my personality or not?

Ethan's heart skipped a beat. *This woman never misses an opportunity to provoke me.* Suddenly, he remembered the phone call she made while dealing with the Woland Family and the words he overheard her say about true love outside the private room that day. After a sigh, his eyes darkened slightly as he asked, "Whose liking does it matter, then?"

"It doesn't seem to have anything to do with you." Alice looked at him and blinked.

With that, he felt a tightness in his chest. *Could she be any more direct?*

"I'm tired. I'm going to sleep for a while." She hadn't slept well last night and had gotten up early to catch the flight, so she was genuinely tired.

Although he was feeling frustrated and wanted to ask for clarification, he couldn't bring himself to do it after seeing the fatigue on her face.

She slept until the plane landed.

"Is there something you need to take care of in Cliaria?" Alice asked him out of courtesy.

"I'm here to keep you company." Alice had provoked Ethan on many occasions ever since getting married, so perhaps he had gotten used to it. By now, he had already let go of his anger after what happened on the plane.

"To keep me company?" Shocked, she looked at him while feeling confused.

"Aren't you here to visit your brother? Let me keep you company." He was usually taciturn with others, but he didn't hesitate to explain things to his wife when necessary.

As soon as she heard his words, her expression instantly changed. "Did Dr. Wynn tell you something about my brother?"

He noticed her concern and spoke in a soothing tone.

"He did mention something, but it isn't too serious. You don't need to worry too much. We can discuss it when we get there."

"Okay." She nodded quickly.

Chapter 183 My Wife (2)

"Okay." Alice nodded quickly.

The two of them then rushed to Zayn's research institute.

Yesterday night, Jane called Alice to inform her that Pierce's heart rate was abnormal. After ending the call with Alice, Jane took Pierce to Zayn's research institute.

"Mr. Knight? Are you actually here in person?" Zayn was genuinely surprised when he saw Ethan. "Who managed to convince you to come?"

"He's my brother-in-law," Ethan replied naturally, his expression and tone casual. After that, he introduced Alice to Zayn as she stood beside him. "She's my wife."

When Alice heard his introduction, she was stunned. *Aren't we keeping our marriage a secret? Well, perhaps it's because we are in Claria and not many people know us.*

Zayn's face showed a hint of surprise, but he quickly regained his composure and greeted Alice politely, "You're Mrs. Knight, eh? Nice to meet you."

"Nice to meet you too." She smiled politely. "Dr. Wynn, I want to know my brother's current condition." She was too worried about Pierce's condition, so she didn't bother much with pleasantries.

"Considering how he's been in a coma for seven years, Mr. Woland's condition is not looking good." Zayn's expression became serious when discussing the matter.

Her heart sank at his words. *Does this mean there's no hope that Pierce will wake up?*

Seeing her expression, Ethan immediately frowned and retorted, "Don't make it sound so mysterious. My wife is timid and easily scared."

"No, but his condition is indeed quite serious." Zayn wanted to protest, but after meeting Ethan's gaze, he changed his words. "As a doctor, I don't have a hundred percent certainty..."

Alice's eyes instantly lit up. "In other words, is there hope that my brother will wake up?"

Hearing that, he coughed slightly. "I don't—"

"When he felt Ethan shoot a cold glance at him, Zayn quickly changed his statement. "Of course, there is hope. I will do my best to help him wake up."

"That's wonderful!" She was on the verge of happy tears, for she had waited for seven years and consulted numerous doctors, but none of them could help. Now, she finally saw a glimmer of hope.

"I've never seen someone like you." Zayn rolled his eyes at Ethan.

However, Ethan didn't pay any attention to him at all. As long as his wife was happy, nothing else mattered.

Zayn was somewhat stunned. *Is he really the Ethan I know? I can't even bear to look at him like that.* As such, he decided to ignore Ethan and turn to Alice instead. "Mrs. Knight, let me explain Mr. Woland's treatment plan to you."

"Yes, please." She nodded repeatedly.

Zayn began explaining, using many professional terms that she couldn't understand. However, she still listened attentively because she didn't want to miss any information about her brother,

As Ethan glanced at her, he asserted himself once again. "Make it simpler. Explain it in terms that my wife can understand," he ordered.

Zayn's heart skipped a beat at those words. He was already providing a simplified explanation, but since Ethan had spoken up, he had no choice but to comply. "Yesterday, I performed the first treatment on Mr. Woland, and he showed some response. The abnormal heart rate last night was not necessarily a bad thing: it indicates that he still has some sensory perception of the outside world."

"In other words, his abnormal heart rate is a result of the treatment taking effect, am I right?" Alice finally understood this time.

Zayn wanted to provide a more in-depth explanation, but after considering Ethan's earlier remark, he decided to withhold some of the technical details and answered, "Yes, you could say that. You don't need to worry."

"Okay." She became visibly relaxed, and a smile finally appeared on her face. *Pierce has a better chance of waking up now. Finally! This is truly wonderful news.*

She stayed in Cliaria for another two days and kept Pierce company, whereas Ethan stayed by her side the entire time. Although she asked him several times to attend to his matters and not stay with her, he refused each time.

Two days later, she boarded the plane back to Rodcaster along with Ethan. She couldn't help but feel that something was off.

As soon as they arrived in Rodcaster, Ethan had arranged for a car to pick them up. Alice didn't make a fuss, considering that she used a special passage under his arrangements, and with him inside the car, no one could see him or expose anything. However, after getting in the car and traveling for a while, she realized that they weren't heading toward the Knight Residence.

He seemed to sense her confusion and explained, "My parents have taken Caroline out today. No one is at home. I own a house nearby, and since it's late, let's stay there for now."

Indeed, the past few days had been tiring for her. She wanted to go home quickly and rest, so she didn't say anything.

When they arrived at the villa, she asked where the guest room was and went directly to the room with her luggage. She was truly exhausted and in need of rest..

That left Ethan visibly taken aback. Seeing her tired expression, he decided to suppress the words on the tip of his tongue. *We still have a long way to go, so there's no rush. I should let her rest well tonight.*

After Alice took a shower and got ready for bed, she received some photos from Cea. As she looked at the photos, she froze for a moment. In each photo Cecilia sent her, Ethan was accompanied by a woman.

'I found these online. Cecilia's message followed.

'Oh, Alice replied with a calm and indifferent tone.

Seeing that, Cecilia sighed secretly, knowing that Alice truly had no feelings for Ethan. However, a woman's curiosity and love for gossip were unstoppable at times. 'Based on the photos, they probably have some sort of special relationship. Look, here are photos of them going to a hotel together, and there are also photos of this woman coming out of his house. When Mr. Knight is with her, his expression isn't as cold as usual. It's obvious that they've known each other for a while and have been in contact. These photos range from ten years before just a month ago. But strangely, every time such articles surface, they get suppressed before they can spread. If I hadn't pulled some strings, we wouldn't have been able to find

this information at all.

Alice believed Cecilia's words and trusted her abilities. Indeed, these photos were not something an ordinary person could find.

"This woman is a famous model, but she's been developing her career in Peru. However, every time she comes to Rodcaster, she'll reach out to Mr. Knight. Rather, she comes to Rodcaster to visit him every time. What do you think is the relationship between this woman and your husband?'

This was what Cecilia was most concerned about. She wanted to know the relationship between Ethan and the woman in the photos.

Chapter 184 The Love Rival (1)

The thing that concerned Cecilia the most was the relationship between Ethan and the woman in the photos. Although she knew Alice only married Ethan for Caroline's sake, she couldn't help but find the fact pretty annoying.

"That's not important, Alice replied nonchalantly. After all, she was never Ethan's real wife anyway. Now that she was going to divorce him soon, she didn't care who that lady was to Ethan, for it didn't matter to

her.

After reading the message. Cecilia smirked. 'Why do I feel like slapping you in the face? You're Ethan's wife! You guys are legal spouses! Legal! Where has your temper gone to?'

'Do you need me to find out more about this lady?' Cecilia wasn't exactly a gossipy person; instead, she just wanted to see whether there was anything out of the ordinary between Ethan and that woman. After all, she found out that the last time Ethan met that woman was before he married Alice. *If Ethan still hangs around with this woman even after they supposedly cut ties with each other, then things don't seem as simple as they are.*

As Cecilia's best friend, Alice knew what was on her mind, but at the same time, she also knew Ethan well enough to believe he was not a playboy. 'Even if Ethan really did what you think he did, I doubt he would meet up with that woman, not when we're still bound by our marriage.'

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Well, I, too, don't think Mr. Winters is as bad as he seems...' Cecilia let out a sigh, thinking that Ethan was a trustworthy man. Deep down, she wished Alice could take things further in her relationship with Ethan as she wanted her friend to find a soulmate whom she could entrust her future with.

Yup, I trust Ethan. He knows what should and shouldn't be done. Alice sounded firm, but little did she know that she was about to be proven wrong.

The next morning, Alice woke up to her hunger around 6.00AM. She had been too tired the night before and went to bed directly without eating. After that, she crept off her bed and headed over to the kitchen where she found some cooking ingredients in the refrigerator. Then, she began making herself breakfast, whereupon she served the food on the table and was about to enjoy it. At that moment, the manor's door swung open just before a silhouette came to view, leaving Alice stunned.

Can somebody tell me what's going on? She gazed at the figure that opened the door and walked into the house as though the person owned the place.

Obviously, it's not her first time being here. Seeing a visitor with a familiar face around six in the morning, Alice was instantly reminded of the photos Cecilia sent her the day before. *Damn, I told Cecilia that Ethan wouldn't have met this woman until we divorced, but it looks like I've been proven wrong. Dang it!* Alice stared at the woman silently without moving.

Lorien looked back at Alice and blinked a few times, asking in confusion, "Are you the new babysitter?"

Alice was slightly stunned, but she didn't admit nor deny it. After all, she didn't know whether she should respond, considering the complicated relationship between Lorien and Ethan. Furthermore, her awkward position in the relationship also made it hard for her to think of an appropriate answer.

"Great. Please take my belongings from outside, will you?" Lorien thought Alice was the babysitter since Alice didn't deny it.

Alice then shifted her gaze to the huge luggage Lorien had just wheeled into the house, wondering how much more stuff she brought with her. The next second, Lorien had already walked out the door with Alice behind her back. However, when Alice walked right through the door, she accidentally closed the door behind her.

While there were two more pieces of luggage and a duffel bag, Lorien carried two of them, whereas Alice took the other remaining luggage. Before Alice could even react, Lorien already overtook her and was standing in front of the door. Since Lorien opened the door by herself, Alice believed she must know the password. However, instead of entering the password, she opened the door by scanning her thumbprint directly.

When Alice saw that, she blinked in surprise and started to wonder whether there was perhaps an affair that Lorien and Ethan had. Nevertheless, she quickly thought of her six-month marriage with Ethan that was going to end soon anyway. Therefore, she wasn't really bothered by that discovery as she believed her divorce from Ethan should face no trouble, considering how close he was to Lorien.

While Alice knew Lawrence had always been a generous man, it was clear to her that he had no idea about the agreement between her and Ethan. Initially, she was worried that Lawrence wouldn't allow her to leave the Knight Family out of guilt, but now, she didn't think she would have to worry about that anymore. After all, she believed Ethan would find a way to resolve the issue for the sake of his true love. As Alice got absorbed in her train of thought, her eyes were filled with a gleam of happiness.

"Why are you looking at me like that?" Lorien met Alice's eyes and felt goosebumps running all over her skin. "Let me tell you something. I'm as straight as a ruler, got it?"

While Lorien got the wrong idea from Alice's eye contact with her, Alice couldn't help but laugh at herself in secret. *Am I being too obvious?*

"Wow! Am I seeing things? All the dishes here seem delicious. I'm starving! Can I join you?" Lorien entered the room, her eyes lighting up when she saw the table full of tasty dishes.

"Sure." Alice couldn't bring herself to turn Lorien down when she saw the latter's expression. Furthermore, she didn't mind sharing her dishes since she had cooked a lot of food.

"That's great!" Lorien cheered in exhilaration without hiding her excitement.

In the meantime, Alice chuckled in amusement, thinking Lorien's reaction reminded her of Caroline; she acted the same way Lorien did every time she saw something delicious. What was more, their reactions were so similar that the expression on their faces looked similar.

Nonetheless, Alice had no hard feelings toward Lorien at all. While Lorien was halfway through eating her meal, Ethan woke up, and Alice couldn't help but wonder how he would feel the moment he saw Lorien.

"Hey, you're up. I must say that your babysitter is a pretty good cook." Lorien glanced at Ethan while

continuing to eat. She ate even faster, seemingly worried that someone else might take her food away from her.

"You're the new babysitter, eh?" Ethan set his eyes on Alice, radiating a cold and intimidating aura. *Babysitter? Was this how she introduced herself to Lorien?!*

"What? What's wrong?" Lorien was stunned, noticing Ethan's darkened look that told her something was wrong when she glanced at the two.

Ethan didn't say a single word but instead kept his eyes fixated on Alice, seemingly waiting for her reply. Deep down, he wanted to hear what she had to say about the matter.

Chapter 185 The Love Rival (2)

"Well, I guess I should leave you both to it. I shall return to my room." Alice reckoned she should sensibly walk away at that moment, thinking it wasn't appropriate for her to be a third wheel around them. Therefore, she quickly made her way to her room upstairs as soon as she finished her sentence without even waiting for Ethan to respond. Meanwhile, Ethan was left with a darkened expression on his face as he watched Alice leave.

"Wait a minute, isn't she the babysitter? Who is she, then?" Lorien could tell from Ethan's darkened look that she had gotten the wrong idea about who Alice was. Apparently, Alice was not who she thought she was. After all, she naturally assumed that Alice was the babysitter since she hadn't admitted or denied it.

"Is she your soulmate or lover? Your girlfriend, perhaps?" Before Ethan could answer her question, she went on and kept guessing even though she didn't expect an answer from Ethan. Knowing him, he'll respond to my question with nothing but silence.

"I'm married." Ethan revealed the answer, refusing to keep her guessing all day.

"Y—

You're married?" Lorien couldn't help but exclaim in surprise and disbelief, for she didn't expect to hear that answer.

Lorien gulped and blinked as everything began to dawn on her. "So, is she your young wife?"

Ethan didn't answer the lady's question but instead turned grimmer. What do you mean by saying she's my young wife? *Do I look old to you? I'm only three years older than her, you know.*

When Ethan didn't deny it, Lorien quickly knew she was right. Thus, she chuckled gleefully and said, "Why do I have a feeling that she doesn't love you that much? In fact, it even looks like she's trying to bring us together."

"You talk too much" Ethan glared at Lorien angrily as a sign of warning, and he spoke intimidatingly. I can tell what Alice is up to by myself. There is no need for you to remind me, *lady!*

At the thought of that, he felt a strong urge of strangling Alice to death for rewarding his love unfairly. Then, when he noticed that Lorien was already finished with her dishes, he couldn't help but feel even more annoyed about it. After all, he had never tried his own wife's cooking before, yet Lorien beat him to that.

"Come on, why are you so mad? I was just saying. You don't have to be so worked up, plus I've never seen you acting so emotionally before." Lorien's eyes were filled with excitement as she knew Ethan was someone who wouldn't get emotional so easily, but he seemed to be mad over something she deemed trivial this time. "Hmm, I'm sensing some other possibilities here. Could I be right?" Lorien grew even more curious after finishing her meal.

Upon hearing the lady's words, Ethan gazed at the lady with a pair of furrowed eyebrows, trying to figure out the meaning behind her words.

"Could she be pretending as if she doesn't care about you at all to hide her jealousy? Could she be crying alone in her own room every time she does that?" Lorien reckoned her hypothesized scenario was highly likely, considering how outstanding Ethan was. As such, she didn't think there was any woman who could resist his charm.

Ethan was stunned, glaring at Lorien before he rose from his seat and headed upstairs. Seeing the man's reaction, Lorien was slightly surprised; it seemed to her that Ethan was taking her word for it, although what she said about Alice earlier was just her mere speculation. *He* seems desperate, which means *he really* cares about her. In that case, it looks like he's fallen for her during the marriage.

At the thought of Ethan's feelings for Alice, Lorien couldn't believe why she hadn't received about their marriage; even Charles hadn't heard anything about it either.

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Having been by Charles' side all this time, Lorien was convinced he had no idea about Ethan's marriage with Alice, not to mention the fact that she just came from that old man's place. What's going on? How come Ethan didn't say a thing about his marriage to Charles? What's that woman doing in her room? Is she crying sadly like I think *she* is? I'd be happy *if* she is, but *what* if she isn't?

In the meantime, Ethan, who had just gone upstairs, made his way to Alice's room. Before he could even reach for the doorknob, he could already hear her laughter from the inside. As his eyes darkened, he opened the door straight away without even bothering to knock. Then, he saw Alice lying on her belly in the bed with her earphones on as she appeared to be happily chatting with someone through a video call. Crying sadly? That's not even close!

Meanwhile, Alice, who was too absorbed in her video call, wasn't aware of Ethan's presence due to the earphones that prevented her from hearing any movement. At that moment, she was busy talking to Apollo over the video call without paying too much attention to her surroundings. More importantly, she didn't think Ethan would come bothering her; instead, she believed he must be having a sweet time with Lorien.

Shortly after, she turned around and realized the lighting right in front of her had turned dimmer. It was then that she saw Ethan standing right in front of her bed. In that instant, she felt cold sweat trickling down her forehead, and she asked herself how she hadn't noticed him at all.

Damn it! That was close! Thank god I told Apollo to fetch something for me. I doubt he saw Apollo. Alice then secretly ended the video call. She didn't want anyone from the Knight Family to know about Apollo, including Ethan.

The moment Ethan saw Alice ending the video call, he squinted and radiated a menacing aura. "When did you come in?" Alice nervously gasped for breath but did her best to calm herself down.

"What's wrong? Why can't I come in?" Ethan responded with a tone cold enough to send chills down anyone's spine.

"Where is Miss Thelva? Don't you have to keep her company?" Alice took a deep breath and wondered what was wrong with Ethan. Shouldn't he feel happy that the woman is visiting?

Ethan's face darkened, and he felt a strong urge to strangle Alice to death. On the other hand, Alice pursed her lips in silence when she saw the scary look on his face. He's obviously pissed now. I'd be foolish to pick a fight with him now.

"Who were you talking to over the phone?" Ethan felt panicky, recalling the happy look on Alice's face when he entered her room. How could she leave me alone with that woman and return to her bedroom just to chat with someone else so happily?

Alice blinked, trying to figure out an explanation. After all, she didn't want to expose Apollo until she resolved her conflict with the Woland Family. However, her phone started ringing just then, and it was Apollo's customized video call ringtone. Alice was stunned, and her eyelids twitched uncontrollably. Damn it! I told *Apollo* to show me something, and he's back now. I ended the call earlier, so he must be calling back now without knowing what's going on here!

Chapter 186 Ethan's Wrath (1)

Having hung up the call after telling Apollo to show her what she wanted, Alice believed her son must be calling her back now since he had no idea what was going on.

"Answer it." Ethan stood beside Alice, clearly seeing the caller's name on the phone screen since the device was just lying beside her in bed. Suveetie! Oh, how sweet! I want to see who this man really is! Deep down, Ethan believed it was the same man whom Alice had called in the hotel last time.

Alice was reluctant to answer the call. In truth, she was tempted to decline it and turn off the phone right away. However, in the face of the intimidating gleam in Ethan's eyes, she lacked the courage to decline the call.

"Don't even think about hanging it up, Alice!" Ethan snarled at Alice, seemingly able to read her mind. Frightened by Ethan's snarl, Alice accidentally tapped her phone screen with her shivering fingers and hung up the video call. Damn! I swear I didn't do that on purpose, but he is definitely not going to believe *it*.

Ethan squinted, radiating an indifferent yet menacing aura Good! *How gutsy!* You just hung up the call even though you've been warned. In the meantime, Alice looked up and met his eyes, nervously taking a deep breath. Despite being a calm person, Alice couldn't help but feel her heart skipping a beat the moment she saw Ethan's expression.

My hand was shaking, and I accidentally hit that button." Alice did her best to explain, although she knew Ethan would likely not trust her.

"Would

you believe

it if you were in my place?" Ethan squinted and glared at Alice like a beast that was going to devour her. Who is going to buy that story?

"Yes, I would," Alice paused and nodded seriously a few moments later, thinking there was nothing to doubt at all since she was indeed telling the truth.

"Don't tell me you accidentally hung up the call" Ethan smiled while looking at the lady's innocent look. Deep down, he found Alice's excuse amusing despite his frustration. *I shouldn't have entertained you with so much nonsense.*

"Yes, I did." Alice nodded in response. Although her neck was beginning to ache as she looked up and set her eyes on the man, she remained still without moving a muscle at all.

When Ethan saw Alice nod, he responded calmly and said, "Fine, I'm going to give you one more chance. Return the call now" Ethan decided to give Alice one more chance to right her wrongs since she claimed that she only hung up the call by accident.

I'm going to take a look at whoever this sweetie is! What kind of person is this guy whom she can't get out of her mind! More importantly, she won't stop having video calls with him from time to time. What exactly keeps them so happily engaged in their video-call conversations?

Alice was stunned when she heard Ethan's reply. After all, judging from his character, she thought he would just forget about it and move on. While locking eyes with him, she knew he would definitely strangle her to death if she didn't call back right away.

If I don't do as he says, he is going to keep coming at me about it. Thinking their relationship was just bound by a contract marriage, Alice started to believe Ethan would probably do her child no harm since it seemed to her that he and Lorian were in love with each other.

Knowing Ethan, Alice was convinced he would help her keep the matter about Apollo a secret and do no harm to the child. At the thought of that, she let out a sigh and reached for her phone to open the chatroom between her and Apollo before giving the boy a video call.

Ethan blinked, finding it hard to believe Alice would return the call as he said without too much resistance. When he saw what she did, the expression on his face lightened up. After a few moments, the call request went on and on without anyone answering or declining it. Strange. Didn't my boy hear the call? Alice blinked in confusion, wondering to herself.

Nevertheless, Alice didn't think it was likely for Apollo to miss the video call, considering how loud the ringtone was when he called her back earlier. I guess there can only *be* one possibility—his phone has *been* switched off. My *Apollo* is a smart boy, so he must have sensed something wrong and switched off his phone.

After

the call went unanswered for a few moments, it was automatically disconnected. "No one picked up the call. She shrugged her shoulders innocently, thinking she shouldn't be blamed for that.

While Ethan looked at Alice without saying a single word, she probingly asked, "Do I have to call again?" Deep down, she knew it would probably be the same even if she called again.

"Is there someone who's going to answer the phone call?" Ethan squinted and looked at Alice ambiguously, seemingly sensing something wrong as if he knew the caller on the other side had intentionally switched the phone off.

It's probably going to be the same *if* you call again, so why do you even bother to ask me in the first place? Ethan gritted his teeth at the thought of that. When Alice looked up and fixed her gaze on the man, Ethan's eyes fell upon her seductive lips, and his gaze darkened before he pounced on her suddenly.

Alice was startled by Ethan's reaction, so she instinctively dodged away from the man in an agile manner, thinking he was going to hit her. At the same time, Ethan gazed at her unhappily, surprised by her agile display and speed. A normal girl like her shouldn't possess such skills..

Meanwhile, Alice also felt a little panicky, realizing her reaction might have been a little inappropriate.

At that moment, Ethan suddenly heard his phone's notification alert that was specifically for messages received from someone special. When he reached for his phone and checked the message, he saw a brief line of text that read. Justin is back in Rodcaster. Tell him to meet up with us.

Is Justin back? It's been a while since he's been gone, *but* what has brought him back? Ethan was reminded of the time Justin had engaged someone to take care of the proposal for Irvin. He then thought it was perhaps time for him to talk to Justin, thinking he would probably find the answer he had been searching for. After that, Ethan gave Alice an ambiguous look and walked away.

On the other hand, Alice heaved a sigh of relief when Ethan left, wondering if he was going to hit her earlier. At the same time, she could tell that the man was really mad, she had never seen him so angry. Shortly after that, she heard him going downstairs and walking out the door, which left her wondering why he would leave and whether Lorien had left with him. Nonetheless, she went on to give Apollo a call with Ethan gone and realized her son had indeed turned off his phone earlier. Oh, how smart my boy is!

Since Ethan was gone, Alice decided she might as well visit Apollo. When she arrived, Caroling happened to be away, which created a perfect opportunity for her to spend some time with her son. Also, she reckoned it was a good time for her to figure out a plan to take on the Woland Family.

Meanwhile, Apollo told Alice that Ethan had come looking for him earlier, leaving his mother confused about Ethan's motives. It was then that she began to think their current place of residence was no longer

safe for them, so she decided to move elsewhere with Apollo. Later that night, Ethan returned home with a gloomy look on his face.

Chapter 187 Ethan's Wrath (2)

When Ethan returned home later that night, he didn't seem happy. After all, he didn't think Justin would be so tight-lipped about Alice's matter. As someone close to Justin, Ethan found it strange for the former to hide something about Alice from him. Why would he do that? Apart from that, he was also surprised to hear about Justin's unexpected return, considering how rare he came back to Rodcaster. Something tells me there is a reason behind his return this time.

Upon returning home. Ethan was upset when he didn't see Alice anywhere. He then tried to give her a call, only to realize her phone had been switched off, which made his face darken even more. Although he immediately told Caleb to search for Alice, he still had no luck at all as he didn't get a reply from his subordinate. It was then that he realized there was nothing he could do if Alice wanted to leave him.

In the meantime, Lorien was still in the manor where she woke up to a phone call early in the morning. "Hey, Grandpa" A bright smile showed on Lorien's face the moment she answered the call.

"What do you mean by the text message you sent me yesterday? Does it mean there is going to be a wedding that I can attend soon? Am I going to be a grandfather soon? Are you getting married?" The voice on the other side of the phone sounded energetic and happy.

Oren wondered why Holland would call her so early in the morning until she quickly thought of the text message she sent him the night before. Well, you got the wrong idea, Grandpa. "No, it's not me, Grandpa. It's

Lorien smiled and excitedly said, "Ethan is married." Deep down, she was curious to know how and would react upon hearing the news.

Holland paused speechlessly for a while and snapped out of his trance. "What did you just say? Is Ethan married?" The old man raised his voice.

"Yes, Ethan is married. His wife is an adorable young lady. Lorien expressed her liking for Alice.

"Why wasn't I informed about that? How could he keep me in the dark about his marriage? Nobody told me anything about it." Holland was evidently pissed. "That b*stard! How could you hide something like this from me? What is he up to? Where is he now?" Holland would give Ethan a rough beating if he was standing right in front of him.

"He is at home now." Lorien could barely hold in her laughter when she heard Holland's response.

"Hand the phone over to Ethan. I want to talk to him." Holland wanted to question Ethan's motives for hiding his marriage from him.

Soon, Lorien made her way to Ethan's room and knocked on the door with the phone in her hand. "Come in." Ethan, who was awake, was waiting for news about Alice while attending to an unexpected situation at work. When he heard the knock on the door, he naturally assumed it was Alice and was frustrated with the thought that she left without telling him. Thank God she still knows her way back home. Anyway, I can still forgive her as long as she gives me an explanation.

As soon as Lorien turned the doorknob and opened the door, she saw Ethan sitting by the window and attending to his work. At the same time, he appeared to be wearing the same outfit he had worn the day before. Seeing that, Lorien went on to make herself easy and walked into the room. "You're still here?" Ethan looked at the lady in surprise, having no idea that Lorien was in the house the whole time. After all, Lorien was already in bed when he came back the night before, which was why he thought she had left.

"Ouch! I know you don't care much about me, but that hurts. How could you neglect me like I don't exist?" Lorien pursed her lips, wondering how Ethan didn't know that she was still in the house.

"Is there anything important? If there isn't, you should go." Ethan didn't seem interested in entertaining

Lorien Although he would be sure to take care of any problem Lorien ran into, he usually treated her with a nonchalant attitude.

"Your grandpa called. He wants to talk to you." Lorien had no hard feelings toward Ethan's indifference, for she had already gotten used to it.

"What's the meaning of this, you b*stard?! How could you not tell me about your marriage? How dare you hide it from me?!" Holland snapped at Ethan, accusing his grandson of keeping him in the dark about his marriage, he had been waiting for that day to come for almost three decades. How am I supposed to accept this?

"Didn't Dad tell you about it?" Ethan raised his eyebrows, thinking his father had relayed this to his grandfather.

Holland went silent on the other end of the phone for a while and asked, "Does your dad know about your marriage?"

"Yes, of course. I thought he told you about it. Ethan responded honestly but quickly admitted on the inside that it was his fault for not telling Holland about it himself. Nevertheless, he believed Holland wouldn't blame him for that because of his father's protection.

"Good! Every one of you here is beginning to defy me. That's great!" As Ethan expected, Holland shifted his anger away from him. "Just wait and see, people. I'm going to teach you guys a lesson. Here I come!" Holland snarled madly and hung up the phone.

Ethan then rubbed his nose guiltily, thinking Holland was indeed mad this time. On the day that they became legal spouses, both of them went elsewhere for a business trip, so Ethan thought Lawrence had told Holland about it.

No wonder I hadn't heard much from Grandpa until that phone call came in. As Ethan hadn't carried on with his wedding. Ethan thought Holland didn't permit it because of concerns related to Caroline's identity. However, it was now that he realized Holland had been kept in the dark all along. Well, things are going to be eventful at home.

"Ethan, Grandpa seems mad. Lorien was curious about the development of events.

"Get lost." Ethan gave Lorien an unhappy glare, blaming her for everything that happened. Nevertheless, he knew Holland would soon find out about the matter even if Lorien didn't tell Holland about it. It's not like Grandpa will never find out; it's just a matter of time.

"Fine, I'll make myself scarce," Lorien responded with a smile instead of anger.

Nonetheless, Lorien suddenly stopped in her tracks just when she was heading toward the door. "Ethan, do you guys share the same room?" she asked after she failed to see any signs that might suggest another woman had been in Ethan's room, not to mention the fact that Alice was nowhere to be seen inside. In response, Ethan only gave Lorien a chilly stare.

"Wait, seriously? Don't tell me you and Alice have been sleeping separately!" Lorien acted as if she had just discovered a big secret. When Ethan's face darkened, it only served to confirm her suspicions. Gosh! That's unbelievable! Lorien was surprised by the revelation, but at the same time, she also found it amusing since she didn't think Ethan would end up in such a position. Well, it's obvious that you've fallen for her, Ethan, which is why you both sleep separately. She must have been against the idea of sharing the same bed. This is getting interesting!

Chapter 188 Ethan's Wrath (3)

Lorien could tell that Ethan was in love with Alice. However, the woman didn't want to share the same room with him, which was why they had been sleeping separately. This is getting interesting

"Ethan, what base are you on with Alice? Lorien was curious. "Have you both kissed and hugged each other? Have you two held hands before? When Ethan began to look more and more annoyed, Lorien widened her eyes and teased him, saying, "Come on, Ethan. You must be kidding me. If you haven't done any of those that I just said, why did you guys even get married in the first place?"

"Get out of my face now." Ethan gritted his teeth while giving a terse reply.

"Ethan, has Alice hugged you before?" Lorien blinked and tried to annoy Ethan even more in a playful manner. When she saw Ethan's gloomy look, she smiled even more mischievously, but she was smart enough to know that it was time for her to leave before things turned ugly. "I have to go."

When Lorien opened the door and was about to leave the room, she ran into Alice, who happened to return for something she had left behind. At that moment, the two ladies found themselves facing each other. As soon as they noticed each other, their gazes met.

Alice, whose eyes were fixed on Lorien, immediately noticed her pajamas along with her disheveled hair. Although her pajamas had a traditional-looking appearance, it still felt a bit awkward to see her coming out of Ethan's room in pajamas.

Hmm, seeing her walk out of Ethan's room in pajamas, there can only be one possibility-they're having an affair. Instead of reacting with anger, Alice's eyes brightened with what she saw. After all, she was also someone who tended to be curious about gossip just like everybody else, especially when it was about Ethan. Well, I guess I no longer have to worry about what Ethan is up to anymore.

In the meantime, Lorien tried to explain herself as she was worried that Alice might misunderstand the situation. Nevertheless, she was quickly stunned once again when she noticed Alice's unexpected

reaction. Although she knew Alice had probably gotten the wrong idea, she didn't expect Alice to react the way she did.

At the

same time, Ethan was also watching when Alice ran into Lorien. Although he was initially worried that she might misunderstand, he quickly noticed the strange gleam in her eyes. In that instant, he felt as if there was a huge boulder pinning on his chest, wondering why Alice was excited instead of angry to see another lady walking out of his room. What does this mean? Why does she seem happy about it? Why?! Ethan was tempted to give her a beating to release his anger.

Ethan then walked out of the room and glared at Alice, radiating a menacing aura that filled the atmosphere with overwhelming energy. After all, he knew how misleading the situation was, but more importantly, he knew she misunderstood the situation, yet she didn't show any signs of anger or frustration. Instead, her face was written with excitement and joy, which annoyed Ethan so much that he wished he could kill her.

"Okay, I didn't see anything. Nothing at all." Alice met the man's gaze in a stunned manner, trying to respond with a perfunctory explanation. Nevertheless, she knew deep down that her response was not even an explanation. Rather, it was more of an expression of her stance and attitude, which clearly indicated that she would turn a blind eye to what she saw.

Ethan was stunned, his face darkening even more after he heard what Alice said. While clenching his jaw, he felt as if he was a beast that could sink its teeth into her neck and snap it in half.

"You saw everything. Why did you lie?" Lorien pursed her lips, pretending as if she was annoyed despite keeping a straight face. She is so cute! She is quite the perfect match for Ethan, isn't she? I have a feeling I'm going to

hear more stories about the Knight Family soon. As it was Lorien's first time seeing Ethan so pissed off, she couldn't help but feel impressed by how much emotional impact Alice could bring upon him.

Alice blinked and wondered to herself, Are they worried that I'll go around telling the whole world about it? Since Cecilia got her hands on those pictures through unusual means, Alice reckoned it was unlikely for anyone to trace them back to them. After all, it seemed to her that their tracks were covered, which was a sign that indicated Ethan's reluctance to reveal his secret relationship with Lorien.

"Don't worry, I'll be sure to keep this a secret. I won't tell anyone about it. Pinky promise!" Alice explained herself and promised to never tell anyone about Ethan's affair with Lorien, emphasizing the last few words with a heightened tone. At the same time, she looked at Ethan as she spoke, even showing him a gesture that told him to rest assured.

the gaps "Oh, is that so?" Ethan gritted his teeth speechlessly, forcing the words out of his mouth through between his teeth. Ethan's predatory eyes were fixed upon Alice, and it seemed as if he was ready to kill her anytime. His emotions and anger were surging through him.

"Yeah, I promise..." Alice nodded repeatedly, as if afraid that he wouldn't believe her. Meeting his murderous gaze, she took a deep breath and wondered if he was going to kill her.

When Ethan saw Alice nodding so rapidly, he didn't want to listen to her anymore. Instead, he stepped forward and approached her, extending his arm to grab her wrist since he could no longer hold back his violent urges.

However, Alice was only momentarily stunned before she quickly retreated and closed her bedroom door. in the blink of an eye.

"What the?! That was quick! She must have been through some special training or something." Lorien couldn't believe her eyes, her admiration for Alice growing stronger and stronger after she saw what she did. Alice is so cool! How did she get a set of skills like that?

On the other hand, Ethan was no stranger to Alice's display of agility as he had seen it before. Thus, he wasn't as surprised as Lorien was, only squinting and fixing his cold gaze on the door. "Open the door."

"No! I told you I'd keep it a secret, didn't I? You don't have to silence me." Alice leaned against the door with her body, refusing to open it.

When Ethan heard her words, he was baffled. Silence her? Why would I do that? What makes her think I want to kill her? I might feel like strangling her to death right now, but why would I want to silence her?

Meanwhile, when Lorien heard that, she couldn't help but snigger in amusement. Nonetheless, Alice was hiding in her room, acting as if she didn't hear or see anything.

"Just open the door first." Ethan took a deep breath in an attempt to make himself sound calmer, but even so, his voice still sounded chilly and creepy.

In the meantime, Alice only remained silent behind the door, deeming herself a fool if she were to let Ethan into the room.

"You either open the door yourself, or I will get the keys." Ethan suppressed his anger as his voice sounded frightening.

On the other hand, Alice's heart pounded rapidly like a jackhammer when she heard Ethan's warning. Since he was the landlord, the door couldn't shut him out much longer even though she had locked it.

Then, Alice set her eyes outside the window and walked closer to it. Deep down, she reckoned it was best

for her to stay away from Ethan, considering how temperamental and mad he was. Furthermore, she told

herself that she would never disturb Ethan again once she left him for good.

Chapter 189 Ethan's Wrath (4)

Moreover, Alice promised Apollo to spend the day with him. Apollo had been staying with the Rowland Family earlier, and he treated Keith like a father figure. When Alice came back from Cliaria the day before, Apollo visited her especially to keep her company. Because of that, she made sure no one knew her schedule yesterday, wanting to protect Apollo from any potential danger.

Although Alice initially had no plans to meet up with Apollo, her son insisted that she accompanied him. Eventually, she gave in and decided to go along with her son. Furthermore, she didn't think she would have time for Apollo later on when she became swamped with important business. Thus, she agreed to meet Apollo after much hesitation, saving her night for some quality time with her son. I'll talk about the rest another day when Ethan is calmer.

On the other hand, Ethan, who had been waiting outside the room all day, decided to reach for his keys when he didn't hear anything from the inside. However, when he opened the room, he didn't see any signs of Alice. Besides the door, the window was the only exit in the room, which led Ethan to believe that Alice must have gotten away through the window.

At the sight of that, he grew angry and grabbed his phone to give Alice a call, but to no avail, as no one answered the phone. Of course! She won't pick up my call. Why would she after escaping through the window? Fine, let's see how long you can remain in hiding. You can run, but you can't hide forever.

"Oops! It looks like Alice was so scared of you that she escaped from the window." Lorien was surprised by what Alice just did. "You're simply too frightening, Ethan. You're going to scare away any woman who tries to come near you." Lorien could sympathize with Alice, understanding why she escaped; Ethan's aggressive approach might have actually scared her off.

"Pack your stuff and get out of here!" Ethan glared at Lorien, showing her the door directly.

Lorien curled her lips upward, thinking Ethan must be in love with Alice, for he was willing to chase her away because of Alice's sake.

Thus, she reckoned she needed to give Alice a call to see what was on her mind. Also, she would like to explain the earlier situation to Alice, knowing Holland wouldn't go easy on her if he found out.

"Hi, I'm Lorien Thelva!" Lorien introduced herself as soon as the call went through.

"Miss Thelva, how may I help you?" Alice was a little surprised to receive a call from Lorien.

"There is something I'd like to explain to you about. To be honest with you, Ethan and I are not in the kind of relationship you think we are. It's all a misunderstanding. I..." Lorien went on to explain herself.

Alice was stunned, blinking rapidly in disbelief. I saw it with my own eyes. How else could it be fake? She then quickly realized Lorien might have called her to give her an explanation so that she wouldn't go around spreading false rumors. At the thought of that, she echoed Lorien's words and said, "Yeah, sure. I got it."

Lorien paused in disbelief, not expecting Alice to buy her explanation so easily. Wait, this is surprisingly easier than it should be. Lorien was prepared to have a lengthy conversation with Alice, but before she could – even get to the part about her relationship with Ethan, Alice told her she got it.

"I'm going to make a move soon, so you might want to come back as soon as possible." Lorien had called Alice to persuade her to come back before Ethan did anything else silly.

"Wait, what? You're leaving?" Alice raised her voice.

Alice's dramatic reaction left Lorien slightly stunned, and she couldn't help but wonder why Alice was so

agitated. What's going on? Does she want me to go or stay?

"Ethan is having a bad time now, Miss Thelva. If you leave now, what is he going to do?" Alice quickly calmed herself down after realizing her slight indecency.

"You can come back and keep him company..." Lorien blinked in confusion as she didn't understand Alice's reply. What do you mean by what he is going to do? You're his wife, so you're the one who should keep him company, shouldn't you? What does it have to do with me? Furthermore, Ethan's attitude makes it obvious that my presence will only annoy him even more.

"It's not going to change anything even if I go back. You saw what happened this morning. If I go back, I'll only make him angrier. Only you can comfort him." Alice was reminded of Ethan's frighteningly aggressive behavior she saw earlier that morning, even shuddering at the thought of it. Thus, she was worried that Ethan would blame her for driving Lorien away from the house if she returned. Oh, no! I don't even dare to imagine the worst-case scenario.

Lorien curled her lips upward, finding it hard to believe her ears. After all, it seemed to her that Alice was the only one who could comfort Ethan, yet Lorien didn't think Alice knew this at all.

"What are we going to do, then?" Lorien wanted to know Alice's plan.

"Don't leave yet. I'm going to be busy these few days, and I can't go back. That's it. I need to go now. See you." Alice hung up the call before Lorien could reject her.

Meanwhile, Lorien was left staring at her phone in a trance as she tried to make sense of what was going on. Should I leave or stay, then? Despite her hesitation, it quickly dawned on Lorien that the misunderstanding would worsen if she left like that. In that case, Ethan's chances of being together with Alice would become even slimmer.

Later that night, Ethan returned to the manor, thinking Alice should be back by now, only to be disappointed once again. He squinted and was about to give Alice a call just when the door swung open. At that moment, his eyes brightened, and his lips curled upward. She's back! Finally! Nevertheless, when the person who came in was not Alice but instead Lorien, Ethan's eyes darkened once more. "Why is it you again? I thought I told you to leave."

"Alice told me to come back." Lorien didn't seem afraid this time, thinking she was just doing what Alice told her to.

What?! Did Alice tell you to keep me company?

While Ethan raised his eyebrows in confusion, Lorien went on to explain seriously, "Alice said you're in a bad mood, so she told me to come and keep you company. It looks like she cares about you too."

Upon hearing his cousin's words, Ethan couldn't help but feel pissed yet amused. With goosebumps running all over his skin, he wondered whether Alice genuinely cared about him; he didn't understand why she would tell another woman to keep him company.

No wonder she didn't tell me at all even though she wouldn't be home early. That was what she meant, eh? To get another woman to accompany me so that she can ghost me.

Soon, Ethan reached for his phone and dialed Alice's number. Fortunately, his call went through this time. "Where are you now?" Ethan gritted his teeth and asked as soon as the call was connected.

"Me?" Alice paused in a panic. She was able to tell from his strange tone that something was wrong. In fact, she only picked up the call because she thought Ethan's mood was already lifted due to Lorien's behavior. Much to her surprise, Ethan sounded angrier than he initially was, and it was even more menacing.

Chapter 190 Appeasing Mr. Knight

However, it sounded like Ethan's anger hadn't subsided at all. Instead, he sounded even more agitated. Could it be that Miss Thelva didn't go back?

"Wherever you are, come back within an hour," Ethan ordered harshly without waiting for her to finish speaking. He didn't want to listen to her anymore as her words would only make him angrier.

As soon as the call ended, Alice glanced at the phone and then at Apollo, who was sleeping beside her as she rarely had the chance to keep the little guy company. Her eyes flickered as she wondered whether Lorien had really left, which was why Ethan was so furious. If Miss Thelva did leave, wouldn't I be digging my own grave if I go back now?

After thinking it through, Alice thought that she should first give Lorien a call to confirm. In order to not wake Apollo up, she took the phone and headed to the balcony before dialing Lorien's number.

When Lorien saw Alice's number on the phone, she couldn't help but smile. Instead of answering the call, she looked at Ethan and said, "Alice is calling me. What do you think she'll say?"

Ethan's gaze turned cold, and his expression became grave, making him look particularly terrifying. He had called Alice and told her to come back, but she was calling someone else. What is she up to?

On the other hand, Lorien beamed when she saw Ethan's ghastly expression. She pressed the answer button and even put it on speaker.

"Miss Thelva, where are you? Didn't you return to Lule Villa?" Alice asked without beating around the bush.

"I'm here." Lorien glanced at Ethan, who was standing beside her, and she couldn't help but curl up her lips.

"Then why did Mr. Knight call me just now? He was still furious." Alice was taken aback. Since Lorien was still at the villa, she couldn't understand why he was so worked up.

Mr. Knight? Hearing Alice's address, Ethan couldn't help falling into deep thoughts. How eager is she to disassociate herself from me?

"I wasn't able to appease him." Lorien's words intentionally hinted at something.

"How could that be? If you can't appease him, then no one can." Alice was stunned, seemingly not understanding the meaning behind Lorien's words. Indeed, Alice was dull when it came to matters of the

heart.

"I have already tried my best, so what else should I do?" Lorien looked at Ethan again and deliberately asked.

"As long as you are there, everything will be fine." Alice felt that Lorien's words were rather blunt, so she didn't continue with the conversation. After all, it wasn't something she could participate in since it wasn't a matter involving her.

The reason she didn't go back was to avoid the embarrassment that happened earlier in the morning. After all, her presence was inappropriate in that situation. She couldn't understand why Ethan was infuriated when she was being thoughtful?! Ethan's expression turned grim as he listened. If Alice stood in front of him right now, he would have strangled her without hesitation.

With that, Alice hung up the phone directly. She felt that everything should be fine since Lorien was in the

villa. If that was the case, she didn't need to go back. Moreover, she couldn't go back as she had to accompany Apollo.

Lorien blinked her eyes as she found her sister-in-law adorable. She was growing to like her more and more.

"Hahaha!" Lorien couldn't help but burst into laughter when Alice hung up the call again. Meanwhile, Ethan's face was clouded over. He couldn't believe that Alice left him with another woman just like that. Doesn't she understand that she is my lawfully wedded wife?!

"Ethan, since you're so enraged, you should go to Alice so that you can calm down." Lorien looked at Ethan with a smirk and deliberately teased him. The reason she didn't leave was to add fuel to the fire for Ethan. Seeing that they still slept in separate rooms even though they were married, if he didn't forcefully assert his dominance, with Alice's level of awareness, who knew how long it would take for things to change?

Hearing that, Ethan glared at Lorien, and she stuck out her tongue before quickly returning to her room.

Alice thought everything should be fine, so she went to take a shower after hanging up the phone. However, her phone rang again while she was in the bathroom. Previously, Alice didn't want to disturb Apollo's sleep, so she turned down the volume of her phone. With her being in the shower, the ringtone was drowned out by the sound of flowing water, so she didn't hear the phone ringing again.

Apollo, who wasn't in a deep sleep, was awakened upon hearing the phone ring. After opening his eyes, he blinked a few times before answering the call.

"Alice, you sure are something." The moment the call connected, Ethan's chilling voice, which was full of murderous intent, could be heard. As Apollo listened to Ethan's threatening tone, he was slightly stunned. Who is this? Why is he so fierce? How dare he speak to Mommy like that?

"Alice, if I don't see you at home in an hour, you will be responsible for the consequences." Ethan threatened her without waiting for her to respond, as he didn't want to hear her speak. This angry man

sounds a lot like Ethan. After a brief contemplation, Apollo turned off Alice's phone. Who's Ethan to be so rude to my mother? He had gone overboard.

Ethan was stunned for two seconds when the call was disconnected. His blood boiled as he never expected Alice to hang up his call. He took a deep breath and dialed again. Sorry, the number you've dialed is currently switched off.

At that moment, Ethan had the urge to kill. Not only did she hang up his call, but she also turned it off. Great. Ethan's face grew darker and his gaze colder when he couldn't get through to Alice's phone, as he didn't know where to find her since he couldn't get her on the phone. He had Caleb check on her, but till now, Caleb still hadn't found out where she was staying.

The next morning, when Alice woke up, she reached for her phone and found it had been turned off. She thought it had run out of battery, but when she pressed the power button, it turned on and showed that the battery was still at 50%. However, she didn't give much thought to it. Just then, Apollo woke up, so she casually placed her phone aside and went to make breakfast for him, which was why she didn't see the missed call from the last night that Apollo hung up on.

She thought everything was okay. Yesterday, she went back to get something, but after what happened, she climbed out of the window in a hurry and forgot about everything else.