

The Epic BD 641

Chapter 641 Arnold's Vengeance

As Arnold stepped out of the hospital, an intimate scene unfolded before his eyes. Dexter held Josie's shoulder and gently kissed her forehead, solidifying their bond.

As he boarded the car, the engine roared to life. Dexter unexpectedly spoke through the rolled window. "Remember that Wyatt arranged your father's place."

Josie recalled, "Yes, that's correct."

"I didn't have time to arrange it, so you can bring him out in the next two days and have him stay at Mason Garden. Dexter suggested."

Josie understood there was a conflict between Wyatt and Dexter, and she was caught in the middle. She realized that her father's safety could be compromised.

"Sure."

Josie fixated on the license plate as the vehicle sped away, staring into the distance.

The way Claudia stared at her earlier always sent shivers down her spine.

She couldn't help but feel uneasy that the Catholic rosaries Claudia had given her were now in Dexter's possession.

Josie sighed as she reminisced about the time they had supported each other. She had decided to apologize and provide an explanation.

Nevertheless, her utmost concern lay with Dexter's well-being.

As the driver swiftly pulled up, Josie heard her name being called. She turned around, facing away from the morning sun, and was surprised to see Arnold standing on the doorstep. Bathed in the gentle light, he exuded a calm and unmistakable presence.

"If Mrs. Carter finds out I'm out here with you, it could cause quite a scene," she warned.

Josie reclined lazily in the back of the Bentley, pretending to doze off.

"Isn't it exciting?" Arnold teased. "On the surface, we appear as two respectable people romantically attached to someone else, and the next, we are engaged in a clandestine relationship."

Josie remained unfazed. "Mr. Carter, your tastes are quite peculiar."

"I do enjoy a bit of excitement. It seems like Dexter hasn't told you yet," he responded with a leering smile.

Josie raised her brow as she recalled Wyatt's words from the previous day.

Fueled by resentment and vindictiveness, Arnold Carter was capable of anything. Beneath his composed façade, the heart of a wolf lurked, forever vigilant for the right moment to unleash his fury.

Josie pursed her lips and replied. "Oh, I've had a taste of that"

The car drove along a long street and came to a sudden halt. They arrived at a place Josie had been before. It wasn't a construction site, but there were towering walls on either side, engulging the streets with stifling silence. There was no one else in sight.

As Josie peered ahead, she was taken aback by a tightly locked gate that looked like a prison.

She immediately realized what was happening. She looked at Arnold warily and asked, "Why did you bring me here?"

It was the Southern Wavery Prison, where Arnold's father was incarcerated

"Why are you so nervous? I didn't ask you to see him," Arnold said with a slight smirk playing on his lips. Instead of leaving the car, he leaned back in the rear seat and nonchalantly remarked, "You witnessed my position in the Olsen family earlier at the hospital."

Images flashed through Josie's mind.

"Undervalued, distrusted, unrecognized," Arnold drummed intermittently, his fingers on his leg.

Josie's brow furrowed. "You chose this path yourself, didn't you?"

Arnold locked his gaze into her dark eyes. "I don't want to marry Summer."

This bold statement caught Josie off guard.

"Or rather, I am marrying not Summer but the might and influence of the Olsen family," Arnold chuckled sinisterly. The person locked inside there—that's what he truly desires from me."

Josie's brows furrowed deeper. "Arnold, this isn't what you truly want. You still have a chance to turn back. "It's too late. Vengeance is the only thing that has defined me from childhood until now."

Silence hung in the air.

A smirk played on Arnold's lips as he propped up his legs. "The Olsens may scorn me now, but it won't be long before I have them on their knees, begging for my mercy."

His words were so convincing that it was impossible to doubt him.

Chapter 642 Like a Battlefield

"Arnold. I'm not in a position to ask you to let bygones be bygones. But your father has done something wrong, hasn't he?"

Arnold turned around and smiled wryly as though he just heard a joke "Time's up. I have to visit him now."

The prison door opened slowly. Before Josie could make out what was going on, he disappeared.

She gripped her phone tightly and typed out a message. After making a couple of amendments, she finally sent it out. I'm still curious-what did Arnold's father do to deserve imprisonment for life"

Has he boarded the plane? She wondered.

Five minutes later, she received a lengthy voice message.

According to Dexter, Carter Group and Russell Group were competitors. After his father took over Russell Group, he didn't mind sacrificing his pride for the development of his company. He waited at the door of Carter Residence for a month before the head of the Carter family agreed to work together.

Back then, Yanis was still in the company. He didn't like the Carter Group and played several tricks to sabotage them, resulting in the suicide of the head of the Carter family.

It was already too late when Dexter's father uncovered the truth.

When Arnold's father took control of the company, he placed some spies in Russell Group to take revenge. It led to internal crises within the company that caused Dexter's father to suddenly die from a heart attack.

Dexter was studying abroad when that happened. In order to take over Russell Group, he finished his studies in six months and took full responsibility for the company upon returning.

However, there were still some remaining spies in the company that took advantage of the company's instability to siphon hundreds of millions away.

Unexpectedly, Dexter was not easy to deal with. He immediately sniffed out the spy and found the evidence that sent Arnold's father to prison.

As the sum of money was astronomical, he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Dexter was decisive and meticulous – he didn't leave any loophole for Arnold to be able to bail his father out

After hearing the complete story, Josie finally understood that the roots of revenge go deep within the two families

Each had their own justifications for taking revenge, but the source of everything was Yanis

After such a long time, we no longer know what the root cause is, and we are unable to clear things up anymore. Dexter replied.

A heavy weight hung on Josie's heart when she heard that Business was like a battlefield, each decision would change one's life.

Dexter and Arnold were both actually innocent.

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Why are you suddenly asking about this?"

You talked about Wyatt before you left, which led me to think about this.

I'm boarding the plane now. Talk later.

Josie locked her phone and continued looking at the prison door. "Does Mr. Carter visit often?" she asked

the driver.

The driver observed her vigilantly. He seemed to conclude that she had a special connection to Arnold and replied, "Around once every two months. He would usually visit in the middle of the month.

While Josie was calculating the dates, Arnold walked out in a black coat. He looked terribly lonely as he walked on the streets with his hands in his pockets.

It was rare for him to wear dark-colored clothes.

"Why are you back so soon?" Josie asked.

Arnold opened a bottle of water and took a sip. "How long do you want me to stay?"

Josie fell silent.

"He's going to be elated for the next two months after hearing about my marriage with Summer."

Josie pursed her lips into a thin line, not knowing what else to say.

"By the way, he seems to age much quicker behind bars. As months pass, I can barely recognize him."

The car started moving again. Josie seemed distant when she interjected suddenly, "You met Wyatt."

Chapter 643 Be My Lover

Arnold narrowed his eyes at her it was a statement.

"After leaving Mason Garden yesterday, I assume he went to your place." Josie's expression became more animated. She supported her chin with her hand and continued, "Otherwise, you wouldn't bring me here."

Arnold looked at her solemnly before suddenly chuckling. "Why don't you assume this is all a plan to sabotage your relationship with your husband after seeing how lovey-dovey you guys were from the unexpected encounter at the hospital?"

Josie's smile slowly disappeared.

"Don't you think I'm capable of that?"

"What did Wyatt want? Let me guess.... he wants to pledge his allegiance to you, doesn't he?" Josie directed her question at him without giving a response.

Arnold retracted his playful gaze. "He didn't say anything."

Josie didn't believe him.

"He dragged his sick body to my turf. Without even saying anything, I can guess what he wants from the position he's in."

There was a ring of truth in it.

"Forget it. He is only going to be the sacrifice. Don't use him, Arnold," Josie replied solemnly.

As sunlight fell onto her face through the shades of the trees, Arnold's heart skipped a beat. He caressed her face as he asked, "Are you pleading with me?"

Josie wanted to avoid him, but her face was locked in his hands.

"You used to be the sacrifice, too. But look at you now you're living a good life, aren't you?"

He seemed to be obsessed with her soft skin.

"We're different."

"How so?" he retorted instantly.

She tolerated his hold, unable to get away from him. "Wyatt is a young man full of potential. All he needs is an opportunity not to be used by others."

"But he's obsessed right now. You can't change his mind."

"Arnold-

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"Are you begging me to help him? If so, you should look more like it. Since Dexter is not in Wavery now, why don't you be my lover?"

The smile widened on his face, with genuine joy sparkling in his eyes.

However, the same smile was a terrifying sight to Josie. She suddenly lifted her hand and slapped his checks. "Do you know what you are talking about, Arnold?"

His lover? How could he even utter those words?

Still, the slap did nothing to bring Arnold back to his senses. Instead, he recalled the intimacy between Josie and Dexter in the ward and became even more incensed. With veins throbbing at the back of his hand, he was close to making a decision.

"Be my lover I can give you money and intel. All you need to do is spend time with me whenever Dexter is away. I don't think that's a lot to ask for." Arnold pinched her cheeks until they turned red. At that moment, he had deserted morality and societal norms.

Josie flared up upon hearing that. A strong urge to slap him surged within her fury.

"Let me go! I want to get out of this car!"

"There's no hurry, Josie. Perhaps Dexter and Summer also have this agreement without your knowledge. Yet, you treat me as though I'm the worst. Isn't it unfair?" Arnold raised his voice.

"Nonsense! He wouldn't do that!" she yelled back. She could not tolerate her marriage being tarnished by him in this manner and placed her hands in front of her to protect herself.

"Stop the car! Right now!" she bellowed at the driver, who didn't know what to do..

He observed Arnold's expression quietly. Eventually, the latter seemed to have returned to his senses as he slowly let go of Josie.

The car stopped.

"Arnold, I don't have the time to play sick games with you. Don't drag me down with you, even if you're unhappy with Summer. You disgust me!" she spat and took her bag before leaving.

Chapter 644 Forgot About Him

Infuriated by Arnold, Josie sped away in disgust and fury.

Arnold sank back in his seat and shut his eyes.

The driver was at a loss on what to do next. Nothing seemed right to him. "Mr. Carter, er-"

When he opened his eyes again, Josie was gone from his sight. He picked up the water bottle and emptied the contents over his head to clear his mind.

"Go back to the office," he barked grimly.

On the other hand, Josie stormed back to her office with trembling hands. A wave of disgust overcame her whenever she recalled Arnold's disrespectful behavior.

She had always regarded him as a righteous gentleman who knew his boundaries. If it weren't for our conflicting positions, I thought we could be friends. I can't believe the words he just spewed today. Be his lover? How could he bring himself to say that?

"Ms. Warren, what's wrong?" one of the employees asked upon bumping into her.

"Nothing." She entered the washroom and stared at her reflection.

Is this his true character from the beginning? she wondered. She couldn't forget his passionate gaze moments ago. Leaning against the wall, she felt palpitations rolling in her veins along with an ominous feeling that began to coil around her.

She walked out of the bathroom after she had finally calmed down.

"I'm not going to follow up with the project from Carter Group. Jade, take it up with Angel," she announced.

Since she was their boss, no one had any objections, including Jade.

After all, this was an excellent opportunity for him to gain new experience. "Sure."

Josie glanced at Laura's empty office. "How long has she been absent?"

"A couple of days."

She nodded and sent a message to Laura.

"This morning, I heard that Zach will return to Wavery soon. Take care!"

If that were true, an imminent storm would soon blow over town. All she could do was give

Laura a heads-up so she could avoid it.

Then, she left the office. While she was in the elevator, she called Paul.

“Pops, are you at home?”

“Me? I’m at the hospital.”

“Hospital? What are you doing there?” she asked nervously.

“Your memory is worse than mine, young lady. I’m having a check-up today.”

Josie slapped her forehead. “Oh, right. I completely forgot about that. Are you alone? Is Justin with you?”

“There’s no need to bother yourselves with me; I know you guys are busy. I’m almost fully recovered, and I can go to the check-up alone.”

There was some background noise from his end, making it clear that he was at the hospital.

Josie panicked. “Pops, send me your location. I’ll pick you up now. Don’t wander around, okay?”

“Silly girl, I’m not a five-year-old. But I’ll wait for you here, alright?”

“Yes, just wait for me. The outside world is chaotic. Don’t let me lose you again.”

“Okay, okay,” he replied gently.

The doctor called his number as he ended the call, and he slowly made his way to the ward. His memory was not as good as before, but he was very familiar with the hospital.

Perhaps it’s because I’ve been staying there for the past few years, he speculated cheerfully.

Meanwhile, Josie called her designated driver to go to the hospital while she hailed a cab there.

I’m not a responsible daughter. I forgot all about Pops because of how busy I am. After he joins us at Mason Garden, I will take good care of him.

Chapter 645 Definitely

Fifteen minutes later, she finally arrived at the hospital and saw the driver waiting outside.

“Madam, your father is nowhere to be seen.”

Which means he’s still inside. She heaved a sigh of relief. “No worries. I’ll take a look inside.”

She had a foreboding premonition without any particular reason. Hence, she informed Matthew that her father was going to have his check-up done at the hospital and asked him. to pay more attention to him.

Matthew was pleasantly surprised to receive her call. “Alright. Got it,” he replied after a pause.

Josie went to the third floor. After leaving the elevator, she saw Paul and Matthew sitting on a bench in the corridor, chatting with each other.

Paul looked safe and sound.

Upon seeing that, she heaved a sigh of relief. "Dad."

Both of them smiled when they saw her. "See? Jo is so paranoid. I mean, I can't possibly vanish into thin air, can I? Sorry to bother you, Matthew."

Matthew smiled and helped her stand up. "Jo is just worried about you. All children do that."

Josie thanked him immediately, though with some embarrassment. "Thanks, Matt. I think I'm too paranoid."

It had been a while since they met each other. An air of awkwardness hung between them.

Matthew avoided her gaze as they spoke. "It's nothing at all. Mr. Warren was my patient, after all. He passed a copy of Paul's medical history to Josie. "I've just checked the report everything looks good. Still, he should focus on rehabilitation."

Josie took it from him and winked slyly at her father. "Did you hear that? This is doctor's orders."

Paul chuckled. "Isn't today a working day? Why are you here?"

His question suddenly reminded Josie of her encounter with Arnold earlier that day. She shook her head in annoyance and explained, "I'm my own boss now. Whether it's a work day or not, it doesn't matter. Your health is more of a priority than my work."

Paul and Matthew smiled at each other. Though Josie had matured, she was still a cheeky and vivacious young girl.

Matthew's smile slowly faded as he asked, "You started a company?"

They rarely spoke to each other nowadays, so he had no clue. She nodded awkwardly. "Not a company. It's just a studio for illustration."

He nodded, but she couldn't see the expression on his face.

Paul was a bright person. He could tell the underlying emotions between them and quipped, "I'm going to the washroom."

"Wha-"

"I know my way around here." With that, he walked out of the room, leaving Josie and Matthew alone.

She bit her lips

and asked, "Matt, how have you

been?"

"Same old, same old. On the contrary, I hear a lot of news about you, Mrs. Russell."

It was still hard for him to wrap his head around the fact that the young, innocent girl back then had already become someone else's wife, taking up important responsibilities and living in the limelight.

"Do I feel like a stranger to you now?"

"No," Matthew replied instantly. "I know you will have to experience this anyway. I'm glad that you've matured."

They exchanged glances, and she could tell the love he once had for her had vanished. Instead, he looked slightly lost and dazed. I bet he has left many things behind after such a long time.

"I'm happy for you, too," she added.

The old friends, who had known each other since way back, understood each other in their smiles.

Chapter 646 Hit It Off

"How's your friend doing? Is she better?" Matthew asked.

Josie froze before realizing he was referring to Laura's psychiatrist. She scrutinized Matthew carefully and concluded that he didn't know about Morgan's background.

"Yes. The psychiatrist is quite skillful indeed. It was a lot of help."

Matthew nodded. "Good. He's a genius banker at Wall Street; psychiatry is only his second job. Still, he's trustworthy."

Looks like he knows Morgan well. Morgan didn't hide anything from Matthew.

Josie asked tentatively, "How did you guys meet?"

"We are... from the same university." Matthew took a trip down memory lane. "Two years ago, I had a patient from abroad, and he's the family member of the patient. We hit it off from the beginning and became friends."

I see. Hmm... from that information, I can't tell if Morgan is trying to get closer to Matthew on purpose. Still, the coincidence is pretty suspicious.

"From the same university?"

"Yeah. Didn't you know? He used to be the most popular person in Wavery University. Unfortunately, when I went to Wavery as an exchange student, he left for another university abroad. I didn't get to witness the peak of his popularity back then," he explained wistfully.

Josie finally recalled that the first time she met Matthew was after Morgan's departure.

She had an indecipherable expression on her face. Fortunately, Matthew wasn't there. Otherwise, he would have known I was Morgan's ex-girlfriend.

“What’s wrong?” he asked after seeing her silence.

Just as Paul walked out of the washroom, Josie shook her head. “Nothing. We are leaving soon. See you around, Matt.”

He raised his head and looked at the corridor. “I hope we won’t be seeing each other in the hospital the next time.”

Josie chortled at his witty remark.

“I’m pretty happy at the place you rented for me. It’s also convenient for Old Mr. Russell to visit. Why should I move?”

In the car, Paul protested when he heard Josie’s suggestion.

“What’s good about that place? It’s quiet, but you’re on the tenth floor. Grandpa has to take the elevator every time. it’s too troublesome! If you live with us, it will be convenient for him to visit.”

Josie fabricated an excuse, hiding the fact that the landlord turned back on his promise.

“What’s wrong about taking the elevator?” Paul asked, confused.

“I-It’s... a waste of time!”

“Kiddo...” Paul shrugged. “I don’t mind staying with you guys for a few days, but this can’t be a long-term solution. I’m not used to it.”

Upon hearing his reply, Josie lied, “Sure. If you can’t get used to it, I’ll find another place for you.”

Paul finally looked relieved upon hearing that.

By the time they arrived at Mason Garden, the maids had already prepared the room for Paul.

He grew up in a typical middle-class family. Never had he experienced having maids and servants, nor had he stayed in such a huge mansion. On top of that, there was a garden and a lake behind the house. The surroundings were exceptional.

Nevertheless, he wasn’t happy about his lavish accommodation. Instead, he looked troubled.

In the evening, when Josie was about to have a chat with Paul, she saw him staring blankly at the balcony.

“Pops, what’s on your mind?”

He returned to his senses and looked at her. “Jo, these things are alien to me.”

Josie was stunned for a moment before his words sank in. “Do you think I’ve changed?”

“It’s not that, but I’ve changed.” Paul waved and motioned her to sit. “Where’s he?”

They both understood who he was referring to.

Josie took a seat across from him and replied, “He’s on a business trip to Rivodia.”

Chapter 647 The Bastille Family’s New Mall

"Rivodia... It's an old place." Paul mumbled.

Josie didn't hear him clearly. "What?"

"Nothing." Paul lifted his head and asked worriedly, "Does he know you brought me here? If you act without permission, I'm afraid he might be upset."

Only then did Josie understand what Paul was concerned about. She smiled and said, "Pop, you're overthinking. It was he who reminded me to bring you over. He's glad that you're here."

Paul remained doubtful. "I've had a few encounters with him. He's someone who's going to achieve great things and is much more dependable than the guy you dated in college. You must have suffered quite a bit to stay with someone like him."

Dexter was destined to shine and would naturally have many enemies. As his wife, Josie would inevitably be targeted too.

Paul was a wise man and could see through many things.

"They said your brain became slower after you got sick, but I think you're still very shrewd to be able to think of that." Josie teased Paul while propping her head with one hand.

Paul was displeased and pushed her. "Hey, I'm being serious here."

"There, there." Josie held Paul's mottled hand and assured him. "Just stay here and don't worry about anything else. Let me see you daily so I can put my mind at ease."

Paul scrutinized Josie and became more relieved upon perceiving that she wasn't forcing herself to put on an act.

After comforting Paul, Josie returned to the master bedroom and made a video call to Dexter. When Dexter picked up the call ten seconds later, Josie could tell he was in the car from the fleeting shadows.

"Hey, I hope I'm not disturbing you at this hour." Josie was lying in bed.

"Nope. My dinner appointment just ended, and I'm heading back to the hotel now." Dexter's tired expression relieved much after seeing Josie.

Josie nodded and informed him that she had brought Paul to Mason Garden.

"That's good. Wyatt is at the end of his rope and would likely go after your father."

Cupping her face with her hands, Josie asked, "Will Wyatt really go to Arnold for help? After all, there are grudges between him and the Carters."

"No one in this world will completely rely on another person. They'll only use each other. By the way, I'll probably stay in Rivodia for three days." Dexter said indifferently.

"A day without you is like a year without rain." Josie purred with a grin.

Dexter was amused. "Where did you learn that from?"

"I mean it."

The couple chatted for a while before ending the call. Dexter's fatigue faded away after the call. He put his phone aside and lifted his eyes to see a bustling mall not far away.

"Mr. Russell, this is S&A Mall, a newly opened business under the Bastille family."

Dexter's eyes flickered. "Let's go in and get a gift for Jo."

A chill ran down Larry's spine. How strange Dexter is to pick a gift for Josie at her ex-boyfriend's mall.

The Bastille family's businesses rarely involved the real economy. This first mall was opened on the Bastilles' own territory as a means of test marketing.

They had invited famous designers from overseas to design the arc-shaped building. The mall was an enclave of various luxury brands, which showed that the Bastille family had an impressive network.

The mall was crowded with people. An opening ceremony was ongoing at the central court. A tall man dressed in a white suit spoke into the microphone. "Welcome to S&A Mall, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for your support."

A thunder of applause broke out. Most patrons were the rich and socialites with considerable spending power.

"I've heard the young master of the Bastille family has returned to Rivodia, but I didn't expect to meet him here."

Chapter 648 A Reencounter

"Mm-hmm. I heard he's still not married. He seems to be an ambitious man"

Surrounded by the noisy crowd, Dexter frowned in disgust. "This is no different from a wet market"

Larry couldn't help laughing.

As the opening ceremony ended, a few staff escorted Morgan down the stage while the spotlight continued shining on him.

Dexter suddenly asked, "Is he younger than me?"

Morgan and Josie were the same age. While they were still studying at university. Dexter already took over the Russell Group.

"He's just a young imp and is no match for you."

"He was fearless and imposing when he confronted me, which reminded me of myself back in the day."

Larry was at a loss for words.

Moments later, Larry disappeared from their sight. "Would you like to continue shopping?" Larry asked.

Dexter took out his phone to see Josie's message, asking for the pair of high-heels in Valentino's latest collection.

It is said that Valentino knows men's taste best. I'm sure the high heels will look great on me. I wonder if you'll like it."

Dexter smiled. The mischievous woman loved seducing him over texts but was modest when facing him.

“Let’s walk around.”

Upon arriving at Valentino’s shop, they looked through the glass door to see a few socialites trying on shoes and arrogantly picking on the staff.

A slender woman was kneeling on the ground, helping one of the ladies with the shoes. The lady seemed to be displeased and yelled all of a sudden, “Ouch! You hurt me!”

She kicked the staff in the chest before rubbing her ankle.

The staff fell to the side and was hurt by the lady’s heel, but she didn’t complain and quickly stood up. Tm so sorry. It was my mistake. Please let me clean it up for you.”

“You’re so clumsy. How did you qualify as a salesperson? My legs are insured. You can’t afford to compensate me for any injuries!” The salesperson lowered her head helplessly.

“Get your manager here. I can’t just let this matter slide.”

“Miss, I’m very sorry. I...”

Just then, the manager walked out of the store room and said. “I’m the manager. So sorry for our staff’s mistake. How can we make it up for you?”

“Didn’t your staff receive proper training? How could she make such a stupid mistake? Mind you. I heard Mr. Bastille is hanging around in the mall today. Do you think your store can stay open if this matter alerts him?” The woman threatened aggressively.

The manager was a bundle of nerves and nudged at the salesperson. “Quickly apologize to the customer!”

The manager pushed the salesperson to another side, which allowed Dexter to see her face. clearly. At once, he furrowed his brows and cast a glance at Larry.

Larry panicked and said, “I didn’t know she was working here...”

It was Heather.

She apologized to the customer in a servile manner and looked pitiful with tears brimming in her eyes.

Dexter loosened his tie to ease his frustration. “Go and settle it.”

Then, he left the mall and got into the car. I’d rather you don’t wear it. He replied to Josie’s message.

On the other hand, Larry entered the store and rebuked the woman, “Mr. Bastille wouldn’t favor someone who deliberately picks on the staff.”

The woman was caught off guard. Her face reddened in embarrassment as she left with her companions. “What the heck are you talking about?!”

Meanwhile, Heather was shocked to see Larry.

Chapter 649 Gleaning Information

Larry took out a credit card. "Give me a pair of high-heels in the latest collection"

He was anxious when he returned to the car with the shoes. "I'm sorry, Mr. Russell. I didn't know Heather was working here."

She was indeed sent back to Rivodia, but they didn't expect her to appear on Morgan's turf.

Dexter's face was darkened, indicating his displeasure. "Did anyone notice the episode today?"

"I don't think so. I'll investigate if this has any connection with Morgan once we get back." Larry answered.

Heather was previously a spy for Arnold and participated in many of his plans, so she was not an ordinary person. Now that she worked in the Bastilles' mall, it was natural for Dexter to become suspicious.

"Go look into it as soon as possible."

When the car engine started, Dexter casually raised his eyes to see Heather running out from the mall, but she was too late and could only watch the car drive away.

Perceiving her disappointed look, Dexter averted his gaze.

When Josie woke up and saw Dexter's reply the next day, she blushed to the root of her hair.

On the other hand, Laura had not replied to her message yet. Josie inhaled deeply and decided that she had no choice but to trouble Arnold. She pondered upon it for a moment before calling Mrs. Langman. "Hi, Mrs. Langman. Are you available today?"

They met at the same rooftop cafe as before. Sitting across from Josie, Mrs. Langman held her coffee cup elegantly. "Mrs. Russell, you won't come to me for trivial matters. Why did you ask me out this time?"

Josie smiled. "I'm here to bring you some news."

"What news is it?"

"I believe the project in Northern Wavery is under Mr. Langman's management, right? There are some issues with the project." Josie was in the same industry, so the news reached her in a short time.

She handed over a document to Mrs. Langman, who was flustered. "Some people are attempting to sabotage Mr. Langman in the quality inspection."

Mrs. Langman opened the envelope panickedly and was shocked after reading it. "You're right. He'll be in trouble if this is exposed at a later stage."

Josie uttered, "Since you know the source of the issue now, any potential problems can be avoided if immediate actions are taken."

Mrs. Langman smiled. "Thank you, Mrs. Russell."

Josie put down her coffee cup, which gave a crisp sound when it hit the glass table.

"May I ask for a favor, Mrs. Langman?"

"What is it?"

"Can you help me find out when exactly Zach Olsen returned to Wavery? It shouldn't be difficult for you."

Mrs. Langman mingled in the upper circle, so it was a piece of cake for her to glean information.

Mrs. Langman roughly understood Josie's intention. She raised her eyebrows and commented, "It seems like you and Mr. Russell are on the same side now."

Josie smiled and didn't specify who it was for

In fact, Zach's return to Wavery had its pros and cons. For Dexter, there were many things he could do to Zach; but it was a disaster for Laura.

Josie couldn't decide who to side with but was more concerned about Laura's situation

She would be more relieved if Laura could find a safe shelter....

At Wavery.

The morning sunlight streamed through the window as Dexter adjusted his attire in front of the mirror while listening to Larry's report.

"That's all for today's schedule." Larry closed the file and added. "I looked into the matter Heather's job in S&A Mall has nothing to do with Morgan. They don't know each other and never have interactions. Yesterday's incident was merely a coincidence."

Dexter looked at himself in the mirror and said, "Keep an eye on them. I want to see how things unfold."

Chapter 650 An Old Picture

Angel and Jade were closely monitoring the Carter Group's project, so Josie could keep her hands off and have more free time than she was used to.

"Call me immediately if there's anything you can't decide. She instructed Angel and Jade. Apart from the project, she didn't want to have any other interactions with Arnold.

The weather was pleasant on that day. Josie returned to Mason Garden and saw Julie and Paul walking back to the villa after a stroll outside. They were close in age and looked harmonious.

When Julie saw Josie, she immediately said, "Madam. The weather is pretty good today, so I brought Mr. Warren out for a walk."

Paul quickly explained, "I wanted to come out for a walk. It's not her fault."

Amused, Josie crossed her arms and teased, "Pop. I haven't even said anything, yet you instantly defended Mrs. Carroll."

Her playful remark made the two elders blush. "What nonsense are you talking about? We're not young anymore."

Josie took Paul's hand from Julie and supported him to walk into the house. I'm just kidding. Why so serious?"

Paul gave her a stern look, which made her surrender with both hands. "Okay, okay. I'll stop."

Josie and Paul sat in the yard, basking in the sun. "It has been a few days. When is he coming back?" Paul asked out of the blue.

Josie chuckled. "Who are you referring to?"

"Ugh! Dexter!"

"Why don't you call him by his name? When I was in university back then, you also called. Morgan 'your friend. You're so protective of your daughter.'" Josie chaffed.

From how Josie mentioned Morgan naturally, Paul could tell she had completely gotten over him.

"You're my precious daughter. How could I not be angry to see him bully you?" Leaning on his cane, Paul wore a proud expression.

Josie appreciated the presence of her humorous father all the more.

"He'll be back tomorrow, or latest, by the day after, Josie replied after counting the days on her fingers.

Paul was relieved to hear the reply. He looked closely at Josie under the sunlight and was reminded of something from long ago.

Seeing Paul lost in thought, Josie asked curiously. "What's on your mind?"

"Nothing. I just remembered that you were so small when I brought you home back then. Time flies. You've now grown into an adult. Paul made a gesture: his aging eyes were full of nostalgia.

Josie smiled bitterly. Indeed, everything had passed in the blink of an eye. "How was I like when I was young? Was I naughty?"

Josie had a faint memory of her childhood.

Paul shook his head. "You were very well-behaved, unlike other children your age. You were often on your own. One could hardly believe a child at that age could be so obedient."

Josie couldn't imagine herself being well-behaved.

It was a sunny day, so Julie took out some old items to dust them off. Josie went to assist her and accidentally spotted a framed picture of Liana, the woman who was once the apple of Dexter's eye.

Julie panicked. "I-I didn't know the picture was kept here."

Josie picked up the frame and wiped the dust, so the picture could be seen clearer. "Don't worry. It's dirty. I'll wipe it clean."

At this stage, she wasn't bothered by Dexter's past relationship as much as before. After all, it had become the past for both her and Dexter.

Paul glanced in Josie's direction and was stunned when he saw the picture. He rubbed his eyes and gasped in disbelief, "Why is this picture here?"

Josie was holding Liana's picture in her hand.

She waved the picture and commented mischievously, "Don't you think we look alike?"